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

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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MNA unveils Boeing 737-400 cargo flights as new milestone

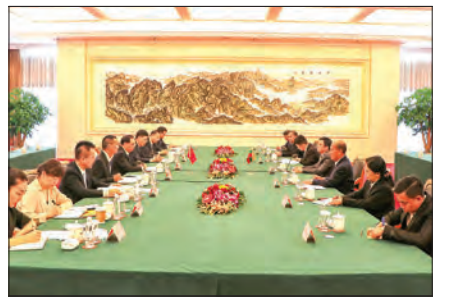
State-owned Myanmar National Airlines (MNA) currently operating passenger flights debuts its cargo flight from Yangon to Thailand.

MNA's Boeing 737-400 cargo aircraft loading goods for transport to Thailand at Yangon International Airport yesterday.

MYANMAR National Airlines (MNA), a state-owned airline that currently operates passenger flights exclusively, initiated cargo flights using a Boeing 737-400 from Yangon to Thailand. This marked the airline's inaugural cargo flight, which took place yesterday, aiming to expand air transport of goods.

MNA received the Boeing 737-400 cargo aircraft, capable of carrying 18 tonnes of cargo, on 15 September. The airline plans to further expand cargo flights originating in Yangon to destinations in the People's Republic of China, Singapore, Malaysia, and India. The expansion of cargo flights is expected to boost the export and import sector while supporting economic growth. In the first cargo flight yesterday, a total of 15.9 tonnes of cargo were transported. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL PAGE-6



Myanmar, China to enhance cooperation in immigration, eID system operation

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Thilawa SEZ introduces E-Lock system to enhance trade facilitation, counter illicit trade

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Pyay Shwesandaw to hold Buddha Pujaniya Festival, Tour of Sacred Tooth Relic of Buddha

Naga Self-Administered Zone invests K5 bln in agriculture, livestock sectors

THE Naga Self-Administered Zone has been implementing development activities of agriculture and livestock sectors with the spending of K5 billion, said U Aung Kyi Win, deputy head of the Sagaing Region's Agriculture Department.

"The leaders of the State are committed to bolstering the country's economy and regional development. With the allocated spending of K5 million, the Naga Self-Administered Zone has been stepping up for the development of agriculture and livestock sectors," said U Aung Kyi Win.

SEE PAGE-2

A panoramic view of thriving agricultural fields in the Naga Self-Administered Zone.

NATIONAL

Myanmar showcases its presence on grand finale of 20th China-ASEAN Expo

MYANMAR continues to showcase its products on the fourth and final day of the 20th China-ASEAN Expo, which commenced on 16 September in Nanning, the capital of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China. The display includes agricultural produce, fishery products, traditional Myanmar handicrafts, garments, foodstuffs, gems, and jewellery, available in 80 booths.

Myanmar's booths are filled with agricultural produce, fishery products, traditional Myanmar arts and crafts, clothing, foodstuffs, gems, and jewellery, all perfectly presented for sale.

On the expo's final day, like the previous days, the Myanmar booths draw large crowds of visitors interested in Myanmar's products. Myanmar cultural dances are also performed at the city hall, adding to the attraction.

Chinese entrepreneurs interested in doing business with Myanmar visit the Business Matching Area at the Myanmar Commodity Gallery, where the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization holds business meetings to discuss opportunities for Myanmar-China trade and investment cooperation. Officials from the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization provide explanations and answer their questions.

Myanmar's booths are seen being packed with visitors at the 20th China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning, China, yesterday.

In addition, investment projects from Mandalay are displayed at the city hall, showcasing Myanmar as a desirable destination. Traditional Myanmar cultural dances entertain enthusiastic visitors. — MNA/MKKS

Naga Self-Administered Zone invests K5 bln in agriculture, livestock sectors

FROM PAGE-1

We are monitoring the farmers and growers to guide them in the right direction. They will receive the government's contribution for sure.

"There is no such thing as Form 7 (land use certificate) in Lahe Township. Transitioning shifting cultivation to a resilient farming system is a must," he emphasized.

To effectuate the development in the agriculture sector, the zone will foster an intercropping and mixed cropping system. There is a plan to cultivate sunflower and soybean crops after the monsoon paddy season. A resident from the zone pointed out that we need to choose land that contains soil moisture for the intercropping.

The locals eye lucrative crops such as konjac and avocado.

"There is potential to ramp up cultivation of tea leaf and coffee bean in the zone. Beyond self-sufficiency, coffee bean, tea leaf, konjac, avocado and tangerine are the prioritized crops to maximize the earnings," U Aung Kyi Win added. — Myo Win Tun/EM

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.

CBM revokes money changer licences for 123 companies

COMPANIES permitted by the Central Bank of Myanmar to buy, sell, and exchange foreign currencies are subject to the Foreign Exchange Management Law. Owing to non-compliance with the foreign exchange management regulations and instructions issued by the Central Bank of Myanmar, CBM announced the revocation of money changer licences for 123 companies on 19 September. — MNA/KZW

COVID-19 report, 19 September 2023

NEW TESTS	NEW CASE	CASUALTIES
5,046	1	0

Low Pressure Area Condition

Issued at (19:00) hours MST on 19-9-2023

ACCORDING to the observations at (17:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining off West Bengal-Odisha coasts(India) still persists. It is likely to move west-northwestwards across North Odisha and South Jharkhand during next (48) hrs.

NATIONAL

Rural and ethnic communities set to launch expansive literacy campaign soon

People marching towards building the Union based on democratic and federal systems must be literate and complete school education.

A COORDINATION meeting on the literacy campaign to be launched for the people from rural regions and ethnic areas took place at the State Administration Council Chairman Office yesterday, with an address by SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win.

In retrospect, the Vice-Senior General who is also in the capacity of Chairman of the Education, Health and Human Resources Development Committee said that, although the literacy rate was high in Myanmar's monarchical era due to the encouragement of Myanmar's monarchs and teaching of Buddhist monks, such a rate declined to 35 per cent in the colonial eras of British and Japan.

State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses the coordination meeting on the literacy campaign yesterday.

He continued that the 2019 interim population indicates some 4.1 million illiterates above 15 years old across the nation. The number of women illiterates in regions and states is larger than the number of men illiterates.

The Vice-Senior General underlined that only when the people are literate will they have adequate knowledge to analyze the persuasion of others. The literates will have a keenness to read literature. If so, they will have the knowledge to adjust all things for themselves and their society. The terrorist acts happening in some townships and border areas of the country depend on consequences of 4.1 million illiterates above 15 years old people according to the 2019 interim population, he added.

As such, he recounted that at the Union government meeting 4/2023 held on 30 August 2023, the Prime Minister gave guidance that as literacy and school education of the ethnic people including rural residents were weak, the committee was instructed to implement the literacy campaign for them.

The Vice-Senior General highlighted that at a time when the State and the people are marching to build the Union based on democratic and federal systems, those who will implement the system of the country and follow it need to become literate and complete school education. And, as ethnic people need to have skills in Myanmar language as an official language, the literacy campaign was staged, he added.

Union Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe reported on plans to implement the basic literacy campaign by the ministry, provision of teaching aid and assistance for supervisors whereas the dignitaries discussed the participation of relevant ministries in the literacy campaign.

UNESCO also recognized the mass literacy campaign of Myanmar, awarding the Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Prize to Myanmar on 8 September 1971 when International Literacy Day was marked.

Moreover, as Sayagyi U Thaung Tun submitted the Burmese Way to Literacy at the literacy conference held in West Berlin, Germany in 1984 and disseminated the information on the mass movement of Myanmar's literacy campaign without budget to the world, elders' text for international literacy campaign and publications, the UNESCO awarded Noma literacy prize to Myanmar as a wonderful victory of Myanmar. — MNA/TTA

Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing meets the MISIS officials in Yangon yesterday.

Government's undertakings, its vision for the future highlighted

U Ko Ko Hlaing, Union Minister for Union Government Office 2 delivered the remarks at the meeting with the members of the Senior Advisory Board and the Executive Board of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS), which was held at the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies in Yangon yesterday.

The Union minister explained the implementation of the Government's plans and its vision for the future. Moreover, he urged the members to enhance the cooperation not only in the regional but also in international relations and to offer the advices and recommendations from the academic's perspectives.

Then, the chairman and members of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies briefed the Union minister on the undertakings of the Institute. — MNA

NATIONAL

Residents urged to participate in restoring peace and stability, rule of law

MEMBERS of the State Administration Council continue their trips to townships of relevant states to oversee development tasks, operation of producing fishery products and meeting with religious leaders in order to restore peace and stability as well as the rule of law.

SAC Member Daw Dwe Bu (C) is pictured during her inspection tours in Putao of Kachin State yesterday.

Putao and Machanbaw in Kachin State

SAC member Daw Dwe Bu together with Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan viewed the sale of fish, meat and foodstuffs produced by residents at the market in Myoma ward of Putao in Kachin State on the morning of 18 September.

She then looked round the fish farms in Namkham Village and thriving perennial crops in the compound of Namkham Basic Education High School Branch in Machanbaw Township. She also visited the grapefruit farm in Inbulaw Village. While in Machanbaw, she met local authorities, departmental officials, ethnic literature and culture committees and town elders at Gubar Guesthouse. She also viewed the breeding of sturgeon, catfish and tilapia in the fish farm in ward 3 of Machanbaw.

Monghsat in Shan State

SAC members U Shwe Kyein and U Yan Kyaw together with Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Zaw Aye comforted Wa ethnic patients at the Wa hospital in Wamhing region of Monghsat Township in Shan State yesterday morning. They explained the important role of peace and stability in the country to the residents at the Hall of Wamhing. They also met with Wa ethnic people in Hopan-Howet. The Chief Minister explained the plan to fulfil the requirements of the region and healthcare services for residents.

Thandwe in Rakhine State

SAC member Dr Ba Shwe together with Rakhine State Chief Minister U Htein Lin yesterday inspected development undertakings in Thandwe. In the meeting with town elders in Dwarawady Hall of Thandwe, they urged locals to participate in forging peace and stability, the rule of law and the development process of the township. While in Thandwe, the SAC member visited TMP cold storage where businessperson U Tin Maung Htay explained plans for the breeding of soft crab, fish, shrimp and other fishery products for export purposes.

Loikaw in Kayah State

SAC member Porel Aung Thein, together with Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin presented prizes and agricultural machinery to outstanding farmers in the cultivation of summer paddy exceeding the target in Kayah State. The ceremony took place in Loikaw yesterday. The SAC member met with reverends of the Loikaw Catholic Diocese in Loikaw, urging them to contribute to the development of the state through peaceful coexistence, and donated cash to the Loikaw Catholic Diocese. — MNA/TTA

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Toe Yi holds talks with the Hunan Province Vice-Governor and his delegation yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

MoHA Deputy Minister receives Vice-Governor and Director of the Public Security Department of Hunan Province

DEPUTY Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Toe Yi received a delegation led by Vice-Governor and Director of the Public Security Department of Hunan Province Mr Wang Yi Ou at the Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they openly and cordially exchanged views on security and law enforcement in the border region between Myanmar and China and increased cooperation in combating drug trafficking, human trafficking, cybercrimes and online fraud. — MNA/KZW

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

NATIONAL

MoI Union Minister receives Indian Ambassador

Indian Ambassador Mr Vinay Kumar calls on Union Minister Dr Charlie Than in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

UNION Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than received Mr Vinay Kumar, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially exchanged views on future arrangements of training on technical and management for staff employed in the ministry's heavy industries such as steel, garment and pharmaceutical factories, providing training by India to workers of Myanmar's MSME sector, training programmes for teachers of technical high schools operating with the assistance of India and necessary arrangements for drafting a national steel policy. — MNA/TH

MoHT Deputy Minister highlights Myanmar's ideal geographical location

DEPUTY Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Phyo Zaw Soe highlighted Myanmar as having a perfect geo-position during the 2023 International Conference of Mountain Tourism and Outdoor Sports held in Xingyi, Guizhou Province, People's Republic of China, from 15 to 16 September.

In his keynote speech, the deputy minister said that Myanmar is a year-round tourist destination, as well as having a perfect geographical position and a place where mountain tourism activities can be carried out, from the snow-capped mountains in the far north to the natural seas in the south.

Although Myanmar is mainly engaged in culture-based tourism, nature-based tourism activities can also be implemented. As China is one of Myanmar's main tourist markets, we are working to make it easy for Chinese tourists to visit Myanmar. Visas on arrival for Chinese tourists have been granted since 30 August 2023, he added.

The 2023 International Conference on Mountain Tourism and Outdoor Sports in progess, in China spoken on the occasion by Deputy Minister U Phyo Zaw Soe.

Since Myanmar and China are neighbouring countries with similar natural resources and cultures, they will work together to develop mountain tourism, as well as cooperate for the development of sustainable tourism, he commented.

Then Deputy Minister U Phyo Zaw Soe met Governor Mr Bingjun of Guizhou Province and discussed issues related to tourism cooperation. He also attended the conference on 16 September. During the ceremony, the Minister of Culture and Sports of the People's Republic of China Mr Hu Heping and the Minister of Tourism of the Maldives and tourism experts gave speeches.

Then, the deputy minister and party attended the opening ceremony of the annual meeting and the International Mountain Tourism and Capital Building Forum. — MNA/KZL

MNHRC conducts Human Rights Awareness Training No 2/2023

MYANMAR National Human Rights Commission is encouraging and promoting public awareness of human rights through the provision of information and education by all means as much as possible according to Section 22(a) of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law. It is also gearing itself up for activities of human rights promotion and education on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission conducted the opening ceremony of the awareness training No 2/2023 about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the conference room at 10:00 on 19 September 2023 following Covid-19 terms and conditions. The chairperson, commissioners, director-general, directors, and training attendees from the commission office.

U Paw Lwin Sein, Chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, delivered the opening remark. "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)", which can be described as a symbol of human rights standards in the modern world after the Second World War was announced on 10 December 1948 and it will turn 75 years in December this year, which marks the 75th anniversary of the Declaration, the awareness raising tasks and programs about UDHR are being conducted globally and the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission is also making its own efforts to raise awareness about the UDHR. The UDHR also takes a crucial role in conducting the main functions, such as Human Rights Promotion and Protection of the NHRIs all around the globe. Therefore, MNHRC conducted a series of Human Rights Awareness Training intending to enhance knowledge and awareness about UDHR for the commission staff, developing skills in conducting human rights activities and supporting the commission's tasks.

The course will be conducted with 33 participants, including staff from the Commission's branch offices using both online and face-to-face systems. — Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

NATIONAL

Myanmar, China to enhance cooperation in immigration, eID system operation

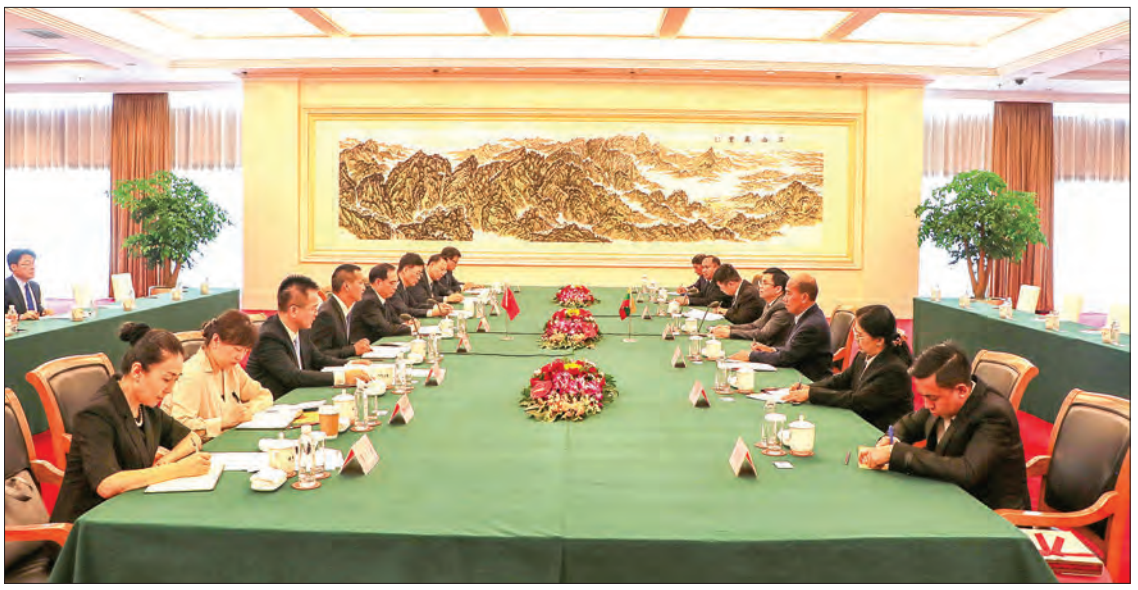
UNION Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing, together with Director-General U Ye Tun Oo of the Immigration Department and Director-General U Min Hein of the Electronic Registration System Department departed yesterday for Beijing, China, to enhance cooperation in immigration and the eID system operation between China and Myanmar.

Upon arriving at Bai Yun International Airport in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, they were welcomed by Ms Zhao Hui, Deputy Director-General of the Guangzhou Immigration and Inspection Department, to discuss regional immigration and inspection matters for inbound and outbound migrants.

Subsequently, the delegation reached Beijing International Airport, where they were greeted by officials from the Myanmar Embassy and the Ministry of Public Security of China.

On 18 September, the Union minister and delegation met the Deputy Minister of the National Immigration Agency (NIA). During the meeting, the deputy minister expressed China's support for Myanmar's immigration policies and discussed border protection, law enforcement cooperation, and orderly entry/exit processes along the China-Myanmar border.

The Union minister also highlighted Myanmar's upcoming trial census in October 2023 and the nationwide census planned for 2024, seeking China's cooperation in implementing the eID system. Both sides discussed immigration policies, prevention of illegal entry/exit at the border posts, and conditions for closer cooperation.



Union Minister U Myint Kyaing holds talks with the Deputy Minister of the National Immigration Agency in Beijing, China, on 18 September 2023.

After the meeting, souvenirs were exchanged, and a luncheon was hosted by Deputy Minister Mr Xu Ganlu. The delegation then visited the Research Department 1 under the Ministry of Public Security in Beijing, where they learned about security technology activities. The department's operations, including security equipment production and national identity card issuance, were explained, and the Union minister addressed queries and presented souvenirs to officials. — MNA/TS

CBM joins 16th SEACEN-BIS High-Level Seminar, 22nd SEACEN Executive Committee EXCO Meeting online

CBM Deputy Governor Dr Lin Aung virtually attends the meetings yesterday.

JOINTLY organized by the Southeast Asian Central Banks (SEACEN Centre), the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and the Central Bank of Cambodia, the 16th SEACEN-BIS High-Level Seminar took place on Monday and the 22nd SEACEN Executive Committee-EXCO Meeting yesterday.

Deputy Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar Dr Lin Aung virtually joined the seminar and the meeting.

During the SEACEN-BIS High-Level Seminar, Governor Madam Chea Sere of the Central Bank of Cambodia, SEACEN Centre Executive Director Dr Mangal Goswami and the Chief Representative of the BIS gave speeches respectively. Then, Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Mr Bo Li discussed the topic of "Monetary Tightening, Financial Stability and Geopolitical Fragmentation".

Participants also discussed the topics of "Lessons Learned from Recent US and European Banking Stress", "Geopolitical Fragmentation and Financial Sector Stability Risks" and "Geopolitical Fragmentation and Financial Sector Stability Risks".

In the evening session of the seminar, the Deputy Governors of 19 SEACEN members, the Executive Director of SEACEN and attendees exchanged views on the topic of "Monetary and Fiscal Policy: Safeguarding Stability and Trust".

At the 22nd SEACEN Executive Committee (EXCO) Meeting, the Executive Director of SEACEN and Governor of the Central Bank of Cambodia presented the prioritized sectors in 2024, budget estimate for coming year, strategic project developed by SEACEN Centre, matters related to the participation of AMRO and Asia School of Business as SEACEN strategic partners, staff appointment at SEACEN Centre and management system of the centre, and the Deputy Governors of 19 SEACEN members coordinated the discussion.— MNA/KTZH

FD conducts antibiotic residue, virus testing in state-of-the-art laboratory, grants certifications

THE antibiotic residue and virus testing laboratory of the Department of Fisheries is responsible for inspecting antibiotic residue and viruses and issuing certifications.

The antibiotic residue and virus testing laboratory, part of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Department of Fisheries in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, has received international official laboratory certification (ISO/IEC 17025:2017) for the fifth time.

It conducts activities related to antibiotic residue and virus testing as well as certification. These activities align with the National Residue Monitoring Plan (NRMP) for Myanmar's livestock and fishery products, ensuring that there are no infectious diseases or chemical residues in products exported abroad. — TWA/CT

LOCAL BUSINESS

Thilawa SEZ introduces E-Lock system to enhance trade facilitation, counter illicit trade

THE secured logistics with the E-Lock system commenced at Thilawa Special Economic Zone on 19 September, with a view to ensuring smooth trade flow, complying with the international container shipping process, fighting illicit trade and increasing revenue.

The logistics surveillance system (E-Lock) launching ceremony was held at the Thilawa SEZ, Yangon Region, on 19 September to track the movements of cargo with box trucks.

Phase 1 of the E-Lock system will begin on the Yangon SEZ-Myawady route. Then, it will proceed to Yangon-Myawady, Mandalay-Muse and Yangon-Mandalay routes under Phase II. The successful e-lock system will contribute to the ASEAN Customs Transit system to facilitate the movement of goods across ASEAN borders.

The launch of the logistics serveillance system (E-Lock) in progress at the Thilawa Special Economic Zone in Yangon Region yesterday.

The system will provide real-time monitoring of cargo movements, track and detect the activity and whereabouts of the trucks, ensure safe and secured logistics and smooth trade flow, combat illicit trade, raise the State's revenue, minimize cargo delays and reduce the loss risks of the goods and save certain fees.

Smart logistic tracking with an e-lock system is widely used in international countries including neighbouring China and Thailand. — Aung Myint/KK

Myawady border trade surges to US$61.79 mln in last fortnight

THE value of trade through the Myawady border with neighbouring Thailand reached US$61.799 million between 1 and 15 September, comprising exports worth $9.657 million and imports worth $52.142 million, as per the Ministry of Commerce's news release.

Myanmar primarily exports onion, chilli pepper, clothes manufactured on a CMP basis, cabbage, dried areca nut, peanut, swim bladder of carp, clams, eel and fish and lead to Thailand via the Myawady border between 9 and 15 September. Meanwhile, garment raw materials, consumer goods, construction materials, fruits and food products, plastic raw materials, machines and equipment, feedstuffs, motorcycle and parts, stationery, lubricant, paints, electronic devices, cosmetics, household items, fertilizer, vehicles and auto parts, dried battery cells, pharmaceuticals, iron and steel and other paper products were imported.

The entrance of the Myawady Trade Zone.

The authorities prioritize perishable goods such as fisheries products and green commodities (onions and chilli pepper) in issuing a licence and screening the goods at the Muse border.

Thanks to the continuous efforts of the Department of Road and the supervision of the Kayin State government, a bailey bridge was constructed on the landslide-hit road section. Myawady-Kawkareik Asian Highway has reopened to a single lane from 15 August, allowing six-wheel trucks to drive in the lane. Trucks loaded with export/import goods got road access.

Myanmar conducts cross-border trade with Thailand via the Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee and Mawtaung border. Of them, the Hteekhee border performed the largest trade worth $1.49 billion over the past five months of the current financial year 2023-2024 beginning 1 April. The Myawady border ranked second with trade worth $705 million, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics showed. — KK

Quality control set for edible oil sold in market

ACCORDING to market insiders, there are some checks on the quality of edible oil sold in the market to see if it meets the specifications in some edible oil stores in Yangon and Mandalay.

According to this inspection, two grocery stores in Yangon and Mandalay that sell groundnut oil that does not have the specified oil quality have been temporarily closed.

Relevant authorities have taken action against palm oil disguised as edible oil and sold at a high price and only peanut oil, sesame oil, and sunflower oil are being sold in the market.

The wholesale price of peanut oil and sesame oil is around K15,000 per viss. In some small sales centres in the neighbourhoods, a one litre bottle of peanut oil is labelled as K10,300.

Some of the peanut oil being sold in some grocery stores in the market was obtained by the relevant authorities and after inspection, it is found that the oil is out of the specified quality.

Although some action has been taken on the ground, one litre bottles of sesame oil and peanut oil are being sold for around K4,000, along with pictures of the oil bottles, phone number and address of the seller.

It is stated that 12 one litre bottles of sesame oil and soybean oil are being sold at the rate of K50,000 Kyats per bottle. If you are in the city, it will be delivered with cash on delivery or sent from the bus station to the respective cities, a local person said.

Regarding cooking oil, some people are commenting that they should take care of fraudulent sales not only on the ground but also on social networks. — TWA/KZL

Combat child abuse for the interests of children

PROTECTING children from abuse is an absolute moral imperative, as children are inherently vulnerable and incapable of harming adults in any way. Child abuse, characterized by one-sided bullying and oppression, represents a grave inhumanity within society that demands the condemnation of those responsible for their unforgivable and shameful acts.

Child abuse takes various forms, including physical, mental, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect by family members or caregivers. These actions can inflict lasting harm on a child's life and obliterate their future prospects. Moreover, any actions by parents or guardians that harm a child's physical or mental well-being, or their failure to prevent abuse, can be classified as child abuse. To address this, nations around the world have enacted laws with their own definitions and criteria for prosecuting offenders in cases of child abuse.

The concept of "abuse" encompasses both acts of commission and omission. Some healthcare professionals include neglect as a form of abuse. The World Health Organization defines child abuse and maltreatment as any improper physical or mental actions, sexual abuse, or neglect that may harm a child's physical and mental development, affect their sense of responsibility, trust, and empowerment, or result in financial or other forms of exploitation. Consequently, no country or society should tolerate violations of children's rights or the perpetration of child abuse in any form, and such acts should be vehemently condemned.

The term "child maltreatment" encompasses all forms of neglect and abuse that threaten a child's well-being. Norms surrounding child maltreatment are influenced by cultural standards, child development, and the responsibilities of guardianship. The criteria for identifying child abuse cases can vary across societies and cultural contexts, evolving with changes in different eras.

Efforts to protect children involve a wide range of stakeholders, including child protection agencies, legal and medical professionals, public health officials, researchers, and child welfare consultants. However, inconsistencies in the definitions and approaches to child abuse prevention hinder the protection of children.

The concept of "abuse" encompasses both acts of commission and omission. Some healthcare professionals include neglect as a form of abuse. The World Health Organization defines child abuse and maltreatment as any improper physical or mental actions, sexual abuse, or neglect that may harm a child's physical and mental development, affect their sense of responsibility, trust, and empowerment, or result in financial or other forms of exploitation. Consequently, no country or society should tolerate violations of children's rights or the perpetration of child abuse in any form, and such acts should be vehemently condemned.

In Myanmar, where Buddhism plays a significant role in people's lives from an early age, the teachings of Lord Buddha emphasize compassion, sympathy, and loving-kindness towards all beings, rejecting any form of bullying or harm. Given these principles, child abusers in Myanmar are viewed with great shame, and their reintegration into society is nearly impossible due to the gravity of their guilt.

The protection of children from abuse is not just a legal and ethical obligation but also a reflection of a society's moral values and commitment to ensuring the well-being and future prospects of its youngest members.

By Min Zan

Introduction And Designing a Green Campus

Community engagement: A green campus can serve as a hub for sustainability activities within the local community. By hosting workshops, events, and outreach programmes, the campus can inspire and educate the surrounding community about sustainable practices.

IN RECENT years, the growing concern about climate change and environmental sustainability has prompted institutions worldwide to take action toward creating a greener and more eco-friendly environment. One significant initiative that educational institutions have embraced is the concept of the "Green Campus". A Green Campus refers to a college or university that prioritizes sustainability, adopting practices and policies that minimize their ecological footprint and promote environmental stewardship. Here, we will delve into the key principles and benefits of a Green Campus, highlighting its importance in shaping a more sustainable future because I heard the word 'A Green Campus' which was told by an assistant lecturer while I was in a college 50 years ago and have been interested in it since then.

Key Principles of a Green Campus:

Renewable Energy: One of the primary focuses of a Green Campus is the integration of renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, wind turbines, and geothermal systems. By transitioning away from fossil fuels, educational institutions can significantly reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to the global effort to combat climate change.

Energy Efficiency: Implementing energy-efficient technologies and practices is another crucial principle of a Green Campus. This involves using LED lighting, optimizing heating and cooling systems, and employing smart building automation to minimize energy waste.

Waste Reduction and Recycling: A Green Campus promotes waste reduction and recycling to divert waste from landfills and conserve resources. By encouraging students and staff to recycle and compost, educational institutions can set an example for responsible waste management.

Sustainable Transport: Green Campuses advocate for sustainable transportation options, such as promoting walking, biking, and public transport, as well as providing charging stations for electric vehicles. These campuses aim to decrease carbon emissions and air pollution by reducing reliance on gas-powered vehicles.

Green Spaces and Biodiversity: Creating and maintaining green spaces on campus fosters biodiversity and improves overall ecological health. Planting native species, establishing gardens, and preserving natural habitats contribute to a more sustainable environment and provide valuable learning opportunities.

Water Conservation: Encouraging water-saving practices, such as using low-flow fixtures and capturing rainwater for irrigation, is essential to a Green Campus. Water conservation helps preserve this valuable resource and reduces the institution's impact on local water systems.

Environmental Education and Research: A Green Campus serves as a platform for environmental education and research. By incorporating sustainability into the curriculum and conducting relevant research, these institutions equip students with the knowledge and skills to become environmentally conscious global citizens.

Benefits of a Green Campus: A green campus, also known as a sustainable or eco-friendly campus, refers to an educational institution that incorporates environmentally friendly practices and promotes sustainability in various aspects of its operations. Green campuses offer numerous benefits, not only for the environment but also for the students, staff, and surrounding community. Now, let me present some of the key advantages of having a green campus:

Environmental preservation: Green campuses strive to reduce their ecological footprint and promote the conservation of natural resources. They often implement energy-efficient practices, waste reduction strategies, and sustainable landscaping, which collectively contribute to protecting the environment.

Reduced carbon emissions: By adopting renewable energy sources, energy-efficient buildings, and promoting sustainable transport options, green campuses can significantly reduce carbon emissions, helping combat climate change.

Cost savings: Sustainable practices such as energy conservation, waste reduction, and water efficiency can lead to cost savings for the institution. Investing in energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy sources can lower utility bills over time, freeing up resources for other campus initiatives.

Health and well-being: A green campus can create a healthier and more pleasant environment for everyone. Better indoor air quality, natural lighting, and access to green spaces have been linked to improved mental and physical well-being.

Educational opportunities: Green campuses offer unique learning experiences and opportunities for students to engage with sustainability initiatives. Hands-on involvement in environmental projects fosters a sense of responsibility and empowers students to become environmentally conscious citizens.

Community engagement: A green campus can serve as a hub for sustainability activities within the local community. By hosting workshops, events, and outreach programmes, the campus can inspire and educate the surrounding community about sustainable practices.

Positive reputation: Adopting sustainable practices enhances the institution's reputation and demonstrates its commitment to environmental stewardship. It can attract environmentally-conscious students, faculty, donors or town elders who prioritize sustainability in their decision-making.

Resilience to climate change: Green campuses often incorporate climate-resilient infrastructure and practices that can better withstand the impacts of extreme weather events and changing climate patterns.

Innovation and research: Sustainable campuses often provide opportunities for research and innovation in the field of sustainability. This can lead to the development of new technologies and practices that contribute to broader environmental solutions.

Leadership example: Green campuses can become leaders in sustainability, influencing other institutions and inspiring them to adopt eco-friendly practices. They can act as models for responsible environmental practices across the education sector.

What's more, a green campus not only contributes to a healthier planet but also provides numerous benefits to its occupants and the community at large. By integrating sustainable practices into their daily operations, educational institutions can play a vital role in promoting environmental consciousness and responsible stewardship among the students and staff.

Designing the Green Campus

As the world grapples with the pressing challenges of climate change and environmental degradation, sustainable practices have become a necessity in all aspects of life. Higher education institutions, as centers of learning and innovation, have a crucial role to play in promoting sustainability. "Green campuses" are essential to mitigating environmental impacts and fostering a culture of environmental responsibility among respective personnel. Now, we again explore the concept of designing a green campus, highlighting key principles, strategies, and benefits.

Understanding Green Campus Design

Green campus design goes beyond incorporating a few solar panels or recycling bins mentioned earlier. It is an integrated approach that aims to create sustainable, resource-efficient, and environmentally friendly campuses. The design process must consider various factors, including energy efficiency, water conservation, waste management, transportation, landscaping, and building materials.

Sustainable Infrastructure and Buildings

A critical aspect of designing a green campus is constructing sustainable buildings. This involves utilizing eco-friendly building materials, adopting energy-efficient designs, and incorporating renewable energy sources. Green buildings may include features such as passive solar design, proper insulation, energy-efficient lighting, and smart building automation systems.

Energy Efficiency

Higher education institutions consume substantial energy resources, but there are ways to reduce this impact. Implementing energy-efficient practices like LED lighting, motion sensors, and energy-efficient HVAC (Heating, Ventilation And Air Conditioning) systems can significantly lower energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

Water Conservation

Water scarcity is a growing concern, making water conservation a key element of green campus design. Campuses can adopt water-efficient fixtures, rainwater harvesting systems, and low-impact landscaping to minimize water usage.

Waste Management and Recycling

Efficient waste management and recycling systems are vital to reduce the environmental footprint of a campus. Implementing recycling programs, composting organic waste, and reducing single-use plastics are effective strategies.

Sustainable Transportation

Encouraging sustainable transportation options can significantly impact the carbon footprint of a campus. Providing bike-sharing programmes, promoting public transportation use, and offering electric vehicle charging stations are effective ways to promote greener commuting.

Green Spaces and Landscaping

Creating green spaces and maintaining natural landscapes on campus can enhance biodiversity and improve the overall well-being of students and staff. Native plantings, green roofs, and urban gardens can contribute to a healthier and more sustainable environment.

Education and Outreach

In addition to physical changes, educational initiatives are crucial for fostering a culture of sustainability. Campuses can integrate sustainability into their curricula, host workshops and seminars on environmental topics, and encourage student-led sustainability projects.

Designing a green campus offers numerous advantages. These benefits include reduced environmental impact, lower operating costs through energy and resource efficiency, improved health and well-being of the campus community, enhanced reputation and attractiveness to prospective students and faculty, and contribution to the broader global sustainability goals.

Moreover, it is also a complex process that requires careful consideration of a variety of factors. From choosing sustainable materials for construction to implementing energy-efficient technologies, there are many ways to create an environmentally friendly campus.

One important aspect of designing a green campus is choosing low-impact materials for construction. This can include using recycled materials, such as reclaimed wood or recycled concrete, as well as choosing materials with a low carbon footprint, such as bamboo or hemp.

Another important consideration is energy efficiency. Implementing technologies such as solar panels, energy-efficient lighting, and smart building systems can help reduce energy consumption on campus and lower carbon emissions.

In addition to these measures, designing a green campus also involves creating a culture of sustainability among students, faculty, staff, and every educated person. This can include initiatives such as composting programmes, bike-sharing programs, and education campaigns to promote sustainable behaviours.

In brief, designing a green campus is not just an option; it is an ethical responsibility of higher education institutions. By adopting sustainable practices in campus design, universities, and colleges can lead by example, inspiring future generations to become environmentally conscious and proactive global citizens. As the world faces unprecedented environmental challenges, green campuses serve as beacons of hope, fostering a brighter and greener future for all, I assume.

Reference:
https://www.hpdconsult.com/designing-the-campus-of-the-future/

■

CURRENT AFFAIRS

The Buddha Pujaniya Festival and the Tour of the Sacred Tooth Relic of Buddha of the Pyay Shwesandaw Pagoda was held in 2018.

Pyay Shwesandaw to hold Buddha Pujaniya Festival, Tour of Sacred Tooth Relic of Buddha

THE Board of Trustees of the Pyay Shwesandaw Pagoda has announced that the Buddha Pujaniya Festival and the Tour of the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha will take place for 10 days.

Pyay Shwesandaw Pagoda's 2,612th Buddha Pujaniya Festival and 124th Tour of the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha will last for 10 days, starting from 20 to 29 November 2023.

The Pagoda Board of Trustees has announced that events such as drama plays, circus, and stage shows will be organized in a peaceful and lively manner during the festival period.

Those who usually open stalls during the festival will be charged shop fees according to last year's receipts starting 1 November and they need to be submitted by 7 November. It is known that those who want to open shops starting from this year will be allocated on 8 November.

Thus, the board of trustees invited foreign and home-grown tourists and visitors to enjoy the Tour of the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha in the city. — TWA/CT

More than 45,000 City Taxis register for side stickers

THE Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC) has reported that more than 45,000 city taxi vehicles in Yangon have already registered their side stickers.

There are over 60,000 city taxis in Yangon, and side sticker numbers representing each of the 45 townships are being affixed to these taxis.

During the installation process, the symbolic number for taxis in Taikkyi Township is No 1, for taxis in Htantabin Township is No 2, and for taxis in Mingaladon Township is No 3, and so on, with each number corresponding to a specific township. Taxis without the updated side sticker will not be allowed to enter restricted areas.

The "C" Charter Department, operating under the YRTC, is overseeing the registration process to develop a systematic management plan. This plan aims to ensure that taxis in the Yangon Region comply with regulations, provide reliable passenger transportation services, and align with the city's characteristics.

For the registration of taxi vehicles, fees include K1,200 for the side sticker number, K3,000 for the registration fee, K600 for the driver's license fee, and K3,500 for the driver's license card system. — TWA/CT

City taxis are seen operating on the road in Yangon. **PHOTO : XINHUA**

Weekly updated prices of Bayintnaung Commodity Market

Onion

On 19 September, onion prices in the Yangon market once again increased, reaching K3,150 per viss at wholesale. Approximately 150,000 visses of onions arrived from various regions of the country, and wholesale prices ranged from K2,650 to K3,150 per viss at Seikpyu and Monywa wholesale markets.

In local markets, the price of one viss of onions remains below K3,000. On the same day, 40,000 visses of onions were brought to the Pakokku market, where the price per viss stood at just K2,800.

Garlic

In the Yangon market on 19 September, the price of garlic varied among different types. The rates were as follows: Shan garlic Htoo 2 at K7,400, Shan garlic Htoo 3 at K8,000, Shan garlic Htoo 4 at K8,200, Shan garlic Htoo 5 at K8,600 and Kyu kot garlic at K7,300.

Potato

In the Yangon market, only the price of Chinese potatoes is available, and it has decreased to K2,100 per viss for wholesale.

Chilli

In the Yangon market, Eainme long chilli is priced at K9,000-9,500 per viss, Panye long chilli at K9,000-10,000 per viss, Pyawbwe Moehtaung new chilli is available for K11,500 per viss and Sinphyukyun and Myitwa capsicum (freezing) range from K18,000-K18,500 per viss.

Rice

In the Yangon rice market, the price of a bag of rice was K69,000. Additionally, the cost for a 90-day rice variety is K72,000, and Pawkywe is priced at K97,000 per bag respectively. the price for a bag of Pawsan is not available in Phapun. In Myaungmya, Bogale and Mawgyun, it is priced at K100,000 per bag, while Shwe Bo Pawsan rice is sold for K125,000 per bag.

Consumers shop kitchen groceries at the retail outlet.

Oil

From 18 to 24 September, the wholesale reference price of edible oil was set at K4,440 per viss, down K84 per viss from the previous week.

Bean

One tonne of black gram is priced at K2,569,000, one tonne of SQ/RC at K2,809,000 and a tonne of red pigeon bean at K3,950,000.

Green gram stays between K3,080-3,580 per viss, and gram (chickpea) is priced at K5,850-K6,100. — TWA/KZW

LIFESTYLE
WORLD

Thailand's ancient town of Si Thep added to world heritage list

THAILAND'S ancient ruined town of Si Thep, a 1,500-year-old complex of temples, monasteries and other buildings, was added to UNESCO's world heritage list on Tuesday.

The site in Phetchabun province — some 200 kilometres (120 miles) north of Bangkok — is Thailand's first cultural site to be recognized by UNESCO since 1992.

Thai Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin thanked the UN cultural body for the decision but an expert warned the complex is not ready for an influx of tourists.

Archaeologists date the statues and buildings of Si Thep, built by the Dvaravati civilization, to between 1,500 and 1,700 years ago.

At its peak the town was a thriving cultural and trading metropolis that celebrated Hindu and Buddhist beliefs.

Classical Thai dancers perform during an event to celebrate Si Thep historical park's nomination in the UNESCO's cultural world heritage list, at the National Museum of Siam in Bangkok on 19 September 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

The decision was announced by UNESCO at a meeting in Riyadh, and in a prepared video message, Srettha thanked delegates for the listing.

Si Thep was "a treasure not only for people all over the world, but for people of all generations," he said.

"I look forward to welcoming you all to the site".

Phatcharavat Wongsuwan, minister of natural resources and environment, said it was a "proud moment" for his country.

Speaking at a press conference in the capital Bangkok, he invited people "to cherish the beauty of Si Thep, the new UNESCO site of Thailand".

But Chulalongkorn University history and heritage lecturer Phacha Phanomvan said the site was "completely unprepared" for a sudden spike in visitor numbers. "The work starts now," she told AFP, warning of a lack of basic infrastructure including no waste management, roads in poor condition and no parking spaces for large tour buses.

She is worried about undiscovered sites and looting of artefacts which could fetch higher prices on the black market because of the heritage listing. — AFP

Paris booksellers 'optimistic' over battle to stay during Olympics

THE famous booksellers that line the Seine in Paris say they are standing their ground over plans to shut them down during the opening ceremony of next year's Olympic Games as a matter of survival.

Paris authorities told the "bouquinistes" earlier this summer that some 570 of their 900 stalls would have to move ahead of the opening ceremony on 26 July 2024 due to "a risk of acts of terrorism".

Already struggling to bounce back from shutdowns during the pandemic and a longer-run loss of interest from locals, the booksellers are refusing to miss out on the 16 million tourists expected for the Games.

"I have neighbours who, if they don't sell one day, simply don't eat," said Alexia Delrieu, 50, who has run her stall by the Tournelle Bridge for more than a decade.

"The good times were 20 years ago or more, before the internet. Now, you have to really work to make minimum wage," added Guido Cuccolo, 71, based on the Quai de Conti.

A self-proclaimed "born protester", Cuccolo says he is "optimistic" about winning the battle to stay.

The booksellers have become an unlikely cause celebre across France, attracting attention of newspapers on both left and right.

For the local authorities, it is a delicate situation.

The stall keepers do not pay rent, and are not entirely reliable with rules about their appearance and opening hours. But they are a beloved symbol of the capital.

The vice-president of the Cultural Association of Booksellers of Paris, Pascal Corseaux, said dismantling the boxes would be a "logistical nightmare".

"Many of them will not survive," he told AFP.

"There is a much simpler solution, which is to bring in bomb squads, seal the boxes and then reopen quickly afterwards," he said. — AFP

People look at books and posters as they walk past 'bouquinistes' stands selling antiquarian books and old posters near Notre Dame Cathedral on the left bank of the Seine River in Paris on 28 August 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

Viet Nam's Ha Long Bay – Cat Ba Archipelago named world natural heritage

HA Long Bay — Cat Ba Archipelago in the north of Viet Nam has been recognized as a world natural heritage, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

This has increased the total number of UNESCO-recognized world heritage sites in Viet Nam to nine.

The title has made Ha Long Bay-Cat Ba Archipelago, located in Quang Ninh province and Hai Phong City, to become the first inter-provincial UNESCO-listed world heritage site in Viet Nam.

The archipelago cluster, which boasts a rich diversity of island and ocean ecosystems, is home to various rare animals and plants, and houses the country's largest maritime forest with an area of more than 17,000 hectares, the Vietnam News Agency has reported, citing the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism.

Cat Ba Archipelago and Ha Long Bay have been recognized by UNESCO with international titles earlier.

Cat Ba Archipelago in Hai Phong City is Viet Nam's largest limestone archipelago with over 360 islands, and is recognized by UNESCO as a world biosphere reserve.

Ha Long Bay in Quang Ninh province was named by UNESCO as a world heritage site twice in 1994 and 2000.

Besides Ha Long Bay-Cat Ba Archipelago, Viet Nam's eight other world heritage sites recognized by UNESCO are Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park in Quang Binh province, Ha Long Bay, the Hue Imperial Citadel City in Thua Thien-Hue province, Hoi An Ancient Town and the My Son Sanctuary in Quang Nam province, Thang Long Imperial Citadel in Hanoi, the Citadel of the Ho Dynasty in Thanh Hoa province, and the Trang An Landscape Complex in Ninh Binh province. — Xinhua

ECONOMY
WORLD

US auto workers eye expanded strike as talks continue

UNCERTAINTY will be the most powerful weapon wielded by US auto workers, industry watchers said as the first ever simultaneous strike by Detroit's "Big Three" looks set for the long haul.

Negotiations continued Monday, the fourth day of the United Auto Workers' strike of Ford, General Motors and Jeep maker Stellantis employees, with public statements on both sides indicating they remain far apart.

Late Monday, the UAW set a Friday deadline for the companies to make significant headway on talks.

"If we don't make serious progress by noon on Friday, 22 September, more locals will be called on to Stand Up and join the strike," said UAW President Shawn Fain.

Fain had told MSNBC Monday morning that the two sides remained "far apart."

(FILES) Members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) union march through the streets of downtown Detroit following a rally on the first day of the UAW strike in Detroit, Michigan, on 15 September 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

Industry watchers have said the strike could drag on for weeks or more, in part because the costs to both sides thus far have been limited.

Rather than completely shutter production at one or all of the Big Three, the UAW launched a limited strike, taking down just one plant at each company.

The targeted strike tactic "doesn't put as much immediate pressure on any one company, but it creates uncertainty," said Harry Katz, a professor at Cornell's School of Industrial and Labour Relations, who thinks the stoppage could go six or eight weeks or longer.

The three plants taken down produce midsized pickup trucks that are profitable, but not the biggest cash cows, meaning the dramatic action has not inflicted maximum pain on company profitability — yet.

"The union has given themselves the ability to escalate and hit facilities that are even more harmful," said Michelle Kaminski, a professor at Michigan State University who specializes in labour relations. — AFP

OECD sees 'sub-par' global growth as high rates bite

THE OECD raised its global economic outlook for 2023 on Tuesday but cut the growth forecast for next year as interest-rate hikes aimed at curbing inflation take their toll.

The world economy is now expected to grow 3.0 per cent this year, up from the 2.7 per cent forecast in the June outlook of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

But it said global growth was projected to remain "sub-par", slowing to 2.7 per cent next year—down from 2.9 per cent in the previous forecast.

"After a stronger-than-expected start to 2023, helped by lower energy prices and the re-opening of China, global growth is expected to moderate," the OECD said.

"The impact of tighter monetary policy is becoming increasingly visible, business and consumer confidence have turned down, and the rebound in China has faded."

Central banks worldwide have sharply raised borrowing costs in an effort to tame consumer prices which soared in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine last year. — AFP

Arab Banks Union calls for gathering $1 tln to finance Sustainable Development Goals

THE Beirut-based Union of Arab Banks on Monday called on Arab banks to provide one trillion US dollars to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The call was jointly made with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA) on the first day of the two-day SDG summit, which is being held in New York on the sidelines of this year's general debate of the General Assembly, according to an ESCWA statement.

The financing aims to accelerate SDG implementation in 22 Arab States and support the achievement of the six major SDG transitions in the following areas: social protection, energy, education, food systems, digital transformation, and biodiversity and nature, said the statement.

ESCWA noted that potential beneficiaries from the initiative include government, businesses of micro, small, and medium sizes, and households across the Arab region. — Xinhua

Musk considers charging all X users monthly fee

X (formerly Twitter) CEO Elon Musk leaves a US Senate bipartisan Artificial Intelligence (AI) Insight Forum at the US Capitol in Washington, DC, on 13 September 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

ELON Musk has sparked outrage among fans of his social media platform X by suggesting he might introduce a monthly fee for all users, in what would be the biggest shake-up since he took over the site then known as Twitter last October.

During a talk with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday, Musk said that introducing a small monthly payment for X would combat the "armies of bots" on the site.

Musk bought Twitter for $44 billion but has since admitted its value has plunged after he gutted its workforce and allowed right-wing conspiracy theorists back on the site, sending advertisers fleeing.

X users united in dismay at his latest plan, suggesting it could finally put an end to the site, and analysts questioned the logic of a move that would make the platform even less appealing to advertisers. Musk said in July the platform had lost roughly half its advertising revenue, though he has also claimed that almost all advertisers had returned.

Bots—accounts run by computer programmes rather than humans—are common on X, where they can be used to amplify political messages or racial hatred.

Netanyahu asked Musk about anti-Semitism, and how X could "prevent the use of bots—armies of bots—to replicate and amplify it". Musk replied that the company was "moving to having a small monthly payment for use of the X system". — AFP

SoftBank Group to gain $5.12 bln proceeds from blockbuster Arm IPO

SOFTBANK Group Corp said Tuesday that it will receive $5.12 billion in proceeds from the initial public offering of Arm Holdings Plc, a British chip designer under the Japanese conglomerate, by the end of September.

Arm, whose chips power most of the world's smartphones, debuted on the US Nasdaq stock exchange last Thursday in the largest US IPO this year, shooting its market capitalization to over $65 billion. The share sale is widely considered a success, given its first trading day's closing price of $63.59, some 25 per cent above its IPO price of $51, reflecting investors' excitement over recent technological advances in artificial intelligence and Arm's increased role in supporting them.

The proceeds will replenish the war chest of the Japanese investment giant, which posted massive losses in the past two years due to a fall in the value of tech start-ups it invests in amid unfavourable market conditions.

Analysts said the share sale, together with the recent market recovery, could accelerate SoftBank's investment in AI-related venture firms as it has become easier for the Japanese company to raise funds using Arms shares as collateral. — Kyodo

File photo taken in Tokyo on 30 May 2019 shows the logo of Japanese telecom giant SoftBank. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Asian markets drop ahead of Fed decision, oil prices push higher

ASIAN stocks sank Tuesday following a sedate performance on Wall Street as investors nervously await the Federal Reserve's policy decision later in the week, while inflation worries were exacerbated by oil's push towards $100.

The meeting comes during a crucial week for markets, with the Bank of England expected to unveil what could be its last interest rate hike of this cycle, while the Bank of Japan will be closely followed for hints at a change from its ultra-loose stance.

While the Fed is seen keeping borrowing costs on hold Wednesday, debate continues to swirl over its plans for the months to come, with some policymakers saying more hikes would be needed to contain inflation while others want to stop at the current level.

However, while more than a year of tightening is close to an end, there is a growing concern that rates will be held elevated around two-decade highs for longer than initially anticipated. — AFP

Working pumpjacks are seen at the Montebello Oil Field in Montebello, California, on 18 September 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, **Pilarquim (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Nawarat Myay Co.,Ltd** to **Buffalo Agro Science Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Pilar-Combine	Azoxystrobin 10.5% + Propiconazole 17.5% SE	Provisional Registration	P2022-4700

Buffalo Agro Science Co.,Ltd
Tel: 09-250406611

Notice for Change of Distributor

We, **Pilarquim (Jiangsu) Co.,Ltd.** would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from **Myanmar Max Agro Service 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	Myanmar Max Agro Service Co.,Ltd.	Pilarninja	Lambda - cyhalothrin 10% CS	Provisional	P2023-6076	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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (335W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (335W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-9-2023** 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 ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV3UE1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV3UE1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-9-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2314S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2314S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-9-2023** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO.,LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Chinese vice-president meets Guterres, Blinken on sidelines of UNGA session

CHINESE Vice-President Han Zheng met here Monday with United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, respectively, on the sidelines of the ongoing 78th session of the UN General Assembly.

Han told Guterres that the world today is confronted with accelerated changes unseen in a century with various unstable and uncertain factors intertwined.

The more complex and grim the international situation is, the more necessary it is to uphold genuine multilateralism and the more the world needs a strong United Nations, he said.

The vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, the Belt and Road Initiative, the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative — proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping — are highly aligned with the ideals and goals of the United Nations, and have been widely recognized and actively supported by the international community, said Han.

China will, as always, be a builder of world peace, a contributor to global development and a defender of the international order, and support the United Nations in playing a central role in international affairs, he said.

For his part, Guterres thanked China for its firm support for the UN cause, and spoke highly of the important initiatives proposed by the Chinese president. During his meeting with Blinken, Han said that a healthy and stable China-US relationship is good for the two countries and the world.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Chinese Vice-President Han Zheng shake hands while meeting in New York City on 18 September 2023 ahead of the 78th United Nations General Assembly. **PHOTO: JULIA NIKHINSON / POOL / AFP**

Describing China's development as an opportunity rather than a challenge, a gain rather than a risk to the United States, Han said that the two sides may well contribute to each other's progress and achieve common prosperity.

China, he said, maintains consistency and stability in its policy toward the United States, all following the three principles put forward by President Xi Jinping, namely mutual respect, peaceful coexistence, and win-win cooperation in viewing and handling China-US relations.

Han expressed the hope that the United States will work with China to follow through on the important consensus reached by the two heads of state in Bali, Indonesia. — Xinhua

Okinawa governor tells UN that US military base threatens peace

Okinawa Denny Tamaki delivers a speech at a UN Human Rights Council meeting in Geneva on 18 September 2023. **PHOTO: KYODO**

OKINAWA Gov Denny Tamaki sought international backing Monday for his opposition to a Japan-US plan to relocate a US air base within the southern Japan prefecture, telling a UN Human Rights Council meeting that the concentration of the military bases there threatens peace.

Tamaki became the first Okinawa governor in eight years to address the council, calling on the world to "witness the situation" in the island prefecture that hosts 70 per cent of all the US military bases in Japan while accounting for only 0.6 per cent of the country's total land area. Under the bilateral agreement, the Japanese government is proceeding with work to relocate the US Marine Corps Air Station Futenma from a densely populated area to a coastal area on Okinawa Island despite staunch local opposition. — Kyodo

Australian Bureau of Meteorology formally declares El Nino underway

THE Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) on Tuesday formally declared an El Nino weather event, two months after the World Meteorological Organization announced that El Nino conditions developed in the tropical Pacific for the first time in seven years.

Speaking at a media conference on Tuesday afternoon, BOM's Manager of Climate Monitoring Karl Braganza told reporters that after issuing an El Nino Watch in March and then elevating it to alert in June, the bureau has been waiting for the atmosphere to couple with the ocean in the El Nino pattern. — Xinhua

England health service suffers fresh strike

THOUSANDS of medical consultants working in England for the country's National Health Service went on strike Tuesday over below-inflation pay offers and heavy workloads.

They plan to carry out industrial action also on Wednesday alongside junior doctors in the first joint strike seen by the NHS in its 75-year history.

This week's walkouts follow almost 18 months of regular stoppages by public and private-sector workers, notably also train drivers and teachers, in the wake of soaring inflation.

Despite falling gradually since late last year, UK annual inflation remains elevated at 6.8 per cent, the highest in the G7 group of rich nations.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has claimed that the level of pay increases demanded by workers would worsen the inflation situation.

At the start of the year when UK inflation was about 10 per cent, the Conservative party leader pledged to halve the rate by the end of 2023. — AFP

People hold placards calling for better pay for junior doctors on a picket line outside University College Hospital in central London on 14 August 2023 during a strike by junior doctors – physicians who are not senior specialists but who may still years of experience. **PHOTO: AFP**

SPORTS

Myanmar beat Bangladesh 1-0 in Asian Games opener

MYANMAR took its first victory after garnering a 1-0 triumph over Bangladesh in the Asian Games men's football opener played in Hangzhou, China, yesterday.

The Myanmar team was able to win the opening match, but they struggled due to the response of the Bangladesh team and only got full points due to an own goal. As team Myanmar shaped their win, there is better hope to advance to the next round.

Myanmar tried to pressure from the start of the match, but the Bangladesh team was too strong. After failing to score a goal in the first half, in the 69th minute, Khun Kyaw Zin Hein's cross was cleared by Bangladesh's defender Hasan, who scored an own goal, and the Myanmar team won.

In the 75th minute, Myanmar defender Zwe Khant Min was sent off with a red card and it was difficult to control the winning result. The Bangladesh team had opportunities to equalize, but they could not use them, so the Myanmar team won.

Myanmar will play second group match against China on 21 September. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

A Myanmar player (red) tries to pressure the Bangladesh player during opener of the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China on 19 September 2023. **PHOTO: MFF**

Spanish tennis player Rafael Nadal talks during a press conference to announce he will not compete in the French Open, at the Rafa Nadal Academy in Manacor, on the Spanish Balearic Island of Mallorca, on 18 May 2023. The 22-time Grand Slam winner withdrew from the French Open because his hip injury has not healed and said he expects 2024 to be his final year in professional tennis. **PHOTO: AFP**

Nadal still aiming to finish career in 2024

SPANISH tennis star Rafa Nadal reiterated Monday that finishing his career in 2024 remains his goal, while admitting he has taken two operations to try and heal his hip injury.

"I said that possibly 2024 was my last year, I maintain that, but I can not confirm it 100 per cent because I do not know," Nadal told Movistar.

The 37-year-old announced in May that the hip injury he suffered at the Australian Open in January meant he had to step away from the sport to try and come back stronger.

Nadal, a 22-time Grand Slam winner, reiterated on Monday that he "would like to play again and be competitive again". — AFP

Pressure mounts on Man Utd boss Ten Hag as Bayern clash looms

MANCHESTER United manager Erik ten Hag is starting to feel the heat from frustrated fans of the Red Devils after a disastrous start to the season has left hopes of Premier League glory already looking forlorn.

For the first time in the Premier League era United have lost three of their opening five games and face a daunting task to open their Champions League campaign away to Bayern Munich on Wednesday.

Ten Hag had been sheltered from criticism in the early weeks of the campaign as supporters concentrated their anger towards a series of off-field issues.

Despite the fans' desire to see them gone, the Glazer family appear to have put a process to sell the club on hold.

Brazilian winger Antony has been given a leave of absence to fight domestic abuse allegations made by his ex-girlfriend.

Meanwhile, United decided Mason Greenwood had no future at Old Trafford last month despite abuse charges against the 21-year-old being dropped.

Ten Hag was credited for returning United to the Champions League by finishing third in the Premier League last season and ending the club's six-year trophy drought by winning the League Cup.

However, he was the target for a chorus of boos when he substituted new signing Rasmus Hojlund midway through the second-half of Saturday's 3-1 home defeat to Brighton.

The Dutch coach tried to spin that moment into a positive show of support for Hojlund, who was making his home debut after a £64 million ($79 million) move from Atalanta.

The Dane has only recently returned to fitness and Ten Hag could ill afford to lose another key player by forcing him to play 90 minutes too soon.

But United's bet on the 20-year coming good in the long run could face a backlash should they be undone by Harry Kane in Germany.

Despite their need for a striker, United never tested Tottenham's resolve for the England captain, who instead joined Bayern in a 100 million euro ($110 million, £86 million) deal.

Kane has hit the ground running with four goals in as many starts, while Hojlund is yet to find the net for United. — AFP

Manchester United's Dutch manager Erik Ten Hag (R) gives instructions to Manchester United's Portuguese midfielder Bruno Fernandes (L) during the English Premier League football match between Manchester United and Brighton and Hove Albion at Old Trafford in Manchester, north west England, on 16 September 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

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Chinese vice-president meets Guterres, Blinken on sidelines of UNGA session

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Ukraine to sue Poland, Hungary, Slovakia over grain import ban

KYIV will file a lawsuit to the World Trade Organization against Poland, Hungary and Slovakia over their decisions to extend a ban on grain imports from Ukraine, the Interfax-Ukraine news agency reported Monday, citing a senior official.

"It is important to prove that these actions are legally wrong. And that's why we will start legal proceedings," said Taras Kachka, Ukraine's trade representative and deputy minister of economy.

The unilateral bans by Poland, Hungary and Slovakia on Ukrainian grain after the decision of the European Commission to lift the restrictions have caused a major "systemic concern", Kachka said.

The European Commission said last week it has decided not to extend the embargo on Ukrainian agricultural products to five European Union member states, which expired on 15 September.

Despite the Commission's decision, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia refused to drop the ban, according to media reports. — Xinhua

General view of the Board of Governors' meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, Austria on 11 September 2023. The UN nuclear watchdog said on 11 September it regretted that "no progress" had been made by Iran on outstanding issues, including reinstalling cameras to monitor Tehran's nuclear programme and explaining uranium traces.
ALEX HALADA / AFP

US, France, UK, Germany urge Iran to reverse bar on nuclear inspectors

THE United States, Britain, France and Germany on Monday called on Iran to "immediately reverse" its decision to withdraw accreditation from several top UN nuclear watchdog inspectors.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had warned Saturday that the "disproportionate and unprecedented" move to bar inspectors would seriously hamper its work in Iran.

Iranian media and a Western diplomat said the decision concerned eight inspectors, all from France and Germany.

"Iran must immediately reverse these inspector de-designations and fully cooperate with the Agency to enable them to provide assurances that Iran's nuclear programme is exclusively peaceful," the permanent representatives to the IAEA of France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States said in a joint statement.

The four countries "will continue to stand in strong support of the IAEA and the international safeguards verification regime on which the world's security relies," it added.

IAEA head Rafael Grossi on Monday also urged Iran to reconsider its decision, warning that Iran's failure to cooperate would carry severe consequences. — AFP

Japan, China, S Korea to hold high-level talks in Seoul on 26 September

Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Communist Party of China's Central Committee Wang Yi (L) speaks as Japan's Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi (R) and South Korea's Foreign Minister Park Jin (C) look on during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Jakarta on 13 July 2023. **PHOTO: MAST IRHAM / POOL / AFP**

JAPAN, China and South Korea are set to hold a meeting of senior officials next week in Seoul, the Japanese and South Korean governments said Tuesday, in a move that could lead to a first trilateral summit between the nations in four years.

Japanese Senior Deputy Foreign Minister Takehiro Funakoshi, Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Nong Rong and South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Chung Byung Won will attend the talks on 26 September, according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry. The officials are expected to hold discussions aimed at "revitalization" of the trilateral process, the ministry said. China's top diplomat Wang Yi proposed the three-way vice-foreign ministerial-level talks when he met former Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi in Jakarta in mid-July, according to diplomatic sources.

Tokyo sees the proposal as a reflection of Beijing's enthusiasm for holding a joint summit with its two neighbours by the end of this year, the sources said earlier. The last trilateral summit was held in December 2019. Usually, a summit between the three countries follows working-level discussions and foreign ministerial-level talks. South Korea will take the rotating chair of the next trilateral summit. While the coronavirus pandemic contributed to the failure to hold the summit in recent years, the Tokyo-Seoul relationship, soured over wartime issues, was also a factor. But bilateral ties have been improving rapidly since South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol took office in May last year. Relations between Tokyo and Beijing, however, have become further strained since Japan started releasing treated radioactive wastewater from the crippled Fukushima nuclear complex into the sea in late August. Beijing has strongly opposed the water discharge. — Kyodo