

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Myanmar exhibits traditional art, apparel, products, food, and souvenirs at Charity Festival in Prague, Czech Republic, 12 November 2023.

Charity Festival showcases traditional Myanmar art, food in Prague

ARTWORKS, apparel, gifts, products, and traditional Myanmar food were available for purchase at the Charity Festival market hosted at the Hilton Hotel in Prague, the Czech Republic, on 12 November, as reported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Diplomatic Spouse Association in Prague organized the Charity Festival, with Ms Eva Pavlova, the wife of the Czech President, and ambassadors, along with their spouses, inaugurating the event by cutting the ribbon.

The festival featured the participation of over 50 embassies based in Prague, presenting and selling their traditional artworks, clothing, gifts, products, and traditional foods. — ASH/KZW



The group documentary photograph of the organizers of the Charity Festival.

Myanmar imports 58,000+ tonnes of fertilizer worth US\$23 mln in Oct

MYANMAR brought in 58,350 tonnes of fertilizer worth US\$23.872 million in October 2023, comprising 53,650 tonnes worth \$22.323 million via seaborne trade and 4,700 tonnes worth \$1.549 million via border checkpoints according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar imported 41,000 tonnes from China, 4,000 from the Republic of Korea, 3,600 from Uzbekistan, 2,000 from Iran, 1,000 from Viet Nam, 500 each from Canada, England and Laos, 400 from Thailand and 150 from Germany by sea.

Meanwhile, the country imported 3,500 tonnes of fertilizer from China and 1,200 from Thailand through cross-border channels.

With the winter crop season arriving in Myanmar, fertilizer that is utilized in agriculture is in high demand at present.

Myanmar Rice Producers and Planters Association also offered a fair rate of fertilizer during the summer crop season in March this year. Also, the farmers had a chance to buy the seeds and fertilizer at a fair rate during the monsoon season in June 2022.

Myanmar imported more than 75,000 tonnes of fertilizer valued at \$46.847 million by sea in October 2022. — NN/EM

NATIONAL **PAGE-3**



MoHA Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

NATIONAL **PAGE-5**



Price of pigeon peas falls by over K100,000

NATIONAL **PAGE-6**



Applications invited for short-term vocational courses at SITE

NATIONAL

Working Committee to address the impact of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Notification No 2/2023
14 November 2023

Notification on one-year extension of COVID-19 loan repayment period for livestock breeding sectors including Myanmar citizen-owned fish and prawn breeding industries

1. The Working Committee to address the impact of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) disbursed loans to the worst COVID-hit livestock breeding sectors including Myanmar citizen-owned fish and prawn farming industries for one year at one per cent interest rate using the COVID-19 fund to recover the COVID-hit businesses as one of its duties on 16 November 2021 and granted K7.63 billion loans of the COVID-19 Fund to 327 companies/industries.
 2. It has already been announced that the government extended the repayment period of loans granted to 327 companies/industries further one year when the loan period reached one year on 30 November 2022 under the guidance of the State Administration Council Chairman.
 3. At present, businesses are still hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the State Administration Council instructed for an extension of another year starting its due date to streamline the circulation of currency flows of local businesses.
 4. Therefore, it is here announced that the loan repayment period will be extended for another year from the date it reaches two years to 327 companies and industries from livestock breeding sectors including Myanmar citizen-owned fish and prawn farming businesses that received COVID loans if they meet the following conditions:
 - (a) they must have paid the first interest of the first year
 - (b) they must have paid the second interest of the second year on the due date
 - (c) they must be the companies/industries that perform their operations using the loans effectively
 5. In the notices of the working committee for loans, it stated, "If it fails to repay, action will be taken under the law," and so if the companies and industries that took loans from the Myanma Economic Bank fail to pay back the principal and interest, they will face legal action as per the terms and conditions of the loan contract and they must repay the outstanding loan completely within the period of extension.
- Working Committee to address the impact of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)*

Appointment of Egyptian Ambassador agreed on

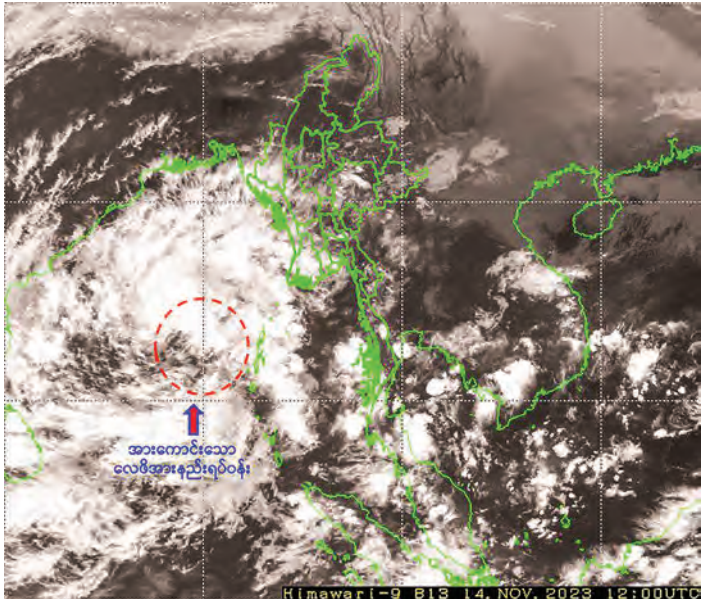
THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mrs Aya Saad Mohamed Abdelkarim as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in Yangon.

Mrs Aya Saad Mohamed Abdelkarim obtained a Bachelor's in Economics and Political Science from Cairo University, Egypt, in 1989 and a Diploma in International Relations from France Institut Internationale d'Administration Publique, Paris, France, in 1995. She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt in 1992 and served in various capacities at both headquarters and abroad. She served as Second Secretary of the IT Department from 2001 to 2003, as Counsellor at the Legal Department from 2009 to 2010 and as Deputy Assistant at the International Conferences Department from 2014 to 2016 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As overseas assignments, she has served as a Second Secretary at the Embassy of Egypt in Hungary from 1997 to 2001, as a Counsellor at the Embassy of Egypt in Kuwait from 2004 to 2008, as a Minister Plenipotentiary at the Embassy of Egypt in Serbia from 2010 to 2014 and as an Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Egypt in Mauritius from 2016 to 2020. Since 2021, she has been serving as Deputy Assistant Minister for the European Union at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt. — MoFA

Well Marked Low Pressure Area Condition

Issue at (19:00)hours MST on 14-11-2023

ACCORDING to the observations at (18:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman-Nicobar Islands has intensified into a Well Marked Low Pressure Area. It is likely to move West-North-westwards and may further intensify into a depression over the West Central Bay of Bengal on (15.11.2023). Thereafter, it is likely to move Northwestwards and may further intensify into a deep depression over the West Central Bay of Bengal off Andhra Coast on (16.11.2023). Thereafter, it is likely recurve North-Northeastwards and reach Northwest Bay of Bengal off Odisha coast on (17.11.2023). Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. —DMH



A satellite view of the well marked low pressure area.

Miss Myanmar competes in Miss Planet International 2023



Naw El Say Phaw – Miss Planet Myanmar.

MISS Myanmar Naw El Say Phaw is currently competing in the Miss Planet International 2023, which is being held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 10 November to 19 November.

Naw El Say Phaw, representing Myanmar, is competing in the Miss event with other beauty pageants from various countries.

"I am Naw Say Phaw (Naw Mee Mee). Please support with a Like reaction on Facebook. I was nervous that I would have to tell the audience to love me. No matter what happens, I will try to face everything with a smile. I have full expectations because of my experience," Naw El Say Phaw said.

Miss Myanmar Naw El Say Phaw, who is competing in this competition, has reportedly won the 1st Runner-Up Award, Talent Competition - Top 4 Awards, Swimwear Competition - Top 4 Awards, and Interview - Top 4 Awards during the Mister and Miss World Universe International 2023 Grand Final held in Viet Nam in May 2023. — ASH/KZL

NATIONAL

MoHA Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador



China's Ambassador Mr Chen Hai calls on Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae yesterday.

STATE Administration Council Member, Union Minister for Home Affairs and Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) Lt-Gen Yar Pyae received Ambassador

Mr Chen Hai of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. They discussed issues related to Myanmar-China friendship and cooperation, stability, tranquillity and security in the

common border areas between Myanmar and China, the prevalence of law and order, measures against online scams and implementation of Myanmar's peace processes in a frank and cordial manner. — MNA/TS

MoRAC Union Minister embarks on 9th St Petersburg International Cultural Forum



Union Minister U Tin Oo Lwin (C) seen on his departure for the Russian Federation at Yangon International Airport yesterday.

THE delegation led by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin left Yangon for the Russian Federation yesterday by Myanmar Airway International to attend the Ninth St Peters-

burg International Cultural Forum to be held in St Petersburg from 16 to 18 November. Myanmar's delegation was seen off by MoRAC Deputy Minister Daw Nu Mra Zan, the permanent secretary of

the ministry and departmental officials, Counsellor Mr Pavel Klabukov from the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Myanmar and officials among others. — MNA/TS

Statement of Myanmar Music Association (Central)

14 November 2023

MYANMAR Music Association (Central) released this statement strongly condemning the attacks of KNPP and PDF terrorists on Loikaw University, which is focal for the education sector of Kayah State, on 13 and 14 November using heavy weapons and small arms and their abduction of educational staff and students of the university as their doings affect the non-military targets - educational buildings, staff and students.

Myanmar Music Association (Central)

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 increasing of death rate based on the disease.

Yangon hosts fairs with lower prices

FEATURED with heavy discounts, the housing, vehicles, consumer goods and education fair for those who have regular foreign earnings and locals was organized at Tea Garden on Ayeyawun Road of Thakayta Township of Yangon Region yesterday.

The fair themed "Exploring housing, vehicles, commodities and education fair for future of family", was held for two types of communities - for those who have regular foreign earnings and residents, said an official of Heho International Real Estate.

The housing event included plans to purchase depending on income for those working abroad, special discounts for summer homes in addition to verities of insurances for properties and human beings. The event also featured special discounts and free installation services for IT services, the Food Industry, air conditioners, solar, inverters, internet and air coolers, and the sale of housings and land plots in Ayethaya of Taunggyi of Shan State through instalment payment and special promotion. — Ko Htet/KTZH



Visitors viewing the display at the fair yesterday.

NATIONAL

Pilgrims explore architecture, murals at Bagan's No 1831 Cave Pagoda



A front view of the No 1831 Cave Pagoda in Bagan's Ancient Cultural Zone.

PEOPLE can study the structure of the No 1831 Cave Pagoda in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone of Mandalay Region including its architecture, stupas inside the temple and mural paintings,

according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch). The cave pagoda, No 1831 edifice in the Bagan region, is located in the Khayminga pagoda compound beside Nyaun-

gU-Bagan old road. There are five archways at the cave pagoda, there is a sitting Buddha image in the east archway while four standing Buddha images at the remaining four sides respectively. The No 1831 Cave Pagoda with five archways was Eainyarkyaung constructed in the housing compound of King Narapati Sithu's son Prince Kinkathu and his wife Nyaungyankyi Thamee (daughter of Nyaungyan Kyi).

It is also called Eainyarkyaung Ngamyathna Cave Pagoda. It has distinctive features of the Sinhalese-type structure. Visitors can read the stone inscriptions of Nyaungyan Kyi Thamee at the Archeological Museum (Bagan). These are also depicted on the wall of the Eainyarkyaung Ngamyathna



The sitting Buddha image inside the No 1831 Cave Pagoda.

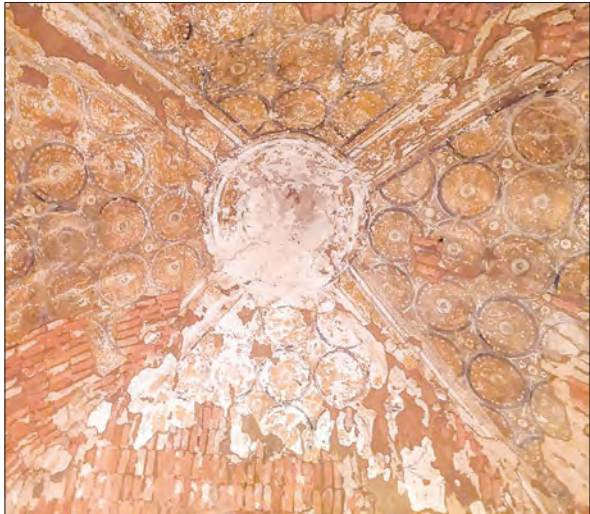
Cave Pagoda.

The Khayminga pagoda is located in the south of No 1831 Cave Pagoda while Htilominlo pagoda, Shwelatetuu pagoda, Shweleikpauk pagoda, Thikya pagoda, Thikya-

hit pagoda, Upalithein in the east, Satumukha pagoda and Yinmana pagoda in the north, Min-Oh-Chantha pagoda, Minhaw Yaza pagoda and Ananda temple in the west. — Dipa Lin/KTZH

VISITORS can go to the No 262 pagoda of the Bagan Ancient Cultural Zone and explore its mural paintings in NyaungU Township of Mandalay Region, according to the officials of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch). The No 262 Cave pagoda is located beside the road to old Bagan from NyaungU, in the eastern part of the Htilominlo pagoda and Shwelatetuu pagoda. A sitting Buddha statue can be seen on an altar facing east that is surrounded by two Agga Savakas. Visitors can see the mural paintings, wall paintings depicting Buddha images and ink in-

Pilgrims explore mural paintings at Bagan's No 262 Cave Pagoda



scriptions on the wall and ceiling of the cave. The No 626 Cave Pagoda is also known as Shweleikpyay Pagoda. Shwelatetuu, Shweleikpauk, Shweleikoo, and Htilominlo pagodas are located in the west of Shweleikpyay pagoda while Satumukha, Thungetaw, Shweleikkan, Thikyapone, Thikyahit pagodas in the north, Gupyaunknge, Gupyaunkgyi, Shinohmal Oakkyaung in the east and Napetawsu or Sulegon pagodas, Wuttanahtaw pagoda and Alotawpyae pagodas in the south. — Dipa Lin/KTZH

Mural paintings are seen inside the No 262 Cave Pagoda.



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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
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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

Price of pigeon peas falls by over K100,000



Black beans.

THE price of one tonne of RC black bean was K2.9 million and one tonne of SQ/RC black bean was high at K3,145,000 while the price of one tonne of pigeon peas decreased to K3,750,000 in the Yangon bean market on 14 November.

One tonne of RC black bean reached below K2.9 million from 6 to 13 November

and rose to K2.9 million on 14 November in the Yangon bean market.

The price of pigeon peas was at K4,075,000 per tonne from 29 September to 3 November; and the price dropped to K39,000 from 6 to 13 November.

The price of one tonne of pigeon peas dropped to

K3,750,000 on 14 November, and a day later, the price dropped by K150,000 per tonne.

These two types of beans are still at high prices this month due to the demand for Myanmar's beans and pulses from India, which is the main buyer. A bean price analyst said that the price changes between 2022 and 2023 of these two types of beans are unique.

The price of one tonne of RC black beans reached K1,690,000 on 2 January.

The price of black bean hit K2,937,500 on 31 October, the highest price until now in 2023.

The price of one tonne of pigeon peas reached the highest price of K1,755,000 on 2 January and K4150,000 on 8 September but the price dropped to K3,750,000 on 14 November. This year, the price of one tonne of pigeon peas has increased by K2,975,000 compared to last year in 2022.

— TWA/KZL

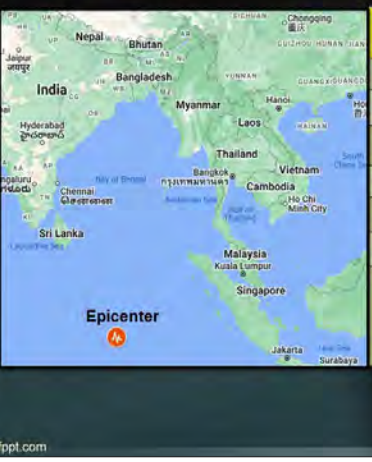
EARTHQUAKE NEWS

(Issued at 13:45 hour MST)

A strong earthquake of magnitude (6.1) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar(South Indian Ocean), latitude 3.90°S, longitude 87.04°E, depth (10) kilometers, about (1557)miles southwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (13)hr (30)min (58)sec MST on 14th November, 2023.



Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
Seismological Division
Nay Pyi Taw
Tel 067-3411269 Fax 067-3411263



Earthquake Information

Date	14.11.2023
Time (MST)	13:30:58
Magnitude	6.1 (Strong)
Latitude	3.90 S
Longitude	87.04 E
Depth	10 km
Region	About (1557) miles SW of Kaba-Aye Seismological Observatory (South Indian Ocean).

For More detail Information
<https://www.moezala.gov.mm/>

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CRIME NEWS

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

A total of 74.388 tonnes of illegal timbers, valued at K8,460,066, was seized on 10 November in Yekyi township. Additionally, 14.124 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K988,694 were captured on 11 November in Thaboung township. These actions were taken under the Forest Law.

A joint team supervised by the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force apprehended a Mitsubishi Fuso bus (approximately K25 million) on 12 November, travelling from Myawady to Yangon. The bus was carrying five types of goods worth K14.812 million, including 450 bottles of JM Solution toner and three Felicity solar batteries. On 13 November, a total of 3.234 tonnes of illegal teak worth K230,000 was seized in Toungoo. These actions were carried out under Customs procedures and

the Forest Law.

During inspections on 12 and 13 November, a Nissan Diesel truck (approximately K25 million) heading to Mandalay from Myawady was intercepted at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint. The truck was carrying four types of goods worth K5.13 million, including 500 pairs of Three Mountain rain boots that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID). Additionally, 188,860 kilogrammes of plastic scrap worth K111,585,573 were submitted to abandon by the owner from nine containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port, and 55,020 kilogrammes of plastic scrap worth K36,973,440 were submitted to abandon by the owner from two containers at the Thilawa Port Terminal container checkpoint. These actions were conducted under Customs

procedures.

On 13 November, combined teams captured six wooden boats used in illegal fishing, valued at K10.8 million, in Kyunsu township of Myeik district. Another Nissan Diesel truck (estimated value of K30 million) carrying seven types



Seized illegal items in Taninthayi Region.

of goods worth K58,829,600, including 228 boxes of Brand 88 and 120 bottles of palm oil (Two Shrimps five litres), was seized in Myeik coastal township. These actions were taken under the Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law and Customs procedures.



In Tatkon Township on 13 November, a total of 4.279 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K299,544 was seized under the Forest Law. On the same day, the on-duty teams impounded an unregistered Toyota Ipsum in Magway township, an unregistered Suzuki Carry car (estimated value of K8 million) in Pwintphyu township, 5.277 tonnes of illegal teak worth K3,483,348 in Mindon township, and 0.199 tonne of illegal teak and 2.468 tonnes of other timber worth K645,046 in Sedoktara and Ngaphe townships. These actions were taken under the Export and Import Law and the Forest Law.

A total of 32 arrests were made over four consecutive days from 10 to 13 November, with an estimated value of K340,237,311, as reported by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee.

— MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Applications invited for short-term vocational courses at SITE

THE School of Industrial Training and Education (SITE) under the Vocational Education and Training Department, Ministry of Science and Technology, will be offering the following short-term courses: Certificate in Woodworking Technology, Certificate in Basic Industrial Technologies and Advanced Certificate in Industrial Automation.

Applicants who have passed the matriculation exam-

ination with a combination including mathematics, physics, and chemistry, and those who have completed ITC, GTHS (BT, MT), and AGTI (Civil) courses are eligible to apply for the course in woodworking technology.

Similarly, those who have passed the matriculation examination with a combination including mathematics, physics, and chemistry, and those who have completed ITC, GTHS

(ECT, ET, IT, MT, AMT), and AGTI (EC, EP, Mech, IE) courses are eligible to apply for the course in basic industrial technologies.

Applicants who have completed the course in basic industrial technologies offered by the School of Industrial Training and Education (SITE), those who have finished AGTI (EC, EP, Mech, IE) courses, and holders of BTech and BE (EC, EP, Mech, MC) can apply for the course in industrial automation.

All applicants must have a technical and professional orientation, be in good health, and possess the capability to conduct fieldwork at factories/companies. Preliminarily selected candidates will be required to undergo an interview. Each course has a duration of four months.

Application forms can be obtained during office days at the School of Industrial Training and Education (SITE) in Bahan Township. — TWA/KZW



Students are seen engaging in practical sessions at the School of Industrial Training and Education (SITE).



Pilgrims flock to the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Nay Pyi Taw.

Tazaungdine lighting festival at Maravijaya Buddha Image extends to three days

THE Tazaungdine lighting festival is scheduled to take place from 25 to 27 November at the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhinathiri township of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.

The festival will feature the offering of 9,000 candles, recitation of Maha Pathana Pali verses, display of fireworks, and the

launch of hot-air balloons.

Additionally, the Buddha Park will be adorned with LED lights, and products from local Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) including foodstuffs and consumer goods will be showcased and available for purchase. — TWA/MKKS

National Museum entrance fees to change in December

THE Department of Archaeology and National Museums has announced an upcoming revision in entrance fees for three museums, including the National Museum (Yangon), starting in December.

The museums affected by the new fee structure are the National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw), the National Museum (Yangon), and the Bagan Archaeological Museum under the Department of Archaeology and National Museums.

Under the revised fee schedule, entrance fees will be set at K1,000 for local visitors and K10,000 for foreigners, while monks, nuns, students, and children under 12 will continue to enjoy free admission.

The current fees are K5,000 for local adults and K5,000 for foreign adults. — TWA/MKKS

KBZ Bank's normal accounts operate without restrictions as usual

THE KBZ bank announced that Normal Accounts including Savings can be used without any restriction as before on 14 November.

The statement said there are no longer any limitations on Deposit Accounts, including Savings, Call, Current, and Fixed Deposit Accounts starting 15 November. This normalization covers all transactions, including cash deposits, cash withdrawals, and transfers.

Moreover, the transfers

from the normal account to the special account can be made through KBZ Mobile Banking starting 15 November. If the people have any questions or need more information about KBZ Bank Accounts, they can visit their nearest branch or contact the call centre at 09 951018555.

Two KBZ bank branches – Oktwin branch in Bago Region and Tamway Arthawka branch in Yangon Region – will be reopened in November 2023. — TWA/KTZH



KBZ Bank's advertisement announcing normal accounts can be used without restriction as usual.

CNG price holds steady at K273.25 per kilogramme

MYANMAR Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) (CNG Department) continues to distribute almost 20 million cubic feet of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) daily at the unchanged price of K273.25

per kilogram. CNG refilling stations in Yangon Region receive their supply from onshore natural gas processing plants in Nyaungdon, Maubin, Apyauk, and the Zotika offshore natural gas plant.

A total of over 30,000 vehicles, including taxis, YBS vehicles, and others, regularly visit the 40 CNG filling stations in the Yangon region for refuelling. — TWA/MKKS

Bhamo-Lweje export route damages watermelon shipments to China

SHIPPING watermelons to China via the Bamao-Lweje border affected physical damage to watermelons, according to the Khwanyo Fruit Depot.

Myanmar's watermelon export route to China shifted to the Mandalay-Shan State (North)-Kengtung-Mongla route amid trade disruption at the Muse border.

"The closure of the Muse border forced some watermelon exporters to move to the Bhamo-Lweje route. However, most of the monsoon watermelons cannot bear transport hurdles including long transport hours. If so, only watermelon of high quality should be exported," said an official of the Khwanyo Fruit Depot.

Additionally, Myanmar's watermelon trucks cannot directly enter China and Chinese short-haul transport service is used. Only direct trade access can facilitate the trade.

Myanmar's watermelon is



Photos capture watermelon-laden lorries at the Myanmar-China border.



primarily exported to China. However, traders have a series of challenges amid policy changes in China, fruit traders stressed.

In early February, tight inspections of Chinese Customs hindered truck transport. There-

fore, only 20-30 trucks were able to pass the checkpoint despite high demand.

Consequently, watermelons were sold out at the depots on the China side, and more than 500 trucks queued in line on the Myanmar side.

In 2021, the COVID-19 restrictions hindered Myanmar's watermelon and muskmelon exports to China. The Chinese Customs Regulation increased delay. Long delays of trucks caused harm to watermelon quality and only one in five trucks heading to China remained undamaged with quality watermelons.

Traders need to contemplate delivery time, price and profitability as watermelon is a perishable fruit while trying to explore new markets beyond China. — NN/EM

Onion prices decrease as market shifts to solely rely on domestic demand

THE onion market is heavily reliant on domestic markets owing to the absence of foreign markets in mid-November. Additionally, new monsoon onions are soon to enter the Yangon market, as per onion depots in Yetama Street at Bayintnaung Wholesale Market.

As there is a large stockpile of onion in Yangon's market, traders involved in the Bayintnaung market notified the suppliers to delay new monsoon onion delivery to Yangon's market, traders who supply onions to Yangon market said.

Large onion stocks in some regions might lead to further price drops, said a trader from the delta region. With around 90,000 visses of onions flowing into Yangon's market on 14 November, the prices of summer onions declined to K2,300-3,700



The photo shows the loading of onion bags onto the truck at a warehouse in Mahlaing Township to be delivered to other towns.

per viss depending on sizes and producing areas. The prices showed a decrease of K200-400 per viss compared to those of the previous week.

The prices touched a high of K3,400-4,300 per viss in the corresponding period last year.

Between 6 and 11 November, the market saw a daily supply of 150,000 visses of onions each. About 180,000 visses of onions entered Yangon on 13 November. — TWA/KK

Salt to be produced from 4,500 acres in Mon State

FOR the salt production season of 2023-2024, salt will be produced from 4,500 acres or 90 of salt plots in Mon State, according to U Khin Win, the head of the Mon State Salt Industry Office.

Raw salt produced in Mon State is sent mostly to the Taninthayi Region and Yangon Region, not only within Mon State.

In the 2022-2023 salt production season, Mon State was able to produce salt from 86 salt plots (or 4,300 acres).

"Now is the time to prepare salt in the salt block. Some of the salt blocks will harvest salt by the end of November. Some of them will release salt in the last week of December. Of course, we will be able to ship salt to the market by January next year.

"Lately, salt farmers have been constantly studying and

preparing salt production technology from the Internet, listening to weather reports and watching, so the loss in salt production has gradually decreased and the quality of the product has increased. This year's salt season has more blocks than last year's salt season", U Khin Win said.

There are about 2,900 acres of salt plots in Panga Village, Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State, and if the weather is good, they usually produce about thirty million tonnes of salt in one season.

In addition to Panga village, there is also salt production in Kyaikkhami, Setse and Wekal-aung villages.

A total of 90 salt plots including 73 plots from Thanbyuzayat, 16 from Ye and one from Paung will produce salt for the 2023-2024 season. — ASH/KZL

OPINION

Beware of silence-killer diabetes for the global populace

BEWARE of the insidious threat posed by diabetes, a silent killer that, alongside malaria and HIV/AIDS, stands as one of the most perilous health challenges worldwide. These chronic disease manifests either when the pancreas fails to produce sufficient insulin or when the body cannot effectively utilize the insulin it generates. Insulin, a critical hormone, regulates blood glucose levels.

The International Diabetes Federation issued a report in 2021, stating that approximately 537 million adults are living with diabetes. It predicts that the total number of people living with diabetes is projected to rise to 643 million by 2030. The federation reported 6.7 million deaths worldwide among adults with diabetes as a result of diabetes or its complications in 2021.

The World Health Organization step survey conducted in 2014

Vigilance is paramount, with regular medical checkups advised for everyone, whether or not symptoms of diabetes manifest. Awareness of diabetes symptoms is crucial, encompassing Type 1 diabetes, characterized by insufficient insulin production, and Type 2 diabetes resulting from the body's inefficient use of insulin, often linked to excess body weight and physical inactivity. More than 95 per cent of people with diabetes have type 2 diabetes. Additionally, Gestational diabetes is hyperglycaemia that is first recognized during pregnancy.

The WHO underscores the gravity of diabetes, citing it as a leading cause of debilitating conditions such as blindness, kidney failure, heart attacks, strokes, and lower limb amputations. Between 2000 and 2019, diabetes mortality rates saw a concerning three per cent increase across age groups. In 2019 alone, diabetes and related kidney diseases accounted for an estimated two million deaths.

Vigilance is paramount, with regular medical checkups advised for everyone, whether or not symptoms of diabetes manifest. Awareness of diabetes symptoms is crucial, encompassing Type 1 diabetes, characterized by insufficient insulin production, and Type 2 diabetes resulting from the

body's inefficient use of insulin, often linked to excess body weight and physical inactivity. More than 95 per cent of people with diabetes have type 2 diabetes. Additionally, Gestational diabetes is hyperglycaemia that is first recognized during pregnancy.

Type 2 diabetes symptoms may be subtle and take years to surface, including increased thirst, frequent urination, blurred vision, fatigue, and unintentional weight loss. Seeking prompt medical attention and adhering to physicians' directives are vital for effective management in receiving medical treatments for diabetes patients.

The United Nations General Assembly passed resolution 61/225, designating the 14th of November each year as World Diabetes Day. In accord with the theme of World Diabetes Day 2023: Know your risk, Know your response, this initiative aims to prompt global citizens to prioritize their health and fitness, undergo regular medical checkups, and ensure timely and adequate medical treatment for diabetes, fostering a united front against this pervasive threat to public health.

mentioned that the prevalence of diabetes in adults is 10.5 per cent. Moreover, one-tenth of the total population in Myanmar is suffering from diabetes. Prevalence of pre-diabetes is 19.7 per cent.

The WHO underscores the gravity of diabetes, citing it as a leading cause of debilitating conditions such as blindness, kidney failure, heart attacks, strokes, and lower limb amputations. Between 2000 and 2019, diabetes mortality rates saw a concerning three per cent increase across age groups. In 2019 alone, diabetes and related kidney diseases accounted for an estimated two million deaths.

Vigilance is paramount, with regular medical checkups advised for everyone, whether or not symptoms of diabetes manifest. Awareness of diabetes symptoms is crucial, encompassing Type 1 diabetes, characterized by insufficient insulin production, and Type 2 diabetes resulting from the

New Educational Paradigms of Learning, Teaching and Schooling

Teachers should share the joy of learning, engage in continuous professional development, and foster a positive learning environment.

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

TO COPE with the challenges of the rapidly changing environment in the 21st century, numerous educational reforms and school restructuring movements are being implemented in order that these can pursue education effectiveness and school development. Now, different regions of the world are in the process of globalization with regard to technological, economic, social, political, cultural, and learning spheres, networked through the Internet, many types of IT, communications, and transportation. People are also becoming more and more mutually dependent through international collaboration, exchange, and interflow. In such a context, there is an emerging paradigm shift in education from tradition to triplization. Using the concepts of triplization, students, teachers, and schools can be termed individualized, localized, and globalized.

In the way of traditional thinking, students and their learning are part of reproducing and perpetuating the existing knowledge and manpower structure to sustain society's improvement. Reproduced learning is often perceived as hard work for the purpose of achieving external rewards and avoiding punishment. In site-bounded learning, all learning activities are school-bounded and teacher-based. Learning takes place only in school within the given time frame and graduation



Teachers play a crucial role in fostering effective learning, curriculum development, and innovative pedagogy to enhance students' educational experiences. ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY

tends to be the end of a student's learning, as a matter of fact. On the other hand, individualized learning assumes that students are at the centre of education and their learning in different styles should be facilitated in such a way that all types of transfer, adaptation, and development of respective values, knowledge, technology, and norms during the learning process can meet their needs and personal characteristics. These students are self-motivated and self-learning while this learning is enjoyable

and self-rewarded so as to keep up life-long learning. Localized and globalized learning must be made possible in the way that local and global resources, support, and networks can be utilized to maximize the opportunities for their development in the space of a learning process both inside and outside their schools. Learning groups and networks will turn into a major driving force to maintain the learning climate and multiply the learning effects through sharing and mutual motivation.

By tradition in reproduced teaching, teachers are the centre of education and their main task is to ensure that standardized knowledge is taught to students. Often their teaching is a disciplinary, delivery, training, and socializing process. And in school-bounded teaching, schools are the major venue for teaching and teachers are the main source of learning. They teach the standard curriculum with textbooks and related materials assigned by their schools and the education authority. However,

in individualized teaching, teachers and their teaching are made easy to take full advantage of their potential to maximize students' learning. The focus of this teaching is to arouse students' curiosity and motivation to think, act, and learn, sharing with them the joy of a learning process and its outcomes. Localized and globalized learning emphasizes that by participating in local and international development programs, teachers can achieve a global or regional outlook and engage in experiences beyond schools. Then, they are likely to become world-class and networked teachers through localization and globalization.

Traditionally, the school looks almost like an isolated island bounding all activities of schooling, teaching, and learning in a very narrow way. There is no clear need to encompass strong community linkage and parental involvement, for a school is the chief source of knowledge and qualifications. Not only are the opportunities for learning quite limited but school life and its activities are alienated from the fast-changing real outside world or local communities. On the other side, schools are believed to be a convenient place to support student's learning from the point of view of the new schooling paradigm. The point of schooling is to keep both teachers and students carried out in a multiple intelligence way. In order to face the

challenges of the new century and track the multiple intelligences, schools must be a continuously learning and developing organization, including continual discovery, experiencing, actualization, reflection, and development on an institutional level. Locally and globally networked schooling can provide a wide spectrum of learning experiences and maximize the opportunities for teachers and students to profit from various settings, cultures, and exposure.

Thus, in every school, all students will have to grow as triplicated multiple intelligence ones who really can then enjoy lifelong self-learning actualization and so will teachers or schools. The teachers will need to share the enjoyment of learning and teaching with their students, taking up continuous learning and professional development. They also ought to dedicate themselves to making their contribution to triplization in learning, curriculum, and pedagogy as well as creating unlimited opportunities to learn and improve in this century for all of their students under diverse circumstances from every corner of the globe.

Reference:
Educational Theory Course for the 3rd year of BED (Yangon University of Education)



Study shows broccoli sprout exposure guards against colitis in bowel disease

High-fibre diets, including broccoli sprouts, may enhance the well-being and lifespan of mice with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

DIETS high in fibre, including those that contain broccoli sprouts or other cruciferous vegetables, may help mice with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) live longer and feel better.

The results were published in the American Society for Microbiology journal mSystems.

In addition to examining the relationship between the mice's immune systems and the broccoli sprout diet, the researchers also looked at the microbes living in the Crohn's disease-affected gut and how they would metabolize

an inactive broccoli sprout component to produce an anti-inflammatory compound in the gut.

They also sought to see if, and how much, a diet rich in broccoli sprouts reduces Crohn's symp-

toms, given the anti-inflammatory metabolites found in the sprouts.

In the study, the researchers used four groups of IL-10-KO mice. In the first round, scientists enlisted four-week-old mice who

ate regular mouse chow the entire time, as well as mice who ate mouse chow with raw broccoli sprouts mixed in. They used the same two diet groups in the second round, but the mice were 7

weeks old.

The researchers were particularly interested in understanding the development of IBDs in early life, which is why they studied the Crohn's mouse

models at the juvenile stage (4-6 weeks old) and at the adolescence stage (7-9 weeks old) with hopes to better understand how host-diet-microbial community interactions and disease severity differ by age.

The mice were fed for 7 days to acclimate to their respective diets before the researchers triggered symptoms, and the mice stayed on their diets for the following two weeks while the disease progressed.

SOURCE: ANI

Physical fitness since childhood predicts cerebellar volume in adolescence

Teenagers with larger cerebellar grey matter volumes, as per a study from the Universities of Jyväskylä and Eastern Finland, exhibit better neuromuscular fitness, including strength, speed, and agility, since childhood.

THE volume of cerebellar grey matter in teenagers is proportional to their level of physical fitness since childhood. According to a new study from the Universities of Jyväskylä and Eastern Finland, adolescents with higher Crus I grey matter volumes were also stronger, faster, and more agile — that is, they had better neuromuscular fitness since childhood.

Uncertainties persist regarding the relationships between physical fitness and cerebellar volume in teenagers, despite the importance of the developing cerebellum on cognition and learning. This study investigated whether there were gender differences in the relationships between physical fitness and the grey matter volume of cerebellar lobules linked to cognition in teenagers.

Neuromuscular fitness

Those adolescents with better neuromuscular fitness since childhood had larger Crus I grey matter volume. However, adolescents with better cardiorespiratory fitness

had smaller total cerebellar grey matter volume. Moreover, males with better neuromuscular fitness since childhood had smaller Crus II grey matter volume.

“Our study highlights the importance of physical activity through childhood and adolescence, leading to better physical fitness, as it might be relevant to cerebellar volumes related to cognition and learning. However, the associations we observed are in part contradictory,” says Doctoral Researcher Petri Jalanko from the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences at the University of Jyväskylä.

“The study sheds light on the associations between physical fitness and the cerebellum. Future randomised controlled trials utilising direct cardiorespiratory fitness measurements and novel brain imaging to assess a larger population and both sexes separately are needed to better understand the associations and causality between physical fitness and cerebellar volumes in adolescents,” Jalanko says.

SOURCE: ANI



Study highlights the importance of physical activity through childhood and adolescence, leading to better physical fitness. PHOTO: PIXABAY

ARTICLE

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

China's AI robotic chemist synthesizes catalysts for oxygen production on Mars



An AI-driven robotic chemist, developed by researchers from the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC), is seen at a lab on 11 November 2023. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

AN AI-driven robotic chemist, developed by Chinese scientists, has automatically synthesized and intelligently optimized catalysts for the oxygen evolution reaction from Martian meteorites, offering a highly efficient and energy-conserving solution for the production of oxygen on Mars.

Using a machine-learning model, the AI chemist automatically and swiftly identifies the optimal catalyst formula from more than three million possible compositions. This groundbreaking discovery demonstrates the feasibility of the AI chemist in the automated synthesis of chemicals and materials for Mars exploration, according to the study published in the journal *Nature Synthesis* on Monday.

Living on Mars requires the ability to synthesize chemicals that are essential for survival, such as oxygen, from local Martian resources. However, this is a challenging task.

Recent evidence of water activity on Mars has raised the prospect of large-scale oxygen production through solar power-driven electrochemical water oxidation processes using an oxygen evolution reaction catalyst. Considering the high cost of transporting catalysts from the Earth, extraterrestrial catalysts developed from local materials on Mars become a

key technical issue.

Researchers from the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC), in collaboration with their counterparts from Chinese research institutes including the Deep Space Exploration Laboratory, analyzed and extracted components from Martian meteorites with a robotic AI chemist and synthesized a new catalyst in just six weeks.

Given five different local Martian ores as feedstocks, there are over 3.76 million possible formulas, which would cost 2,000 years of human labour to finish such a screening for the optimal formula. — Xinhua

New Zealand launches interactive map for biodiversity restoration

A new interactive map was launched on Tuesday to restore a minimum of 15 per cent local biodiversity within every catchment in New Zealand in the next nearly 100 years.

The interactive map from Eco-index includes information on the type of habitat that existed there historically and targets for restoring 15 per cent of biodiversity in each area.

The free, open access-resourced tool will help community groups, businesses, government and land managers to set restoration priorities for areas where local biodiversity is most at risk,

said Eco-index, a programme aiming at tackling the challenge of biodiversity decline in New Zealand. The launch of the ecosystem restoration map provides a tool for those seeking to make strategically significant investment decisions on biodiversity redress, said Bruce Burns, associate professor of the School of Biological Sciences of the University of Auckland.

The tool identifies those areas and ecosystems that are locally impoverished, and therefore “offer the best bang for the buck in terms of actions,” Burns said. — Xinhua

Brazil judge investigated for AI errors in ruling

BRAZILIAN authorities confirmed Monday they are investigating a federal judge who made mistakes in a ruling that was written using artificial intelligence, saying it was the first such case in the country.

The National Justice Council (CNJ), an oversight body for the courts, summoned Judge Jefferson Rodrigues to explain how he came to publish a decision strewn with legal errors formulated by online AI tool ChatGPT.

Rodrigues, a judge in the

northern state of Acre, included incorrect details on previous court cases and legal precedent in his ruling, wrongly attributing past decisions to the Superior Court of Justice, according to case records seen by AFP.

The judge said in documents filed with the oversight body that the ruling was written by a “trusted advisor”, with help from AI. Rodrigues called the situation a “mere mistake”, blaming “the work overload facing judges”. — AFP

Dominica to create world's first sperm whale reserve

DOMINICA is set to create the world's first sperm whale reserve, designating a swath of ocean where large ships and commercial fishing are restricted and visitors can swim alongside the gentle marine giants.

The Caribbean nation said it hoped the new protected zone of 300 square miles (nearly 800 square kilometres) off its western coast — roughly the size of the island itself — would boost valuable tourism revenue but also help sequester more carbon in the deep sea, an often

overlooked benefit of whale conservation.

“The 200 or so sperm whales that call our sea home are prized citizens of Dominica,” said Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit in a statement Monday. “Dominica is honoured to establish the first Sperm Whale Reserve on our planet.”

Sperm whales are the largest toothed predators on Earth, living in matrilineal societies with distinct cultures and dialects.

Growing up to 50 feet (16



(FILES) An 18-metre-long sperm whale swims in the Mediterranean sea, off the coast of Nice, southern France, on 22 July 2009. **PHOTO: AFP**

metres) long, they are found across the globe, from Iceland to New Zealand. But they have a particular affinity for the majestic blue waters off Dominica, which provide critical feeding and nursing grounds.

Marine biologist Shane Gero told AFP he began studying the Dominica whales in 2005, with his research showing the population was experiencing a decline as a result of ship strikes and unintentional entanglements in fishing gear as well as plastic pollution. — AFP

Pastry chef of year says pleasure comes first

NINA Metayer, the first woman to win one of the world's top pastry chef awards, doesn't believe in cutting back on the butter.

Metayer's cakes have just won her the coveted "World Confectioner" award from the International Union of Bakers and Pastry Chefs.

This is the first time the award has gone to a woman in its 92-year history.

But you won't find the 35-year-old following any modern trends or low-fat options.

"I like cakes with butter, gluten, eggs," she told AFP.

"I work from the principle that you shouldn't lie to people. When we eat a cake, it's for pleasure."

And good quality, tasty ingredients inevitably cut down on the amount of sugar required,



(FILES) A picture taken on 6 November 2023 shows French World pastry champion Nina Metayer posing at her workshop in Issy-Les-Moulineaux, outside Paris. **PHOTO: AFP**

she added. Other aspects of Metayer's success are less traditional.

She has earned her new accolade without being part of a renowned restaurant or even a shop. Instead, Metayer runs a delivery service out of an industrial space in a business district just outside Paris.

Busy preparing her new mango tart, she told AFP that the key lay in precision and little twists, not wild originality.

"I'm not thinking up unbelievable recipes that no one has done before," she said.

"It's about having an instinct but also being precise down to the millimetre — everything is weighed, calculated... we have micro-scales so that we can reproduce them down to the last piece of zest." — AFP

King Charles III celebrates 75th birthday

CHARLES III turns 75 on Tuesday, showing no sign of a let-up in activity just over a year since he became king after the death of his mother Queen Elizabeth II.

Halfway through his eighth decade, the British head of state is due to spend the day carrying out public engagements followed by a private dinner at his London residence. The lifelong environmentalist will use the day to highlight causes close to his heart, including a visit to a surplus food distribution centre with his wife Queen Camilla.

The visit will see him officially launch the Coronation Food Project, an initiative aimed at tackling food poverty by redistributing food that would otherwise end up in landfill.

Charles will also host a reception at Buckingham Palace for 400 nurses and midwives as part of this year's 75th anniversary celebrations for the state-run National Health Service (NHS). — AFP



Britain's King Charles III reacts as he cuts a birthday cake as he attends his 75th birthday party, hosted by the Prince's Foundation, at Highgrove House in Tetbury, western England on 13 November 2023. Guests included residents who have been nominated by friends and family and individuals and organizations also turning 75 in 2023. **PHOTO: CHRIS JACKSON / POOL / AFP**

Fans flock to remember 'Friends' star Matthew Perry in New York

MATTHEW Perry was always their friend, too.

That was the feeling among fans of the American actor, known for his iconic role as Chandler Bing on the hit sitcom "Friends", as they gathered Sunday outside the New York apartment building used in the show's filming.

"I grew up watching him," said Taylor Lanthier, 26, who was among those making the pilgrimage, where many left flowers and handwritten letters in Perry's memory.

The 54-year-old was found dead Saturday — too soon for many fans, in a testament to the staying power of "Friends", which aired from 1994-2004 and continues to live on for viewers across generations in reruns and on streaming services.

The light rain wasn't enough to keep visitors from paying their respects on the instantly recognizable street corner in the trendy West Village neighbourhood where the six-storey building sits, adorned in classic New York style with a brick facade and



People stand in line to pay tribute to actor Matthew Perry outside the apartment building which was used as the exterior shot in the TV show "Friends" in New York on 29 October 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

metal fire escapes.

"I'm sure you could find stories of people who move to New York because of the show 'Friends,'" said Chris Triebel, 39, who leads tours focusing on TV shows and movies filmed in the city.

And part of that would be due to Perry's Chandler, himself a sarcastic 20-something who long resisted growing up.

"He's had a very impactful role in my life and always has given me tonnes of laughs, and it's sad to hear about his

passing," said Lanthier, who recently graduated law school in Vancouver.

"Chandler is a funny guy. He's a loving guy. He's someone who's very dedicated to his friends," she added. "And that's what I think Matthew was as well."

"I just wanted to pay my respects," she said, having come with a yellow rose that she placed next to a note left by another passerby.

It read: "Thank you for all the laughs." — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

China's "Double 11" shopping festival injects vigour into foreign trade

VIETNAMESE e-commerce anchor Luong Thi Hong Thom routinely performs shopping livestreaming in Dongxing, a border city in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, bringing quality products to her Vietnamese fans on TikTok's online sales platform.

"Numerous young people in Viet Nam actively engage with TikTok and are well-informed about the big discounts offered during China's 'Double 11' shopping extravaganza," said the 27-year-old, who works for Guangxi Haina Zhongpin Technology Co Ltd.

China's "Double 11" shopping spree took place from 31 October to 11 November this year, and has mainly been a domestic affair since its debut in 2009. However, in recent years, with Chinese e-commerce giants such as Alibaba, JD.com, Pinduoduo and others expanding into international markets, it has been transformed into a global celebration for consumers and businesses alike.



Vietnamese e-commerce anchor Luong Thi Hong Thom performs shopping livestreaming in Dongxing, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, 7 November 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

"Since 2021, we have been engaged in cross-border e-commerce on TikTok, with a primary

focus on the Southeast Asian market, especially in Malaysia, Viet Nam and Thailand," said

He Yaohai, chairman of Guangxi Haina Zhongpin Technology Co Ltd.

He added that the company's TikTok accounts in the areas of household supplies and clothes have accumulated over 10 million followers in Southeast Asia. In addition to the promotional activities offered by sellers on the platforms, major e-commerce platforms also introduced various discount campaigns to attract consumers during the "Double 11".

Cross-border e-commerce platforms, such as Alibaba's Lazada, have announced plans to provide differentiated sales events tailored to various countries and regions during the event.

The growth of cross-border e-commerce has also boosted the popularity of imported goods among Chinese consumers during the shopping festival.

The first four hours of sales on Tmall Global on 31 October saw transactions of 1,540 international brands increase over 100 per cent from those last year, with 268 new brands experiencing a 10-fold increase. — Xinhua

Vodafone drops into first-half net loss

BRITISH mobile phone giant Vodafone said Tuesday that it sank into a first-half loss and revenue dipped after one-off gains from asset sales were not repeated as it undergoes a vast overhaul.

Net losses totalled 346 million euros (\$370 million) in the six months to the end of

September, Vodafone said in a results statement.

That compared with profit after tax of 945 million euros in the same period a year earlier.

Revenues fell 4.3 per cent to 21.9 billion euros, hit by adverse foreign exchange rate moves as well as the sale of Vantage Towers, Vodafone

Hungary and Vodafone Ghana last time around. But services revenue grew 4.2 per cent to 18.6 billion euros.

Vodafone added that its transformation plan was "progressing", two weeks after it announced the sale of its Spanish division to investment fund Zegona for up to 5.0 billion euros. In a further streamlining, Vodafone in June agreed to merge British operations with Three UK, owned by Hong Kong-based CK Hutchison, to create Britain's biggest operator with 27 million customers, as it targets an acceleration in faster 5G connectivity.

"During the first half of the year, we have delivered improved revenue growth in nearly all of our markets and have returned to growth in Germany in the second quarter," said chief executive Margherita Della Valle. — AFP



A pedestrian walks past a Vodafone store in central London on 16 May 2023. PHOTO: AFP

Indonesia seeks investors to build residential complexes in new capital city

THE Indonesian government is seeking investors to build residential complexes in its ongoing project for a new capital city named Nusantara, said a senior official on Monday.

The new capital, located on the island of Borneo in the East Kalimantan province, will require at least 16,000 residential units, Iwan Suprijanto, the Public Works and Housing Ministry's director-general of housing, said.

For phase one, 2,500 units will be built using the state budget, and 30,000 units will use cooperation schemes between the government and business entities. "The need for houses and related properties in our new capital is very high because we will move the central government offices and the civil servants.

Therefore, we would like to open up investment opportunities in housing and properties," Iwan said in a written statement.

He said that the country needs investors who could be committed to sustainability and environmental protection as the new capital is set to embody smart and green concepts.

The Indonesian government, he said, will make it easier for investors to do business in the country through fiscal and non-fiscal support, including tax incentives and facilitation of land provision. "This is a golden opportunity to invest in our upcoming new capital city. For us, this investment will help with national economic recovery and create job opportunities for the local people," he said. — Xinhua

Over 1,400 Chinese exhibitors present at Medica 2023 in Germany

OVER 1,400 Chinese companies are present at the Medica 2023 medical technology trade fair, which opened its doors to visitors here on Monday.

The Chinese companies make up over 25 per cent of the 5,500 exhibitors from around 70 countries and regions at the event, which is one of the largest medical business-to-business (B2B) trade fairs in the world.

The Chinese exhibitors provide comprehensive and diverse clinical solutions to the global medical market, establishing themselves as a significant force in the global medical device industry.



People visit the exhibiting area of Shenzhen Angell Technology Co Ltd during the Medica 2023 medical technology trade fair in Dusseldorf, Germany, 13 November 2023. Over 1,400 Chinese companies are present at the Medica 2023 medical technology trade fair, which opened its doors to visitors here on Monday. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

medical manufacturer from the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen, exhibits the new high-end colour Doppler ultrasound diagnostic systems S80 Elite and P80 Elite for radiology and gynecology, respectively. These are designed to acquire and interpret ultrasound images more efficiently and precisely.

Lin Changqing from Beijing Hotgen Biotech Co, Ltd said the event in Dusseldorf is an important platform where practitioners can communicate with one another.

“We are looking forward to joining hands with like-minded partners to provide more affordable and accurate clinical diagnosis solutions for the benefit of people’s well-being”.

“A wide range of innovative products and services from the fields of medical imaging, laboratory technology, diagnostics, health information technology, mobile health as well as physiotherapy and orthopaedic technology and medical consumables are presented here,” the event organizer said. — Xinhua

Japan chipmaker Rapidus to open business base in Silicon Valley

JAPANESE chipmaker Rapidus Corp will open a business base in Silicon Valley by the end of March, its chief executive officer said Monday, as it seeks to expand its sales network in the United States in anticipation of demand growth.

Rapidus CEO Atsuyoshi Koike said Silicon Valley is critical for the Japanese government-backed developer of next-generation chips due to its ability to provide access to customers.

The company is planning to mass produce

state-of-the-art 2-nanometre chips in 2024 in partnership with US tech giant IBM Corp.

Koike unveiled the plan at a meeting organized by the Japanese government of chip and AI firms in San Francisco.

Officials from 21 Asia-Pacific economies and business leaders are gathering in the city this week to discuss how to make supply chains more robust for crucial items such as semiconductors after many nations were hit by parts shortages caused by the COVID-19

pandemic.

Japanese industry minister Yasutoshi Nishimura said at the meeting, “It is critically important to boost the supply capacity of cutting-edge semiconductors, not only for achieving carbon neutrality but for ensuring economic security.”

“We have seen more and more examples of (private-sector) cooperation between Japan and the United States. We believe that the government should further accelerate this momentum,” Nishimura added. — Kyodo

Airbus announces EgyptAir order for 10 planes

EUROPEAN aerospace giant Airbus announced an order for 10 A350-900 planes by Egypt’s state-owned carrier EgyptAir on Tuesday, the second day of the Dubai Airshow. Airbus commercial director Christian Scherer told a news conference the deal

marked “an important milestone” in the “long and successful partnership” with EgyptAir.

Without discounts, which are routinely applied in the industry, the transaction is worth \$3.2 billion, according to the manufacturer’s latest published list price.



An Airbus A350-1000 aircraft flies during the 2023 Dubai Airshow at Dubai World Central - Al-Maktoum International Airport in Dubai on 13 November 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

Airbus, which on Monday announced an order for 30 A220-300s from Latvian budget carrier airBaltic has been overshadowed by US rival Boeing at this year’s Dubai Airshow.

Boeing announced a mega-contract with Emirates, the Middle East’s biggest airline, on Monday for 55 Boeing 777-9s, 35 777-8s and five 787 Dreamliners in a deal worth \$52 billion.

The 777-9s are expected for delivery in 2025 and the 777-8s are scheduled for 2030.

Low-cost carrier flydubai, also based in the Gulf emirate, announced an order for 30 Boeing 787-9s, valued at \$63 billion. — AFP

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (343W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (343W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-11-2023** 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.
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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

Notice for company name change

Notice is hereby given that the following product distributor company name has been changed from the previous old name - Myanmar Arysta Agro Co.,Ltd to new name - Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. In future, Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. name will be used as distributor in terms of the following product which was registered in Pesticide Registration Board.

No.	Brand Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.	Registered Manufacturer
1.	Marshal 20 EC	Carbosulfan 20% EC	FF 2021 - 059	FMC Corporation, USA

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd.
Suite # 09 – 02, Crystal Tower, Kyun Taw Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon
01 – 933 93 59, 933 93 60

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Horn of Africa faces severe challenges as extreme weather, food insecurity persist: WHO

COUNTRIES in the Horn of Africa are facing severe challenges as extreme weather events and food insecurity persist, the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned.

The WHO, in its latest Horn of Africa food insecurity and health situation report issued Monday, warned that Horn of Africa countries are grappling with a combination of extreme weather events, widespread food insecurity and health crises.

It said the region has continued to face extreme weather events including drought and flooding, and the impacts of these events are likely to be exacerbated by the onset of El Nino.

According to the WHO, over



A man carries a sack through floodwater in Beledweyne, central Somalia, on 14 May 2023. PHOTO: AFP

61 million people in the region are in a state of crisis and above, facing elevated levels of acute food insecurity.

“The region is battling with multiple outbreaks of diseases including cholera in four countries, measles and malaria in all

the seven countries and dengue fever in Ethiopia and Djibouti,” the report read.

It said the deterioration of the nutritional situation has led to an estimated 30 per cent increase in the number of children with acute malnutrition in hotspot areas. It said the displacement to the neighbouring countries has also increased the humanitarian needs, especially in South Sudan and Ethiopia.

The WHO, citing the World Meteorological Organization’s confirmation regarding the onset of El-Nino in the region, said all the countries in the region are expected to face its health impact, either through below or above average rains in the last quarter of 2023. — Xinhua

Iran rejects accusation of directing regional resistance groups to attack US bases

IRANIAN Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani stressed on Monday that the resistance groups in the Middle East “do not take orders from Iran and act independently”. He made the remarks in a weekly press conference in the Iranian capital Tehran, responding to allegations of some US officials, who accused Iran of “directing and giving orders to regional resistance groups” to target American bases in a number of regional countries.

“These groups decide independently and take the necessary actions based on their calculations and interests as well as those of their countries and peoples,” Kanaani said. — Xinhua

North Korea condemns G7 statement on nuke programme

NORTH Korea on Tuesday slammed a joint statement by G7 foreign ministers that criticized the country’s nuclear programme, arguing the grouping of rich democracies should be “dismantled immediately”.

In a statement issued last week, the top diplomats of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Britain, the United States and the European Union

reiterated their longstanding call for the “complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula”.

The G7 foreign ministers also demanded that Pyongyang abandon its nuclear weapons, and strongly condemned recent arms transfers from North Korea to Russia, asking the two countries to “immediately cease all such activities”.

North Korea last year de-

clared itself an “irreversible” nuclear power and has repeatedly said it will never give up its nuclear programme, which the regime views as essential for its survival.

Jo Chol Su, a high-ranking official at Pyongyang’s foreign ministry, said he “resolutely” rejects and “most strongly” condemns the recent G7 statement, calling it “groundless”. — AFP



This picture taken on 10 October 2023 and released by North Korea’s official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) on 11 October shows people visiting the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang on the occasion of the 78th founding anniversary of the Workers’ Party of Korea. PHOTO: STR / KCNA VIA KNS / AFP

Afghanistan urges Pakistan to release 1,000s of containers from port



Afghan refugees arrive at a makeshift camp upon their deportation from Pakistan, in Ghazni on 14 November 2023. PHOTO: AFP

AFGHANISTAN urged Pakistan on Tuesday to release thousands of containers of imports it said were stuck at Karachi port since Islamabad clamped down on transnational cargo.

Pakistan authorities say they have lost millions of dollars in taxes because goods are being sent duty-free from its ports to land-locked Afghanistan, and then smuggled back across the border.

Afghan authorities say Pakistan has stopped more than 3,000 Afghanistan-bound containers at

Karachi port while demanding more tax and duty payments, causing millions of dollars in losses to traders.

The issue was raised Tuesday by Nooruddin Azizi, Afghanistan’s minister of industry and commerce, in a meeting with Jalil Abbas Jilani, Pakistan’s caretaker minister of foreign affairs.

They spoke about “the transit problems and challenges of the two countries” a statement from the Afghan embassy said. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar football team begins training in Japan

THE Myanmar national football team has been training in Osaka, Japan since the night of 14 November to play an away match against the Japanese national team as the first group match of the 2026 World Cup second qualifying round.

Team Myanmar left for Japan from Yangon International Airport on 13 November and arrived in Osaka on 14 November.

The Myanmar national team began training on the night of 14 November and will have two

days of preparation time in Japan before the match against the Japanese team to be played at Panasonic Stadium Suita in Osaka on 16 November.

Team Myanmar is falling in the same group as Japan, Syria and North Korea for the second-round World Cup Qualifiers.

Myanmar head coach Michael Feichtenbeiner took 24 players for the match against the Japanese team, and most of the core players were selected. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar head coach Michael Feichtenbeiner (centre) oversees the team in preparation for the second-round qualifiers for the 2026 World Cup. PHOTO: MFF

Warning for Japan as Asian heavyweights begin World Cup qualifying



South Korea's midfielder Son Heung-min (C) warms up with his teammates during a training session at Mokdong Stadium in Seoul on 13 November 2023, ahead of the 2026 World Cup qualifying match between South Korea and Singapore. PHOTO: AFP

JAPAN, Australia and Jurgen Klinsmann's South Korea will launch their qualifying campaigns on Thursday for the 2026 World Cup, with Palestine also among the 36 teams in action in Asia.

A record eight direct spots and one intercontinental playoff berth are up for grabs for Asian Football Confederation sides at the expanded World Cup in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Nine groups of four in the AFC will play each other home and away, with the top two from each going through to the final qualifying round.

Japan will be expected to

book their place at an eighth straight World Cup after a phenomenal run of form since last year's tournament in Qatar, where they reached the last 16.

The Blue Samurai have won their last six games, plundering 24 goals and conceding just five along the way. They travelled to Europe in September and beat Germany 4-1 and Türkiye 4-2 — results which cost both opposing managers their jobs.

Hajime Moriyasu, whose side kick off their campaign against Myanmar in Osaka, warned that a Group B also featuring Syria and North Korea would not be easy.

"They are teams that wouldn't look out of place in the final round," the coach said, despite Japan thrashing Myanmar 10-0 at home when they met in 2022 World Cup qualifying.

"We can't afford to slack off and we need to keep striving to be better," he added.

South Korea initially struggled when German legend Klinsmann took over as coach in February, but results have picked up in recent games. The Koreans scored 11 goals without reply in friendly wins over Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Vietnam, and begin their qualifying campaign at home to Singapore. — AFP

Italy, Netherlands, Wales aim to secure Euro 2024 qualification

REIGNING champions Italy are preparing for a decisive qualifier with Ukraine for a place at Euro 2024, while former winners the Netherlands and 2016 semi-finalists Wales are also aiming to book their tickets to the finals in Germany. The last two rounds of qualifying matches take place over the next week, and a total of 12 countries will secure their spots in next month's draw in Hamburg for the tournament to go with nine who are already guaranteed to be there.

Continental heavyweights Spain, France, England, Belgium and Portugal have already qualified along with hosts Germany,

Türkiye, Scotland and Austria for the 24-nation finals which will run 14 June to 14 July next year.

Italy, who beat England on penalties at Wembley in the final of the last European Championship in 2021 to claim the title for the second time, still have work to do to avoid missing another major tournament.

Having failed to qualify for either of the last two World Cups, there is a danger the Azzurri will not be in Germany to defend their title after a qualifying campaign during which coach Roberto Mancini quit either side of defeats home and away to England. — AFP



Portugal's forward 7 Cristiano Ronaldo shoots from the penalty spot to score the team's first goal during the UEFA Euro 2024 Group J qualification football match Bosnia-Herzegovina v Portugal at the 'Bilino Polje' stadium in Zenica, Bosnia-Herzegovina on 16 October 2023. PHOTO: AFP



WORLD



US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen is seen on a screen as she speaks during a press conference the Moscone convention centre hosting, APEC 2023, in San Francisco, California on 13 November 2023. PHOTO: AFP

APEC finance chiefs agree to grow economies with eye on sustainability

LEADERS of Asia-Pacific economies want to boost output with an eye on issues like reducing inequality and protecting the environment, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said on Monday.

Her comments at a press conference come at the end of talks with finance ministers of the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

Citing legislation like the Inflation Reduction Act — a signature achievement of US President Joe Biden — Yellen told reporters “APEC economies recognize the potential of this strategy and are pursuing similar policies.”

Economic development and environmental action need to work together if the world is to combat global warming, Yellen said.

“We need to further improve our

long-term economic outlook by boosting labour supply, innovation, and infrastructure investment, in ways that are also sustainable and reduce inequality,” Yellen said in San Francisco.

After several years focused on post-pandemic recovery, 2023 was a “pivotal year” for APEC, said Yellen, a time where governments could refocus on “advancing fiscal reforms to build our economies over the long run”. — AFP

World severely off track to limit planet-heating emissions: UN

THE world is “failing to get a grip” on climate change, the UN warned Tuesday, as an assessment of current climate pledges shows only minor progress on reducing emissions this decade.

In a report released just weeks before high-stakes climate negotiations, the United Nations climate change organization said the world was failing to act with sufficient urgency to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

With temperatures soaring and 2023 expected to become the warmest year so far in human history, scientists say the pressure on world leaders to curb planet-heating greenhouse gas pollution has never been more urgent. The UN found that combined climate plans from nearly 200 nations would put the world on a path for 2030 carbon emissions just two per cent below 2019 levels.

That is far short of the 43 per cent fall that the UN’s IPCC climate panel says are needed to limit warming to the Paris deal target of 1.5 degrees Celsius since the pre-industrial era. “Every fraction of a degree matters, but we are severely off track. COP28 is our time to change that,” said UN Climate Change chief Simon Stiell.

He called for climate talks in Dubai this month to mark a “clear turning point” for a world already wracked by increasing floods, heatwaves and storms.

Scientists have warned that humanity is dangerously close to blowing past the 1.5C global heating limit, risking intensifying impacts. “The world is failing to get a grip on the climate crisis,” said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, warning countries were not acting fast enough to avoid climate catastrophe. — AFP

Israel shows ‘evidence’ Hamas held hostages at hospital

ISRAEL’S army cited a discarded baby bottle, makeshift toilet and bullet-scarred motorbike as evidence Hamas held hostages in a Gaza hospital, as an Israeli soldier was declared killed in captivity Tuesday.

On Monday evening, army spokesman Daniel Hagari said troops “found signs that indicate that Hamas held hostages” in the basement of Al-Rantisi children’s hospital in Gaza City.

AFP was not able to independently confirm the allegation, and Hamas has consistently denied using hospitals as hideouts as it battles Israeli troops.

Some 240 people were taken hostage by Hamas fighters who surged through the heavily militarised Gaza border on 7 October and killed 1,200 people — mostly

civilians — according to Israel.

Hagari did not say how many hostages the army believes were held at the hospital in the north of the besieged Gaza Strip.

However in a video recorded on site, he walked through various scenes alleging they “indicate that Hamas held hostages here”. Hagari said a bullet-marked motorbike used to transport hostages was in the basement, alongside a chair with rope near the legs and discarded women’s clothing.

An improvised toilet was also cited as evidence hostages were held downstairs.

“You don’t need to build something improvisedly in a hospital, in the basement, unless you want to hold someone in the basement and you don’t want anyone to see him,” Hagari said. — AFP



Israeli forces’ armoured vehicles advance through a deserted street as a curfew was imposed during a military operation in Tulkarem in the occupied West Bank on 14 November 2023. PHOTO: AFP