

MNA aims to enhance aviation transport connectivity with neighbouring and regional countries

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing commends stakeholders and past and present personnel for strengthening MNA in the lead-up to the Diamond Jubilee celebration.



Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Administration Council, visits the Myanmar National Airlines' 75th Birthday Showcase in Yangon yesterday.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing urged the Myanmar National Airlines-MNA to make concerted efforts to achieve greater development in the aviation transport sector as it serves an airline giving services to neighbouring and regional countries.

The Senior General delivered a speech in honour of the 75th birthday of the MNA under the Ministry of Transport and Communications held at Melia Hotel in Bahan Township of Yangon yesterday morning.

He continued that the airlines need to serve aviation transport for people from remote and far-flung areas to smoothly solve the health, social, education and economic measures in a short time.

The Senior General recounted his experiences, saying that UBA and BAC which emerged in the post-independence era could erect the milestones of achievements in running flights to domestic and international destinations, winning the hearts of the people in the transport sector.

SEE PAGE-3

CURRENT AFFAIRS PAGE-6



Japan to recruit 1,053 Myanmar workers

Myanmar-Bangladesh border trade values cross US\$7 mln over past five months

MYANMAR conducted cross-border trade worth US\$7.865 million with neighbouring Bangladesh via Sittway and Maungtao posts over the past five months of the current financial year 2023-2024 beginning 1 April, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics showed.

Export (\$6.89 million) outperformed imports (\$0.966 million) in Myanmar-Bangladesh border trade as of 8 September.

SEE PAGE-7



The photo shows a pile of rice sacks to be shipped to Bangladesh via Maungtao border.

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NATIONAL



The Inwa Mseum features models of the ancient city Inwa for visitors.

Proposed increase in entrance fees for cultural zones

MINISTRY of Religious Affairs and Culture plans to increase the entrance fees for foreigners to two cultural zones — Mandalay Cultural Zone as well as Inwa and Pindaya Cultural Zone — in Mandalay Region, according to Dr Than Htike, Director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum under the ministry.

“Foreigners will be charged a K15,000 entrance fee for Mandalay Cultural Zone as well as Inwa and Pindaya Cultural Zone starting from 1 October. In September, the fee remains K10,000,” Dr Than Htike, director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Mandalay

Branch). Myanansankyaw Golden Palace and Golden Monastery in Mandalay Cultural Zone and ancient buildings of Inwa and Pindaya Cultural Zone have been preserved costing millions of kyats, according to the data released by the ministry.

The decision to increase the entrance fees for the above cultural zones comes after the episodes of depreciation of kyat against the dollar and the rental fee for a bungalow at Shwesettaw Mann Creek Elephant Camp in Minbu District, Magway Region will be changed from K30,000 to K50,000 in coming tourism season. — TC/TH

KNU Brigade 7 advocates peaceful political conflict resolution rooted in NCA

THE KNU Brigade 7 in Hpa-an District released a statement on 14 September saying they will solve the political issues through political means based on the NCA.

They issued this statement aiming to give all relevant officials clear intention.

The KNU consecutively asked for the signing of NCA and reaching the political solutions through political means, the statement said. The NCA is signed in the presence of local and international witnesses. The reason why the conflict between the KNU and Myanmar government occurs is that solving the political issues through the military means not by political means.

In finding the solution based on the experience of about 70-year prolong conflict, it found out

that the best solution for political issues is being solved through political means. Therefore, the KNU congress expressed to find the solution for political issues through political means for a ceasefire and internal peace.

The KNU also added its political aims, objectives and opinions to establish a federal democratic Union as fundamental facts in NCA, it added.

The KNU has not officially announced that the NCA is void but the Brigade 7 will carry out the necessary measures to solve the political problems through political means based on the NCA for the interests of the people as well as for the regional tranquility and internal peace, according to Hpa-an District KNU Chairman Pado Saw Aung Maw Aye. — PP/KTZH

Yangon Job Fair presents over 500 available positions

JOBINATION, a job fair organized by JobNet Myanmar company, that offered more than 500 jobs by 30 local companies was convened at Novotel Hotel yesterday, attracting more younger candidates from Yangon who have no work experience to apply for the positions.

“Applicants need a CV that details their data to apply for the positions. There are more than 30

booths where job hunters can view the jobs that are suited to them and they can apply them in the booths,” said Mr Matt De Luca, executive director of JobNet Myanmar.

JobNet Myanmar has also planned a job fair in Mandalay to be convened in November and a similar event in Yangon is scheduled in March 2024. — ASH/TH

WEATHER report

Flood Warning

(Issued at 14:00 hrs MST on 16-9-2023)

ACCORDING to the 13:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thaungyin River at Myawady is observed as about two feet below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next one day.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas at Myawady Township, to take precaution measure.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 14:00 hrs MST on 16-9-2023)

Flood Condition of Sittoung River

According to the 13:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about 1½ feet above its danger level. It may continue to rise the present water level by about two inches during

the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

Flood Condition of Bago River

According to the 13:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Bago River in Bago has exceeded by about two inches above its danger level. It may continue to rise the present water level by about two inches during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

Flood Condition of Ngawun River

According to the 13:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Ngawun River in Ngathaingchaung has exceeded by about seven inches above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next two days.

According to the 13:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Ngawun River in Thabaung has exceeded by about eight inches above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next two days.

Advisory

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Madauk, and Bago Township, to take precaution measure.



Job seekers are seen at the Jobination organized by JobNet Myanmar at Novotel Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

NATIONAL



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers the speech in honour of the Diamond Jubilee of the Myanmar National Airlines yesterday.

FROM PAGE-1

MNA aims to enhance aviation transport connectivity with neighbouring and regional countries

With regard to achieving success in the aviation transport system, the Senior General expressed his reviews that not only the capacity of flight service personnel of airlines but also the facilities of airports and airport services must be better and better.

The Senior General stressed that MNA needs to operate its services globally and emphasize market research as now is the time to resume the development of the aviation tourism business

sector in the post-COVID-19 period.

The Senior General expressed his hope for MNA to achieve success in the aviation cargo transport sector as MNA will launch cargo flights to regional countries soon in addition to regular schedule flights to Thailand, Singapore, China, Korea and India and chartered flights.

The Senior General urged Myanmar National Airlines to maintain its fine traditions of serving the duties assigned by the State in successive eras for the interests of the State and the people.

SAC member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo reported

on international level aviation services of MNA, and future plans to dutifully implement its functions whereas MNA Management Board Chairman U Zin Yaw clarified the progress of MNA in successive eras.

The ceremony was also joined by SAC members General Mya Tun Oo and Admiral Tin Aung San, union ministers,

officials, service personnel from MNA and guests.

The Union of Burma Airways-UBA was established in 1948 and it was renamed the Burma Airways Corporation-BAC in 1972, the Myanma Airways-MA in 1979 and the Myanmar National Airlines-MNA in 2015 to manage operations of domestic and international flights. — MNA/TTA

7th China-ASEAN Traditional Medicine Pharmaceutical Sector Development Cooperation Summit continues its second day

The Myanmar delegation, led by Dr Thet Khaing Win, visited the exhibition commemorating the establishment and opening of the Traditional Medicine Sector Development Economic Zone in Fanchenggang, along with delegations from China and ASEAN countries on the afternoon of 14 September.

Officials first explained the formation of the economic zone for the development of the traditional medicine sector, including details about the traditional medicines currently being produced and the various traditional medicinal plant species. They also provided a comprehensive explanation on the uses of each type of traditional medicines.

The Myanmar delegation then visited the gallery where raw materials for traditional medicine and finished goods



Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win visits the exhibition commemorating the establishment of the Traditional Medicine Sector Development Economic Zone in Fanchenggang, China on 14 September.

were displayed. They examined herbal plants and engaged in discussions with those who were interested.

The second day of the Seventh China-ASEAN Traditional Medicine and Pharmaceutical Sector Development

Cooperation Summit included a policy discussion on quality control and standardization of traditional medicines and raw materials, as well as a discourse on traditional medicine production and export. Additionally, a seminar on the establishment of traditional medicine factories was conducted. The Department of Traditional Medicine, high-ranking officers from the Department of Food and Drug Administration engaged in discussions concerning various aspects of Myanmar's traditional medicine sector. These discussions encompassed policy processes, ongoing traditional medicine research activities, and the conditions for cooperation between China-ASEAN countries and the traditional medicine sector, as per the relevant topics. — MNA/KZW

NATIONAL

MEMBERS of the State Administration Council made trips to the grassroots level to meet with town elders and departmental officials and inspect development measures.

Mantung, Namhsam of Shan State

SAC Members U Shwe Kyein and U Yan Kyaw viewed round maintenance of Namkon Creek in Mantung Township of Palaung Self-Administered Zone.

A ceremony to present cash assistance for construction tasks from the natural disaster fund of the Shan State government took place at the monastery Taungpaing Hall of Namhsam on 15 September.

The SAC members and officials accepted cash donations which will be spent on the construction of the retaining wall at the monastery in Mansap Village, the election subcommission office, staff housing of the Township General Administration Department and Mansap-Yepusan gravel road and a box culvert.

While in Namhsam, the SAC members met with the Palaung Literature and Culture Association. They also comforted patients at Namhsam Hospital yesterday.

Residents urged to cooperate with government in restoring peace and stability, rule of law



State Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu visits the 18-tonne rice mill of Sun Agriculture and General Trading Cooperative Ltd on 16 September 2023.

Falam, Tiddim in Chin State

Plans are underway to assign doctors and nurses in Chin State as individual health is of great importance, said SAC member Dr Hmu Thang at the meeting with departmental per-

sonnel and town elders at the hall of the local battalion in Falam yesterday. Departmental heads who accompanied the SAC member fulfilled the requirements at basic education schools and agricultural and health sectors

in responding to the reports of town elders. In Tiddim, the SAC member and officials presented quality seeds of wheat and sunflower and fertilizer to local farmers.

Kyauktaw, MraukU and

Kyaukpyu in Rakhine State

On his tour of Kyauktaw, MraukU and Kyaukpyu townships, SAC member Dr Ba Shwe met with town elders and departmental officials yesterday. He visited the Institute of Agriculture in Kyauktaw. At the meetings with residents in three townships, he urged departmental officials and residents to cooperate with the authorities in the peace and stability of Rakhine State, rule of law, and development of agriculture and livestock farming tasks in Rakhine State. Local authorities fulfilled the needs of the people. **Myitkyina, Putao in Kachin State**

SAC member Daw Dwe Bu held talks with relevant organizations for the rule of law, and peace and stability in Myitkyina yesterday. She then visited the 18-tonne rice mill of Sun Agriculture and General Trading Cooperative Ltd with K35 million assistance from the State Economic Promotion Fund and viewed the production process in Lonsut Ward of Putao where she also viewed round the fish farm and met with officials from Jingphaw Literature and Culture Association for construction of the association office. — IPRD/TTA

MoC Union Minister attends China-ASEAN Ministerial Roundtable on Construction in Nanning of China

THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant met the Chinese Minister for Housing and Urban-Rural Development and party yesterday in Nanning, the capital of Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region.

They exchanged views on effective cooperation between the two countries in housing, urban and rural development, the Belt and Road Initiative-BRI, China – Myanmar Economic Corridor-CMEC and infrastructure development.

In the China-ASEAN Ministerial Roundtable on Construction meeting, the Union minister said in his speech

that the objective of the meeting is to highlight the importance of construction works and related things as the theme of the meeting is to be transparent, cooperate for mutual benefit and share new opportunities for China and ASEAN in the construction sector.

The Union minister also remarked that the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) is one of the important parts of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and it may contribute to regional economic development as well as improved linkage between infrastructures while attracting investments.

He also highlighted the fact that the International Land-Sea Trade Corridor — ILSTC, an important route, will connect the Southeast Asian areas to the southwest of China after passing Myanmar.

He then noted that the construction sector plays a key role in implementing projects of modern transportation networks, durable civil planning and housing. China-ASEAN cooperation will bring mutual benefits while investment in infrastructure projects is essential to improve connectivity within the region as well as to benefit the China-ASEAN

strategic cooperation.

In conclusion, the Union minister urged the meeting to keep sustainable development, to develop environmentally friendly infrastructures and to share practices and technologies with ASEAN countries in conducting developmental measures within the bloc.

At the meeting, ministers and officials from China and ASEAN countries discussed matters pertaining to the strategic prospects of China-ASEAN cooperation, investments in infrastructure projects, and research and technological developments. — MNA/TH

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NATIONAL

Countries along Silk Road need to make investments in digital infrastructure and launch transnational cooperation

UNION Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo, currently in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the People's Republic of China, addressed the 2023 China-ASEAN Silk Road E-commerce Forum held in China yesterday.

In his speech, he said the measures to develop e-commerce along the Silk Road are very effective and play a key role in strengthening international cooperation. It is necessary to emphasize the digital trade in this digital era. The digital sector has witnessed significant progress recently in Myanmar. It also set a digital roadmap and organized the

Digital Economy Development Committee (DEDC).

The government also makes reforms to attract investment to develop the technology and promote digital trading. Moreover, it accelerates the force to develop digital technology in trading, agriculture, healthcare, banking and education sectors.

Therefore, the countries along the Silk Road need to make investments in digital infrastructure and launch transnational cooperation, and innovative and creative measures to develop the e-commerce on Silk Road.

The forum was also attended by Chinese Deputy



Union Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo takes part in the 2023 China-ASEAN Silk Road E-commerce Forum held in China yesterday.

Minister of Commerce Mr Li Fei, Vice-President of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, business people and entrepreneurs from China and ASEAN countries. — MNA/KTZH



Union Commerce Minister U Aung Naing Oo poses for the documentary group photo together with attendees of the Mandalay Region Trade, Investment and Tourism Promotion Conference yesterday.

Myanmar seeks Chinese investment in promising industries at Mandalay Region Trade, Investment, and Tourism Promotion Conference

UNION Minister for Commerce U Aung Naing Oo, currently in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the People's Republic of China, addressed the Mandalay Region Trade, Investment and Tourism Promotion Conference yesterday.

In his speech, the Union minister said the Mandalay Region is strategically located for the China-Myanmar railway project, China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC) project, East-West Economic

Corridor and South-West Economic Corridor of GMS. Therefore, it was selected as the City of Charm at the China-ASEAN Expo.

As Mandalay is situated at the junction of regional trading routes of economic corridors, the Chinese business people should invest in promising businesses such as food production, garment industry, finished gems and jewellery business, renewable energy and logistics sectors.

At the event, relevant of-

ficials also presented matters related to the Mandalay Myotha Industrial Zone project, Amarapura Tourism project, Mingala Mandalay project, Yetaguntaung City project, and fruits and vegetables of Myanmar.

Moreover, they signed five agreements including the Cooperation Agreement of the Luban Workshop Operation Project in Myanmar; two MoUs on economic cooperation, cooperation agreements on trading and supply and honey trading at the event. — MNA/KTZH

UEC delegation returns from China

THE Myanmar delegation led by U Than Tun, a member of the Union Election Commission, who went on a study tour to the People's Republic of China at the invitation of the International Affairs Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the People's Republic of China, returned to Yangon from China yesterday evening.

During the trip, they learned about the development and implementation of agricultural and

livestock activities to eliminate poverty in rural areas under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the efforts to make Qinghai Province in the Tibetan highlands a clean region.

They observed and discussed carbon reduction and the construction of new electric power, cultural heritage preservation, tourism development, and China-style modern policies for the development of the country. — MNA/KZL



The delegation of the Union Election Commission arrives back Yangon from the study tour of China yesterday.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Russia and Myanmar explore promising trade opportunities

RUSSIAN Economic Development Minister Mr Maxim Reshetnikov stated that the Russia-Myanmar bilateral trade holds significant potential, primarily in the energy resources and agricultural sectors. Furthermore, he mentioned ongoing efforts to establish Myanmar coffee as a permanent offering in Russian retail stores and to facilitate its purchase and import.

Effortless Currency Exchange: Swap Myanmar kyats for Russian roubles using MIR payment system card

ACCORDING to a statement from the Information Team, it is now possible to make direct payments between the Myanmar kyat and the Russian rouble using the MIR payment system card. This move aims to reduce dependence on the US dollar and streamline payments between Myanmar and Russia, expanding Myanmar’s payment coverage while ensuring faster transactions.

Exclusive procurement bid for X-ray baggage scanner at Shwedagon Pagoda

INDIVIDUALS who want to bid exclusively for five X-ray baggage scanners compliant with Shwedagon Pagoda’s current security requirements can submit a price proposal form and regulations along with a fee of K25,000 to the Board of Trustees office. The Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees sells it at the office during office hours from 16 to 29 September.

Introduction of fees for tourist residence permits and visas

TOURISTS entering on a tourist visa on arrival are allowed a 30-day stay, with the visa fee set at US\$50. Approvals for visas on arrival to China and India were granted on the last day. This year, an increase in foreign tourists, especially from China, is anticipated. Consequently, preparations are underway to commence tour sales for October and November. U Naung Naung Han, President of the Union of Myanmar Travel Association, also noted that airlines are initiating flights.

Reopening of all hotels and guesthouses in Bagan to be announced

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Hoteliers Association, the opening of all hotels and guesthouses in the upcoming season will depend on the number of visitors to the Bagan Ancient Cultural Area in NyaungU Township, Mandalay Region.

Bidding process commences for construction of flyovers

MYANMA Railways has initiated a tender for the construction of flyovers at four locations within the Yangon circular railway upgrading projects. These locations include between Paywetsatagon station and Kyaukyedwin station, between Baukhtaw and Tamway station, between Kyaukyedwin and Tadakalay station, and the area between the Yegu station and Tadakalay station.

PHOTO: AUNG MYINT

PHOTO: AUNG MYINT

PHOTO: AUNG MYINT



The University of Dental Medicine in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region.

Medical, dental universities’ initial admission interviews set for 19-20 September

THE Ministry of Health announced that the first entrance interview for medical and dental universities will be held on 19 and 20 September.

The first face-to-face interview for those who have applied for admission will be held on 19 and 20 September at the Midwifery Training School in Nay Pyi Taw.

Seat No 1 through No 165 will be included in interview from 8 am to 12 noon, while Seat No 166 through No 330 will be queued from 1 pm to 5 pm on 19 September.

Furthermore, seats No 331 to No 496 will be set from 8 am to 12 noon, and seats No 497 to No 659 will be arranged from 1 pm to 5 pm.

The Ministry of Health has encouraged candidates to join the first interview and take the test on the scheduled dates.

The list of eligible candidates, along with their seat numbers for the first-time oral test, as well as the test date and location, can be searched on the Ministry of Health’s Facebook page (Ministry of Health, Myanmar and www.moh.gov.mm), and the information has also been posted on the Department of Human Resources for Health website www.hrh.gov.mm, as well as on websites of medical and dental institutes and the Department of Higher Education. — TWA/KZW

Japan to recruit 1,053 Myanmar workers



A workplace where foreign workers work in Japan.

THE Myanmar Embassy to Japan announced on 15 September that it has recruited 1,053 Myanmar workers to work for companies in Japan.

A total of 342 job offer let-

ters were reportedly verified between 1 and 15 September for 1,053 Myanmar workers who were offered to the embassy.

Factories and companies

offering jobs are checked to see if they are legally established in Japan and the documents are verified, and the findings and comments are sent back to the Ministry of Labour through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Myanmar workers who want to work legally in Japan must check information at the employment and labour offices in townships and districts of respective regions and states and follow the requirements.

Job offer letters for 884 Myanmar workers on 31 July, 1,065 on 14 July, over 400 on 30 July, 350 job offer letters for over 1,000 on 15 June and further job offer letters for nearly 1,200 workers on 31 August were sent by Japan according to the Myanmar Embassy to Japan. — TWA/KZL

LOCAL BUSINESS

Scarce supply pushes onion prices higher till 15 Sept

A decrease in onion supply at Bayintnaung Wholesale Commodity Centre elevated the prices, the market data showed.

The prices jumped to K2,600-3,100 per viss of onions depending on sizes on 15 September, showing an increase of K150 per viss of large onions.

The volume of onion supply was around 72,000 visses on 13 September and 60,000 visses on 14 September. The prices moved in the range of K2,500 and K2,950 per viss only. About 72,000 visses of onions flowed into the Yangon market on 15 September yet the price increased.

The onions fetched high prices in the onion-producing areas in the second week of September.

Approximately four million visses of onions are supplied to the Yangon market every month.



An undated picture shows the Pakokku onion market.

There is reportedly a demand from Bangladesh and Malaysia in the regions outside Yangon. However, the price stayed low. Then, the price slightly moved up on 15 September.

Myanmar aims to export 15,000 tonnes of onions to external markets in Q2 (July-September) and 20,000 tonnes in Q3, as per the institution concerned. — TWA/EM



Myanmar-Bangladesh border trade values cross ...

The file photo shows trade activities at the Maungtaw border.

FROM PAGE-1

Trade via Maungtaw is valued at \$5.287 million, while the value of trade via Sittway was estimated at \$1.61 million over the past five months.

Myanmar carried out border trade worth \$0.58 million with Bangladesh via Maungtaw between 1 and 10 September. The Maungtaw border is aimed to reach a trade target of \$1.54 million for September. It achieved 37.73 per cent of the trade target in the first 10 days. Agricultural produce, fisheries and manufacturing goods are the main export items and no import is recorded.

The goods are supplied to the Maungtaw border through the Sittway-Buth-

idaung-Maungtaw and Sittway-Angumaw-Maungtaw routes. Mostly, goods flowed into the border via the Sittway-Angumaw-Maungtaw route. They are shipped to Bangladesh via the Kanyinchaung Economic Zone.

The Customs Department's statistics indicated that Myanmar's export to Bangladesh via the Sittway border was valued at \$0.034 million between 2 and 8 September. Tamarind, jujube, fresh ginger and plum jam were sent to Bangladesh.

Although there is only 70 nautical miles distance between the two countries, the cargo vessels are operated depending on the weather conditions in monsoon season. — TWA/KK

Tuna fishing proposals solicited in Myanmar's EEZ

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation invites proposals for tuna fishing activities within Myanmar's exclusive economic zone, extending beyond its territorial sea boundaries. Foreign fishing vessels will have the opportunity to operate within this zone under the oversight of Myanmar-owned companies, in compliance with the stipulated terms and conditions of the agreement.

Citizen-owned companies interested in managing foreign tuna fishing vessels are encouraged to submit their business permit proposals by the deadline of 28 October. For any enquiries related to the application process, applicants can contact the Department of Fisheries in Nay Pyi Taw, through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation. — TWA/KZW



Fishing boats in Myanmar waters. PHOTO: XINHUA

Beware of the perils of online crime in communication technologies

IN TODAY’S interconnected world, Myanmar and its global counterparts are reaping the benefits of rapid advancements in communication technologies. However, amidst this digital revolution, it is imperative for everyone to be vigilant and guard against the perils of online crimes that thrive within these communication networks.

Myanmar is actively working to enhance its communication technologies, aiming to foster national development, provide equitable opportunities for businesses both domestically and internationally, protect the rights of users and service providers, and ensure the peace and security of the state. While these endeavours hold immense promise, they also come with their fair share of challenges, primarily stemming from the misuse of communication technologies by unscrupulous individuals.

Transnational criminals have found fertile ground in communication networks to carry out various illegal activities, including fraud, human trafficking, and online gambling. Myanmar has witnessed a significant number of online defamation cases, totaling 2,485 from 2015 to 2023, and 526 cases of online fraud from 2019 to 2023. Moreover, criminals are spreading fake news across political, economic, and social spheres, inciting hate speech, and engaging in various forms of deception through these technologies.

As a result, online businesses often find themselves falling victim to swindlers who exploit these technologies. Business owners can suffer substantial financial losses due to the deceptive practices of online fraudsters who take advantage of the trust placed in virtual interactions.

China, Myanmar, and Thailand have collaborated in combating gambling activities in the eastern border areas of Myanmar. Bilateral agreements are also being implemented to combat communication fraud, online gambling, and transnational crimes. The prevalence of communication-based swindling not only tarnishes Myanmar’s reputation but also causes distress to its citizens, both within and beyond its borders. Therefore, a collective effort from all nations is necessary to effectively combat these communication network-based swindling cases.

Myanmar has partnered with neighbouring countries, such as China, Thailand, and Laos, to establish a comprehensive mechanism aimed at eradicating cheating cases related to communication technologies and gambling. The government is committed to enhancing the security of its citizens and safeguarding their interests by suppressing these criminal activities. However, it is equally important for individuals to exercise caution and refrain from falling victim to online swindling and gambling schemes.

Communication technologies offer numerous opportunities for advancement and connectivity. Myanmar and its global counterparts must remain vigilant, adopt stringent measures, and collaborate across borders to combat these emerging threats effectively. By doing so, we can harness the potential of communication networks while ensuring the safety and security of all users.

Communication technologies offer numerous opportunities for advancement and connectivity. Myanmar and its global counterparts must remain vigilant, adopt stringent measures, and collaborate across borders to combat these emerging threats effectively. By doing so, we can harness the potential of communication networks while ensuring the safety and security of all users.

Immunologist wins ‘Breakthrough Prize’ for innovative cancer treatment

Immunologist Michel Sadelain won a big prize for his groundbreaking work in CAR T-cell therapy, which is a new and super-effective way to treat blood cancers.



Lab technicians work on a process machine to produce CAR-T cells and RNA in the laboratory of French biopharmaceutical company Cellectis. (L) Immunologist Michel Sadelain (R) PHOTO: THOMAS COEX / KARSTEN MORAN / SLOANE KETTERING CANCER CENTER/AFP

interest in developing vaccines to train the immune system to recognize and destroy cancer cells, in the same way it can be taught to tackle foreign invaders such as bacteria and viruses.

“But I started thinking that perhaps we should learn how to directly instruct the fighters of the immune system, in particular the T-cells,” he said, with his early work focused on mice.

After moving to the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York, Sadelain developed a way to use a disabled virus to

genetically reprogram human T-cells, so that they grew claw-like structures called antigen receptors, allowing the T-cells to target specific cancer cells.

Beyond recognizing the cancer, these Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cells, as Sadelain named them, were also given genetic instructions to enter a killing mode and to multiply, growing an army inside the body to eliminate the enemy.

Thanks to the groundwork laid by June and Sadelain, there are now half a dozen US approved CAR-T cell therapies, with hundreds more trials underway.

Patients’ own T-cells are collected, modified outside the body, then infused back into the blood, creating a so-called “living drug”.

In a trial against multiple myeloma, a cancer that develops in plasma cells, 72 per cent of patients responded to treatment, with total disappearance of the disease seen in 28 per cent, among whom 65 percent had sustained eradication for 12 months.

High costs

The treatment comes with serious side effects — including in some cases death — from the release of inflammatory molecules called cytokines. Doctors have learned to recognize and manage this better over time.

Another risk is nervous system impairment, with symptoms such as deep confusion or inability to talk, although these clear up within days.

Sadelain is excited for what the future could hold: from improving the T-cells so they tackle solid cancers, to treating autoimmune conditions such as lupus, to fighting currently intractable infections such as HIV.

SOURCE: AFP



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Price	-	K6,000

Koh Lan Ko Hnin & Seikkhun-Ah Hmyint Sarsumyar

THIS book is a collection of translated articles. The translator has selectively translated those articles which he likes the most and which he thinks are the most suitable for inspiring the readers in their effort to promote their quality of life. The articles are believed to contribute towards the development of compassion, sympathy, loving-kindness, willingness to help others and the correct mindset. Without these noble minds being instilled in human beings, the world of ours will not be worth living. If the readers can change their mindset after reading this book, the translator

will be delighted, he wrote in his foreword. The head should rule the heart on most occasions while the heart should rule the head sometimes. People need to strike a proper balance between the heart and the head because people cannot always use their heads.

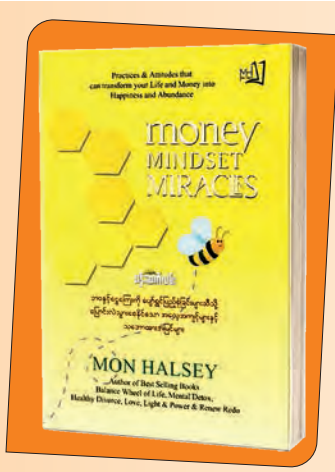
This book consists of 54 articles, covering a wide range of topics. The readers can emulate Guru Gandhi for his honesty, envy the resilience of the eagles in the face of rough storms, understand the tough life of the pirates, hope against hope, know the strength of the words of power, differentiate

between what is important and what is not, know how the earth is moving, learn lessons of life as to how people can come back and know the priceless fact that there are things which are more important than the money inter alia.

The title article deals with the wrong mindset of rivalry. The message the translator wants to give is the wrong way of competition, which will only bring the competitor in the wrong direction and prevent him from reaching the destination he is set to get to. The original writer has provided an example of the wrong contest in

which a man on a bike wanted to take over the one riding a bicycle in front of him. As he believed that he could ride the bike at a faster speed than the one ahead of him, he raised his speed to be able to overtake the guy in front. He did not stop contending and continued to raise the acceleration. He was overjoyed when he could leave that guy far behind him. However, he forgot his destination. Matter-of-factly, his destination was left far behind, and so, he had to turn back, thereby losing his time and energy for his foolishness. There is an English idiom, “Keeping up with the Joneses,” referring to the comparison to one’s neighbours as a benchmark for social class or the accumulation of material goods. To fail to “Keep up with the Joneses” is perceived as demonstrating socioeconomic or cultural inferiority. Readers can learn lessons from such foolish competitions.

In another article titled, “Three Travellers”, the message the original writer wanted to give was a matter of choice as to which we ought to give priority to: should our choice be wealth or success or love? The article has demonstrated that love is the most important thing because if there is love, wealth and success will follow.



Book Title	-	Money Mindset Miracles
Writer	-	Mon Halsey
Publishing House	-	Pann Sett Lann
Publication Date	-	August 2023 [1 st Edition]
Price	-	K7,000

Money Mindset Miracles

“MONEY has to be used from Day 1 on which we were born to the Ultimate Day when we leave this world of us. Money is not a mere paper sheet; it is, in fact, an energy which gives life to all situations we are in throughout our life.” This is mentioned in the introduction to the book under review.

The writer of this book is nobody but Mon Halsey, a lady writer, who belongs to the group in the top stratum of the writers of these days. This book is the 21st of her production. Although money is only a paper note, it gives much energy, which will yield happiness when positive energy is given. But if it is used in the wrong way, the money

will turn to the devil. The writer provides an approach as to how to draw the good things with the use of ‘The Law of Attraction’.

She pointed out that although there are various ways of making money, only sincere and truthful ways ought to be applied in earning money because earning money through the use of dirty, tricky and dishonest ways will result in ruining both the money makers themselves and the world at large. She said that people should not deviate from upholding truthful characters and traits in making money. She calls the money gained through the use of truthful means the happy money whereas that obtained by trick and

dishonesty means is called the unhappy money.

Additionally, she has tried to differentiate between the use and misuse of money. If the money is spent on one’s health or repair, renovation and maintenance of the house or apartment, this is the right way of spending money which we should not regret. Let’s imagine how the money we pay to the hospitals, clinics and doctors is spent. The money goes into the pockets of doctors, nurses, nurse aid cleaners etc. Spending on our healthcare means contributing to the earnings of such professionals. We should be happy with the thought that we are helping them make money for their livelihood. As long as we can keep the right mindset, we will be able to lead a happy life.

The writer said that her book does not provide the get-rich-quick methods or the mantras the reciting of which will hasten the buy and sale of the real property for example. She does not encourage the readers to be money-oriented. Instead, she tells them to reduce and finally do away with the desire to make money through use of the dishonest means. What is written is the correct approach which conforms with the teachings of all religious faiths. She has simply pointed out the nature of universal energy, which can be used in making money. She has merely provided the correct methods and approaches to earn money through the employment of the law of attraction as found by the scientists. Matter-of-factly, the writer has just exerted an effort to urge the readers to change their mindset, their lifestyle, their attitude towards the use of money and the correct way of moneymaking etc. In a nutshell, she has just called for the transformation of the mindset and attitude towards the world, pinpointing that good actions attract good things.

Entertainment

Celebrity Brief

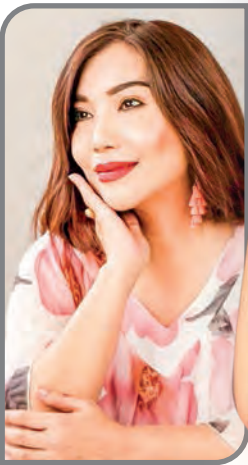


Aung Ko Latt

Singer and director U Aung Ko Latt said he makes strong wishes for the welfare and happiness of his musical mentors at 8 am and 6 pm daily. He always wants to be a good pupil as well as a good mentor in his life. He also created a new song and it will be released soon.

May Kha Lar

Actress and singer Su Htet Hlaing said during an interview, “I love Chit Nge so much. I have learnt a lot from her. I emulate her actions as she is very smart in managing the whole event. She is my living book in the musical field that I can learn unlimitedly.” Regarding this, May Kha Lar posted on her Facebook that “Ma Ma Oo or Su Htet Hlaing, who is good at acting and singing and who always talks about her mentors from whom she learns through seeing and hearing, will become more successful.”



Padamya Kay Khine

Padamya K. Khine, the Production Director of the Thabin Star competition said that Western cultural dance will not be allowed in the competition but only the creation of Myanmar traditional dance. The first-prize winner male theatrical dancer and female dancer will receive K10 million each and can participate in entertainment programmes of Mar Lar Myaing Thabin. Ten more male and female outstanding dancers will be awarded K1 million each and 20 more male and female dancers, K500,000 each.



Amara Bo

Miss Amara Bo who was crowned the title of “Miss Universe Myanmar 2023” said that she lost her confidence and felt depressed during the Miss Universe competition. Some made positive comments but some gave only negative comments. She also expressed thanks to her fans who support and appreciate her efforts, making her commitment that she will prepare her best to represent Myanmar in the international competition.



Academy Wai Lu Kyaw and Yay Kyi Chan Mya

The 103rd Myanmar Motion Picture Day and 46th Respect-Paying Ceremony will be held on 13 October. Therefore, Yay Kyi Chan Mya posted that the donors can donate cash at the MMPO office in person or via KBZ pay. Academy Wai Lu Kyaw and Yay Kyi Chan Mya also donated K300,000 for the 46th Respect-Paying Ceremony.



Designer Min Thet San

Designer Min Thet San created his masterpiece birthday dress made of five vises of gold for Ma Thiri Swe (Chief Product Officer), the eldest daughter of Eternal Weint Sein Gold and Jewellery. Ma Thiri Swe also wore a gold wedding dress on her wedding day.—Htun Htun/KTZH

TikTok winners for Yadana Mai's 'Hmar Mi Pyi' song to get cash awards

THE best Tik Tokers who perform the song “Hmar Mi Pyi” (Go Wrong) of Yadana Mai will be awarded, said Singer Yadana Mai. The song was composed by Byad DA and directed by Director Toe Tet. The casts are Wai Gyi, Yadana Mai and Hmone Natha Win Maung.

“The people can make TikTok videos using any verse of my new MTV song they like. I will choose the one that I like best and award that Tiktoker,” she said.

The special prize will be K150,000 and K150,000 for the one who receives the most view-

ers, K100,000 to the second-prize winner, K50,000 to the third-prize winner and K30,000 to the consolation prize winner. The people can participate in the competition starting 14 September and the winners will be announced on 24 September. — ASH/KTZH



S Africa holds state funeral for divisive Zulu leader Buthelezi

MOURNERS in traditional warrior headbands gathered Saturday for the state funeral of Zulu prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi, a powerful but divisive leader implicated in a wave of deadly violence that marked the birth of modern South Africa.

Thousands are expected to pay tribute to the once-feared founder of the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), who died exactly a week ago aged 95.

From the morning, mourners wearing black or sporting Zulu warrior headbands, streamed into a small stadium in Ulundi, the ancient capital of the Zulu kingdom and IFP heartland, for the funeral.

“He treated all of us Zulus as one person. That is why I am here,” said Bonga Makhoba, 31,

who drove 150 kilometres (93 miles) and slept in his car to attend the ceremony.

“I just respect him and I want him to... rest in peace.”

White marquees have been set up to accommodate important guests on the pitch, at the centre of which stands a black canopy for the coffin.

President Cyril Ramaphosa, who has ordered flags to be flown at half mast across the country, will deliver a eulogy at the funeral celebrated by the head of South Africa’s Anglican Church. “Buthelezi has been an outstanding leader in the political and cultural life of our nation, including the ebbs and flows of our liberation struggle,” Ramaphosa said, announcing the Zulu nationalist’s death last Saturday. — AFP



The coffin of Mangosuthu Buthelezi, traditional prime minister of the Zulu monarch and nation, is loaded into a hearse in Ulundi a day before his funeral. **PHOTO: MARCO LONGARI/AFP**

TOP HEADLINE

Two Russians, American reach space station

TWO Russian cosmonauts and an American astronaut docked with the International Space Station on Friday after blasting off amid raging tensions between Moscow and Washington over Ukraine.

Earlier Friday Roscosmos cosmonauts Oleg Kononenko and Nikolai Chub and NASA astronaut Loral O’Hara lifted off from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan aboard the Soyuz MS-24 spacecraft.

The crew docked at the ISS three hours later, the Russian space agency said.

At the orbiting station, the trio will join three Russians, two Americans, a Japanese astronaut and a representative of the European Space Agency. — AFP



Pump jacks at the South Belridge Oil Field in unincorporated Kern County, California, on 26 February 2022. **PHOTO: ROBYN BECK / AFP**

California sues oil giants, alleging climate risks deception: NYT

California sues major oil firms for financial harm and public deception regarding fossil fuel risks, aligning with other US climate change lawsuits.

THE US state of California sued five of the world’s largest oil companies on Friday, alleging the firms caused billions of dollars in damages and misled the public by minimizing the risks from fossil fuels, The New York Times reported. It follows numerous other cases brought by US cities, counties and states against fossil fuel interests over

the impact of climate change as well as alleged disinformation campaigns spanning decades. The civil case was filed in superior court in San Francisco against Exxon Mobil, Shell, BP, ConocoPhillips and Chevron, which is headquartered in California. The American Petroleum Institute, an industry group, is also a defendant in the case,

The New York Times said. The companies and their allies “intentionally downplayed the risks posed by fossil fuels to the public, even though they understood that their products were likely to lead to significant global warming,” dating back to the 1950s, the suit alleged, according to the newspaper. — AFP

Water shortage in Central Asia worsening, Uzbekistan warns

SERIOUS water shortages plaguing Central Asian countries have become “irreversible” and will only get worse, Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev warned Friday, as global warming and increased competition weigh on resources.

Central Asian countries such as Uzbekistan face a myriad of environmental problems, including decades of Soviet-era pollution, soil degradation and a scarcity of water made worse by climate change.

“Colleagues are well aware that the problem of water shortage in Central Asia has become acute and irreversible and will only worsen further,”

Mirziyoyev told a meeting of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea.

The Aral Sea between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan was once the fourth largest lake in

the world, before Soviet irrigation projects caused much of it to dry up in what has been dubbed one of the world’s worst environmental catastrophes. — AFP



Cows walk through the ship graveyard near the former port of Moynaq on the Aral Sea, Uzbekistan **PHOTO: THIRD POLE/AFP/FILE**

ECONOMY

WORLD

Takahama No 2 nuclear reactor in Japan restarted after 12-yr halt

Japan is restarting aging nuclear reactors to prioritize nuclear power generation for carbon emission reduction and stable energy supply, despite the Fukushima disaster.



File photo taken on 28 July 2023, shows the Takahama nuclear power plant’s No 2 reactor (L) and No 1 reactor in Takahama, Fukui Prefecture. **PHOTO: KYODO**

KANSAI Electric Power Co on Friday rebooted its nearly 50-year-old No 2 reactor at its Takahama nuclear plant in central Japan for the first time since 2011, becoming the 12th unit to be restarted in the country since the Fukushima accident.

The reboot in Fukui Prefecture means the Osaka-based utility has resumed operating all of its seven reactors after stricter safety standards were introduced following a nuclear meltdown crisis that occurred at the Fukushima Daiichi complex, triggered by an earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

The Takahama No 2 unit began commercial operations in 1975 and is the second oldest Japan following the 48-year-old

No 1 unit at the same plant, which was restarted in July after a 12-year halt.

The restart of the aging reactors comes as Prime Minister Fumio Kishida’s government stresses reliance on nuclear power generation in a bid to cut carbon emissions and ensure stable sources of energy, despite the Fukushima accident.

Japan’s parliament in May enacted a bill to allow nuclear reactors in the country to be operated beyond the current limit of 60 years.

Kansai Electric plans to restart power generation and transmission at the No 2 reactor on Wednesday before resuming commercial operations on 16 October.— Kyodo

China’s shipbuilding industry cruising to bigger success

AS the world’s largest luxury passenger cruise ship in terms of tonnage embarked on its voyage in the Mediterranean, a counterpart of equal magnificence was standing prepared for delivery along the Pearl River in south China.

Behind these marvels is the Guangzhou Shipyard International Company Limited, the

manufacturer of the vessels.

“In the first half of this year, the orders of our company surged by 90 per cent year on year, and we have production orders booked until 2028,” said Zhang Qinghuan, deputy secretary of the company’s Party committee. The ability to fulfill orders promptly while simultaneously accepting new ones provides

a glimpse into the remarkable growth of major shipyards in China this year. According to data from the China Association of the National Shipbuilding Industry, from January to July 2023, China’s shipbuilding industry topped global rankings in three crucial categories — shipbuilding output, new orders, and holding orders. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 19 October 2022 shows the luxury “ro-ro” (roll-on/roll-off) passenger ship Moby Fantasy in Guangzhou, south China’s Guangdong Province. **PHOTO: GUANGZHOU SHIPYARD INTERNATIONAL CO., LTD./HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

Kenya fuel prices hit all-time high



According to August inflation figures, petrol prices had already risen by 22 per cent over the past year. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE cost of fuel in Kenya hit a record high on Friday after the energy regulator revised pump prices, adding to the economic hardship facing millions of people.

The announcement by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority brings the retail price of a litre of petrol to an unprecedented level of more than 200 Kenyan shillings (\$1.36). — AFP

TOP HEADLINE

IMF criticises Lebanon for failure to adopt reforms

THE International Monetary Fund renewed its criticism of Lebanon Friday for failing to enact reforms demanded by creditors in return for releasing billions of dollars in emergency bailout loans.

“Lebanon has not undertaken the urgently needed reforms, and this will weigh on the economy for years to come,” said the IMF’s Ernesto Ramirez Rigo in a statement at the end of a visit to Beirut.

Since late 2019, Lebanon has been mired in an economic crisis the World Bank has described as one of the worst in recent world history, pushing most of the population into poverty. — AFP

Volkswagen’s global deliveries up 5.7% in August

GLOBAL deliveries by the Volkswagen Group in August rose by 5.7 per cent year-on-year, Germany’s largest carmaker said on Friday.

Driven by significant growth in the European markets and the Middle East/Africa region, the number of vehicles delivered in August increased to 740,100. Sales in the comparison month, August 2022, were “particularly strong because the market was stimulated by tax breaks, following the long COVID-19 lockdowns,” a Volkswagen Group spokesperson told Xinhua on Friday, stressing that the company kept deliveries to China “almost stable” between January and August.

In the first quarter of 2023, Volkswagen lost its market leadership in China to local electric vehicle (EV) manufacturer BYD, according to figures by the China Passenger Car Association. BYD saw sales jump 69 per cent year-on-year in the first three months.

Instead of price cuts “beyond an economically justifiable level”, Volkswagen is focusing on the “protection of margins,” the spokesperson told Xinhua. “Profitability remains a high priority for Volkswagen, even in a highly competitive market environment.” — AFP



A Volkswagen ID.6 CROZZ vehicle is displayed during the 20th Changchun International Auto Expo in Changchun, capital of northeast China’s Jilin Province, 20 July 2023. PHOTO: YAN LINYUN/XINHUA

US auto workers, companies face off on day two of strike

WORKERS and management from the iconic “Big Three” auto giants were to face off at the negotiating table Saturday on the second day of a strike threatening to disrupt the economy and rock the 2024 presidential election campaign.

After a failed last-minute push by General Motors, Ford and Stellantis to produce an agreement before the deadline late Thursday, United Automobile Workers members walked out Friday.

They appeared determined to stick with the action, even as Ford quickly announced that ripple effects from the walkouts meant temporary layoffs of 600 jobs.

UAW President Shawn Fain said late Friday that it wasn’t true “negotiations have broken down”.

US judge orders Argentina to pay \$16.1 bln for oil firm expropriation

A US judge on Friday ordered Argentina to pay nearly \$16.1 billion to two companies that were not compensated as minority shareholders for the 2012 nationalization of the YPF oil giant.

In a ruling that expanded on a prior judgment in favour of Petersen Energia and Eton Park Capital, federal judge Loretta Preska set the amounts that Argentina must pay the two firms in compensation.

Preska ordered the South American nation to pay \$7.5 billion in damages and \$6.85 billion in interest to Petersen Energia.



Aerial view of the Argentine state-owned oil and gas company YPF refinery in Berisso, Buenos Aires, taken on 18 October 2022. PHOTO: JUAN MABROMATA / AFP

She also ordered Argentina to pay about \$1.7 billion, between damages and interest, to Eton Park Capital.

The case dates back to Argentina’s 2012 expropriation of 51 percent of

the shares of leading energy company YPF, which was partially controlled by Spanish giant Repsol.

Argentina, which is mired in economic and political crisis with runaway annual inflation of over 120

per cent, said on 9 August that it would appeal the ruling. It has 30 days to do so.

In the judgment, Preska also ruled that all other claims by the plaintiffs “are dismissed and that

all of plaintiffs’s claims against defendant YPF SA are dismissed.” The expropriation case was brought in US courts because YPF shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange. — AFP

EU ends import bans on Ukraine grain

THE European Union said it was ending an import ban on Ukrainian grain in five member states on Friday after Kyiv promised to control exports.

Russia’s invasion of

Ukraine has closed off Black Sea shipping lanes used before the war, resulting in the EU becoming a major transit route and export destination for Ukrainian grain.

But in May, the EU began restricting the grain imports to Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, seeking to protect their farmers who blamed the imports for a

slump in prices on local markets.

The European Commission said “existing measures will expire today” when they run out at midnight. — AFP



Members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) line up outside of the UAW Local 900 headquarters to sign up for strike funds. PHOTO: MATTHEW HATCHER/AFP

However, he added that “our members and allies are standing strong at the picket lines. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3316S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3316S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-9-2023** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Summit of G77 and China opens in Havana

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel praised China's global cooperation efforts and condemned the enduring US embargo on Cuba during his welcome speech.

THE Summit of the Group of 77 (G77) and China kicked off at the Palace of Conventions in Havana, Cuba, on Friday.

The meeting, running through Saturday, gathers delegations from more than 100 countries. The opening ceremony was attended by Cuba's socialist revolution Army General Raul Castro.

During his welcoming speech, Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel highlighted China's efforts to promote international cooperation worldwide.

Diaz-Canel also denounced the six-decade-long US embargo on the Cuban population, which has caused huge economic and humanitarian damages, calling on participants to fight for the

right to development.

Speaking at the summit's opening ceremony, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that the voice of the Group of 77 and China will always be essential for the UN system.

More financial support is required to help Global South nations tackle climate change's impact, he added. Li Xi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the special representative of Chinese President Xi Jinping, attended the summit.

"China is the world's largest developing nation and a natural member of the Global South. We are ready to work with Cuba and



Delegates attending the Summit of the Group of 77 (G77) and China pose for a group photo in Havana, Cuba, 15 September 2023. Li Xi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the special representative of Chinese President Xi Jinping, attended the summit. **PHOTO: DING HAITAO / XINHUA**

other G77 members to open a new chapter in South-South cooperation in quest for greater development through stronger solidarity, build a Global South community with a shared future, and usher in a new era of common development," he said. — Xinhua

Poland's South Korean weapon initiatives create security risks and cost taxpayer money

Poland, after buying many South Korean armaments, is considering expanding its military hardware partnership by potentially producing 800 South Korean tanks in Poland.

HAVING already purchased a large quantities of armaments from South Korea, Poland may now be seeking to take its relations with Seoul in the sphere of military hardware procurement to a new level.



The K2 Black Panther is a South Korean main battle tank designed for the Republic of Korea Army's modern warfare needs. **PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA / SIMTA/SPUTNIK**

Having already purchased some 1,000 battle tanks from South Korea, Po-

land now mulls manufacturing about 800 South Korean tanks on Polish soil.

Earl Rasmussen, a retired US Army Lt-colonel and a veteran international consultant, told Sputnik that this move would improve ties between Warsaw and Seoul.

"Poland is obviously looking for some of the most more advanced technology. And so they're looking at Korea for that, and that strengthens their partnership, too," he said.

Rasmussen also suggested that this initiative "is most likely being encouraged by the United States," and that it further helps strengthen the ties between Europe and Asia in general. — SPUTNIK

ONGOING UPDATES

US Space Force prepares to establish command post in Japan

THE US Space Force (USSF) is moving towards establishing a new command post in Japan as the Pentagon's newest service branch establishes a firmer footing in the US military's global apparatus.

In July, Japan hosted its first-ever Space Engagement Talks with the United States at Yokota Air Base, which paralleled the arrival of two Space Domain Awareness (SDA) sensors that will be incorporated into Japanese satellites as part of a joint effort called the Quasi-Zenith Satellite System Hosted Payload (QZSS-HP).

USSF Brig-Gen Anthony Mastalir, the commander of USSF forces under US Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM), said in a news release at the time that the QZSS-HP would help "extend our alliance into space." — SPUTNIK

Hawaii revises down wildfire death toll

THE number of people thought to have died in the fast-moving wildfire that tore through part of Hawaii last month dropped Friday, as authorities revised their figures.

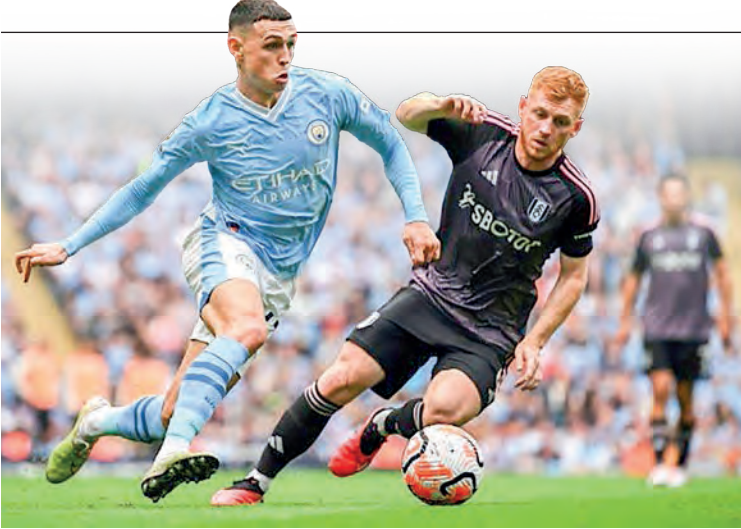
The state's governor, Josh Green, said scientists sorting through remains now believed that 97 people had perished in Lahaina, down from a previous official toll of 115.

"That number dropped a little bit because the Department of Defence and all of their physical anthropologists were able to help us discern better who was in cars or in houses," Green said in a Facebook video. "So thank God, fewer people have passed away."

Green gave no details on the confusion, but the aftermath of large-scale disasters often sees repeated revisions of figures.

The commingling of remains was a particular issue in Lahaina, with some victims believed to have fled with other people or with pets. — AFP

SPORTS



Guardiola backs Foden’s Man City role after Southgate claim

PEP Guardiola insists Phil Foden can play in a number of attacking positions for Manchester City after England boss Gareth Southgate claimed the forward was not able to take a central role for his country.

Southgate said people should “speak to Pep” earlier this week after being asked why he seemed reluctant to use Foden in central areas of his attack.

Southgate’s inference was that, as Foden tends to play largely on the flanks at City, it was difficult for him to deploy the 23-year-old centrally in international games.

Foden was below his best at times last season despite City’s historic march to Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup glory.

Quizzed about Foden’s role for his team ahead of the treble winners’ trip to West Ham this weekend, City manager Guardiola expressed support for his player.

“I have an incredible relationship with Gareth. A comment from me? It looks like I disagree with him and I completely agree with him,” Guardiola told reporters on Friday.

“When you play outside it is a completely different role but he knows, I know, that Phil can play in all positions up front - in the middle, outside right, left, in the pockets.

“But, as Gareth has said, in the pockets you have another responsibility, especially without the ball. Sometimes you don’t have to be so smart to read what happens every moment. — AFP

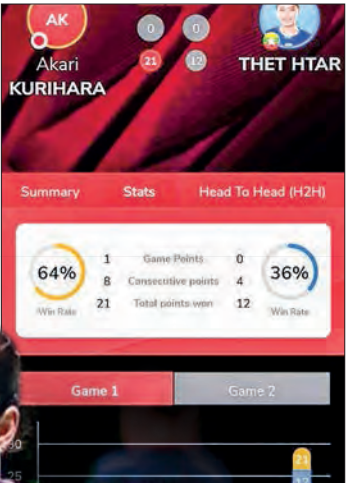
Thet Htar Thuzar loses to Japanese player in Viet Nam Open 2023

THET HTAR THUZAR, who is representing Myanmar, lost to Japanese badminton star Akari Kurihara, who is ranked 156th in the world during the Viet Nam Open 2023 WS semi-final match.

Japanese badminton won the first match over Thet Htar Thuzar with a total point of 21:12, and while continuing to

compete in the second match, Thet Htar Thuzar took a retirement at 18:14.

The Yonex-Sunrise Viet Nam Open 2023 tournament is being held in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam from 12 to 17 September, and the cash award for the winners has been set as US\$100,000. — Htun Htun/KZL



Myanmar badminton icon Thet Htar Thuzar. PHOTO: THET HTAR THUZAR FACEBOOK

Myanmar national football team sets off for China with high hopes of securing medals at Asian Games



The Myanmar men’s football team is seen at the Yangon International Airport before departure for China on 16 September 2023. PHOTO: MFF

THE Myanmar national football team left Yangon for Hangzhou, China yesterday to compete in the XIX Asian Games.

The men’s football tournament of the Asian Games is designated as an under-23 tournament, but this time the tournament was held a year back due to the Covid-19 epidemic, so U-24 players along with three over-age players are allowed to enter.

Therefore, the Myanmar team includes some senior players. Team Myanmar is in the same group as the host China, Bangladesh and India, and will play against Bangladesh on 19 September, China on 21 September, and India on 24 September as group matches. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Princess Diana's 'Black Sheep' sweater sells at auction for \$1.1 mln

Princess Diana's sweater set a new auction record, exceeding her previous high for a ball gown and becoming the most valuable sweater sold, as per Sotheby's.

AN iconic red sweater worn by Princess Diana shortly after her engagement to then-Prince Charles, featuring rows of fluffy little sheep, sold at auction for \$1.1 million following a frenetic bout of final bidding, Sotheby's announced Thursday.

The 19-year-old sported the knit garment — which includes

one black sheep amid dozens of otherwise white woolly creatures — at a June 1981 polo match during her whirlwind days as a shy royal-in-the-making.

The playfully patterned “Black Sheep” sweater became one of the most emblematic articles of clothing worn by Diana, which in hindsight seems to foretell her troubled journey

as a member of the British royal family. The garment nabbed \$1.1 million — which includes fees and commission — after a fierce battle by internet bidders.

The total was over ten times more than Sotheby's initial estimate of between \$50,000 to \$80,000.

Due to an avalanche of bids, the auction house extended the



A staff member poses with the “Black Sheep Jumper” designed by Sally Muir and Joanna Osborne and worn on several occasions by Britain's late Princess Diana, during a press view at Sotheby's auction house in London on 17 July 2023. PHOTO: DANIEL LEAL / AFP

sale by several minutes, with the price leaping astronomically from \$190,000 to \$1.1 million in the final 15 minutes.—AFP



London has emerged as one of the world's fashion capitals in recent decades. PHOTO: ADRIAN DENNIS / AFP

London celebrates its 'fearless' young fashion designers

THE story of how British designer Lee Alexander McQueen's legendary first “Taxi Driver” collection was lost after he showed it on a clothes rack at the Ritz Hotel is told in a new exhibition in London. The late McQueen — who used the name Alexander McQueen professionally — was going nightclubbing after the presentation and couldn't afford to put the clothes in left luggage. Instead, the prodigiously talented young designer stuffed the pieces back into the black plastic rubbish bags he'd used to transport them and “secreted them next to a dumpster outside the club and completely forgot about them”, said exhibition co-curator Rebecca Lewin. McQueen, who took his own life in 2010, went home without them later only to find they'd been cleared away when he returned the next day. — AFP

Residents split as Bulgaria town averts UNESCO downgrade

Nesebar was once a significant Byzantine city on the Black Sea's western shores, but residents now describe life in the UNESCO-listed ancient town as less than ideal.

ONCE one of the most important Byzantine cities on the western shores of the Black Sea, residents of Nesebar say life these days in Bulgaria's UNESCO-listed ancient town is far from idyllic. The UN's cultural organization UNESCO had been mulling labelling Nesebar an at-risk site, citing inadequate protection since it was given World Heritage status 40 years ago.

But at a meeting late Thursday, the body stopped short of downgrading the town. While Venetians breathed a sigh of relief after escaping a heritage downgrade, many in Nesebar would prefer to be delisted altogether. “People are angry, they want to be taken off of any UNESCO lists,” said 48-year-old fisherman Veselin Maksimov. “They only tell us what we are not allowed to do,” he added, resentful of having to wait over a year to get the permission to fix his leaking

roof. “We're like some low-paid employee who's forced to drive a Mercedes and maintain it.”

Illegal construction

A former Thracian settlement nestled on a rocky peninsula, Nesebar became a Greek colony and nowadays features the remains of Hellenistic architecture, medieval churches and typical 19th-century wooden houses. In recent years, a number of new buildings have been sprouting up in the town of 1,700 inhabitants, threatening the integrity of its traditional architecture. In the past, UNESCO has warned that “illegal interventions” on 19th-century structures were also endangering its status.

—AFP



The remains of the Church of Saint Sofia in Nesebar, a UNESCO heritage site, on Bulgaria's Black Sea Coast. PHOTO: NIKOLAY DOYCHINOV