

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Article

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By **THAN HTUN**
(GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

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MRF offers rice subsidy scheme in Yangon Region



The Nepal-Myanmar Trade Relations: Promoting Software Business event in progress yesterday in Chatrium Hotel, Yangon.

Nepal-Myanmar Trade Relations: Promoting Software Business

Nepal and Myanmar enjoy excellent relations. The relations between the two countries have been marked by goodwill, mutual respect, trust, and support throughout history, and they continue to be the same. The relations encompass areas such as trade, tourism, and cooperation on multilateral platforms such as BIMSTEC and the United Nations. Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Buddha – a sacred pilgrimage in Nepal and the presence of a large number of People of Nepali Origin (PNO), commonly known as “Gurkha” in Myanmar, have contributed to enhancing people-to-people relations between the two countries.

The existing trade relations between Nepal and Myanmar, which are mainly comprised of commodity trade, are nominal. The import items from Myanmar

are dried legumes, beans and pulses, while the exports from Nepal are rugs and carpets, black tea, ayurvedic medicine, and handicrafts. The lack of land routes connecting the two countries and the inaccessibility of the sea to Nepal have hindered the prospects for further commodity trade expansion.

Nepal’s IT sector, with its software development and digital services, meets domestic demand. It has also made enormous strides in exports in recent years. In FY 2022, Nepal exported IT services worth US\$515.4 million. Considering the booming IT sector of Nepal, the Embassy of Nepal in Yangon organized an event, Nepal-Myanmar Trade Relations: Promoting Software Business, on 31 May 2024 in order to enhance service trade between Nepal and Myanmar. At present, few private banks in Myanmar are using

Nepali banking software, and there is potential to expand the market further. The programme aims to bring IT companies from Nepal and Myanmar together and establish networks between them so that they can engage in the export-import of software. The event is an opportunity for participating companies from Nepal to share information regarding their products and establish links with potential buyers as well as IT companies in Myanmar.

This one-day event aims to facilitate the identification of issues concerning service-software trade, match the software demand and supply requirements, and expand potential sectors of application, such as banking, microfinance, and remittance by bringing relevant stakeholders from Nepal and Myanmar together. — GNLM

MoALI allocates 960,000 acres for monsoon paddy from economic fund

A total of 15 million acres of monsoon paddy will be planted nationwide for the 2024-2025 financial year, of which 960,000 acres will be grown with the financial support of the State economic promotion fund, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation.

The monsoon cultivation project funded by the State economic promotion fund will be provided with the necessary inputs by the relevant departments, ensuring quality and affordability in a timely manner.

All the loans and service fees for the cultivation of green gram and summer paddy projects in 2022-2023 have been recovered in the agricultural sector operations using the State economic promotion fund. Efforts are underway to ensure farmers return all the loans and pay service fees for the remaining projects on time.

In the same way, agricultural water supply projects will be implemented from the State economic promotion fund in 18 townships across Mandalay, Bago, and Yangon regions, benefiting over 1,400 acres of plantations, 133 farmers, and 163 industries. — ASH/MKKS



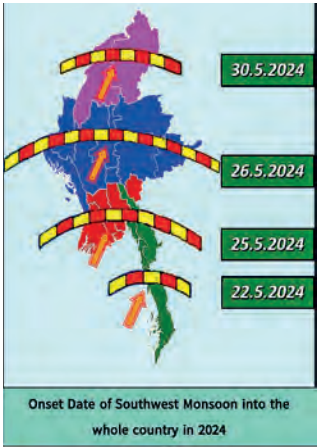
Farmers seen growing the monsoon paddy.

NATIONAL

Condition of Southwest Monsoon Onset

Issued on 31 May 2024

DURING the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon has advanced into the whole country.



Republic of the Union of Myanmar Announcement of Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

9th Waning of Kason, 1386 ME
31 May 2024

IT is necessary to control Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) infection continuously. So it is now announced that public requests, orders, notifications and directives (except for easing restrictions) released by Union-Level Organizations and Union Ministries up to 31 May 2024 have been extended to 30 June 2024 for prevention, control and treatment on Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).



Artist Nyi Aung Maw
Born in 1970 Ayeyarwady Division, Myanmar.
Education: 1991, State School of Fine Art, Yangon, Myanmar.

Group Exhibition:
2012 - 2022 : Participated in over 12 group artwork exhibition.

Duet Exhibition:
2024 - Duo Dynamics, Sar Ga Gallery, Yangon, Myanmar.



Artist Win Thanda
Born in 1975 Mon State, Myanmar.
Education: 1998, BA (Painting), National University of Arts and Culture, Yangon, Myanmar.

Group Exhibition:
2009 - 2023 : Participated in over 17 group artwork exhibition.

Duet Exhibition:
2024 - Duo Dynamics, Sar Ga Gallery, Yangon, Myanmar.



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Presented By



Duo Dynamics

Artist Nyi Aung Maw
Artist Win Thanda

Date: 1st - 5th June 2024
Opening Hour: 10am - 5pm



The image showcases a catalogue for the 'Duo Dynamics' art exhibition.

Sar Ga Art Gallery hosts 'Duo Dynamics' Art Exhibition

THE art exhibition titled 'Duo Dynamics' is scheduled to be showcased from 1 to 5 June at the Sar Ga Art Gallery in Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, according to the gallery representative.

The diverse and colourful paintings created by artists Nyi Aung Maw and Win Thanda will be displayed at the exhibition.

The representative of the gallery stated, "We will showcase the paintings of artist Nyi Aung Maw and artist Win Thanda in a duet art exhibition this Saturday. We invite painting lovers to come and enjoy the diverse collection. Artist Nyi Aung Maw has participated in over 12 group exhibitions, while the artwork of artist Win Thanda has been featured in more than 17 exhibitions".

The artist Nyi Aung Maw studied art at the State School of Fine Arts in 1991. Artist Win Thanda also graduated from the National University of Arts and Culture Yangon with a major in Painting in 1998. Both of them are professional artists.

— ASH/TRKM

'Thabin The Saneain' (Artiste's Home) begins filming in Yangon

ACCORDING to Director Kyaw Bo Bo Thar of Thu Khu Ma Academy, filming for the series 'Thabin The Saneain' (Artiste's Home), produced by Thu Khu Ma Academy Film Production, began on 28 May in the Yangon Region. The director himself wrote the plot of the series.

The new actors, former trainees of acting training con-

ducted by Thu Khu Ma Academy, will be acting in the series.

The cast of the series will be Nang Kaday San Oo, Eaint Thet Hmue Paing, Khun Thanthar, Herry Aung, Htet Yoon Nadi, Moe Thauk Kyel, Yoon Cherry, Hnin Akkhaya, Eaint Kyi Phyu, Thiri Yadanar Linn and Thanzin Moe Htet. — ASH/TRKM



Cast of 'Thabin The Saneain' (Artiste's Home).

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.



၂၀၂၄ ခုနှစ် ကမ္ဘာ့ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေးနေ့





"သဲကန္တာရတိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနှင့် မိုးမခိုင်စေရန်အားလုံးပူးပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။"

"Land restoration, desertification and drought resilience"

NATIONAL

Sitagu Sayadaw receives International Buddhism Promotion Award in Yangon

The ceremony to confer the International Award for Promotion of Buddhism title on State Ovadacariya Sangha Raja of Shwekyin Nikaya Buddhist Order Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Baddanta Nyanissara by the Indian government was held at India Centre in Yangon yesterday evening.

The event was attended by Sitagu Sayadaw, Sagaing Region International Buddhism Education Centre Presiding Sayadaw U Sobhita, Rakhine State Alotaw Pyae Meditation Centre and Monastery Presiding Sayadaw U Pan-najota and monks, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and regional government ministers,

Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abjay Thaku, Director-General of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Mr Kumar Tuhin, U Nu-Daw Mya Yi Foundation Chairperson Daw Than Than Nu, trainees and former trainees of ICCR and invitees. The Indian ambassador extended a greeting speech, and students of the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) and students of the National University of Arts and Culture (Yangon) gave performances.

Director-General Mr Kumar Tuhin of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn made speeches, respectively. The Indian ambassador donated robes to Sitagu Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Director-General Mr Kumar Tuhin of the Indian Council



Sitagu Sayadaw, Union Ministers U Maung Maung Ohn and U Tin Oo Lwin, Indian Ambassador Mr Abjay Thaku and dignitaries are seen at yesterday's event in Yangon.

for Cultural Relations (ICCR) then conferred the International Award for Promotion of Buddhism on Sitagu Sayadaw. Afterwards, Sitagu Sayadaw delivered a speech of advice and concluded the event.

ICCR has instituted an 'Award for Promotion of Buddhism' to recognize the contributions of foreign scholars, individuals and organizations to the promotion of Buddhism globally in 2021. Dr Duong Thi Thanh Huong (Vietnam) of Otani University (Japan) and Mr Chojjants Demberel (Mongolia) received that award. Sitagu Sayadaw was conferred the title of the International Award for Promotion of Buddhism to recognize his religious missions that were conducted in 2023. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar Consul-General attends 2024 Hengqin Investment Conference

THE Myanmar Consul-General attended the 2024 Hengqin Global Investment Promotion Conference during a visit to the Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Zone, as organized by the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA).

Myanmar's Consul-General, U Han Win Naing, based in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, participated in a trip to the Guangdong-Macao Coop-

eration Zone on 26 and 27 May, along with other consuls-general based in Hong Kong and the Macao region.

Myanmar's Consul-General attended the 2024 Hengqin Global Investment Promotion Conference on 26 May. On 27 May, he visited customs zones classified according to criteria, the Cross-Border E-commerce and Live-Streaming Base, and culture and creative projects. — ASH/TKO



The Myanmar consul-general and other officials are seen during a visit to the Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Zone.



Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan looks into gem stones in the gems market in Myitkyina.

Kachin Chief Minister inspects Myitkyina gems market, aids displaced persons

KACHIN State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan inspected the jade and finished jewellery shops in the Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association compound in Sitapu ward of Myitkyina township yesterday. During the inspection, he urged concerned personnel to work together to accelerate the transactions, although the sales are slack currently. The chief minister comforted the internally displaced persons who are sheltering at 18 places in Myitkyina at Manaw Shwe Pyi Hall on 30 May. The chief minister and relevant officials provided 1,765 people of 346 households with K25,950,000 worth of 346 rice bags donated by the National Disaster Management Committee and K5,709,000 worth of 346 cartons of instant noodles donated by the state government. — State IPRD/KTZH

NATIONAL

2024 Inter-State/Region Sepak Takraw Championship concludes



State Administration Council Members (L) are seen watching the final match of the 2024 Inter-State and Region Sepak Takraw Championship yesterday.



THE final match and awarding ceremony for the 2024 Inter-State & Region Sepak Takraw Championship was held at Wunna Theikdhi Gymnasium A in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The State Administration Council members enjoyed the final matches played between the Mon State team and Rakhine State team for the women’s four-some competition and the Nay

Pyi Taw Union Territory Team versus the Mandalay Region team for the men’s foursome competition.

An awarding ceremony continued after the final match. State Administration Council Member U Yan Kyaw presented awards to the first-placed Bago Region team, second-placed Yangon Region team and third-placed Rakhine Region team for the women’s double event.

Next, State Administration Council Member U Shwe Kyein presented awards to the Mandalay Region team for first place, the Sagaing Region team for second place, and the Shan State team for third place in the men’s double event.

Likewise, State Administration Council member Khun San Lwin also gave prizes to the winners of the Mon State team, first-runners up Rakhine

State team and second-runners up Kachin State team for the women’s triple event. Next, State Administration Council Member Dr Ba Shwe presented awards to the winners of the Mandalay Region team, first runners-up Magway Region team and second runners-up Shan State team for the men’s triple event.

Meanwhile, State Administration Council Member Dr

Hmu Thang also presented to the winner Rakhine State team, first runner-up Mon State team and second-runner-up Sagaing Region team. Also, State Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung presented awards to the winner Mandalay Region, first runner-up Nay Pyi Taw team and second runner-up Kachin State team for the men’s foursome event.

Then, State Administration Council member Porel Aung Thein gave prizes to the men’s championship winner, the Mandalay Region team, and State Administration Council member Daw Dwe Bu presented awards to the women’s championship winner, the Rakhine State team.

With the aim of promoting the Sepak Takraw sports across Myanmar, the championship was held at Wunna Theikdhi Gymnasium A in Nay Pyi Taw from 23 to 31 May, participating 269 athletes from 15 men’s teams and 13 women’s teams. — MNA/KZL

Counter-argument to false information

Misinformation: 4 killed, 7 wounded in Kalay as security forces fired heavy weapons



The Screenshot validates false reports.

IN order to mislead the public, malicious news media is circulating false news that four people were killed and seven were wounded in Tinther Village on 29 May due to the explosion of heavy weapons by the security forces in Kalay Township, Sagaing Region.

In this incident, the security forces who are there to provide security in the area near the village have been falsely fabricated to mislead the public as these media outlets are purposely spreading false information based on incidents to create fear and misrepresentation of the security forces in public.

According to a security official, no heavy weapons were fired by the security forces. — MNA/KZL

Public Notice

The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No “1111” for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via short code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.

Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at short code “1111”. Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission

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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

Union Information Minister inspects libraries in Yangon

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, accompanied by Yangon Region Social Affairs Minister U Htay Aung, inspected the Public Libraries and National Libraries in Yangon yesterday.

The Union minister first visited the Myoma Library in Yankin Township and discussed the needs with the library supervisory committee members to upgrade the library services, place proper books and journals for the youths to receive correct information, and create an atmosphere to share knowledge. He provided K2 million and ten copies and publications for the library.

The Myoma Library is located on Yan Naing Lane 7 in Yankin Township and offers over 5,000 copies and publications.

He then proceeded to the Tun Foundation Library in Bo Aung Kyaw Street of Botahtaung Township, where he met library officials.

During the tour, he said that the efforts of the Head of State in the development of libraries, benefits of the Tun Foundation Library for the youths and students, and its reference books, and donated 50 copies and publications.

The Tun Foundation Library was established in November 2004 with 2,396 library members. Currently, it provides 7,500 Myanmar books, 29,581 English books and 117 books of other languages.

He also visited the Information and Public Relations Department in Ahlon Township and the National Library (Yangon) in Pabedan Township and provided proper instructions



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn provides cash assistance and publications to the Myoma Library yesterday.

regarding the library development activities.

He inspected the Wazira Cinema on Bogyoke Aung San Street on the same morning and urged officials concerned to maintain the cinema in accordance with the standards systematically. — MNA/KTZH

Union Health Minister calls for cooperation to shield youth from tobacco industry deception

THE internet and social media are extensively utilized worldwide, and seizing this opportunity, manufacturers and sellers of tobacco and tobacco products employ various methods to promote their products, Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win cautioned at the ‘2024 World No Tobacco Day’ held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with the theme ‘Protecting Children from Tobacco Industry Interference’.

In particular, certain tobacco companies are targeting young people in developing countries. Additionally, some research organizations are paid substantial sums to disseminate false information to young people, claiming that tobacco products manufactured by certain companies pose no harm. Furthermore, electronic vapourizers such as E-cigarettes, Vape, and heated tobacco products, among others, are also of concern.

According to Article 5.3 of ‘The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control’,



Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win speaks on the occasion of the 2024 World No Tobacco Day, held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

member states must prevent tobacco and tobacco product manufacturers from interfering in various ways to delay the implementation of public health policies.

Myanmar signed the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in 2003 and enacted the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law in 2006, based on the provisions of the Convention. The law prohibits the sale of tobacco to individuals under the age of 18 and within school premises or 100 feet of school premises. Advertising, promotion, and support of tobacco products are strictly prohibited by law, with penal-

ties and punishments. The law also aims to promote health awareness about the dangers of using tobacco and tobacco products, including electronic vaporizers, and to protect young people from deception by tobacco and tobacco product manufacturers and sellers. The Union minister also urged everyone to cooperate in the efforts to protect young people against the deception of tobacco businesses.

Also present at the ceremony were the Deputy Minister for Health, members and representatives of the Central Committee on Tobacco and Tobacco Products, directors-general of departments under the ministry, departmental officials, chairs and representatives of the Myanmar Women’s Federation, the Myanmar Red Cross Society, the Myanmar Medical Council and the Public Health Foundation, medical superintendents and primary health workers from hospitals in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory. — MNA/TKO

NATIONAL

CBM seeks bids for Layer 2 Switch, WLAN Controller & Access Points

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) called for bids from a domestic company through an open tender system to configure Layer 2 Switch, Wireless LAN Controller & Access Point at its branches in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon.

The open tender forms can be available at the Network Section, Information and Technology Division, Administration and Human Resource Department of the CBM (Yangon branch) between 6 and 18 June during working hours and can be submitted on 24 June there.

When submitting a tender, the tender guarantee is one per cent of the tender value. The three-month bank guarantee will be enclosed with tender documents in which cash or PO cheque is not accepted whatsoever, the CBM notified.

— TWA/KK



The Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw.

63rd Aungbarlay Lottery tickets worth over K5,600 mln sold



The Aungbarlay Division of the Internal Revenue Department.

A total of 552,276 lottery ticket packages, worth more than K5,600 million, were sold for the 63rd Aungbarlay Lottery, the results of which will be announced today, according to the Internal Revenue Department.

Seventy per cent of the proceeds, worth K3,865.93 million, and K250 million from the confiscated unclaimed prize money will also be awarded as lottery prizes.

Prizes include one K500 million prize, one K200 million prize, one K100 million prize, four K50 million prizes, five K20 million prizes, nine K10 million prizes, 12 prizes of K5 million, 16 prizes of K2 million, and 14 prizes of K1 million. In addition, Waiwai Sarsar Padetha prizes worth K300,000, K200,000, K100,000, K50,000, and K10,000 are also to be awarded.

Similarly, K1 million, K300,000, K200,000 and K100,000 prizes from the confiscated prices will also be awarded. — TWA/MKKS

Myanmar Embassy to ROK to switch to online appointment system for passport extensions

THE Myanmar Embassy to the Republic of Korea (ROK) has announced that it will switch from in-person booking to online appointment system for passport extensions from 22 July.

The embassy is handling consular affairs and passport related matters in accordance with laws, rules, regulations and procedures for the benefit of Myanmar nationals in ROK, it said.

Under the current in-person booking system, there were many applicants and it exceeded the capacity of the consular office on some

days and waiting time for Myanmar nationals has increased.

Appointments have been given until 18 July 2024 under this booking system for passport extensions and for the provision of better services to the nationals with less burden on them, appointment system will be changed from in-person booking to online application from 22 July, it announced.

Starting from 31 May, Myanmar nationals in the ROK can make online appointments for the desired dates through <https://myanmarembassy-seoul.setmore.com/myanmar> or QR Code and for obtaining recommendation letters, the embassy will continue to provide the service as usual at 2 pm every Tuesday and Thursday.

The necessary documents and other information for passport extensions can be found on the embassy's website at <https://meseoul.org>. Online appointment can be made at <https://myanmarembassyseoul.setmore.com/Myanmar> or by scanning QR Code and multiple applications will not be accepted, the embassy said.

— MT/ZN



A Myanmar national in the ROK showing his passport.

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise



Hong Kong Fintech Week 2024 invites Myanmar businesspeople

HONG Kong Fintech Week 2024 (HKFTW 2024), organized by InvestHK, will take place from 28 October to 1 November 2024 at Asia World Expo, Hong Kong SAR. Myanmar businesspeople engaged in finance and technology are invited to explore business opportunities.

This FinTech expo will gather innovative tech solution providers overseas to showcase their services and solutions. It will feature conferences, exhibitions, networking events, demo shows, and study tours to companies in the Greater Bay Area and Hong Kong SAR.

Last 2023, HKFTW attracted over 35,000 participants from overseas. Therefore, the venue capacity is extended for this year's HKFTW.

To encourage participation

through governmental organizations, a Complementary Delegation Programme was arranged. A business delegate, including five to seven Fintech companies, will be provided with a 24-square-metre booth, and those with eight to ten companies will be allowed a 36-square-metre booth in order of application. That programme only covers the booth location, and they must bear the cost of setting up the booth.

Those interested business entities and the members of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry can visit www.fintech-week.hk for information and contact the FinTech Programmes and Delegation Manager through email: susanna@finoverse.com and the contact number +85 2 21569342. — NN/KK



A poster of the Hong Kong Fintech Week 2024.



Consumers line up for purchasing Aemahta rice.

MRF offers rice subsidy scheme in Yangon Region

MYANMAR Rice Federation (MRF) offers a rice subsidy scheme that affiliated associations, depots, and rice companies run. The consumers can buy rice at an affordable price of Aemahta rice — K3,000 per pyi.

This scheme currently covers 58 retail shops in 18 townships: Hlinethaya, Shwepyitha, South Dagon, North Okkalapa, North Dagon, Dagon Seikkan, East Dagon, Hmawby, Thingangyun, Thakayta, Pazundaung, Dawbon, Dala, Kyimyindine,

Ahlon, Seikkyi Khanaungto, Mingaladon and Insein. Additionally, civil service personnel and factory and company staff can buy them by contacting the MRF.

Under the guidance of the MRF, Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association, export companies and depots worked together to stabilize the price and initiated the rice subsidy scheme in order for the low-income people and civil servants to buy the rice at fairer prices at 58 retail shops in 18 townships,

Yangon Region. Consumers can purchase reasonably well-milled (15 per cent broken) white rice. An individual is entitled to buy two pyi at a time.

For further information, individuals can enquire about the MRF and depots through email: admin@mrf.com.mm and contact numbers (MRF 09 40067260 and 09 400067270, Wahdan rice depot 01 8221448, 01 8220131, and 01 8210287, and Bayintnaung rice depot 09 769029428). — NN/KK

CBM to sell US\$5M, 5M yuan for exporters, importers on online trading platforms

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$5 million and five million yuan to exporters and importers on online trading platforms on 31 May 2024.

CBM sold 10 million yuan on 20 May, \$5 million on 9 May, 2.5 million yuan on 7 May, and five million yuan and 30 million Thai baht on 2 May to exporters and importers through online trading platforms.

CBM injected \$3 million, two million yuan and 54 million baht into the financial market in April. It also sold \$18 million, 12 million yuan and

312 million baht in March, \$77.38 million and 850 million baht in February and \$68.33 million, 313.5 million baht and 4.2 million yuan in January 2024, with a view to curbing the instability in the foreign exchange market and stopping the currency devaluation.

According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been joining hands with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign

exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. Additionally, the outward remittance procedures must adhere to the rules and regulations stipulated by the Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee. — NN/KK

According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been joining hands with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws.



Renewable energy: The best drive to reduce pollution in society

THE surge in solar and wind energy generation in 2023 marked a pivotal shift in the global energy landscape, with renewable sources accounting for 30.3 per cent of the world’s electricity generation. This significant milestone underscores the potential to triple renewable energy generation by 2030.

Solar energy, in particular, saw a remarkable increase of 29.4 per cent from 2022 to 2023. Developing and underdeveloped countries are increasingly relying on solar and wind power to meet their energy needs. Notably, China is a major player, generating more than half of the world’s renewable energy.

The world is currently facing a myriad of natural disasters due to the impacts of global warming, alongside geopolitical tensions, armed conflicts, and the instability of oil and natural gas prices. These crises have underscored the urgent need for

Renewable energy is the best drive to reduce pollution and tackle the pressing challenges of global warming, geopolitical instability, and fluctuating fossil fuel markets. The commitment to expanding renewable energy capacity, as evidenced by the pledges made at COP 28, sets a promising trajectory towards a sustainable and resilient energy future. With continued innovation and investment, the goal of tripling renewable energy generation by 2030 is achievable, paving the way for a cleaner and greener world. As such, more use of renewable energy is the best way to cure the ailing world, which is encountering an influx of dangerous catastrophes.

term benefits. They significantly reduce pollution and decrease dependency on fossil fuels, contributing to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly energy landscape. Countries around the world are increasingly adopting renewable energy projects as an effective strategy to mitigate climate change.

Renewable energy is the best drive to reduce pollution and tackle the pressing challenges of global warming, geopolitical instability, and fluctuating fossil fuel markets. The commitment to expanding renewable energy capacity, as evidenced by the pledges made at COP 28, sets a promising trajectory towards a sustainable and resilient energy future. With continued innovation and investment, the goal of tripling renewable energy generation by 2030 is achievable, paving the way for a cleaner and greener world. As such, more use of renewable energy is the best way to cure the ailing world, which is encountering an influx of dangerous catastrophes.

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

By THAN HTUN (GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

EPISODE:35

Geology and Ore Deposits of the Bawdwin Mines

This episode is the continuation of the previous Episode 34.

History of the Mines

In 1910-11, the permanent way of the railroad was at last in good order. The vertical shaft was enlarged and equipped with a surface plant. It has two hoisting compartments, a ladder, and a pump way. Winding and steam plants were provided for the inclined shaft, which was ventilated by two fans driven by a waterwheel. The total development work for the year amounted to over 2,000 feet, and the winning of ore in the upper workings to provide a silicious flux for the smelters was extended. 2,687 ½ tonnes of ore were mined, the average value of which was approximately 19.38 per cent lead, and 7.72 ounces of silver per tonne were railed to the smelters at Mandalay.

In 1911-12, the smelters were removed from Mandalay to Nam Tu. The slags and ores smelted at Mandalay totalled 12,054 ½ tonnes, and at Nam Tu, 15,774 ½ exclusive fluxes. A lead refinery was erected at Nam Tu. The railway line from Malpwe to Bawdwin was re-sleepered and ballasted, resulting in a material decrease in maintenance charges. Several Italians were engaged in mining work. The total development work done in the mine was 3,624 lineal feet and 8,159 cubic feet. The tonnage mined was 5,568 tonnes, of which a large portion was low-grade iron ore, which was only useful for fluxing. The company took over a prospecting license issued for the old Chinese mines at Mo-ho-chaung, about 35 miles from Bawdwin.

In 1912-13, the Chinaman lode was opened up on the 171’ level. Total developmental work equalled 6,127 lineal feet and 9,051 cubic feet, 6,222 tonnes of ore were mined, and 32,019 tonnes of slag were recovered by sluicing in the Bawdwin Valley. The 3rd level, at 300 feet in the vertical shaft, was opened up, and an adit level 1,860 feet long was finished to carry off the drainage from the No 1 level, which was formerly pumped through the shaft. The total tonnage of slag and ore treated at the smelter was 37,254 tonnes, containing approximately 80,000 ounces of silver, the increase in silver being due to the larger proportion of ore now smelted with the slag.

In 1913-14, ending 30 June 1914, the finances of the company were recognized, and the Burma Mines Company was taken over by the “Burma Corporation Limited”. Great strides were made in opening up the mine both in the vertical shaft and Dead Chinaman Tunnel sections.

The development work for the year was 15,199 lineal feet, exclusive of diamond drilling and 18,910 cubic feet. The total tonnage of slag, ores, and fluxes treated in the smelters amounted to 51,482 tonnes, yielding 6,872 tonnes of lead, containing approximately 175,906 ounces of silver. The small furnace at Mo-ho-chaung reached an output of five tonnes per day for part of the period.

In the year 1914-15, the Chinaman ore body was opened up further, and the mine prepared for stopping in the upper levels. The Tiger Tunnel was driven further and should be connected to the Chinaman ore body by the end of 1916. Steps have been taken to smelt mixtures of roasted ore and concentrate estimated to produce about 1,500 tonnes of lead and about 140,000 ounces of silver per month.

General Geology Topography

Bawdwin district contains two types of sharply contrasted relief. West of Nam Tu, the surface is mountainous and entirely occupied by steep slopes that are produced by the erosion of many streams. Flat ground, either as plateaux or in valley bottoms, is conspicuously absent, the nearest approach to it being the sinuous narrow tracts of alluvium which rarely border the banks of the larger streams. Even the more extensive valleys are

deep and V-shaped, separated from one another by steep, knife-edged ridges, their sides scored by innumerable glens and ravines that make up the amazing network of the feeder drainage system of the country. Dense, temperate evergreen forest generally clothes the hills from base to summit. The higher features range from 5,500 to 6,500 feet above the level of the sea. East of the Nam Tu and extending a few miles to the west of the river in the Mong Tat neighbourhood, the true Shan plateau type of country is found, though here again, the usual flatness is diversified by the deep valleys of the Nam Tu and some of its smaller tributaries. The change from one type of scenery to the other is very abrupt and follows the boundary of the Plateau Limestone.

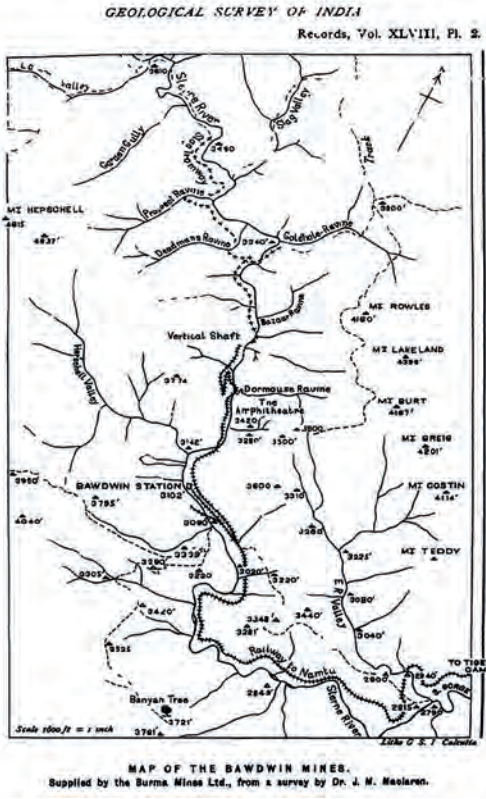
Stratigraphy General

The Bawdwin ore deposits are enclosed in a series of ancient rhyolites and rhyolitic tuffs, which form a dome-shaped structure protruding through the younger Pangyun strata. Going west, an overthrust band of Nam Hsim sandstones is crossed before the rocks of the Chaung Magyi series are reached. These form an ancient land surface and, with their associated intrusive granites, build up the highlands of Tawnpeng. The younger Palaeozoic rocks found east of Bawdwin and are especially well exposed in the gorge of the Nam Pangyun were deposited in succession on the old land surface. The following rock groups have been met within the Bawdwin district: -

Name	European equivalents.		
Recent alluvium	.	.	.
Sub-Recent River Terraces	.	.	.
Nam Yau Series	.	.	Jurassic.
Plateau Limestone	.	.	Devonian.
Nam Hsim Beds	.	.	Upper Silurian.
Pangsapye Graptolite Bed	.	.	Llandovery.
Nyaungkangyi Beds	.	.	Ordovician.
Pangyun Beds	.	.	Ordovician or Cambrian.
Bawdwin Volcanic Series	.	.	.
Chaung Magyi Series	.	.	.
Tawnpeng granite and associated intrusives.	.	.	.
Due to limited space, the summary of various groups is as follows: -			

The Tawnpeng Granite.

The Northern or small map intrusive granite of Tawnpeng forms most of the higher country west of Bawdwin. The rock is an ordinary white granite consisting of quartz, orthoclase, microcline, and biotite. It usually bears evidence of intense crushing. La



Touche’s statement that it contains no tourmaline is incorrect, as later work has shown that tourmaline does occur in it, though quite sporadically.

The Chaung Magyi Series.

This is the oldest sedimentary formation of the district and occupies a wide extent of the country in the western area, coming between the Tawnpeng granite on the west and the Palaeozoic rocks on the east. Its inner border with granite is very irregular, owing to the intrusion of a large tongue in the latter neighbourhood of Loi Ma-raw. The series consists of soft, well-foliated, slaty shales, phyllites, and greywackes with subordinate sandy horizons, and although it forms much of the highest land, it yields exceedingly few good exposures. The Chaung Magyi rocks to the north of Bawdwin are of slightly different facies, and sandy layers are perhaps commoner.

Bawdwin Rhyolite Series.

The elongated irregular area occupied by these rocks has been carefully mapped and found to comprise a narrow strip of country running in a general northwest and southeast direction. From Tiger Camp to the point in the upper Stern Valley where they finally disappear beneath the Pangyuns is not more than three miles, in a straight line. The series consists of true rhyolites, rhyolitic tuffs, true tuffs of various kinds, an occasional band of volcanic breccia, and subordinate layers of sandstone and felspathic grit. I regard the whole exposure as a kind of low dome rising from underneath the Pangyun beds which surround it. The main axis of the dome runs north-west-south-east. It is not always easy to separate the base of the Pangyuns from the uppermost beds of the Bawdwin Rhyolite series, for the Pangyun conglomerate is always succeeded below by shales and grits-certainly of no great thickness but still almost identical with those above it. Many of these lower Pangyun felspathic grits contain much tuffaceous matter, and again, the uppermost tuffs of the Bawdwin series are often gritty.

Pangyun Beds.

In an unpublished manuscript report written in 1906, Dr J M Maclaren described under the title of “Banyan Beds” a series of “fairly thin-bedded rocks made up of red and white sandstones chocolate micaceous shales and quartzites with subordinate dark shaly beds and occasional conglomerates” occurring near the Bawdwin mines. He was able to prove that they were younger than the rhyolites and the series to which he gave the name of the Bawdwin beds. Maclaren also described an unfossiliferous series below the Nyaungkangyi beds to the west of Lopah in the valley of the Nam Pangyun, “at first sight”, he writes, “they would appear to underlie the latter, but they are so very much fresher and younger in lithological appearance that the final impression left in the mind of that they are much younger than the Nyaungkangyi beds.” He regarded the two sedimentary series, the Bawdwin and Banyan beds, as being very closely connected-the latter overlying the rhyolites unconformably. Regarding their age, he writes, “The sedimentary members probably occupy a horizon in the Ordovician or maybe Upper Silurian. The solution to the question is not practicable from the single section run by the writer.”

Naungkangyi Beds.

The Pangyun series passes up conformably into the Nyaungkangyi beds of the Ordovician age, and there is some difficulty in finding a horizon to map as their junction. I have taken it as the top of a thick series of sandy purple mudstones that underlies the last Nyaungkangyi fossiliferous shale. In stream-beds where continuous sections are met, this horizon is not so difficult to find, but in other situations, the line taken is more or less arbitrary, for exposures are few and far between. As the map shows, the Nyaungkangyi band enters from the south and strikes the north. It is about 1 ½ miles broad at first. It becomes wider in the Pangyun Valley, gradually thinning out towards the north-north-west before it finally disappears below the overlying Plateau Limestone in the Nam Krak Valley. In most of the places where I have crossed this band, I have succeeded in finding characteristic Nyaungkangyi fossils; cystidean plates and Rafinesquina sp. are the most common.

Pangsapye Graptolite Bed.

Immediately above the purple sandy shales at the top of the upper Naungkangi beds, a thin band of carbonaceous shales containing large numbers of graptolites is found. I have found the southern extension of the band where it crosses the bed of the Nam Tu, about a mile below its junction with the Nam Pangyun and the mainstream, where it is a band of black slate containing abundant specimens of Monograptus sp.

Nam Hsim Sandstones.

La Touche’s general summary of the rocks of this group is as follows: -
A sandy series at least 2,000 feet thick, sometimes very coarse in texture, and elsewhere fine-grained and compact, hard and splintery.

NATIONAL

Pangas catfish: A top choice among fish farmers

AMONG different varieties of fish, fish farm owners prefer pangas catfish to breed in their farms, according to fish breeding businesses.

“Fish farms prefer pangas catfish to breed in the monsoon. Pangas catfish is the second most favourite fish of farm owners. They are sold in dried fish and raw. It is cost-effective. The most favourite fish of farm owners is rohu,” said an official from Aung Htet Kyaw fish breeding and distribution from Kayan Township.

In December 2023, pangas catfish exported from Pantanaw Township were sold well, and demand was also good in January of this year. Pantanaw is a significant exporter of pangas catfish to Yangon Region. Pangas catfish, which were caught naturally, are also exported to Yangon. From there, they are distributed to other regions and states, according to fish breeding businesses in Pantanaw Township.

The breeding of natural pangas catfish, which is a freshwater native species of Myanmar, has been thriving. It is one of the major fishes for livestock farms as well as one of the most consumed fishes in the domestic market, and selling it into dried fish is also good. — Thit Taw/ZS



Fish breeding pond and small pangas catfish.

Illegal goods seized in various states/regions



Officials inspect teak logs illegally extracted and transported from various regions.

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action is being taken under the law against illicit trading across the nation.

During inspections on 29 May, the Customs on-duty teams captured nine kinds of goods worth K241.935 million, including 5,894.064 square metres of clear float glass that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from 19 containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint. This enforcement was carried out according to the Custom Procedures.

On 29 May, the on-duty teams under the Magway Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force captured two unregistered motorbikes worth K700,000 at the Anawrahta checkpoint in Chauk township and an unregistered Luojia-110 motorbike (estimated value of K200,000) in Yenangyoung township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

On 31 May, the combined teams supervised by the Bago

Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized illegal teak weighing 1.877 tonnes, illegal hardwood weighing 0.6124 tonne and illegal other timbers weighing 0.872 tonne worth K1,136,304 in Toungoo and Pyay districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that six arrests were made on 29 and 31 May, with an estimated value of K243 million. — MNA/MKKS

K4.425B worth of stimulant tablets confiscated in Shwetaung township

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Police Force, stimulant tablets worth K4.425 billion were seized in Shwetaung township, Bago Region.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team comprising members of the Anti-Drug Police Force stopped and searched a six-wheel vehicle driven by Htun Htun Win, accompanied by Htin Kyaw and Hein Min Min (aka) Hman Lay near Sinmakyet village on Yangon-Pyay Road in Shwetaung township at 10:30 am on 28 May. The search resulted in the discovery of 2,950,000 stimulant tablets packed in bags, valued at K4.425 billion, hidden under bricks.

Similarly, the police force continuously arrested Kyaw Swa Htun, who is the owner of the vehicle and involved in the transport of the drug, Htun Htun (aka) Maung Maung and Yan Naung Htwe (aka) Naung Naung who are involved in the drugs trafficking.

“The offenders admitted that the seized drugs, which originated from Shan State, are to be transported from Yangon Region to Mindon Township in Magway Region.

They are under prosecution, and perpetrators are still under investigation, according to the Police Force. — MNA/MKKS



Offenders are seen alongside seized drugs and a vehicle.

China’s leading industrial park launches one-stop carbon neutrality services



This aerial photo taken on 4 July 2023 shows a view by the Jinji Lake in Suzhou, east China’s Jiangsu Province. **PHOTO: LIBO**

The move aims to efficiently match businesses with resources for reducing carbon emissions, relieving costs incurred during emission reduction efforts.

ONE of China’s leading industrial parks has accelerated its transition to carbon neutrality as it moves to aid businesses in their carbon reduction endeavors. Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP), located in east China’s Jiangsu Province, has begun offering one-stop services incorporating the verification of carbon reduction, carbon trading and certification of carbon neutrality to businesses operating in the park.

The move aims to efficiently match businesses with the resources to reduce carbon emissions with those in need, thereby relieving the costs incurred during enterprises’ emission reduction efforts.

Clean energy accounts for

over 90 per cent of the overall energy consumption in SIP. In late 2022, the park launched a market-based inclusive carbon trading system for voluntary carbon transactions, and has since publicized four guidelines concerning carbon reduction projects in sectors of distributed photovoltaics, specialized charging poles, lighting energy conservation, and wetland carbon sinks.

With the one-stop inclusive services of carbon neutrality in place, the park will boost its “dual carbon” service capacity to meet businesses and public institutions’ demand to cut CO2 emissions, according to the park administrative committee. —

Xinhua

Sri Lankan president emphasizes plan to exploit renewable energy

During a discussion themed “Advancing Energy Transition”, the President highlighted the significance of a recent report on green hydrogen and emphasized the need for meticulous planning to capitalize on this burgeoning sector.

SRI Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Wednesday emphasized the need for a comprehensive plan to exploit renewable energy and explore future trends in green hydrogen in Sri Lanka, the President’s Media Division (PMD) said.

According to the PMD, the president made the remarks during a discussion themed Advancing Energy Transition.

The president highlighted a recent report on green hydrogen, noting its importance and the necessity for detailed planning to leverage the emerging sector, the PMD said.

He acknowledged the gaps



Sri Lanka aims to explore future trends in green hydrogen within its energy sector. **PHOTO: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE/PIXABAY**

in local expertise and called for international assistance from organizations such as the World Bank, the Asian Development

Bank and all stakeholders, including local and international investors, according to the PMD. — Xinhua

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to ...

FROM PAGE-9

Occasionally, their boundary with the lower rocks is marked by beds of coarse conglomerate, which consist of water-worn pebbles and boulders of Chaung Magyi quartzites.

Plateau Limestone.

To the east of the Nam Hsim zone, the Plateau Limestones occupy the whole country except where they are overlain in the southeast of the map by the red beds of the Namyau series of the Jurassic Age.

Namyau Beds.

The Namyau series of Jurassic Age rests unconformably on the Plateau Limestone. It is distinguished by the dark red to purplish-red colour of

its sandstones, though beds of grey and pepper and salt sandstones and bands of yellow clay are sometimes interstratified in the higher parts of the series.

Recent and Sub-Recent.

In addition to the recent alluvium, which borders some of the larger streams in the district, I have noticed raised river terraces in both the Nam Kung and Nam Pangyun streams, which points to the recent uplifts in the region.

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ECONOMY

WORLD

SE Asia gas expansion threatens green transition: Report

Natural gas is often considered a “transition fuel” due to its lower carbon dioxide emissions compared to other fossil fuels, aiding in emissions reduction while maintaining economic growth.



Natural gas emits less carbon dioxide than most other fossil fuels, but methane leaks from the gas industry are a key component of climate change. **PHOTO: MOHD RASFAN/AFP**

SOUTHEAST Asia is on track to vastly expand its gas-fired power plant and liquid natural gas import capacity, threatening its green energy transition, a report warned Thursday.

The region’s existing plans project a doubling of gas-fired power capacity, and an 80 per cent increase in LNG import capacity, said Global Energy Monitor (GEM), a US-based NGO.

Natural gas emits less carbon dioxide than most other fossil fuels, and so it is often considered a “transition fuel” that can help economies reduce emissions without sacrificing growth.

But methane leaks from the gas industry are a key component of climate change, and the International Energy Agency (IEA) has warned LNG should only have a “limited role” in moving away from coal.

“Beating coal on environmental grounds sets a low bar for natural gas, given there are lower-emissions and lower-cost alternatives to both fuels,” it said in 2019.

Leading the LNG expansion in the region are Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand, GEM said.

But the area already has enough large-scale solar and wind capacity in development to cover nearly two-thirds of the projected increase in energy demand by 2030, GEM added.

It acknowledged, however, that renewables potential is unevenly distributed across the region, with some countries better placed to harness wind or solar than others.

And grid infrastructure regionally is also a barrier, with upgrades needed to facilitate renewable integration.

That might make LNG appear more attractive, particularly where existing coal or diesel power plants can be converted.

“But ramping up gas production is not a long-term solution,” said Warda Ajaz, project manager for GEM’s Asia Gas Tracker. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vatican urges debt cancellation for small island states

THE Holy See has urged developed nations to cancel debt held by small island states, which are on the front line of climate change, Vatican News said Wednesday.

“Debt cancellation is not just a matter of economic or development policy,” Vatican representative Robert Murphy said during a four-day Small Island Developing States (SIDS) conference.

It is “a moral imperative rooted in the principles of justice and solidarity”, he said Tuesday. SIDS are extremely vulnerable to climate change but not rich enough to stop it on their own.

“The escalating debt burden faced by SIDS is becoming more and more unsustainable”, Murphy told the summit in the Caribbean nation of Antigua and Barbuda, according to Vatican News. — AFP

Iraq exports over 102 mln barrels of crude oil in April

IRAQ exported about 102.38 million barrels of crude oil in April, the country’s Oil Ministry announced on Wednesday. During the month, about 100.92 million barrels were exported from oil fields in central and southern Iraq via the port of Basra, and 1.016 million barrels from the Qayyara oilfield in the northern province of Nineveh, the ministry said in a statement, citing statistics from the State Organization for Marketing of Oil, an Iraqi company. — Xinhua

Experts call for new Bretton Woods system amid global economic challenges

Economists and central bank governors worldwide are advocating for a new Bretton Woods system to address contemporary economic challenges such as high inflation, increasing protectionism, and climate change.

ECONOMISTS and central bank governors from across the world have called for a new Bretton Woods system as the world’s economy grapples with challenges such as high inflation, rising protectionism, and climate change.

They made the comments during an international forum held on Monday and Tuesday in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province.

“The world needs a new Bretton Woods system, and the new system should benefit all countries, provide financial stability for the future of humanity, support economic growth, and achieve global prosperity,”



Zhu Min, founder of the Global Economic Governance 50 Forum and former deputy governor of the People’s Bank of China and deputy managing director of the International Monetary Fund. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

said Zhu Min, founder of the Global Economic Governance 50 Forum. He is also a former deputy governor of the People’s Bank of China and former deputy managing director of the International Monetary Fund. — Xinhua



When SAG-AFTRA strikes outside Paramount Studios, it signifies a significant labour dispute within the entertainment industry and highlights the efforts of union members to advocate for their rights and interests. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/AFP/FILE**

Los Angeles’ share of film, TV employment fell precipitously in 2023: report

The Otis College Report on the Creative Economy, titled “Die Another Day – Hollywood Transformed in the Streaming Era”, highlighted the growth of film and TV jobs outside of Los Angeles.

LOS Angeles County’s share of US film and TV employment fell precipitously to 27 per cent in 2023, down eight percentage points from the year before, but Hollywood remains the industry leader, according to a new report released on Thursday.

The Otis College Report on the Creative Economy, titled “Die Another Day — Hollywood Trans-

formed in the Streaming Era,” pointed out that film and TV jobs are growing outside of Los Angeles “will naturally raise age-old questions about Los Angeles’ place within the film and TV industry, and the extent to which the industry is leaving for competing markets, threatening LA’s traditional role as ‘soundstage to the world’.

New York and Atlan-

ta, which are home to the next two largest film and TV centers in the country, made up 12 per cent and two per cent, respectively, of the entertainment workforce. While Los Angeles County’s share of Film and TV employment has dipped, the industry isn’t dispersing to any particular place, but many different places. — Xinhua

French pharmacists strike over pay and drug shortages

FRENCH pharmacists launched their first walk-out in 10 years on Thursday, closing up shop over drug shortages, low regulated prices, pharmacy closures and fears medications could be sold online.

After poster and email campaigns to warn of the closures in recent days, patients found around 90 per cent of pharmacies across France closed for the day, with every single one in some regional towns shutting their doors.

Local authorities have requisitioned some locations to ensure legally-required minimum coverage.

Protesters in cities including Toulouse, Nice, Angers and Limoges chanted slogans like “Pharmacies in danger means a threat to health” and “Where’s the amoxicillin?” referring to an antibiotic that has suffered repeated shortages.

Professionals say they are just as concerned about drug shortages, rural closures and training reform as about remuneration and conditions.

“The biggest worry is vanishing pharmacies” which face economic hardship in rural areas and sometimes even in towns and cities, said Philippe Besset, president of the

FSPF pharmacists’ union federation.

Around 2,000 pharmacies have closed nationwide in 10 years, leaving around 20,000 in operation, trade bodies say. Pharmacist Alexandre Aunis in central Paris said he was staying open Thursday to make up for this month’s revenue shortfall due to repeated bank holidays. — AFP



French musician, singer and pharmacist Julien Sfeir poses in the back shop of a pharmacy at Angers railway station, western France, on 28 May 2024. **PHOTO: SEBASTIEN SALOM-GOMIS / AFP**

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, **Jiangxi Zhongxun Agrochemical Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Myanmar Golden Sun Crop Science Co.,Ltd** to **Agro Hero Crop Science Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Trustco Profens 40 EC	Profenofos 40% EC	Provisional	F2023-4271

Agro Hero Crop Science Co.,Ltd
Tel: 09-784772103

Bangladesh’s business environment deteriorates in 2023

BANGLADESH’S business environment deteriorated slightly in 2023 compared with 2022, mainly because of sluggish regulatory reforms, weak infrastructure and difficulty in access to finance, according to the Bangladesh Business Climate Index (BBX) released Thursday.

Measured on a scale of 0-100, the homegrown index fell to 58.75 in 2023 from 61.95 the previous year, according to the BBX 2023-24 launched by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and Policy Exchange of Bangladesh (PEB), Bangladeshi newspaper The Daily Star reported.

“Significant reforms are required,” said PEB Chairman M Masrur Reaz presenting the findings of the BBX at a programme in Dhaka.

The survey was conducted among 520 small, medium and large enterprises. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2406S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2406S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-6-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SEASTAR TITAN VOY.NO. (104922)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SEASTAR TITAN VOY.NO. (104922)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-6-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-3** 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 CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

ROLLING UPDATES:
WORLD

Ukraine, allies to receive
devastating response if Western
arms used on Russia: Medvedev

Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev warned that Ukraine and its allies would face a devastating response if long-range Western weapons were used on Russian territory. Medvedev stated that such a response could lead to NATO's involvement in the conflict.



Medvedev suggested that the conflict with the West could potentially escalate to its final stage. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK /FILE**

UKRAINE and its allies will receive a devastating response to the possible use of long-range Western weapons on the Russian territory, which will lead to NATO's involvement in the conflict, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry

Medvedev said on Friday. "The former Ukraine and its NATO allies will receive a response of such destructive force that the alliance itself simply will not be able to resist being drawn into the conflict," Medvedev wrote on Telegram.

The military conflict with the West is developing according to the worst scenario, there is a constant escalation of the power of applicable NATO weapons, so no one can exclude the transition of the conflict with the West to its final stage, the official said. "Western countries that allegedly 'approved the use' of their long-range weapons on Russian territory (regardless of whether we are talking about old or new parts of our country) must clearly understand the following: all their military equipment and specialists fighting against us will be destroyed both on the territory of former Ukraine and on the territory of other countries if attacks are carried out on Russian territory from there," Medvedev said. — SPUTNIK

Hamas says ready to reach “full
agreement” if Israel stops war



People take part in a protest calling for the release of hostages taken by Hamas in Gaza, at a shopping mall in Tel Aviv, Israel, on 21 February 2024. **PHOTO: TOMER NEUBERG/JINI VIA XINHUA/FILE**

HAMAS announced on Thursday that it has informed mediators of its readiness to reach

a “full agreement”, including a comprehensive hostages-prisoners exchange deal, if Israel

stops its war in the Gaza Strip, according to a statement from the Gaza-ruling Palestinian faction. Hamas said it has showed flexibility and positivity in response to the efforts of the mediators throughout all previous indirect negotiating rounds, but Israel used these negotiations “as a cover for the continuation of aggression” against the Palestinian people, citing military operations in Rafah and seizure of the crossing as evidence.

Hamas and other Palestinian factions will not accept to be part of this policy by continuing negotiations in light of “aggression, killing, siege, starvation and genocide of our people”, it added. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

40 injured in gas cylinder explosion in
southern Pakistan

A gas cylinder explosion injured at least 40 people, mostly women and children, in Pakistan's southern Sindh province on Thursday, police said.

The incident happened in Hyderabad district of the province where the explosion happened in a shop selling gas cylinders, the district's police told media.

The explosion sparked a massive fire that quickly spread to several nearby houses, giving residents little time to escape, the police added.

The injured people were shifted to a nearby hospital where 10 individuals were reportedly in critical condition.

An investigation into the incident is underway, police said. — Xinhua

Former US President
Donald Trump convicted
on all charges



Former US President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump walks to speak to the press after he was convicted in his criminal trial at Manhattan Criminal Court in New York City, on 30 May 2024. **PHOTO: MARK PETERSON / POOL / AFP**

A New York jury convicted Donald Trump on all charges in his hush money case Thursday in a seismic development barely five months ahead of the election where he seeks to recapture the White House.

The historic first criminal trial of a former US president ended with the 77-year-old Trump found guilty on each of the 34 charges of falsifying business records to hide a payment meant to silence porn star Stormy Daniels.

Trump, who is all but certain to appeal, did not immediately react, but sat still, his shoulders dipping. The conviction thrusts the United States into uncharted political territory but does not bar Trump from a White House run, even in the unlikely event that

Judge Juan Merchan sentences him to prison time.

The verdict comes just weeks before the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, where Trump is due to receive the party's formal nomination to face Democratic President Joe Biden on 5 November.

The 12-member jury deliberated for more than 11 hours over two days at the end of the extraordinary five-week trial held in a drab Manhattan courtroom.

Trump was convicted of falsifying business records to reimburse his lawyer, Michael Cohen, for a \$130,000 payment to Stormy Daniels on the eve of the 2016 election, when her claim to have had sex with him could have proved politically fatal. — AFP

Marc Brys reinstated as Cameroon coach after FA chief apologizes

CAMEROON Football Federation (FECAFOOT) announced Thursday evening that Belgian Marc Brys has been reinstated as head coach of the national men's football team barely two days after he was sacked.

In a statement FECAFOOT said, the decision was taken after an "important working session" with Brys Thursday afternoon during which FECAFOOT president Samuel Eto'o apologized for a heated exchange between him and Brys.

On Tuesday, FECAFOOT appointed Martin Mpile Ndtoungou as interim head coach of the Indomitable Lions after Eto'o and Brys were seen on video exchanging harsh words before the start of a crisis meeting.

"I apologize because during our first unfortunate meeting, there was a lot of emotion. The Cameroonian people are more important than us, and it is for them that we have to work.

Your assignment is not an easy one despite your qualities and experience, but you should know that you will have our support," Eto'o said during a press conference on Thursday shortly before the official announcement reinstating Brys as coach. — Xinhua



Myanmar U-16 footballers are seen posing for a group photo. **PHOTO: MFF**

Lot-drawing event for 2024 AFF U-16 Championship held

A lot-drawing event for the 2024 ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) U-16 Championship was held on 30 May, as stated by the ASEAN Football Federation.

Indonesia will host the tourney, which will be held from 21 June to 4

July. All the 12 AFF member nations (divided into three groups of four) will compete in the championship. According to the format of the competition, the top three teams from each group and the best second-placed team will qualify for the semi-finals.

Group A sees host Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines and Singapore, while Myanmar will take on ASEAN powerhouse Vietnam, Cambodia and Brunei in Group B. Meanwhile, Thailand will play against Australia, Malaysia and Timor Leste in Group C. Japanese head coach Mitami will handle the young Myanmar squad.

The team is composed of players who showed their skills in the FIFA-MFF U-15 league tournament that was held at the end of last year, as well as players from football academies. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Paris 2024 sport climbing venue nears completion



This photo shows the competition venue for climbing events in Le Bourget, near Paris. **PHOTO: JULIEN MATTIA/XINHUA**

The climbing wall features the main colour scheme of this year's Olympics with a gradient of green and pink borders and is equipped with a canopy for protection from sunlight and rain.

THE construction of the sport climbing venue for the upcoming Paris Olympic Games in Le Bourget

is nearly complete, as organizers unveiled one of the three newly-built Olympic venues to the press on Thursday.

A temporary 15-metre-high outdoor wall has been erected in the new Parc des Sports du Bourget, located in the northeastern suburb of Paris, and the assembly of the temporary spectator stands is almost complete.

The climbing wall, featuring the main colour scheme of this year's Olympics with a gradient of green and pink borders, is equipped with a canopy to protect it from direct sunlight and rain.

The temporary spectator stands have 3,000 seats and 3,000 standing places. After the competition, these structures will be dismantled, and the climbing panels will be re-assembled at other locations across France for continued use. "Our ticket sales have been very successful. All our tickets are sold out, and 36,000 people will watch the competition during the event," said Vincent Causse, the head of the climbing venue.

This will be the second appearance of climbing in the Olympics, following its debut in the Tokyo Olympics. — Xinhua

MFF Basic Referee Course 2/2024 concludes

THE graduation event for the MFF Basic Referee Course 2/2024, jointly organized by the Myanmar Football Federation and the Referee Committee, was held at the press conference hall of Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon on 30 May.

Senior officials from the Myanmar Football Federation, as well as coaches and trainees, attended the event.

General Secretary U Tun Tun Aung of the Myanmar Football Federation, football federation consultant U Bunny Tin Aung and referee committee chairperson U Hla Tint delivered their speeches and then presented certificates to the trainees.

The MFF Basic Referee Course 2/2024 was conducted from 24 to 30 May, attended by two female trainees plus 18 male trainees. — TWA/KZL



Trainees are seen posing for a group photo during the graduation event of the MFF Basic Referee Course 2/2024. **PHOTO: MFF**

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devastating response if Western
arms used on Russia: Medvedev
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WORLD



The Vivekananda Rock Memorial holds symbolic importance as a beacon of national unity and inspiration. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

PM Modi meditates at Vivekananda rock memorial for the upliftment of Bharat: BJP’s CR Kesavan

AS Prime Minister Narendra Modi meditates at the Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanniyakumari, BJP leader CR Kesavan said that PM Modi’s meditation is not for personal salvation but for the upliftment of India.

“Currently, PM Modi is meditating

and praying at the divine feet of our Bharat Mata at Kanyakumari in the Vivekananda rock memorial. PM Modi is meditating and praying not for personal salvation but for the uplifting of Bharat,” Kesavan said.

Kesavan emphasised that PM Modi is following in the footsteps of Swami Viveka-

nanda, making this meditation a milestone event in Indian history.

“PM Modi following in the footsteps of Swami Vivekananda to meditate will be a milestone event in our history, and on 1 June, after he completes 45 hours of meditation, he will come out with a renewed

Kesavan emphasized that PM Modi is following in the footsteps of Swami Vivekananda, making this meditation a milestone event in Indian history.

resolve and faith to serve the people of Bharat,” Kesavan said.

He also showed confidence in PM Modi returning for a third term in office.

“We are very sure that on 4 June, with the blessings of Swami Vivekananda and blessings of the people of Bharat, he will continue his historic journey to lead Bharat in the Kartavya kaal to become a viksit Bharat,” Kesavan said.

The Vivekananda Rock Memorial, where PM Modi is meditating, stands as a symbol of national unity and inspiration. Recalling the significance of the location, Kesavan narrated how in the 1890s, Swami Vivekananda, distressed by the poverty and lack of self-confidence among Indians under British rule, sought answers at this very rock. From 25 December to 27 December, 1892, Vivekananda prayed and found enlightenment and a path forward. — ANI

SNAP PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Ex-speaker of Iran’s parliament Larijani registers for presidential election - Reports

THE former speaker of the Iranian parliament, Ali Larijani, one of the most famous Iranian politicians, has registered his candidacy for the upcoming extraordinary presidential election, Iranian news agency ISNA reported on Friday.

The registration of candidates for Iran’s snap presidential election, called after the death of President Ebrahim Raisi, began on 30 May and the final list of participants will be presented on 11 June. Larijani attended the election headquarters at the Iranian Interior Ministry at the beginning of the second day of registration and submitted his candidacy for the 14th presidential election, becoming the sixth nominee, the news agency reported.

Candidates will be able to conduct a two-week election campaign from 12 June to 26 June, media reported earlier in the month. Currently, Larijani serves as an advisor to Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, as well as a member of the country’s Expediency Discernment Council, the news agency reported. — SPUTNIK

World No Tobacco Day: Global youth calls for tobacco industry to stop targeting them with harmful products

ON this World No Tobacco Day, the youth across the world called for the tobacco industry to stop targeting them with products that are harmful to their health.

The young people also called on governments to adopt policies to protect them from these manipulative practices, including relentless marketing of harmful products.

The Member States of the World Health Organization designated 31 May as World No Tobacco Day in 1987, to draw attention to the global tobacco epidemic, and the preventable death and disease it causes.

“This year, World No Tobacco Day calls on us all to protect



World No Tobacco Day 2024 will give a platform to young people across the world, who are urging governments to shield them from predatory tobacco marketing tactics. The industry targets youth for a lifetime of profits, creating a new wave of addiction. ILLUSTRATION: WHO

children from the interference of the tobacco industry. Young people across the world are calling for the tobacco industry to stop targeting them with products that are harmful to their health,” WHO Regional Director for Southeast Asia, Saima Wazed said. — ANI