

Vice-Senior General Soe Win calls for strong action against deep-rooted illegal trade

Vice-Senior General Soe Win urges officials to crack down on long-standing illegal trade practices in Myanmar.

CHAIRMAN of the Steering Committee for Illegal Trade Eradication Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win pointed out the eradication of illegal trade at the steering committee meet-

ing 5/2023 at the Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. He underscored that the main attack on manufacturing and trade of the State is illegal trade measures, adding a severe action must be taken with effective prevention and inspection against ille-

gal trade which is a primary hindrance to economic development to ensure a stronger economic drive of the State. With regard to significant events in July and August, the Vice-Senior General explained exposing and taking action against illegal trafficking of maize by

vessel, train and car in Bago Region and Mon State, preventing attempts to export illegal maize via Yangon Region and exposing illegal withdrawing of 11 containers at Thilawa Special Economic Zone.

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Exported pigeon peas' FOB price surges by US\$30 per tonne

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Commerce Ministry paving way for exporters with special privileges



The panoramic view of the Yangon Port's container yard and terminal cranes on the Yangon River.

Myanmar's foreign trade totals US\$15.98 bln in H1 this FY

MYANMAR'S external trade plunged to US\$15.98 billion in the H1 (April-September) of the current Financial Year 2023-2024 from \$16.98 billion recorded in the year-ago period, indicating a decrease of over \$1 billion, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics showed. Myanmar's export was worth \$7.58 billion whereas the country's import was valued at \$8.4 billion between 1 April and

29 September of the current FY. Myanmar's seaborne trade value crossed over \$11.246 billion this FY, while border trade was valued at \$4.7 billion in the H1. Myanmar exports agricultural produce, animal products, minerals, forest products, and finished industrial goods, while it imports capital goods, intermediate goods, raw materials imported by the CMP enterprises and consumer goods.

Myanmar has been implementing the National Export Strategy (NES) 2020-2025 to boost exports and the priority sectors of the NES include agricultural produce, garment and apparel, industrial and electronic devices, fishery businesses, forest products, digital manufacturing and service, logistic services, quality management, trade information service, innovation and entrepreneurship sectors. — NN/EM

NATIONAL

11 special civil appeal cases passed judgements; five more cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Thar Htay and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union: U Kyi Thein, U Tin Hone, Daw Khin May Yi and Daw Pyone Pyone Aye was convened Monday at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgements for eleven special civil appeal cases – Nos 32/2022 (Rakhine), 45/2022 (Rakhine), 6/2023 (Bago), 12/2023 (Mandalay), 14/2023 (Magway), 43/2022 (Ayeyawady), 48/2022 (Yangon), 52/2022 (Kayin), 9/2023 (Shan) and 11/ 2023 (Shan) and 28/2023 (Shan).

In addition, a total of five more special appeal cases — Nos 18/2023 (Yangon), 58/2022 (Kayin), 5/2023 (Yangon), 16/2023 (Yangon) and 27/2023 (Magway) were heard in line with COVID-19 prevention and control guidelines. — MNA

U Tin Maung Swe concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Myanmar to Mongolia

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



Relief donations of food and household items are loaded onto the vehicle yesterday.

COVID-19
report,
9 October 2023

NEW TESTS	NEW CASES	CASUALTIES
2,671	2	0

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.



Serenity and tranquility reign at Shwedagon Pagoda as pilgrims gather on its sacred platform.

Shwedagon to host thousand-lamp offering ceremony on full moon of Thadingyut

ACCORDING to the Shwedagon Pagoda’s board of trustees, a ceremony involving the offering of a thousand candles will be lit on the full moon day of Thadingyut at Shwedagon Pagoda.

From January to September 2023, around 700,000 domestic and foreign travellers visited the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon Region. The number of domestic and foreign travellers has been increasing every month, and the largest number of pilgrims visited it in March.

The pilgrims were approximately 20,000 people each on weekdays. On Weekends, this number surges to over forty thousand perday. On special occasions, such as the full moon day, more than 200,000 people gather to worship daily.

Security camera CCTV installation work has been carried out for more than ten years. The number of installed CCTV cameras is about 280. In 2018, about 300 CCTV cameras with better quality and upgrades were installed.

Currently, due to the increasing number of travellers, the Shwedagon Pagoda is open from 5 am to 8 pm. — ASH/KZW

Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central) to donate food, household items for Bago flood victims

THE Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central) will donate food and household items to the Bago flood victims in Bago township, according to U Nay Win, Secretary of the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central).

There is a plan that rice bags, lunch boxes and medications will be donated to 200 households that are not only the flood victims but also family members of the Myanmar Theatrical Association.

“Myanmar Theatrical Association Chairman and his team left for Bago township by car on 9 October morning. At present, rice, lunch boxes and medications for 200 households are carried. Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central) is planning to donate more,” said U Nay Win.

Myanmar Theatrical Association will collect donations from families and friends and deliver on time. Donors who want to participate in the donation can reportedly contact the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central). — ASH/MKKS

Vice-Senior General Soe Win calls for strong action against deep-rooted illegal trade

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Although this year's cases and value of seizures exceeded that of the previous year, it indicates illegal trade processes in both export and import measures. As such, the Vice-Senior General stressed that special task forces need to carefully expose and seize export and import measures to prevent illegal trade, he noted.

The Vice-Senior General highlighted that the standard operating procedure (SOP) must be updated systematically for using cargo flights for the export of goods to eradicate illegal trade.

He unveiled that action is being taken against the illegal trade of fuel and cooking oils.

Moreover, he stressed that the e-lock system is being implemented for checking the transport of commodities as a six-month pilot project. Officials have to cooperate in seeking strong and weak points of the e-lock system in respective phases to eradicate the illegal trade, he added.

The Vice-Senior General underlined that relevant ministries need to arrange a stick-



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win chairs the coordination meeting 5/2023 of the Steering Committee on Illegal Trade Eradication yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

and-carrot system to honour outstanding service personnel while taking severe action against those who break rules and regulations, laws and restrictions.

Vice-Chairmen of the Steering Committee Union Ministers U Win Shein and Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and Steering Committee member Union Minister U Tun Ohn reported on reviews on illegal trade measures, implementation of the e-lock system, reviewing the laws and bylaws for amendments, seizures of narcotic drugs, prohibited precursor chemicals, vehicles, foodstuffs, drugs and cosmetics, illegal sales of goods online, use of QR codes and others.

Chairs of region and state illegal trade eradication special task forces joined the meeting through videoconferencing. — MNA/TTA

SAC members attend 2023 Inter-Region/State Traditional Chinlone Competition



The opening matches of the 2023 Inter-Region/State Traditional Chinlone Competition in action yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

THE opening ceremony of the 2023 Inter-Region/State Traditional Chinlone Competition was held at Wunna Theikdi Gymnasium A in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, attended by State Administration Council Members Daw Dwe Bu, Porel Aung Thein, Dr Hmu Thang, Dr Ba Shwe, Khun San Lwin, U Shwe Kyein and U Yan Kyaw, Union ministers, deputy ministers, and officials among others.

Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan spoke on the occasion emphasizing the best efforts for the emergence of outstanding new Chinlone athletes who preserve the traditional heritage.

State Administration Council Members and dignitaries cordially greeted the athletes and watched the solo performance event of traditional Chinlone sports by Ma Lai Wady Zaw, who won the gold medal in the 32nd SEA Games, and the team-wise Chinlone match played by the Yangon Region Team and Ayeyawady Region Team.

The 2023 Inter-Region/State Traditional Chinlone Competition will take place from 9 to 12 October at Wunna Theikdi Gymnasium A and is open to the public free of charge. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Myanmar celebrates 149th World Post Day

TODAY is the 149th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), which comprises 192 member countries and stands as A Truly Universal Network emphasizing the collaboration among the member countries with technical support and rules and regulations for postal services, said State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo during the ceremony of the 149th anniversary of World Post Day yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

He then talked about the effective use of digital and ICT in postal services for the public despite the hardships of running the postal network during the

COVID-19 period.

He added that the theme of this year's World Post Day is "Together for Trust" and all should provide the people with safe postal services as the key of the services including post is the customer trust.

Then, the video message of the Switzerland-based UPU Director-General was played.

Next, the Union minister presented awards to winners of the 52nd international letter-writing competition for youth (local level, under 15). After the prize-giving ceremony, the Union minister had a documentary photo taken together with Union Minister for Commerce U Tun Ohn, deputy ministers, officials and winners. — MNA/KTZH



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo views the display marking the 149th World Post Day yesterday.

MoBA UM launches training courses to enhance staff efficiency

THE Ministry of Border Affairs (MoBA) initiated two training courses, English Proficient Progress Training Course No 1/2023 and Utilization of Locus Map Software, alongside Reading, Cutting, and Dubbing UTM Training Course 1/2023 yesterday. The courses aim to enhance the capabilities of staff members within the ministry and its affiliated departments.

The opening ceremony was graced by the presence of Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Union Minister for Border Affairs, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Khun Thant Zaw Htoo, the permanent secretary, directors-general, deputy permanent secretary, deputy directors-general, officials, training instructors and trainees.

The Union minister emphasized the significance of the English Proficient Progress



Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung observes the English proficiency course for staff members yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

Training Course No 1/2023 in improving the English proficiency of staff members. He stressed the importance of

systematic learning and post-course practice to ensure sustainable knowledge retention.

Furthermore, the utiliza-

tion of Locus Map Software and the reading, cutting, and dubbing of UTM maps were introduced, highlighting their

potential to enhance ministry activities. Emphasizing the importance of staying up-to-date with IT technologies, the Union minister expressed optimism that these advancements would contribute to border region development and the empowerment of ethnic youth, fostering balanced development across regions and states.

The Union minister encouraged trainees to apply their course knowledge in practice and announced plans for additional courses in respective branches. U Than Swe, the instructor of the English Proficient Progress Training Course, provided insights into the course's content, with the Union minister and attendees showing their support and encouragement for the training programmes. — MNA/TS



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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

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

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

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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.

Steering committee on organizing NCA 8th anniversary holds 4th meeting

THE fourth work coordination meeting of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) Eighth Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee was held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The event was attended by SAC Member Union Minister NCA Eighth Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Secretary of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) Lt-Gen Min Naing, and committee members, deputy ministers, permanent secretaries, directors-general of ministries concerned and relevant officials.

Steering Committee Chair Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said the respective work committees should discuss the matters to be carried out and to seek approvals, highlighting the need to display additional photos at the photo exhibition, utilize the allocated funds systematically and set systematic inventory for auditable measures.

Then, Secretary of NSPNC Lt-Gen Min Naing presented measures for the ceremony, and other attendees reported on the work plans being carried out by the work committees.

Steering Committee Chair Lt-Gen Yar Pyae made supplementary remarks on discussion.

— MNA/KTZH



The fourth work coordination meeting of the NCA Eighth Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

MoIP UM receives UNHCR Resident Representative



The UNHCR Resident Representative calls on Union Minister U Myint Kyaing yesterday.

UNION Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing received United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Resident Representative to Myanmar Ms Noriko Takagi in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Both sides cordially and frankly exchanged views on the readmission of displaced persons from Rakhine State, the

wording and terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will be signed between the ministry and UNDP-UNHCR to effectively facilitate the re-entry of displaced persons from Rakhine State, conditions for UNHCR to be aware of the process and provide positive cooperation, and the extension of visas and residence permits for foreign staff of UNHCR. — MNA/CT

CRIME NEWS

Illegal timbers, foodstuffs, consumer goods, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated

THE combined team seized a total of 4.908 tonnes of illegal hardwoods, 0.626 tonne of other timbers worth K2,525,722 in Toungoo district on 7 October, 7.682 tonnes of illegal teaks and 1.068 tonnes of illegal other timbers worth K3,856,274 in Bago and Toungoo districts on 8 October and an unregistered Mazda Bongo and an unregistered Nissan Vanette (approximately K4 million) in Bago township on 8 October.

The action was taken under the Forest Law and the Export and Import Law.

On 8 October, the Customs on-duty teams impounded a Nissan Diesel truck and a Htila truck (estimated value of K65 million), parked at a warehouse and a bus station in Mandalay, carrying eight kinds of goods worth K763.8 million including 31,200 bottles of Justus beer and 16,000 boxes of Esse cigarettes and three unregistered

Honda Fit, an unregistered Toyota Crown and an unregistered MG-5 vehicle (approximately K50.5 million) on the outskirts of Namti. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

As a result, a total of 19 arrests were made on 7 and 8 October, with an estimated value of K889,681,996, as reported by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS



Officials inspect the illegal items.



NATIONAL

Bago flood reaches emergency levels

The search and rescue (special) team and local groups join in rescue operations.

AS the Bago River flood reached an emergency, the search and rescue (special) team members from the Fire Services Department rushed to cooperate with various local groups in the rescue operations.

Flooding has occurred in eight wards and two villages in Bago township since 8 October morning by the Bago River rising due to torrential downpours.

Military personnel under the Southern Command, Myanmar Police Force, fire brigade members and social organizations evacuated flood victims to temporary relief centres and provided healthcare services.

A total of 24 temporary relief centres have been opened and nearly 5,600 people from about 1,300 households have been accommodated to the centres, according to the Bago Region government.

With the rising of the river, water is entering residences and inundating the roads as the road segments are collapsed by inundation detour of Bago township



The photo shows the river overflowing Bago township and the relief task forces carrying out the evacuation operations.

near the Kokkotan.

"The lower floors of the Bago General Hospital have been flooded. Bago Myoma market and downtown area have all

been flooded. Not only the low-lying areas but also the high-lying areas have also been flooded. Then, schools have also been temporarily closed," Ma Win Ma

Aye, a Bago resident, told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

The Bago River water level reached 1004 cm at 6:30 am on

9 October and is still rising. The search and rescue (special) forces from the Fire Services Department left the headquarters on 9 October along with boats/materials used in search and rescue operations and personal protective equipment for rescue measures.

"Markets have no longer opened for flood and the goods have been moved to safe areas. Transport has been disrupted. The arch entrance of monasteries in some wards is about to be flooded. Some get stuck as they thought it would not be bad. Some have also escaped. The rescue teams are carrying out evacuation operations as much as they can. It is difficult that they need boats for the operations," Ko Maung Naing Soe who lives in Hinthagon told the GNLM.

The electricity has been switched off to prevent danger and communications such as MPT, ATOM, and Mytel phone lines are unable to make calls while only one Ooredoo phone line can be used. — TWA/MKKS

Exported pigeon peas' FOB price surges by US\$30 per tonne

THE free-on-board (FOB) price of a tonne of pigeon peas (red gram) was only US\$1,320–1,340 from 5 to 7 October, but on 9 October, it increased to \$1,350–1,370.

In the Yangon beans and pulses market, the price of pigeon peas was stable at K4,075,000 per tonne for nine days, from 29 September to 9 October.

In the same period last year, the export price of pigeon peas was only \$835–855 per tonne. On 9 October of this year, the price increased by \$515 compared to the same period last year, which is a half of the previous year's price (61 per cent). However, the domestic price of a tonne of pigeon peas in the Yangon market is more than double that of the same period last year. On 7 and 11 October of last year, the price



Workers are sorting pigeon peas at a depot in Monywa.

of a tonne of pigeon peas was only K1,975,000.

Although the domestic price of pigeon peas is stable, the price of black gram RC is fluctuating up and down around K2.5 million.

On 9 October, 35 containers (840 tonnes) were traded at the

price of K2,548,500 per tonne of black gram RC. Since the export prices of black grams and pigeon peas have increased in the 2023–2024 financial year, it is estimated that the export earnings from the export of beans and pulses will increase. — TWA/CT

MoFA issues advisory for Myanmar citizens in Israel amidst conflict

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has released an advise for Myanmar citizens residing in Israel, urging them to take precautions during the ongoing conflict. With the recent outbreak of hostilities between the Palestinian Hamas group and the Israel Air Force on 7 October, numerous casualties have been reported on both sides, including fatalities and injuries.

MoFA advises Myanmar citizens in Israel to remain indoors unless necessary and to seek refuge in a secure location if they find themselves in a conflict situation. Additionally, they are encouraged to contact the Myanmar Embassy for any assistance if they may require. The embassy can be reached at the following numbers: phone: (972) (3) 5170760, (972) (3) 5163364 and hotline: 058 7899177, 058 4081347.

For further support and assistance, individuals can also contact the Citizen's Department of the Consular and Legal Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw through the following hotlines: hotline: (95) 943118450, (95) 9882264744. Stay safe and connected during this challenging time. — TWA/MKKS

Yangon palm oil wholesale reference price drops below last week's rate

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market was set at K4,340 per viss for a week ending 15 October, showing a slight decrease of K50 per viss recorded last week, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The wholesale price was set at K4,390 per viss for a week from 2 to 8 October.

The Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia including transport costs, tariffs and banking services to issue the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Yet, the market price was way higher than the reference price.

To tackle the overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce apprised the consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the Call Centre's hotline in late August. The Department urged consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over the hotline 1535 of the Call Centre of

the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook Page of the Department and the region and state departments concerned.

Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association formed a task force for edible oil price stability and started informing the lists of wholesale/retail shops of each company on 28 August, including the address of the shops in the respective townships and the number of available barrels.

The task force will govern the market to meet the satisfaction of the end-users in the supply chain and get easy access to the consumers.

It will also supervise the market to ensure the palm oil sales at wholesale prices are not higher than two per cent of the net profit margin and retail prices not higher than 10 per cent margin.

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



Palm oil production in Taninthayi Region.



The general view of the office building of UMFCCI.

Commerce Ministry paving way for exporters with special privileges

Moreover, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) is reportedly planning to give another special privilege to the exporters as well.

THE Ministry of Commerce has been preparing to grant special privileges to the exporters who are earning foreign currencies for the country.

Moreover, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) is reportedly planning to give another special privilege to the exporters as well. The federation is drafting up the privilege programme to benefit the exporters involved in legitimate exports and bolstering exports, the UMFCCI announced on its social page.

The big challenge for exporters for now is monetary policy. Earlier, the exporters had to convert 65 per cent of the hard currency they earned into local currency according

to the Central Bank of Myanmar's reference exchange rate. The CBM eased the foreign currency rules to 50 per cent for exporters, according to the notification released on 13 July. However, they are still grappling with this policy, exporters stressed.

The CBM set the reference exchange rate at K2,100 whereas the US dollar is exchanged at K3,400 in the grey market, showing the large gap between them.

This way, exports are dropping while imports are surpassing exports, according to the Ministry of Commerce's statistics. There is a trade deficit of over US\$817 million in the H1 (1 April to 29 September) of the current financial year 2023-2024.

The ministry met with some businesspersons including those from the UMFCCI and asked for opinions on decreasing exports in early June.

Myanmar's leading export items are various pulses, sesame, corn, rubber, rice, fisheries, fruits and finished products manufactured on a Cutting, Making and Packing basis.

Myanmar's foreign trade swelled to \$33.97 billion in the last FY 2022-2023, comprising exports worth \$16.62 billion and imports worth \$17.35 billion. According to the Budget Report for the 2023-2024 FY, Myanmar's global trade is expected to reach \$32.5 billion with exports worth \$16.5 billion and imports valued at \$16 billion. — NN/EM

Yangon Fisheries Department warn fish/prawn farmers to prevent flooding

THE Yangon Region Fisheries Department conducts field studies and awareness campaigns for the fish/prawn farmers in Twantay and Kungyangon townships to prevent flooding of fish and prawn farms and reduce losses due to the floods triggered by heavy

rainfalls, according to U Myint Shwe, head of the department.

"We mainly urge them to fill the low areas of fish and prawn farms with sandbags to ensure the strength, to set the net around the ponds not to release the fish if there is flood and place the bamboo

stick wall, sandbags by striking the firm sticks to prevent the fish farms, which lie next to the water current, from erosion. Moreover, we instructed them to prepare the fishing net, boats and other materials to move fish if necessary, to prioritize the huge fish and

evacuate the stored fish feed and their equipment to safe places and to keep the fish from escaping through regular feeding," he said.

Moreover, the fish and prawn farmers are instructed to watch the inundated areas of the fish and prawn farms

and to be ready to report to the authorities in a timely manner if they encounter strange situations.

There are about 500,000 acres of fish and prawn farms in the country and about 100,000 acres in the Yangon Region. — ASH/KTZH

Promote a secure and trustworthy cooking oil market

FOR far too long, unscrupulous businesspersons jeopardized the health of consumers by flooding the domestic market with adulterated cooking oils like groundnut oil, sesame oil, and sunflower oil. This rampant practice, driven by nothing but greed, has placed ordinary consumers at risk, as they lack the expertise and resources to test these oils for safety.

These unethical businesspersons, blinded by the pursuit of profit, often have little knowledge about the contents of the low-quality cooking oils they mix into their products. Their primary concern is maximizing their profit margins without regard for the potential harm their adulterated oils might cause to unsuspecting consumers.

Sadly, the majority of consumers in the domestic market unknowingly fall victim to these unscrupulous practices and end up paying premium prices for subpar products. It's a stark reality that everyday people find themselves ensnared in a web of deceit

Deceptive oil dealers often market their products with attractive labels and ingredient guarantees. While consumers may come across these seemingly trustworthy cooking oils in the domestic market, they lack the means to independently verify their quality. Officials may test samples, but the overall quality of these oils remains uncertain. Nevertheless, some dealers uphold their commitment to delivering pure and high-quality cooking oils to consumers, refusing to tarnish their reputation.

delivering pure and high-quality cooking oils to consumers, refusing to tarnish their reputation.

To create a safe and sound cooking oil market, it is crucial for dealers to infuse their products with compassion and honesty. If all stakeholders approach this industry with a mindset of solidarity and shared responsibility, consumers will benefit. When the market operates on the principles of trust and integrity, consumers can confidently enjoy their meals, knowing that the cooking oil they use is safe and genuine. This transformation from a market driven by greed to one rooted in ethical values will ultimately benefit everyone involved, ensuring a healthier and more trustworthy cooking oil market for all.

Common Mistakes in English (1)

U Khin Maung (A retired diplomat)

INTRODUCTION

1. Nobody is perfect. To err is human and to forgive is divine. In speaking or in writing, we may make mistakes especially in speaking or in writing English. English is now learnt by many foreigners, whose mother tongue is not English. English these days is an international language with more varied teaching materials now, English can also be used as a self-study language by students of English. In fact, learning is a never-ending process. Learning is a life-long process. No educative process is ever the end, it is always the beginning of more education, more learning more living.

Common Mistakes in English

2. Nobody is perfect. In other words, nobody is flawless or nobody's English is utmost flawless. As a foreign student, my English is not free from

mistakes despite the fact that I have been learning English, for quite some time. I am now in my 87th years of age. In a world-famous booklet, under the title of "Common Mistakes in English", the author mentions it is not claimed that the manual is exhaustive. Nevertheless, the difficulties tackled are real and the examples and representative of the mistakes commonly made by foreign students of English, being the result of observations over a long period of time".

3. In the contents of this booklet, the famous author has mentioned common mistakes in Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, Part 4 and Part 5. As an ordinary adult, I would like to quote only a few mistakes, just for lack of time and just not to exhaust or wear out the attention of the readers.

Misused forms Using the wrong preposition



English is noted as an international language that is learned by many non-native speakers worldwide. It emphasizes the diversity of teaching materials and the possibility of self-study. **ILLUSTRATION: FREEPIK**

The following list includes the words which most often give trouble.

1. Absorbed (very much interested) in, not at.
Don't say: The man was ab-

sorbed at his work.
Say: The man was absorbed in his work.

2. Accuse of, not for.
Don't say: She accused the man for stealing.
Say: She accused the man of stealing.
Note: Charge takes with: The man was charged with murder.
3. Accustomed to, not with.
Don't say: I'm accustomed with hot weather.
Say: I'm accustomed to hot weather.
Note: Also used to: He is used to the heat.
4. Afraid of, not from.
Don't say: Laura is afraid from the dog.
Say: Laura is afraid of the dog.
5. Aim at, not on or against.
Don't say: She aimed on (or against) the target.
Say: She aimed at the target.
Note: Use the preposition at to denote direction: throw at, shout at, fire at, shoot at. Shoot (without the at) means to kill: He shot a bird (= he hit and killed it).
6. Angry with, not against.

Don't say: The teacher was angry against him.
Say: The teacher was angry with him.
Note 1: We get angry with a person but at a thing: He was angry at the weather (not: with the weather).
Note 2: Also annoyed with, vexed with, indignant with a person, but at a thing.
7. Anxious (= troubled) about, not for.
Don't say: They're anxious for his health.
Say: They're anxious about his health.
Note: Anxious means wishing very much takes for. Parents are anxious for their children's success.
8. Arrive at, not to.
Don't say: We arrived to the village at night.
Say: We arrived at the village at night.
Note: Use arrive in with countries and large cities: Mr Smith has arrived in London. (or New York, India, etc.)
9. Ashamed of, not from.

Don't say: He's now ashamed from his conduct.
Say: He's now ashamed of his conduct.
Note: It isn't correct to use ashamed of meaning shy. Ashamed means feeling shame or guilt about something. Shy means feeling nervous with someone. Instead of saying: I'm ashamed (or shamed) of my teacher, say: I'm shy of my teacher.
10. Believe in, not to.
Don't say: We believe to God. Say: We believe in God.
Note: To believe in means to have faith in. To believe (without the in) means to regard something as true: I believe everything he says.

Reference:

1. Common Mistakes in English by T J Fitikides
2. Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary International Student's Edition.

World can't 'unplug' existing energy system: COP28 head

THE president of the upcoming COP28 climate talks in Dubai called on Sunday for governments to abandon "fantasies" such as hastily ditching existing energy infrastructure in pursuit of climate goals.

"We cannot unplug the energy system of today before we build the new system of tomorrow. It is simply not practical or possible," Sultan Al Jaber said during the opening session of Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Climate Week, a UN-organized conference hosted in the Saudi capital Riyadh. "We must separate facts from fiction, reality from fantasies, impact from ideology, and we must ensure that we avoid the traps of division and distraction."

Much of international climate

diplomacy revolves around the thorny issue of how and when to quit fossil fuels.

At COP26 in Glasgow in 2021, countries agreed to phase down "unabated coal", the first time a fossil fuel was explicitly mentioned in a final text.

But efforts since then to extend such a target to all fossil fuels have foundered, most recently at last month's G20 summit in India.

Climate activists have criticized the appointment of Jaber to lead the COP28 talks which kick off in Dubai in November, given that he is also head of the Emirati state-owned oil firm ADNOC.

But Jaber has garnered the support of COP parties including US climate envoy John Kerry, partly by emphasizing his belief that

"the phase-down of fossil fuels is inevitable".

Energy officials in the United Arab Emirates and other oil-producing countries — notably Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter — have argued for continued investments in fossil fuels to ensure energy security even as they eye an eventual transition away from them.

Finding funds

The vast and fractured landscape of climate finance is the other major stumbling block in climate negotiations.

Developing countries least responsible for climate change are seeking money from richer polluters to adapt to its increasingly destructive and expensive

consequences.

In 2009, rich countries pledged to supply \$100 billion of climate finance every year to developing nations but failed to meet the 2020 deadline. There are hopes the goal will be met this year.

"Old promises must be kept, including the \$100 billion pledge made over a decade ago," Jaber said on Sunday.

Last year's COP27 talks in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, ended with the first ever creation of a "loss and damage" fund into which countries would pay to support poorer nations suffering the most from more intense and frequent storms, floods and droughts.

The fund's operation, governance, location, contributors, beneficiaries and a timeline for

payouts are all up in the air ahead of COP28.

"We must make the fund for loss and damage that was promised in Sharm el-Sheikh a reality in Dubai," Jaber said.

Climate 'crossroads'

The talks in Riyadh are intended to "shine a spotlight on challenges and solutions in a region that is among the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change," organizers said in a press release on Sunday.

The region must already grapple with high temperatures and water scarcity, with more than 60 per cent of the population having "very little if any access to potable water", the statement said.

SOURCE: AFP



During the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow in 2021, countries reached an agreement to phase down "unabated coal." **PHOTO: AFP**

Saudi announces domestic greenhouse gas credit scheme

SAUDI Arabia on Monday unveiled a scheme to allow companies to purchase credits offsetting greenhouse gas emissions, part of the Gulf kingdom’s stated goal of hitting net-zero emissions by 2060.

The Greenhouse Gas Crediting and Offsetting Mechanism (GCOM), set to launch in early 2024, “aims to increase cooperation among national entities seeking to fulfil their climate ambitions by helping to mobilize finance in all sectors for a variety of projects and activities”, according to its website.

The initiative was announced at the Middle East and



A woman walks past the entrance of the convention centre before the opening session of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Climate Week, a UN-organized conference hosted in the Saudi capital Riyadh, on 8 October 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

North Africa (MENA) Climate Week, a UN-organized conference hosted in the Saudi capital Riyadh.

It was designed to align with Article 6 of the 2015 Paris Agreement, which allows countries to cooperate on hitting emissions reduction targets, including by transferring carbon credits.

Saudi officials on Monday described GCOM as a domestic mechanism, though Maria AlJishi, international policy adviser at the Saudi energy ministry, said it “caters to the possibility or the potential for future international transfers if Saudi Arabia chooses to engage”.

Carbon credits have become popular tools globally for companies seeking to offset their carbon emissions and proclaim their commitment to the environment.

But the carbon credit industry has faced numerous scandals, revealing a landscape rife with opportunities for greenwashing — or making deceptive claims of good environmental practice. Walt Disney, JP Morgan Bank and other major corporations have been accused of purchasing carbon credits from forest protection projects in areas that were not actually at risk of deforestation. — AFP

Thailand launches new earth observation satellite into orbit

THAILAND’S second earth observation satellite (THEOS-2) blasted into orbit from the Guiana Space Centre in French Guiana on Monday.

A Vega rocket, carrying the satellite, lifted off at 0136 GMT Monday. About an hour later, the THEOS-2 was successfully detached and entered its lower earth orbit.

The ground station will conduct a trial run of the satellite systems for about three months before it becomes fully operational and starts performing earth observation activities, said Supamas Isarabhakdi, Thai minister of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovations, in a statement.

This mission is a great leap for the country’s response to various emergency situations using fresh, detailed and accurate information gathered from the remote sensing services, she added. — Xinhua

Injured tortoises make slow recovery from Greece fires

IN an animal shelter near Athens, veterinarian Kleopatra Gkika gently smears soothing cream on the leg of a tortoise, one of hundreds singed in Greece’s devastating summer wildfires.

The healing process is going well, the vet noted.

The burnt skin has fallen off and the tortoise can soon be released back into its natural habitat.

Even though, there may not be much of that habitat left, Gkika mused.

In July and August, Greece was affected by a series of successive wildfires around the country that left at least 26 people dead.

The area around the shelter in Kalyvia Thorikou, some 60 kilometres (37 miles) southeast of Athens, was among the first to be hit.

A few weeks later, the pristine forest of Dadia in north-eastern Greece, which contains a natural park, went up in flames.

The fires eventually engulfed nearly 94,000 hectares of the forest in the largest blaze ever recorded on European soil.

Deflecting criticism, the conservative government of Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis — which won re-election in June by a landslide — has blamed the disaster on climate change.

Some 400 tortoises overall were rescued from blaze sites surrounding Athens and on the nearby island of Evia.

‘Nothing left’

They were brought to Anima, a non-profit first aid centre for wildlife, and to a zoo near the capital.

“Some tortoises had burns



Cleopatra, a volunteer vet, examines a turtle for external wounds in Kalyvia Thorikou, on 29 September 2023. Some 400 turtles overall were rescued from blaze sites surrounding Athens and on the nearby island of Evia, and brought to Anima, a non-profit first aid centre for wildlife, and to a zoo near the capital, as in July and August, Greece was hit by successive wildfire waves around the country that left at least 26 dead. **PHOTO: AFP**

on their legs or on their shell. Others had breathing difficulties because of smoke inhalation,” said Vassilis Sfakianopoulos, the founder of “Save your hood”, a volunteer group that normally cleans up litter. — AFP

Fears over future of Armenian culture in Nagorno-Karabakh

MOST ethnic Armenians have fled the breakaway enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh since last month’s lightning offensive by Azerbaijan, and some fear that the territory’s culture is under threat.

Azerbaijan took control of the mountainous region, considered by Armenia to be

its people’s ancestral home, in September after a one-day offensive that sparked a mass exodus of the ethnic Armenian population.

It was part of Muslim-majority Azerbaijan since the end of the Russian Empire, but it is dotted with several hundred churches, monasteries and tombstones, some dating back to the 11th century.

Its ethnic Armenian Christian inhabitants attempted to break away after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 — making a unilateral declaration of independence that failed to achieve international recognition.

Some of the religious sites have unique features and are carved with armed knights dating back to the Mongol Empire of the 13th and 14th century, said Patrick Donabedian of the Laboratory of Medieval and Modern Archeology in the Mediterranean in France. — AFP

OPEC sees no peak in global oil demand on the horizon

DESPITE mounting efforts to limit climate change, the OPEC oil cartel said Monday it expects demand for crude to continue to grow for the next two decades.

In its 2023 annual report, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries forecasts demand for crude to reach 116 million barrels per day (mbd) by 2045 under its main scenario, a 16.5 per cent increase from the 99.4 mbd in 2022.

That is an increase of six mbd from its estimate last year.

Oil demand has “the potential to be even higher”, said OPEC chief Haitham Al Ghais.

“What is clear is that the world will continue to need more energy in the decades to come,” he emphasized in the forward to the report — which comes just

eight weeks before the next UN climate conference, COP28, in Dubai.

At the conference dozens of countries will try to impose the adoption of the objective of an end to the use of fossil fuels like oil, natural gas and coal.

According to OPEC, whose 13 member states include Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states and Venezuela, oil demand will be driven by emerging and developing nations, with India in pole position.

Meanwhile, it sees oil demand in the OECD club of advanced economies declining from 2025. In order to meet this demand OPEC says additional investment in fossil fuel production will be needed, putting the figure at \$14 trillion by 2045, or roughly \$610 billion per year. — AFP



A customer uses a credit card to pump gas as a sign shows gasoline fuel prices above average at over seven and approaching eight dollars a gallon at a Mobil gas station in Los Angeles, California, on 5 October 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**



Aaron Tartakovsky, co-founder and CEO of water technology startup Epic Cleantec, reaches into a refrigerator of beers brewed with recycled wastewater at the company's headquarters 26 September 2023 in San Francisco, California. **PHOTO: AFP**

Wastewater beer aims to help quench US drought

WITH its golden hue and light fruity flavour, the beer being sipped by Aaron Tartakovsky looks and tastes just like many others.

But it contains an unusual ingredient: recycled wastewater from a San Francisco skyscraper.

The beverage was brewed to raise public awareness of the “untapped” potential of water sources that might seem unsavory at first glance, at a time when the American West is struggling with chronic drought exacerbated by global warming, explains Tartakovsky.

“Beer has brought people together basically since the dawn of human civilization,” the boss of recycling company Epic Cleantec told AFP.

Manufacturing the drink is an “incredible medium” to show the general public “in this age of climate change... recycled water is a really great way to make sure that our communities are secure for generations to come.”

The beer uses water derived from the showers, sinks and washing machines of a San Francisco apartment building containing 550 homes.

Epic Cleantec treats the

building’s wastewater in the basement, returning much of it to the 40 floors above to be reused in flushing toilets or the irrigation system.

California law prohibits redirecting the treated water to taps for drinking.

But once filtered, the water is transformed from a murky, thick gray to a crystal-clear liquid which will “meet or exceed federal drinking quality standards”, says Tartakovsky.

To prove it, he has teamed up with a brewery to create Epic OneWater Brew, a drink inspired by German Kolsch beers. — AFP

Floods, landslides kill three in northern Viet Nam

THREE people died and one person was missing following flash floods and landslides in northern Viet Nam over the weekend, disaster officials said on Monday.

Dozens of houses and crops were also damaged as heavy rain lashed the provinces of Yen Bai, Thai Nguyen and Tuyen Quang, the Hanoi-based disaster control authority said

in an online report.

In Yen Bai, a child was among three people killed in two separate landslides.

The two others were a husband and wife who were killed in their home, state media said.

Photos on state media showed deep water blocking streets and flowing into homes.

Another person was missing after a flood in Thai

Nguyen.

Natural disasters including floods and landslides, have left 98 people dead or missing, and injured 103 others in Viet Nam since the beginning of the year, according to the country’s General Statistics Office.

Scientists have warned extreme weather is being intensified by global warming. — AFP



Residents remove debris after heavy rains caused flash floods and landslides in Mu Cang Chai district, Yen Bai province on 7 August 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

ECONOMY WORLD

Kishida vows to support AI development in next economic package



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida addresses the UN-hosted Internet Governance Forum in Kyoto, western Japan, on 9 October 2023. **PHOTO: KYODO**

PRIME Minister Fumio Kishida pledged on Monday that a part of an upcoming economic package, to be drawn up possibly by the end of the month, will include measures to boost the development of artificial intelligence.

Kishida made the remarks at the ongoing Internet Governance Forum in Kyoto, western Japan. The outcome of the discussions will be utilized in the Hiroshima AI Process, in which the Group of Seven industrialized nations will

establish rules on AI-related topics to avoid the misuse of the technology.

The prime minister said the government will earmark funds to also facilitate the incorporation of AI in small and midsize companies and in medical and other fields.

Kishida also said the G-7 nations are working on international guidelines for developers of AI in the run-up to an online meeting among leaders that will take place in fall at the earliest. — Kyodo

Laos gears up to host ASEAN Tourism Forum 2024

LAO authorities have discussed ways to ensure that preparations for the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Tourism Forum 2024 (ATF) will be completed on schedule.

According to Lao national TV report on Monday, the ATF will be held in the Lao capital Vientiane from 22 January to 27 January 2024, under the theme “Quality and Responsible Tourism — Sustaining ASEAN Future”.

The dates were announced at a meeting held in Vientiane on Thursday to report on the progress of preparations for the forum, chaired by Lao Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism Suanesavanh Vignaket.

“We still have a lot of work to do, such as revising the ATF 2024 action plan, creating a travel programme for delegates, and ensuring that restaurants serve up good quality food in a clean environment,” the minister said.

“In addition, we must make sure that entry and exit procedures at border crossings are well organized, and that we can import all the goods and equipment needed by visiting delegates.”

Director-General of the ministry’s Tourism Marketing Department Khom Douangchantha said a lot of progress had already been made in preparing for the forum. — Xinhua

Claudia Goldin of the US wins Nobel economics prize

THE Nobel prize in economics was on Monday awarded to American economist Claudia Goldin for her research helping understand the role of women in the labour market.

The Harvard professor, who is the third woman to be awarded the prestigious economics prize, was given the nod “for having advanced our understanding of women’s labour market outcomes”, the jury said.

“Her research reveals the causes of change, as well as the main sources of the remaining gender gap,” it added in a statement.

Globally, about 50 per cent of women participate in the labour market compared to 80 per cent of men, but women earn

less and are less likely to reach the top of the career ladder, the prize committee noted.

Of all the Nobels, the economics prize has the fewest number of women laureates, with just two previous winners since it was first awarded in 1969 — Elinor Ostrom in 2009 and Esther Duflo in 2019.

The jury highlighted that Goldin’s work’s “provided the first comprehensive account of women’s earnings and labour market participation through the centuries”.

Last year, the honour went to US economists Douglas Diamond and Philip Dybvig together with former Federal Reserve chief Ben Bernanke for research on banks in times



The winner of the 2023 Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel American economist Claudia Goldin is seen on a display during a press conference at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, Sweden, on 9 October 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

of turmoil.

The economics prize, set up by the Swedish central bank, was the only award absent from

the original five created by scientist Alfred Nobel, sometimes earning it the moniker of “false Nobel”. — AFP

Japan, Australia agree to ensure stable supply of LNG, coal

JAPAN and Australia agreed Sunday to ensure a stable supply of energy resources such as liquefied natural gas and coal from Australia to the resource-poor Asian nation, amid Tokyo’s concerns over Canberra’s changing energy policies.

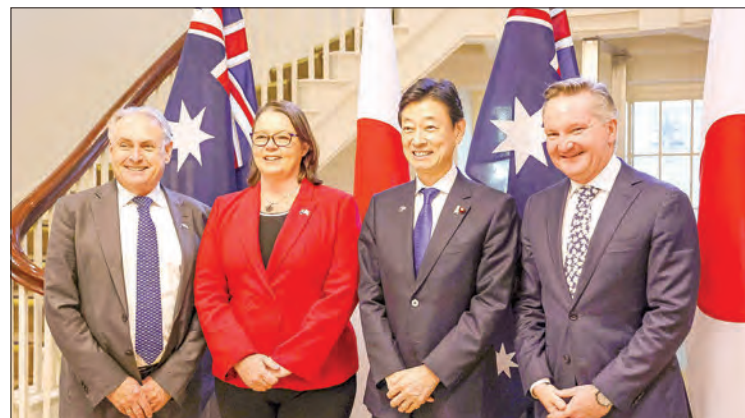
Japan’s Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura met in Melbourne with his Australian counter-

part Don Farrell for the fifth Japan-Australia Ministerial Economic Dialogue. They were joined by Climate Change and Energy Minister Chris Bowen and Resources Minister Madeleine King.

Nishimura told reporters after the meeting that they “agreed to ensure a stable supply of resources such as LNG and a reliable investment envi-

ronment” in Australia’s resources and energy sector, and further expand the cooperation in the sector to cover such resources as hydrogen and ammonia.

He added that Japan and Australia, the biggest supplier of LNG, coal and iron ore to his country, will also cooperate in establishing supply chains for critical minerals, such as nickel and rare earths. — Kyodo



The photo shows (L-R) Australian Minister for Trade and Tourism Don Farrell, Resources Minister Madeleine King, Japan’s Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura and Australia’s Climate Change and Energy Minister Chris Bowen ahead of their meeting at the Australia-Japan Ministerial Economic Dialogue in Melbourne on 8 October 2023. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Thailand’s consumer confidence hits 42-month high in September

THAILAND’S consumer confidence index (CCI) reached a 42-month high in September due to government cost-of-living support measures and stimulus policies, a survey showed on Monday.

According to the University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce (UTCC) survey of 2,244 respondents across the country, the CCI rose to 58.7 last month from 56.9 in August as all components of the index improved for the second month.

The September figure was mainly attributed to lower living costs as a result of the government’s energy and gasoline price cuts and increased domestic consumption on the back of tourism recovery



Chinese tourists are greeted by Thai dancers at the arrivals gate at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok on 25 September 2023. PHOTO: AFP

and tourist visa exemption scheme, said UTCC President Thanavath Phonvichai.

Consumers’ willing-

ness to spend on tourism has returned to normal after easing concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic and economic

uncertainties, a positive sign for the country’s growth outlook, Thanavath told a news conference. — Xinhua

Oil soars as Hamas attack on Israel sparks war

WORLD oil prices spiked Monday after Hamas launched a shock deadly attack on Israel, which has declared war on Gaza, sparking fear of an escalating conflict in the crude-rich Middle East.

Benchmark oil contracts Brent and WTI soared more than five per cent in earlier Asian deals before easing back somewhat.

The worsening crisis sent shockwaves through global equity markets, although energy companies were boosted by higher oil prices which lift their profits and revenues.

The dollar, yen and Swiss franc, as well as

gold, won strong support as they benefited from their status as a haven investment in times of heightened geopolitical turmoil.

The crisis has fanned concerns about crucial supplies at a time when supply worries are already high owing to Saudi Arabia and Russia’s output cuts.

It has also renewed fears about the impact on inflation, with energy costs a key driver of spiking prices, giving a fresh headache to central banks as they try to ease up on interest rate hikes to avoid recessions.

— AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (298N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (298N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-10-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

German industrial output dips again in August

GERMAN industrial production declined for a fourth straight month in August, official data showed Monday, adding to signs that Europe’s largest economy will end the year in a recession.

Output fell by 0.2 per cent on the month before, according to adjusted figures from statistics

agency Destatis, following a drop of 0.6 per cent in July.

Analysts surveyed by FactSet had predicted a smaller dip of 0.1 per cent.

The August disappointment was driven by a 6.6-per cent fall in energy production and a 2.4-per cent fall in the

construction sector.

There was better news for the automotive sector, where output increased by 7.6 per cent.

Germany’s crucial industrial sector has been facing a series of headwinds in recent months, as inflation and high energy prices combined with a weakening

Chinese economy take their toll on the export powerhouse.

The German economy tipped into a recession at the start of the year and stagnated in the second quarter.

A string of weak economic data since then has added to fears of a prolonged downturn. — AFP

MYANMA Port Authority

“NOTICE of High Tide”

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.11 feet to 20.37 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of October 15th to October 18th, 2023. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0305-754N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0305-754N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-10-2023** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NINGHAI VOY.NO. (2304)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NINGHAI VOY. NO. (2304)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-10-2023** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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 BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

WHO urges eligible groups to get vaccinated against COVID-19, flu

IN a joint effort to mitigate the impending threats of COVID-19 and seasonal influenza this autumn and winter, the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe, alongside the European Commission and the European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (ECDC), urged higher-risk individuals across the region on Monday to safeguard their health by availing themselves of the forthcoming vaccinations.

"COVID-19 and influenza remain serious diseases, particularly for the most vulnerable, including those who haven't completed their vaccination courses," Hans

Kluge, WHO regional director for Europe, said in a press release.

Focusing on the elderly, the immune-compromised, the very young, and pregnant women, the WHO recommends these priority groups be offered an additional vaccine dose six to 12 months after their last, "depending on their level of risk".

The call comes as the number of COVID-19 deaths and people admitted to intensive care units continues to fall significantly compared to the peak of the pandemic, according to the press release, but "hospital admissions are beginning to creep up again in some WHO Europe member



A woman receives a dose of Comirnaty Omicron XBB 1.5 Pfizer vaccine for COVID-19 at a pharmacy in Ajaccio, on 5 October 2023, during a new COVID-19 vaccination campaign on the French Mediterranean island of Corsica. **PHOTO: AFP**

states, particularly where vaccine uptake remains low."

Kluge emphasized three pivotal considerations in the ongoing battle against COVID-19.

He advocated for nations to expedite the administration of booster doses without hesitation, underscored the paramount importance of persistent COVID-19 surveillance, which encompasses wastewater monitoring for SARS-CoV-2, and highlighted the necessity to prioritize indoor air quality and ventilation. The WHO also stresses the need for healthcare professionals to get vaccinated to protect themselves and their patients. — Xinhua

Chemical leak on Japan bullet train leaves 4 injured

FOUR passengers, including a child, suffered burns and light injuries aboard a shinkansen bullet train in northeastern Japan on Monday after a chemical liquid belonging to a passenger leaked accidentally, local police said.

The owner, who was among the injured on the Tohoku Shinkansen Line train, is a 40-year-old employee of a geological survey company based in Tokyo. The police believe the industrial chemical used in his profession was kept in a bottle in his hand luggage and accidentally spilled.

Passengers were evacuated from the train onto the platform of JR Sendai Station in Miyagi Prefecture, East Japan Railway Co said, after a smoke-like haze was detected from one of the carriages during a crew inspection. The inspection was prompted by a rider's emergency call around noon about a child suffering burns from what seemed like a chemical substance.

According to the police, the employee who resides in Tokyo was told by a rider nearby that liquid was seeping from his bag that he had placed near his feet.

As he headed with his bag to the deck, a five-year-old boy



The photo shows JR Sendai Station in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture, after a suspected chemical leak in a Tohoku Shinkansen Line bullet train on 9 October 2023. **PHOTO: KYODO**

slipped on the liquid. The man and the boy's parents who ran to their child's aid suffered burns around their legs and other areas.

Two others, a female passenger in her 30s and a male station worker, felt unwell, possibly from inhalation of vapour that emanated from the spill, authorities said. No lives are in danger, they added.

A 48-year-old male rider waiting for the train recounted hearing a station crew member cried out "Smoke from the No 7 carriage!" Approaching

the scene, he observed what seemed like a black bag emitting smoke near the carriage doors.

Sirens from emergency vehicles filled the air at the station, which was crowded with tourists and shoppers taking advantage of the last day of a three-day weekend.

"It reminded me of the Tokyo subway sarin attack. It's frightening because you can bring anything onto a train," said a 52-year-old man, referring to the 1995 terrorist attack that killed 14 people and injured over 6,000. — Kyodo

EU to hold emergency talks on Israel

EU foreign ministers will on Tuesday hold urgent talks on the situation in Israel and Gaza after Hamas militants launched a surprise assault, the bloc's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said.

"I am convening tomorrow an emergency meeting of EU Foreign Ministers to address the situation in Israel and in the region," Borrell wrote in a social media post Monday.

Borrell and a number of EU foreign ministers are currently in Oman for long-planned talks with Gulf states from the Gulf Cooperation Council.

A spokesman for Borrell in Brussels, Peter Stano, said the EU talks would be held in a hybrid video and in-person format.

The EU has strongly condemned the unprecedented attack by the Islamist militants that has sparked a barrage of strikes by Israel on Gaza.

More than 700 Israelis have been killed and at least 100 kidnapped in the assault that has left the country reeling and sparked fears of a broader escalation in the region.

The reprisal bombing campaign by Israel in Gaza has killed 493 people, according to Palestinian officials.

Spokesman Stano said the EU's executive arm was "reviewing" how the attack by Hamas could potentially impact the EU's current and future financial assistance to the Palestinians.

"Whatever adjustment of the EU position and reaction to what is still going on on the ground will come from from that meeting (Tuesday) in form of an agreed EU position," Stano said.

The bloc, one of the major financial supporters of the Palestinian people, has envisioned spending some 1.2 billion euros (\$1.26 billion) between 2021 and 2024 on schools, hospitals and salaries among other things. The European Commission insists that none of the support has gone to fund Hamas or any other militant group. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar traditional Lethwei boxers compete in bouts of championship

THE 360 Fight Club V new generation Myanmar Traditional Lethwei Championship, managed by 360 Sports and organized by the Myanmar Lethwei Federation, took place at Theinbyu Boxing Gymnasium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon on 8 October.

Saw Ke Do (Holy Power) became champion in the 54-57 kilo event by knocking out his opponent Aung Ye Naing (Power Punch) at 1 min 28 sec of the second round.

In the 60-63.5 kilo event, Law Kwa Du (Tawwin Yoya) and Gaw Doh Htoo (Yoya Kyar) attacked each other till the third round, and Law Kwa Du secured the championship in the decisions of judges. In another bout of 67-71 kilo class, Zaw

Thet Naung (Knight) knocked out Arkar Phyo (Tiger Gym) at 2 min 17 sec of the first round and won the championship flag.

Furthermore, the bouts of retaining championship flags followed. In the 54-57 kilo event, Naw Naw (Python) won over Aung Ko (Tiger Gym) in the technical knockout; Rein Naw (KCK) was knocked out by Saw Htee (Kyar Manaing); Kyar Yaing (Kyar Bayin) beat Ke Doh Sae (Yoya Kyar), and Min Khant Soe (Nagar Marn) beat Aung Khant (Smart Fight) in the 57-60 kilo event; Rein Kywe Naw (Python) defeated Naung Hset Naing (Yoya Kyar) in the 60-63 kilo event; and Ye Min (Python) won over Adu (Eagle) in the 67-70 kilo event.

With regard to another champion-



Two traditional boxers vigorously compete in the bout. PHOTO: LIN YAMA

ship flag retaining matches, Myint Myat Hein (Lone Chaw Club) vs Aung Kaung Kyaw (Ray) in 52-54 kilo event, Soe Naung Naung (Dawna Thway) vs Than Lin Aung (Ray) in 54-57 kilo event, Ye Kyaw Aung

(360 Sports) vs Zan Tun (Aphyu Yaung Thway Thit) in 57-60 kilo event, Nyi Ye Khant (YFC) vs Ye Lin Zaw (Smart Fight) in 60-63 kilo event ended at draws. — Lin Yama/TTA

Man City win gives Arsenal belief, says Martinelli



Manchester City's Brazilian goalkeeper (31) Ederson tries to clear the ball under pressure from Arsenal's Brazilian defender (06) Gabriel Magalhaes during the English Premier League football match between Arsenal and Manchester City at the Emirates Stadium in London on 8 October 2023. PHOTO: AFP

GABRIEL Martinelli says Arsenal's inherent belief will be boosted by beating champions Manchester City as Mikel Arteta's men seek to go one step further than last season.

The Gunners looked set to win their first Premier League title in nearly two decades in 2022/23 before Pep Guardiola's side reeled them in to win a

third straight title.

But on Sunday Arsenal beat City in the league for the first time since 2015, building on their Community Shield shoot-out triumph against the treble winners. Martinelli, introduced as a half-time substitute after three weeks out with a hamstring injury, hit a late winner that deflected in off Nathan Ake

to seal a 1-0 victory.

"We know how hard it is to play against them," the 22-year-old Brazil international said. "It was a great performance from the team and a great win. "Of course (it gives us more belief we can win this season's title). We are Arsenal and we are always believing about the title.— AFP

Wildcard Schwartzman knocks Fritz out of Shanghai Masters

WILDCARD Diego Schwartzman knocked world number eight Taylor Fritz out of the Shanghai Masters in a thrilling third-set tiebreaker on Monday, with top seed Carlos Alcaraz looking to claim a spot in the final 16.

The diminutive Argentinian has seen his ranking slide from eighth in the world to 130, but played his best tennis to topple Fritz 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7/5).

The rankings and age gaps were hardly noticeable over a three-hour skirmish which saw

31-year-old Schwartzman playing up to the crowd, encouraging them to whoop and cheer for him.

In contrast, an error-prone Fritz seemed increasingly flustered, pinging his racket off the ground in irritation at one point.

The 25-year-old American was caught off-guard from the beginning, falling behind by four games in the opening set.

When he hit the ball into the net to seal his defeat, Schwartzman threw both arms in the air and screamed for joy. — AFP



Diego Schwartzman of Argentina hits a return to Taylor Fritz of the US during their men's singles match at the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament in Shanghai on 9 October 2023. PHOTO: AFP



Israeli army soldiers are positioned with their Merkava tanks near the border with the Gaza Strip in southern Israel on 9 October 2023. PHOTO: AFP

Israel army says defeated Hamas fighters in towns near Gaza

ISRAEL'S army declared Monday it had regained control of southern areas near the Gaza Strip on the third day of grueling gun battles to dislodge holdout Hamas fighters whose surprise attack the shocked nation has likened to 9/11.

"We are in control of the communities," said military spokesman Daniel Hagari, cautioning that individual Palestinian "terrorists" may remain

in the region where Israel was massing tens of thousands of troops and heavy armour.

Stunned by the unprecedented assault on its territory, a grieving Israel has counted over 700 dead and launched a withering barrage of strikes on Gaza that have raised the death toll there to 493 according to Palestinian officials.

Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said Israel would im-

pose a "complete siege" on the long blockaded enclave, spelling out the impact on its 2.3 million people: "No electricity, no food, no water, no gas — it's all closed."

The skies over Gaza were blackened by plumes of smoke and fighter jets roared above, even as Hamas kept firing rockets as far as Jerusalem, where air raid sirens blared and detonations were heard.

Palestinians in the impoverished and crowded coastal territory braced for what many feared will be an Israeli ground attack aiming to defeat Hamas and liberate at least 100 hostages.

Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has warned Gaza civilians to get away from all Hamas sites which he has vowed to turn "to rubble". — AFP

UAE 'appalled' at Israeli civilian hostages: statement

THE United Arab Emirates is "appalled" that Israeli civilians were taken hostage in the Hamas assault near the Gaza Strip, a foreign ministry statement has said.

The Arab Muslim country, which established relations with Israel in 2020, condemned the attacks and urged "all diplomatic efforts to prevent a wider regional confrontation".

At least 100 hostages were seized in Saturday's assault which left more than 700 Israelis dead and triggered reprisal air strikes which have killed over 430 in Gaza.

"The ministry stressed that attacks by Hamas against Israeli towns and villages near the Gaza Strip, including the firing of thousands of rockets at population centres, are a serious and grave escalation," said the statement late on Sunday.

"The ministry is appalled by reports that Israeli civilians have been abducted as hostages from their homes."

The statement is notably less neutral than the initial UAE reaction on Saturday, which simply "expressed great concern regarding the escalation of violence between Israelis and Palestinians".

"The UAE expressed its condolences to the families of the victims and urges all diplomatic efforts to prevent a wider regional confrontation," the latest statement said, warning against "nihilistic destruction". — AFP

Russia, LAS agree violence against Israeli, Palestinian civilians unacceptable - Lavrov

RUSSIA and the League of Arab States (LAS) agree that violence against Israeli and Palestinian civilians, including hostage-taking, is unacceptable, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on Monday.

"We summed up our position on the unacceptability of any violence, the unacceptability of causing damage and death to

civilians in whatever country they are in, the unacceptability of taking women and children hostage," Lavrov told a press conference following his meeting with LAS-Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit.

Lavrov also said that Russia is ready to evacuate its citizens from the conflict region. — Sputnik



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov (R) welcomes Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit during their meeting in Moscow on 9 October 2023. PHOTO: AFP