



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing observes the maintenance of National Kandawgyi Garden in PyinOoLwin.

Increased number of travellers can contribute to the improvement of the socioeconomic life of residents, said Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, on the morning of 5 December, inspected the maintenance of the National Kandawgyi Garden and construction of Thumingala Market (Nyantaw Market) in PyinOoLwin.

At the briefing hall, Director General Dr Thaung Naing Oo of the Forest Department and Chief Executive Officer U Yazar Htwe of the Garden In-charge company reported to the Senior General on inflow of water to the lakes in the garden, accomplishment of the guidance given by the Senior General on his inspection tour in September this year, conservation of

PyinOoLwin should always bloom with flowers

Visits of travellers depend on the beautification of the PyinOoLwin region, and its lush and green land scapes.

trees and flowery plants in the garden, preparations to hold the 17th flower festival to mark the centenary anniversary of the garden, and holding the essay, painting and poem contests to mark the centenary celebration.

In his address, the Senior General stressed that as the National Kandawgyi Garden is

a landmark, it is necessary to ensure the long-term existence of the garden and attraction to travellers for their visits.

He highlighted that PyinOoLwin must be decorated with blossoming of flowers at all times.

He underlined that not only the garden but also roads and

wards must be decorated with flowery plants for the creation of beautiful sceneries.

The Senior General underscored that visits of travellers to the PyinOoLwin region depend on the beautification of the region and lush and green scenes.

He noted that as an increased number of travellers

can contribute to the improvement of the socioeconomic life of residents, it is necessary to maintain the travel situation.

He instructed that green zone areas must be shaped in the region without fail with growing perennial and shade trees under systematic conservation so as to ensure favourable weather.

The Senior General and party visited the garden in a motorcade, and inspected the conservation of flowery plants, the research centre of domestic flowery plants and test plots in addition to the construction of the circular road on the bund.

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Myanmar delegation discusses healthcare system development programmes in Russia

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Myanmar bags US\$1M+ from honey exports in 7 months

Article

Let's Combat Illegal Trade with People's Participation

By Alinn Yaung (Htun)

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NATIONAL

Empowering Youth: Nurturing Future Leaders for National Integrity and Prestige

- The youth who will serve the State are its future leaders.
- It is essential to systematically nurture young people to instil good morale and a strong national spirit, enhancing the State's prestige and preserving national integrity.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Union government meeting 4/2024 on 22 April 2024)

‘Traditional Myanmar New Year Atã Thingyan Festival’ successfully inscribed on Intangible Cultural Heritage List

‘TRADITIONAL Myanmar New Year Atã Thingyan Festival’ has been successfully inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity during the 19th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Culture Heritage being held in Asuncion, Paraguay, from 2 to 7 December 2024.

U Kyaw Zeya, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Myanmar to UNESCO and Myanmar delegates are attending the mentioned meeting.

While expressing the message of thanks, the Myanmar Permanent Delegate highlighted that the successful inscription of the Myanmar New Year Atã Thingyan Festival on the Intangible Cultural Heritage List was a result of the steadfast efforts and collaboration of all stakeholders and communities in Myanmar. He also stressed that it is imperative for the State Party of Myanmar to continue its efforts in safeguarding Atã Thingyan which is a treasured heritage of humanity to endure another thousand years as it has been passed down from generation to generation. Moreover, he thanked all distinguished Members of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee, the Secretary of the 2003 Convention, the Secretariat and the Advisory Bodies for their invaluable support for the successful inscription of the Traditional Myanmar New Year Atã Thingyan Festival on the Intangible Cultural Heritage List. — MNA

DSA 66th intake graduates commissioned

THE commissioning ceremony for the cadets from the 66th intake of the Defence Services Academy took place at the DSA Convocation Hall yesterday morning. Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Lin Aung of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), senior military officers from the Office of the Command-

er-in-Chief, the DSA commandant, and graduate cadets were in attendance.

Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Lin Aung presented officer commissioning certificates to each graduate cadet. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Lin Aung delivered a speech and concluded the ceremony. — MNA/TRKM



A graduate cadet receives the officer commissioning certificate.



အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ် အကြမ်းဖက်မှုပျောက်ရေး(၁၆)ရက်တာ လှုပ်ရှားမှု

၂၅-၁၁-၂၀၂၄ ရက်မှ ၁၀-၁၂-၂၀၂၄ ရက်ထိ

“အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ်အကြမ်းဖက်မှု ရပ်တန့်ဖို့ အားလုံးပေါင်းစု ကြိုးပမ်းလို့ ဘေဂျင်းကြေညာစာတမ်းနှင့် လုပ်ငန်းစီမံချက် နှစ်(၃၀)ပြည့်ဆီ အရောက်လှမ်းဖို့”

“ Towards 30 years of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:
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NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

PyinOoLwin should always bloom with flowers

FROM PAGE 1

At the six-storey market construction project of Thumin-gala Market (Nyantaw Market) in PyinOoLwin, the Senior General heard reports on work progress of the project, plans to open shops on each floor, construction for playgrounds and cinemas, installation of solar panels to generate electricity, architectural designs for Local Fresh Fruits & Meats Market and Banking Service Area on the ground floor, battery chargers for EV cars at the car parks, proper flow of water in drains, and sewage water system presented by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung.

In his response, the Senior General emphasized that it is necessary to supervise systematic allotment of shops, emphasize cleanliness on the floor where restaurants will be opened and facilitate there with



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects the six-storey construction project of Thumin-gala Market (Nyantaw Market) in PyinOoLwin.

water and power systems.

The Senior General emphasized that the construction of the advanced market aims to emerge a modern market

aligned with the populous PyinOoLwin and a growing number of travellers and to provide domestic products and personal goods for customers at a single

venue.

The Senior General visited the construction site of the market and gave necessary guidance to officials.

Also present on the trip were Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, council members, Union ministers, and officials. — MNA/TTA

Gold Market Rate as of
6 December 2024

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with a density of 19.25 and above is K5,330,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister receives
Myanmar’s Honorary Consul to State of North
Rhine-Westphalia, Germany

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received U Maung Thura, Honorary Consul of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Federal Republic of Germany, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe explained recent developments in Myanmar. Both sides also cordially exchanged



Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe meets the Myanmar’s Honorary Consul to the State of North Rhine-Westphalia in Germany.

views on the enhancement of cultural, economic and trade cooperation between Myanmar

and Germany, including matters related to protecting Myanmar citizens in Germany. — MNA



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NATIONAL



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing salutes the cadet company during the passing out parade of the DSA 66th Intake.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing underlined that a profound grasp of and commitment to the 'Rules of Engagement (RoE)' observed worldwide are indispensable for maintaining operational integrity.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the passing out parade of the 66th Intake of Defence Services Academy at the DSA parade ground in PyinOoLwin yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General delivered a speech. He said: As discipline and a positive mindset are intrinsically linked, the cultivation of a positive mindset invariably reinforces disciplined behaviour. Discipline serves as a moral virtue and the backbone and soul of the Tatmadaw, making it vital to respect and maintain it diligently. Given the stringent disciplinary measures mandated by the Military Act, a thorough study and understanding of its provisions are imperative to ensure proactive compliance. Moreover, a profound grasp of and commitment to the 'Rules

DSA commissions junior officers in 66th Intake

All comrades have to dedicate themselves fully within their respective sectors in the seamless transition of national responsibilities to the government that emerges from the election results.

of Engagement (RoE)' observed worldwide are indispensable for maintaining operational integrity.

I call upon all comrades to dedicate themselves fully within their respective sectors, ensuring the meticulous organization of the election through accurate voter lists, and facilitating the seamless transition of national responsibilities to the government that emerges from the election results.

Comrades should not be deceived by such deliberate dissemination of fake news and misinformation aimed at the disintegration of Tatmadaw, and it is crucial to strengthen the cohesion of

military personnel and their families within their respective units to ensure they remain steadfast in their determination and amenability, shielding them from the corrosive impact of fake news and misinformation while fostering unity within the unit.

I would like to highlight that the dutiful execution of orders and duties assigned by superiors, along with the successful implementation of four major tasks daily, while leading subordinates with much exposure, plays a crucial role in strengthening unity within the unit.

I firmly assert that comrades must rigorously uphold the established codes

of conduct with a steadfast commitment to fostering external unity beyond the unit.

They are also duty-bound to render public services, including making substantial contributions to regional development projects, providing swift and decisive aid in the aftermath of natural disasters, and ensuring the comprehensive provision of education, healthcare, and social welfare.

These obligations must be fulfilled with sincerity and profound dedication, as they are integral to the Tatmadaw's paramount responsibilities.

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NATIONAL

DSA commissions junior officers ...

FROM PAGE 4

Cadet companies saluted the Senior General with the slow-march past and quick-march past. The Senior General presented the Best Cadet Award to Cadet Htet Arkar, Excellent Award in Training to Cadet Thiha Soe, Excellent Award in Studies (Arts) to Cadet Nay Thukha, Excellent Award in Studies (Science) to Cadet Ye Htet and Excellent Award in Studies (Computer) to Cadet Zaw Phyو Aung respectively.

After taking the salute of the cadet companies, the Senior General left the parade ground.

After the ceremony, the Senior General met five outstanding cadets and their parents and relatives at the DSA headquarters and spoke words of honour.

He urged those outstanding cadets to take good experiences from seniors in serving the duties of the State and Tatmadaw. As Tatmadaw members are born of people, Tatmadaw is one of the parts of the State. They all have to be loyal to themselves, their organization and the State and serve the assigned duties conscientiously as part of serving the interests of the State and Tatmadaw.

Also present at the ceremony were Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Senior General, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Thiri Pyanchi Sithu Maung Maung Aye and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Zeya Kyaw Htin Htein Win and his wife,

Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Zeya Kyaw Htin Sithu Tun Aung and his wife, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, military attachés from foreign missions to Myanmar, parents and relatives of graduate cadets and guests.

In the evening, the Senior General attended the graduation dinner to honour the 66th Intake of DSA at the mess hall of the Anawrahta Battalion of the DSA.

Also, present at the dinner were Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Senior General, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung and his wife, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, Union ministers, the Chief Minister of Mandalay Region and his wife, the commander of

Central Command, the commandant of DSA, officials of PyinOoLwin Station, parents and relatives of graduate officers and guests.

The Senior General cordially greeted the graduate officers and had dinner together with graduate officers and dignitaries.

At the dinner, the Senior General and dignitaries enjoyed the song entertainment of Myawady Entertainment Troupe. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General warmly greets the graduate officers at yesterday's dinner.

NSPNC, political parties continue discussions on democracy, federalism



The second-day discussions between the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee and political parties in progress yesterday.

THE second day of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) meeting registered political parties continued yesterday at the NSP Centre in Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Border Affairs and NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, committee members, and representatives from 51 registered political parties.

Discussions focused on building a union based on democracy and federalism, elections, security, and other general issues. NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing presented the results of the two-day discussions, including a study on the

Indian Constitution and feedback from ethnic armed organizations and political parties on amending the 2008 Constitution.

Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung emphasized the importance of moving towards a regional-based federal system and ensuring full security for free and fair elections. The meeting concluded with expressions of gratitude from committee members Lt-Gen Sein Win (Retired) and U Hla Maung Shwe, political party representatives Daw Khin Saw Nwe from the Lisu National Development Party (Dulay Party) and U Ko Ko Gyi from the People's Party, followed by a group photo. — MNA/TS

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.

NATIONAL

Excitement builds as competitions continue at 5th National Sports Festival

THE Fifth National Sports Festival 2024 continued yesterday with various competitions held at designated sports venues across Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Inter-State and Region Under-23 men's basketball quarter-finals took place at the Shwekyapin gymnasium, where Shan State defeated Sagaing Region 101-60, Kachin State triumphed over Kayin State 65-44, Yangon Region overcame Bago Region 82-57, and Mandalay Region secured a victory against Kayah State 81-42.

In the Inter-State and Region Under-20 volleyball competitions at the Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex B, the Yangon Region men's team beat Kayah State 3-0, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area team defeated Magway Region 3-0, and Sagaing Region thrashed Mon State 3-0. In the women's category, Ayeyawady Region defeated Bago Region 3-0, while Kayin State triumphed over Mon State 3-0.

Inter-State and Region women's futsal quarterfinals were held at the Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex's futsal hall. Sagaing Region edged past Taninthayi Region 4-3, Yangon Region dominated Shan State 8-0, Ayeyawady Region defeated Mon State 5-3, and Kachin State outplayed Nay Pyi Taw Council Area 4-1.

Meanwhile, in the Under-21 men's football matches at Wunna Theikdi's training grounds 3 and 4, Kayin State and Shan State ended in a 1-1 draw, while Ayeyawady Region secured a narrow 1-0 win over Rakhine State.

Inter-ministry men's football matches took place across Paunglaung, Shwekyapin, and Lewe TC-2 sports fields. The Ministry of Planning and Finance team drew 1-1 with the Ministry of Construction, and the Ministry of Energy team tied 1-1 with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education trounced the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation 6-0.

In Inter-State and Region Badminton competition group matches at the Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex C, the Yangon Region men's team won over Kachin State 3-0, Ayeyawady Region defeated Sagaing Region 3-2, Shan State triumphed over Magway Region 3-0, Mandalay Region overcame Nay Pyi Taw Council Area 3-0, Bago Region beat Kayin State 3-0, and Kayah State edged out Mon State 3-2. In the women's category, Yangon Region beat Mon State 3-0,



Kayah versus Yangon in men's volleyball.



Cricketers in action.



Shan versus Taninthayi in women's badminton.



Inter-States & Regions women's Sepak Takraw.



Inter-States & Regions women's futsal match.



Inter-States & Regions men's football tourney.

Mandalay Region defeated Sagaing Region Area 3-0, Bago Region outclassed Nay Pyi Taw Council Area 3-0, and Shan State overcame Taninthayi Region 3-0.

In Inter-State and Region men's doubles Sepak Takraw semi-finals at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex A, Kayin State defeated Nay Pyi Taw Council Area 2-0, while Sagaing Region triumphed over Mandalay Region 2-1. For third place, Mandalay Region beat Nay Pyi Taw Council Area 2-0. The championship match saw Sagaing Region defeating Kayin State 2-1, earning the first prize, with Kayin State taking second and Mandalay Region securing third.

In the women's doubles semifinals, Mon State defeated Yangon Region 2-1, and Rakhine State triumphed over Bago Region 2-1. For third place, Yangon Region overcame Bago Region 2-0, while the championship match ended with Mon State defeating Rakhine State 2-1, claiming the first prize, followed by Rakhine State and Yangon Region.

The Inter-State and Region under-25 cricket matches were also held at Wunna Theikdi Shooting Ranges 1 and 2. In the men's competition, Ayeyawady Region defeated Bago Region with a 7-player margin, Shan State beat Mon State with a similar margin, Nay

Pyi Taw Council Area bested Magway Region by 25 runs, and Rakhine State overcame Yangon Region by 3 players. In the women's competition, Kayin State defeated Mon State with a 7-player margin, Yangon Region triumphed over Mandalay Region by 89 runs, Ayeyawady Region overcame Bago Region with a significant 51-run lead and Shan State defeated Bago with 76 beneficial points.

Inter-State and Region Lethwei competitions for both men and women continued at the Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex, with significant matches taking place in various weight categories.

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NATIONAL

Excitement builds as competitions continue at 5th National Sports Festival



Boxers in action during a boxing match.



Nay Pyi Taw versus Kachin in women's futsal match.



Sagaing versus Taninthayi in women's futsal match.



Mon versus Sagaing in men's volleyball match.

FROM PAGE 6

In the men's 51-kilogramme division, Yangon Region's Khant Phyo Kyaw triumphed over Mon State's Htun Htun Aung, Chin State's Ye Yint Htwe defeated Nay Pyi Taw's Lin Lin Htun, Sagaing Region's Thura won over

Taninthayi Region's Myo Zarni Htet, Kayin State's Saw Shwe Win overcame Ayeyawady Region's Phyo Kyaw Kyaw, and Rakhine State's Arkar Htet Win secured a victory against Magway Region's Swan Htet.

In the men's 54-kilogramme divi-

sion, Ayeyawady Region's Saw Lin Aung defeated Yangon Region's Kyaw SwaW-in, Shan State's Shine Ngei triumphed over Mon State's Aung Sithu, Sagaing Region's Ko Ko Htun won against Kachin State's Zaw Htwe Aung, Nay Pyi Taw's Win Htike overcame Rakh-

ine State's Aung Htun Lwin, and Bago Region's Tu Maung secured a victory against Kayin State's Phyo Nyi Nyi.

For the men's 63.5-kilogramme division, Bago Region's Bhone Myint Maung defeated Shan State's Wai Yan Naing, Ayeyawady Region's Lin Htet triumphed over Yangon Region's Hlwan Moe Aung, Mandalay Region's Sai Naung overcame Chin State's Hein Htut Aung, Kayin State's Saw Hedo Sae defeated Mon State's Saw Myo Thet Paing, Sagaing Region's Kyaw Myo Han secured a win against Taninthayi Region's Thant Sin Win, and Nay Pyi Taw's Yaza Nay Win triumphed over Magway Region's Arkar Htet Myat Kyaw.

In the women's 50-kilogramme division, Mandalay Region's Khaing Thazin Tun defeated Kayin State's Aye Mya Thida Win, Shan State's The Myat Mon triumphed over Ayeyawady Region's Thin Thin Aung, and Yangon Region's Mya Moe Thu overcame Mon State's Lei Lei Phyu.

In the Inter-State and Region para-sports sitting volleyball round-robin matches held at Lewe TC-2 Sports Hall, Nay Pyi Taw's team defeated Bago Region 3-0, Yangon Region triumphed over Mandalay Region 3-0, Bago Region won over Ayeyawady Region 3-0, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area secured a 3-1 victory against Yangon Region, and Ayeyawady Region overcame Mandalay Region with a 3-1 scoreline.

Yesterday's competitions saw senior officials, students, and enthusiastic sports fans who actively supported the events with great interest. — MNA/KZL

Russian State Duma delegation visits Ngwehsaung Beach

THE Russian delegation led by Mr Sholban Kara-Ool, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, visited Ngwehsaung Beach and proceeded to Chithumya (Lovers) Island to enjoy the picturesque views yesterday morning.

Then, the Russian delegation attended the tree-planting ceremony marking Russia-Myanmar friendship at the entrance to Ngwehsaung town and left for Yangon by flight. They were seen off at the Patheingyi Airport by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win, regional ministers, officials and students. — MNA/KTZH



The Russian State Duma delegation participates in the friendship tree-planting event.

OPINION

Contribute to global aviation development

INTERNATIONAL Civil Aviation Day aims to raise global awareness of the importance of international civil aviation to the social and economic development of states, as well as ICAO’s unique role in fostering cooperation and establishing a global, rapid transit network for the benefit of all.

With the adoption of Agenda 2030 by the UN and nations worldwide, a new era in global sustainable development has begun. In this context, the role of aviation as a key driver of global connectivity is more crucial than ever, aligning with the Chicago Convention’s objectives to view international flight as a fundamental enabler of global peace and prosperity.

As a developing country, Myanmar allocates its budget to upgrading airports and aviation facilities, with the private sector also working to enhance aviation services for the public. The government’s aviation services include air traffic control, navigation, and airport services for international flights. As a result, government organizations are striving to provide better services and facilities for both domestic and international flights.

With the adoption of Agenda 2030 by the UN and nations worldwide, a new era in global sustainable development has begun. In this context, the role of aviation as a key driver of global connectivity is more crucial than ever, aligning with the Chicago Convention’s objectives to view international flight as a fundamental enabler of global peace and prosperity.

In 1996, the United Nations General Assembly declared 7 December to be International Civil Aviation Day. The day has been celebrated by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) since 7 December 1994, marking the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation. Every five years, coinciding with ICAO anniversaries, the ICAO Council establishes a special theme for the celebration of International Civil Aviation Day. In the years between these anniversaries, the Council selects a single theme to cover the entire four-year period.

The Council has decided that the theme for the period leading up to 2023 will be: ‘Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development.’ Aviation is a mode of transportation that enables people to travel quickly between locations. As technology continues to evolve, advancements in aviation must be implemented for the benefit of people worldwide.

As a developing country, Myanmar allocates its budget to upgrading airports and aviation facilities, with the private sector also working to enhance aviation services for the public. The government’s aviation services include air traffic control, navigation, and airport services for international flights. As a result, government organizations are striving to provide better services and facilities for both domestic and international flights.

In today’s technological era, everyone must enjoy fundamental human rights. No one has the authority to infringe upon the rights of others. People around the world must unite in solidarity, offering support to one another in overcoming challenges, particularly in the transportation sector. Myanmar, for its part, has always refrained from any destructive actions in aviation services and remains ready to assist other countries by providing aviation support for disaster relief. To date, Myanmar and its neighbouring countries continue to cooperate in maintaining aviation services for their people, contributing to the global development of aviation.

THE State Administration Council is committed to ensuring that the government receives its rightful revenues through taxes and duties, preventing any loss in tax collection. It also aims to allow local entrepreneurs, particularly those in the production, sales, and trade industries, to operate freely and competitively. Furthermore, the council is working to ensure that consumers have access to safe, secure, and reliable goods. As part of these efforts, the council is actively working towards the complete eradication of illegal trade activities.

Illegal Trade

The World Trade Organization (WTO) defines illegal trade as the “production, purchase, shipment, transfer, possession, or distribution of goods that are classified as illegal according to international laws, as well as any activities aimed at facilitating such actions.” It has been observed that governments around the world have been focusing on and implementing various measures to completely eradicate illegal trade, which threatens macroeconomic stability. In every country, the government, businessmen, and consumers play a crucial role in the successful implementation and functioning of the nation’s

Let’s Combat Illegal Trade with People’s Participation

By Alinn Yaung (Htun)



The World Trade Organization (WTO) defines illegal trade as the “production, purchase, shipment, transfer, possession, or distribution of goods that are classified as illegal according to international laws, as well as any activities aimed at facilitating such actions.” **ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXELS**

economic system.

To Systematically Prevent and Take Action Against Illegal Trade

Myanmar is focusing on several key strategies to enhance domestic production and reduce dependency on imports. These include strengthening the capacity of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), as well as industrial zones, to produce goods that can substitute imports, ensuring more balanced foreign exchange income and expenditure, and boosting exports of value-added products, particularly those in supply chains, to increase national income. As developed countries have large-scale production of industrial goods tailored to market demand, their unit costs of production are lower. This makes their products more competitive in terms of price. However, Myanmar faces challenges in producing quality industrial goods at scale

due to limitations in manufacturing capacity, quality control, and economies of scale.

As a result, the prices of locally produced goods can be higher, making them less competitive compared to illegally imported goods. This situation poses risks to the local MSMEs and industrial zones as they may struggle to compete with the influx of illegal foreign goods, resulting in potential damage to local businesses. To address this, Myanmar must focus on improving the quality of domestically produced goods, to not only meet local demand but also enable exportation. At the same time, efforts should be made to systematically prevent and combat the illegal importation of goods.

To Set It as A National Responsibility

“The consequences of illegal trade include the loss of taxes and duties that the country should collect, the potential for errors in trade-related records and data which can lead to incorrect decisions, damage to the national banking system and financial flow systems, instability in foreign currency exchange rates, reduced competitiveness in domestic production due to illegally imported goods, decreased foreign investment, loss of job opportunities,

harm to consumers from counterfeit medicines, food products, and beauty items, as well as expired goods. These adverse effects, in addition to the overall economic and development setbacks caused by damage to key sectors like production and trade, make it imperative for all of us to consider combating illegal trade as a ‘national duty’. The members of the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, along with the special teams for combating illegal trade in various regions and states, as well as the customs departments, are actively working in line with the strategies and methodologies set to effectively counter illegal trade.”

The Important Role of Information Gathering

In the fight against illegal trade, obtaining accurate and timely information plays a crucial role. Based on information provided by informants, the special teams for combating illegal trade in various states and regions have been able to intercept illegal activities such as the unlawful extraction and trafficking of natural resources.

For example, based on information provided by informants, the Customs Department was able to monitor and inspect arriving overseas flights and

seize items such as gold, silver, jewellery, communication equipment, related materials, and valuable consumer goods that were brought in illegally. These seizures were made possible due to the valuable information received, and the informants who provided such information were quickly rewarded with appropriate cash prizes as recognition for their contributions. It is essential to establish effective networks for sharing information and utilize the received data for enforcement actions, including the systematic investigation and seizure of illegal goods. Furthermore, because of the cooperation among relevant departments locally as well as with the international criminal police organization (INTERPOL) through the exchange of information, more illegal drugs and narcotics were seized.

Therefore, to effectively reduce and eventually eliminate illegal trade, it is necessary for all relevant authorities to work together, sharing information and acting in coordination. Similarly, the public, aware of their national duty, should also contribute by reporting any information they receive to the relevant authorities. This collective effort will be crucial in tackling illegal trade effectively.

Natural disasters cause \$310B in economic losses in 2024: Swiss Re

Global warming increases extreme weather events, with 2024 projected to exceed 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels, impacting climate conditions.

IN a year set to be declared the hottest on record, natural disasters caused \$310 billion in economic losses globally in 2024, as climate change increasingly takes its toll, Swiss Re said Thursday. The estimated economic losses from natural disasters were six-per-cent higher than in 2023, which currently stands as the hottest year ever, the Zurich-based reinsurance giant said in a statement.

Of the total, insured losses swelled by 17 per cent year-on-year to \$135 billion, with the devastating hurricanes Helene and Milton in the United States and intense flooding in Europe pushing up the costs, it said.

It marks the fifth consecu-

tive year that insured losses have topped \$100 billion, the Swiss company said.

“Much of this increasing loss burden results from value concentration in urban areas, economic growth, and increasing rebuilding costs,” Balz Grollimund, Swiss Re’s head of catastrophe and perils, said in the statement.

Swiss Re, which serves as an insurer of insurance companies, stressed the impact of climate change, with this year on course to be declared the hottest since records began.

Just this week, China, the world’s leading emitter of the greenhouse gases scientists say are driving climate change, reported its warmest autumn ever

recorded.

Intense flooding

Global warming can make extreme weather more frequent and intense, not only through high temperatures but also the knock-on effect of extra heat in the atmosphere and the seas.

“By favouring the conditions leading to many of this year’s catastrophes, climate change is also playing an increasing role,” Grollimund said.

The European Union’s climate monitor Copernicus said last month that 2024 would likely be more than 1.55 degrees Celsius (2.8 degrees Fahrenheit) above the 1850-1900 average – the period before the industrial-scale burning of fossil fuels.

This does not amount to a breach of the Paris climate accords, which strive to limit global warming to below 2C and preferably 1.5C, because that is measured over decades and not individual years. But scientists say the safer 1.5C limit is rapidly slipping out of reach, while stressing that every tenth of a degree in temperature rises heralds progressively more damaging impacts.

Swiss Re highlighted in particular the swelling insurance cost of floods in 2024, which was the third-costliest year for that peril worldwide and the second-costliest year for floods in Europe.

Intense flooding in Europe alone caused around \$10 billion in insured losses this year, it said,

pointing to the major floods in the wake of Storm Boris in Central Europe in September and the devastating floods in Spain in October that killed at least 230 people.

It also highlighted the massive flooding in the Gulf region in April, which disrupted operations at Dubai airport, the world’s busiest international hub.

Hurricane havoc

The United States saw the highest insured losses this year:

Hurricanes Helene and Milton struck the southeastern United States in quick succession in late September and early October.

They alone resulted in estimated insured losses approaching \$50 billion, Swiss Re said.

SOURCE: AFP



Intense flooding in Europe alone caused around \$10 billion in insured losses this year, Swiss Re said. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

NATIONAL

SAC members award winners in para-sports events

THE para-sports events of the fifth National Sports Festival 2024 continued at Lewe TC-2 sports ground in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

State Administration Council members Daw Dwe Bu, Porel Aung Thein and Mahn Nyein Maung, Union ministers U Ko Ko Lwin, U Myint Naung and U Min Thein Zan, the Supreme Court Judge, deputy ministers, the president of Myanmar Para-Sports Federation and officials watched vigorous competition of men's para-volleyball group matches at the volleyball court of Lewe TC-2 sports ground.

Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory played against Bago Region while Yangon Region faced Mandalay Region in the group matches.

At the awarding ceremony, Myanmar Para-Sports Federation President Maj-Gen Hla Moe presented the first prize to Mon State team, the second to Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory team and the third to Bago Region team in the women's discus F 44/62/63/64 event, Deputy Minister Daw Nu Mra Zan, the first prize to Ayeyawady Region team, the second to Mon State team and the third to Yangon Region team in the men's shot put F56/57 event, and Deputy Minister Dr Tin Htut, the first prize to Bago Region team, the second to Mandalay Region team and the third to Mon State team in the men's long jump T46/47 event,



The awarding ceremony underway in para-sports competitions yesterday.

respectively.

Union Minister U Min Thein Zan awarded first, second and third prizes to Bago Region, Mandalay Region and Mon State teams in the men's discus F62/63 event; the first prize to Yangon Region and second and third prizes to Mandalay Region in the women's shot put F54/55 event, and Union Minister U Myint Naung gave first, second and third prizes to Ayeyawady Region, Mon State and Mandalay Region teams in

the men's 400-metre T 64 race, respectively.

SAC member Porel Aung Thein handed first, second and third prizes to Ayeyawady Region, Mon State and Ayeyawady Region teams in the women's long jump T44/64 event, SAC member Mahn Nyein Maung, the first prize to Bago Region team and second and third prizes to Mandalay Region team in the men's discus F64 event and SAC member Daw Dwe Bu, first and second prizes to Mon State

team and the third prize to Mandalay Region team in the men's javelin F46 event, respectively.

Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw, deputy ministers and officials watched the competition of athletes in the final matches of men's and women's 50-metre backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke swimming events at the Wunna Theik-di swimming pool.

Deputy Minister U Htein Lin presented first, second and

third prizes to winners from Yangon, Mandalay and Bago region teams in the men's S9/10 50-metre backstroke event, Deputy Minister Dr Moe Zaw Tun, first and second prizes to winners from Ayeyawady Region and the third prize to Bago Region team in the men's S6/7 50-metre backstroke event and first and second prizes to Yangon Region and the third prize to Mandalay Region team in the men's S9/10 50-metre butterfly event, respectively.

Deputy Ministers also gave first, second and third prizes to winners in the men's S4/5 50-metre backstroke event, the men's S6/7 50-metre butterfly event and in the women's combined S6/10 50-metre breaststroke event and the men's S4/5 50-metre butterfly event, respectively.

The group matches of the men's and women's B1/B2 blitz chess event took place at Lewe TC-2 Sports Ground.

At the awarding ceremony, MPSF President Maj-Gen Hla Moe and deputy ministers presented first, second and third prizes to winners in the men's B1 blitz, women's B1 blitz, men's B2 blitz and women's B2 blitz chess events respectively.

In the men's para-volleyball, Bago Region will meet Mandalay Region for the third-placed match whereas Yangon Region will play against Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory in the final match at the volleyball court of Lewe TC-2 sports ground on 8 December. — MNA/TTA

5th cycle of border area development programme inaugurated by MoBA, Indian Govt

THE Inauguration Ceremony of the 5th Cycle of the Border Area Development Programme Co-operated between Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department, Ministry of Border Affairs and the Republic of India was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

It was attended by Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Phyo Thant, the permanent secretary, relevant officials, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur and representatives.

The Union minister first delivered the speech, and the Indian ambassador explained the completed projects. The director-general of the Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department clarified the completed work plans and five-year project. The Union minister handed over the project-related documents and photos to the ambassador and exchanged gifts.

The ministry and the Indian government made an MoU on infrastructure development and socioeconomic projects in Chin State and Naga Self-Adminis-



Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung presents project completion documents and recorded photographs to the Indian Ambassador.

tered Zone along the India-Myanmar border area on 28 May 2012.

The projects implemented in Chin State and Naga Self-Ad-

ministered Zone such as the construction of roads and bridges, road upgrading, energy, education and health issues were conducted spending US\$5 million per time, totalling \$25 million for five times. Currently, 38 per cent of the fifth project was completed, and the ministry and Indian government arranged to sign an MoU on cooperation in development projects in Chin State, Sagaing Region and Naga Self-Administered Zone providing US\$25 million for five years at US\$5 million per year as second phase. — MNA/KTZH

MoHT Union Minister welcomes Thai tourists

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Thet Thet Khaing, along with Deputy Minister U Phyo Zaw Soe and senior officials, welcomed Thai tourists visiting Myanmar at the Jasmine Nay Pyi Taw Hotel yesterday morning. The occasion was marked by a ceremony to plant commemorative saplings.

Afterwards, the Union minister met Thai tourists at the ministry's Jade Hall. During the meeting, the Union minister highlighted efforts to encourage more Thai tourists to visit Myanmar. She shared details of the ministry's initiatives, including the availability of travel information on the ministry's website and web portal in Thai language, participation in travel fairs in Thailand, and hosting fa-

miliarization trips (FAM Trips).

The Union minister expressed gratitude to the organizers and guests and urged the Thai tourists to share their positive experiences upon returning to Thailand. She also showed a promotional video featuring Myanmar's tourist destinations.

Later in the day, the Union Minister attended the handover ceremony of the flag to ensure success for the Ministry's sports team at the 2024 National Sports Festival, where she gave a speech. The ministry's team received financial support, refreshments, health supplies, and sports equipment from the Union minister, deputy minister, and other officials.

In addition, the deputy minister presented the flag to the



Visitors from Thailand participate in a tree-planting ceremony during their visit to Myanmar, as Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khaing observes their activities.

deputy permanent secretary, and both the Union minister and the deputy minister viewed materials provided for the competition. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar delegation discusses healthcare system development programmes in Russia



Deputy Minister Dr Aye Tun participates in discussions on health system development programmes in Russia.

THE Myanmar delegation comprising of Deputy Minister for Health Dr Aye Tun and Director-General U Sein Win of the Union Minister Office attended the International Forum on Healthcare Systems Development, held in Russia from 2 to 6 December.

On 2 December, the Myanmar delegation led by the Deputy Minister attended the opening ceremony of the forum at ExpoCentre Fairgrounds, together with Russian Health Minister Mr Mikhail A Murashko and other officials from international countries.

At noon, the deputy minister participated in the discus-

sion on the healthcare system held under the topic of 'Key vectors of healthcare systems development: different avenues – one goal'.

In the evening, the delegation attended the bilateral meeting with Russian Deputy Health Minister Mr Oleg O. Salagai, and they exchanged views on the enhancement of health cooperation between the two countries.

On 3 December, the Myanmar delegation toured the Blokhin National Medical Research Centre of Oncology of the Russian Ministry of Health, and observed the cancer treatment processes. In the evening, the delegation ob-

served the Sklifosovsky Institute for Emergency Medicine of the Moscow Department of Health.

On 4 December, the Myanmar delegation visited the Kulakov National Medical Research Centre for Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Perinatology under the Ministry of Health of Russia. During the visit, the deputy minister expressed gratitude for inviting Myanmar medics to short-term discussions and training courses yearly, and expressed willingness to continue cooperation in the healthcare sector.

The Myanmar delegation arrived back in Yangon yesterday evening. — MNA/KTZH

MoST Deputy Minister meets Yunnan Deputy Governor

DEPUTY Minister for Science and Technology Dr Aung Zeya led the Myanmar delegation to attend the Tengchong Scientists Forum in Tengchong, Yunnan Province, China. The delegation arrived in Tengchong at 9 am yesterday.

Following their arrival, the deputy minister and delegation visited the Hengyi company, where they met Deputy Director-General Mr Peng An Quang and other officials. Discussions focused on Myanmar-China cooperation in electricity generation, mining, transport, trade,

and agriculture, as well as the use of advanced technologies in these sectors.

Later, the delegation visited the historic Heshun town in Tengchong. In the evening, the Deputy Minister and delegation met Mr Guo Dajin, Deputy Governor of Yunnan Province, and his team. They discussed strengthening the relationship between the two nations and enhancing cooperation in science and technology sector. The meeting also addressed the visions of the Tengchong Scientists Forum. — MNA/KZL



Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya exchanges gifts with the Yunnan Deputy Governor.

NATIONAL

Myanmar bags US\$1M+ from honey exports in 7 months



This photo features a row of small huts for honeycombs on a beekeeping farm.

MYANMAR exported 786 metric tonnes of honey valued at US\$1.179 million in the past seven months from April to October of the current financial year 2024-2025, according to the Apiculture Division under the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

The seaborne honey export exceeded 738 tonnes while the border posts registered 47.8 tonnes of honey exports in the past seven months.

Myanmar's honey mostly went to China, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, the US and Singapore.

Myanmar delivered over 2,200 metric tonnes of honey

to foreign trade partners in the last FY 2023-2024 (April-March), the Apiculture Division's data showed.

Sagaing and Mandalay regions are the leading producers of Myanmar's honey. Myanmar's beekeeping businesses are also found in Yangon, Bago and Magway regions, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin and Shan states. Myanmar produces sesame honey, jujube honey, Niger honey, sunflower honey, lychee honey and flower honey.

Myanmar's honey production is estimated at over 4,000 metric tonnes annually. Sixty per cent went to foreign

markets while the remaining was designated for domestic consumption. Honey is utilized as a traditional medicine in the country.

There are some state-owned beekeeping stations with 6,200 beehives in 31 townships and over 950 private beekeeping businesses operating with nearly 200,000 beehives.

Moreover, two million acres of crops yearly contribute to bee pollination every year. The beekeeping businesses near the crop fields contribute to the successful yield of the crop as well as quality bee production. — NN/KK

MRF urges members to maintain reference prices for stability

MYANMAR Rice Federation (MRF) called for member companies to strictly adhere to the set reference prices while carrying out rice transactions, according to its notification (16/2024) released on 4 December 2024.

The Department of Consumer Affairs under the Ministry of Commerce issued reasonable market prices every month. MRF urged rice millers, wholesalers, retailers, depot owners, merchants and traders to follow the reference prices to make transactions. Additionally, the federation asked them not to manipulate the market in terms of quality or prices.

Yet, price-gouging sales posts are spreading on social networks. Some unscrupulous traders are allegedly attempting to hike the prices of Shwebo Pawsan and Ayeyawady Pawsan varieties during the harvest season of new paddy, the MRF's notification stated.

Therefore, MRF thereby notified again not to store locally consumed rice varieties such as Shwebo Pawsan, Ayeyawady Pawsan, Ayeyamin, Ayeyapadetha, Magyantaw and Manawthukha for the purpose of price

manipulation. They were asked to comply with the reference prices again.

Those aforementioned rice varieties are not designated for export so merchants cannot raise excess prices by reason of the export market and negative impacts of natural disasters. If consumers find those kinds of fake news, they are considered as social media manipulation.

The MRF announced that the warehouse operators and wholesalers need to seek registration on Myanmar Rice Online (MyRO) through www.myro.com.mm for procurement of more than 2,500 baskets of paddy and over 25 tonnes of rice by 24 December 2024, according to the directives of the Ministry of Commerce.

MRF warned that overpricing, sales with inaccurate measurement and quality and non-compliance with directives are subjected to fines, taxation and prosecution under Section 5 of the Essential Supplies and Services Law. Thus, rice millers, rice shops, traders and merchants are encouraged to strictly adhere to the rules. — NN/KK

Counter-argument to false information

Media defames security forces

MALICIOUS media intentionally spread fake information, claiming that security forces launched the drone attack against IDP camps in Moebye, Shan State (South), resulting in one civilian death.

According to a security official, security forces conducted routine security measures in Moebye and did not attack non-military targets like wards and villages. Terrorists conducted attacks using heavy weapons and drones in wards and villages.

Subversive media outlets circulate misinformation to cover the inhumane actions of terrorists aiming to mislead the people about security forces. — MNA/KTZH

This screenshot validates false claims.



6.1M stimulant tablets, 440 grammes of heroin seized in Mandalay

THE Myanmar Police Force seized 6.1 million of stimulant tablets and 440 grammes of heroin in Mandalay Region on 22 November.

Acting on a tip-off, the authorities inspected the motorcycle of Kyaw Thu Lwin (aka) Mon Chay together with 60,000 stimulant tablets in Patheingyi Township.

Then, the police seized 6.04 million stimulant tablets in a house he rented in Aung Mingala Ward 1, Patheingyi Township, and 440 grammes of heroin at the hotel room at the corner of 35th and 54th streets, totalling 6.1 million stimulant tablets and 440 grammes of heroin worth over K9.1 billion.

After the investigation, another suspect Aung Khine Min (aka)

Phoe Lone was arrested on 51st Street between 123rd Street and 124th Street in Mandalay. Offenders have been charged under the country's laws, and a further investigation is ongoing. — MNA/KTZH



British regulator approves Vodafone UK, Three merger

VODAFONE and Three, the UK division of Hong Kong-based CK Hutchison, are set to create Britain's biggest mobile phone operator after the country's competition regulator backed the deal Thursday.

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) said in a statement that the tie-up will proceed after the companies pledged to invest billions of pounds on rolling out a high-speed 5G network across the UK.

The planned tie-up, first made public in June last year, is valued at around £16.5 billion (\$21 billion) by Vodafone and Three, which have 27 million customers combined.

The merger, set to complete during the first half of next year according to Vodafone, vaults the new group above the UK's two current largest mobile operators BT EE and Virgin Media O2 in terms of customer numbers. — AFP

Cambodia makes almost US\$414 mln from milled rice export

CAMBODIA had exported 575,562 tonnes of milled rice in the first 11 months of 2024, earning a total revenue of US\$413.9 million, the Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF) said in a news release on Thursday.

Fifty-five companies had shipped milled rice to 67 countries and regions during the January-November period this year,

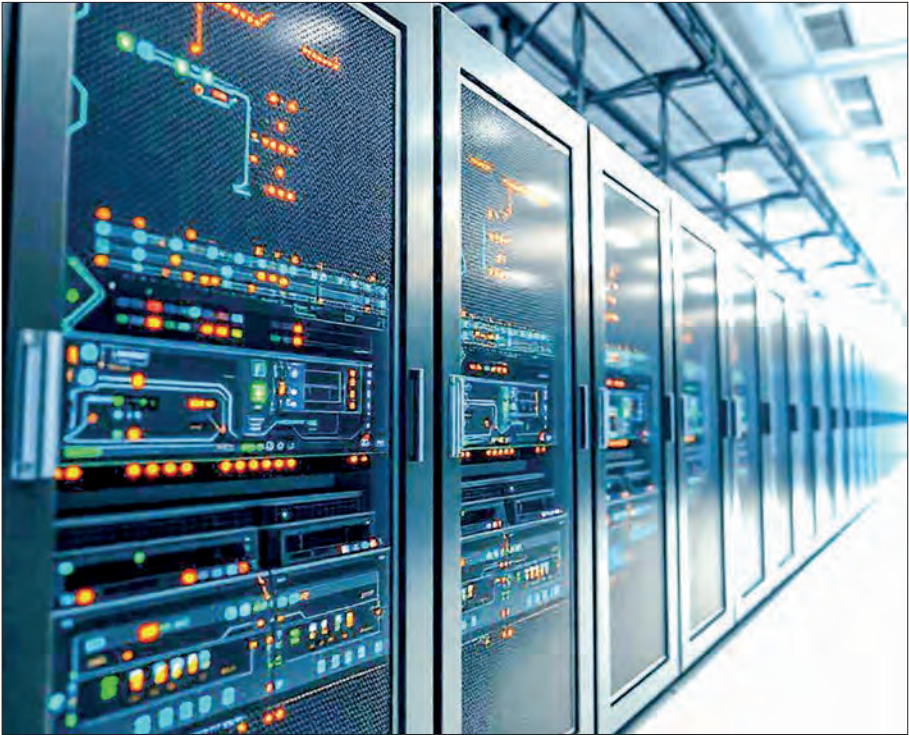


A woman cleans rice in a rice shop in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 20 November 2014. PHOTO: SOVANNARA/XINHUA

the news release said, adding that China was still one of the major buyers of the commodity.

The kingdom exported 109,448 tonnes of milled rice to China during the above-mentioned period, making \$70 million in revenue, the news release said. "About 74.85 per cent of the exported milled rice was fragrant rice, 20.1 per cent was white rice, 2.95 per cent was parboiled rice, 1.81 per cent was organic rice, and the remaining was other types of rice," CRF Secretary General Lun Yeng said.

— Xinhua



The hyperscale data centre will support the processing demands of artificial intelligence (AI) workloads. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE/PIXABAY

Meta to build largest AI data centre in US Louisiana

Meta's Louisiana data centre will create 500 operational and 5,000 construction jobs.

META, Facebook's parent company, is planning to spend US\$10 billion to build its largest artificial intelligence (AI) data centre in the southern US state of Louisiana, the company said Wednesday.

Meta anticipates its Louisiana data centre, covering four million square feet (370,000 square metres) in the Richland parish, a rural part of northeast Louisiana, will create 500 operational jobs and 5,000 temporary construction jobs, said Kevin Janda, the company's director of data centre strategy.

Meta plans to invest 200 million dollars into road and water infrastructure improvements for the parish to offset its water usage, according to a report of The Associated Press.

The facility is expected to be completed in 2030, said the report.

— Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (24009E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (24009E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-12-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S TI2 LOGISTICS PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ASIAN ACE VOY.NO. (446W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ASIAN ACE VOY.NO. (446W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-12-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE., LTD.

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the **25th DECEMBER 2024** (Christmas Day), **30th DECEMBER 2024** (Kayin New Year Day) and **1st JANUARY 2025** (New Year 2025), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

India, Vietnam hold third Security Dialogue, strengthen cooperation against terrorism, organized crime



Discussions were aligned with the Action Plan for the India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, reflecting their strong bilateral ties. **PHOTO: ANI**

India and Vietnam emphasized counter-terrorism, combatting organized crime, enhancing information sharing, addressing cyber-crime, and leveraging emerging technologies.

INDIA and Vietnam on Thursday held the third India-Vietnam Security Dialogue in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The dialogue facilitated an exchange of views on global and regional security issues, as well as the discussions on strengthening cooperation in areas like countering terrorism; combatting organized crime; and sharing of information between law enforcement agencies.

“The Third India-Viet Nam Security Dialogue was co-chaired by Mr Pavan Kapoor, Deputy National Security Adviser and Lt-Gen Pham The Tung, Deputy Minister of Public Security on 5 December 2024 in Hanoi, Vietnam,” the Ministry of External Affairs said in a press release.

The two sides exchanged views on global and regional security and the implementation of aspects of the Action Plan for the India – Hanoi, Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. They discussed strengthening cooperation in areas such as countering terrorism; combatting organized crime; and sharing of information between law enforcement agencies. — ANI

South Korea’s ruling party demands suspension of Yoon Suk Yeol’s powers

THE head of South Korea’s ruling party has called for suspending powers of President Yoon Suk Yeol, citing “credible evidence” that he sought the arrest of political leaders after the imposition of martial law, Al Jazeera reported.

People Power Party (PPP) leader Han Dong-hoon, who had earlier expressed his opposition to efforts to impeach Yoon, stated “newly emerging facts” had tipped the scales against Yoon Suk Yeol.

Han said, “I learned last night the president ordered the defence counter-intelligence commander to arrest major political leaders, characterizing them as antistate forces, and mobilized intelligence institutions in the process,” according to Al Jazeera report.

He further said, “I have said that to prevent

this country from descending into further chaos, I would try to stop the impeachment bill from passing this time.” — ANI



South Korea’s ruling People Power Party leader Han Dong-hoon (C) has called for Yoon to be stripped of office. **PHOTO: AFP**

Israel ready for full-scale war in Lebanon in case of ceasefire collapse

ISRAEL is ready for a full-scale war in Lebanon if the Hezbollah Shia movement foils the current ceasefire, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday, adding that the army has already received the relevant order.

“We will use the ceasefire. I have not spoken about the end of the war, I have spoken about the ceasefire ... it may be short ... we are using force. If required, I have given an order to the Israel Defence Forces to start a full-scale war in case of a serious violation of this ceasefire scheme,” Netanyahu said, speaking on the air of Channel 14. — SPUTNIK

NEWS IN BRIEF

Over 280,000 forced to flee homes as turmoil hits Syria

MORE than 280,000 people have fled their homes due to the crisis in northwest Syria, the UN World Food Programme said.

“The recent escalation in the northwest has displaced 280,000+ people, adding to years of suffering. WFP is scaling up to provide food wherever families are, but we urgently need support to meet soaring needs,” the WFP said on X on Thursday.

The organization added that it is expanding assistance to people affected by conflict in Syria by providing cooked food and emergency food rations. The WFP also continues to negotiate safe supply corridors to reach all those in need. — SPUTNIK

Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan reach deal on last contested Central Asian border

KYRGYZSTAN and Tajikistan said Wednesday that they had reached a border demarcation deal with Tajikistan on the last contested frontier in Central Asia, potentially ending years of territorial dispute.

Sporadic clashes have regularly flared on the mountainous border and the deal comes almost two years after an intense and bloody conflict that killed dozens people in September 2022.

It was reached by the powerful heads of the countries’ secret services: Kyrgyzstan’s Kamchybek Tashiev and Tajikistan’s Saimumin Yatimov.

The government said the neighbours had “reached an agreement and fully completed the drawing of the remaining sections of the Kyrgyz-Tajik state border”.

It ordered officials to proceed with demarcation documents after the meeting in the Kyrgyz city of Batken near the Tajik border. — AFP

SPORTS

Vinicius back for Real Madrid Champions League clash: Ancelotti

REAL Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said star forward Vinicius Junior will be back from injury quicker than expected to face Atalanta in the Champions League on Tuesday.

The Brazilian winger suffered a hamstring injury in November which was expected to keep him out until the Intercontinental Cup final on 18 December.

However Vinicius was able to train on Friday and Ancelotti said he would return next week, missing Saturday's La Liga visit to face Girona.

"Vini has recovered from his injury very well, he will not be ready for tomorrow but he will be for the next Champions League game," Ancelotti told a news conference Friday.

Vinicius' return bolsters a

Madrid side which has suffered three defeats in their opening five European matches, sitting 24th in the Champions League group table.

The coach said defender David Alaba, who also trained with the team, was finding fitness after a long-term knee injury and could return in January.

With Vinicius sidelined, even more focus has been cast on misfiring superstar striker Kylian Mbappe after his arrival from Paris Saint-Germain in the summer.

The French forward missed penalties in defeats by Liverpool and Athletic Bilbao in the past fortnight and is struggling to find his best form, with 10 goals in his first 20 matches across all competitions. — AFP



Real Madrid's Brazilian forward Vinicius Junior will return for the Champions League clash against Atalanta. PHOTO: AFP

Reborn Goetze finds the 'fun' to get Frankfurt firing

A decade after Mario Götze's iconic World Cup-winning goal in Brazil, he is a very different figure to the young star who clinched Germany's fourth title. The cherub-faced forward, whose 113th-minute goal against Argentina secured Germany's victory, has had a career filled with both highs and lows.

Once hailed

as Germany's answer to Lionel Messi, Götze's journey has been marked by unmet expectations, struggles at Bayern Munich, and a difficult return to Borussia Dortmund. However, he resurrected his career at PSV Eindhoven and returned to Germany with Eintracht Frankfurt in 2022.

Now 32, Götze is entering the final stage of his career, but still plays a key role in Frankfurt's push for an unlikely title. His leadership and knack for scoring crucial goals have been invaluable, even as younger

players like Omar Marmoush and Hugo Ekitike have garnered attention. Götze's maturity and experience have made him a stabilizing presence at Frankfurt, as they aim for a top-four finish and Champions League qualification.

Reflecting on his career, Götze admitted that his early success and World Cup goal set the bar high, and he struggled with the pressure that followed. — AFP



A decade on from his World Cup-winning goal with Germany, Mario Goetze has reinvented himself at Eintracht Frankfurt. PHOTO: AFP

ASEAN Cup group fixtures to kick off on 8 & 9 Dec

THE 2024 ASEAN Cup group stage matches will commence on 8 and 9 December.

The competition will be divided into two groups of five teams each. Group A will feature Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia, and Timor-Leste, while Group B includes Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Myanmar, and Laos.

The group stage matches will be held from 8 to 21 December, with the opening matches taking place on 8 December. Host Cambodia will face Malaysia at 5:15 pm Myanmar Standard Time (MST) followed by Timor-Leste against Thailand at 7:30 pm MST.

Myanmar will play against Indonesia at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon at 7 pm MST on 9 December and Laos will compete with Vietnam in Laos at 7:30 pm MST.

The Myanmar team is currently undergoing final preparations for the tournament and is focusing on securing a positive result in the opening match against Indonesia. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar national football team under training. PHOTO: MFF

India, Vietnam hold third Security Dialogue, strengthen cooperation against terrorism, organized crime
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WORLD

BRICS settlement tool to advance undeterred by Trump's threats, vows Russian Deputy FM

Trump threatened 100% tariffs on BRICS over alternative currency plans; Putin clarified it's premature to discuss a unified BRICS currency.

ON 30 November, Trump threatened the BRICS countries that he would impose 100 per cent duties on them if they did not abandon plans to create an alternative currency to the dollar. Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin had already said that it was still too early to discuss the creation of a unified BRICS currency.

The development of settlement tools for BRICS member states will proceed despite US President-elect Donald Trump's threats to impose 100 per cent tariffs on the organization, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Pankin stated in an interview with Sputnik on Friday.

"This is a calculated platform

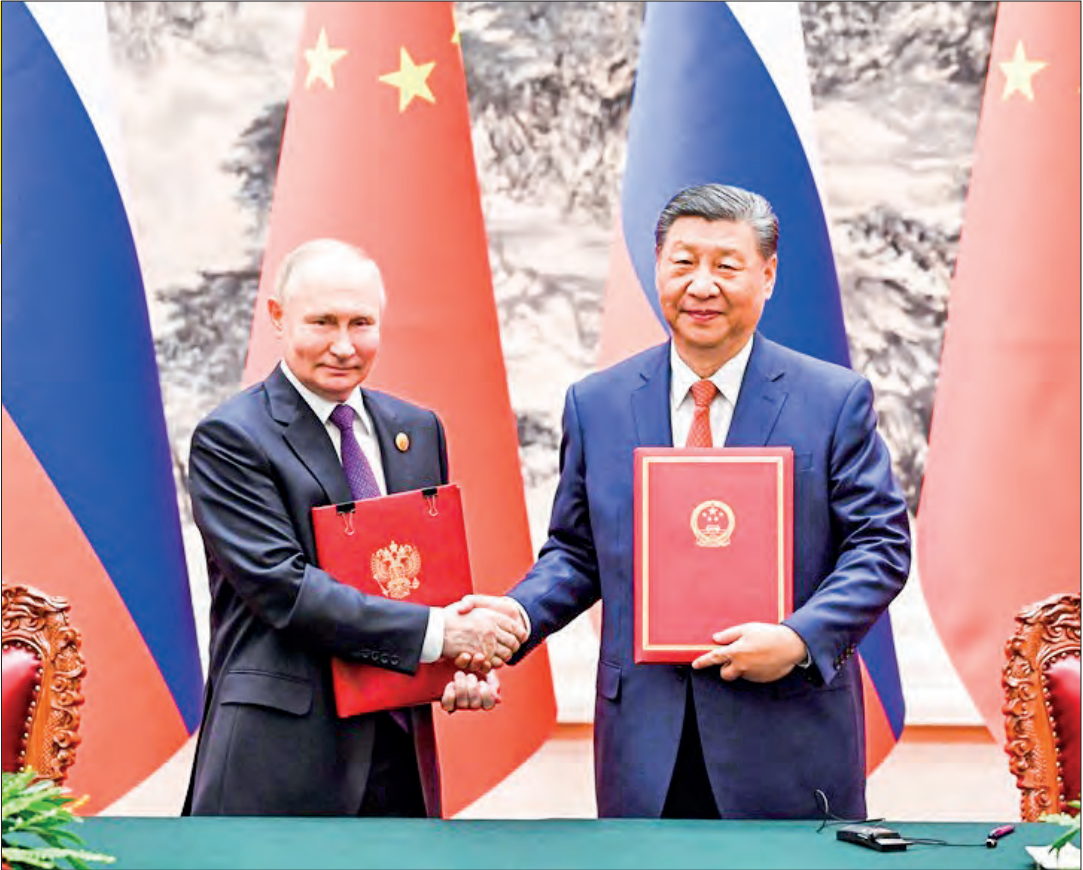
opportunity. Of course, work on it will continue," Pankin said on the sidelines of the XVII Verona Eurasian Economic Forum in the UAE's emirate of Ras Al Khaimah.

The discussions do not involve a common currency, he clarified.

"It is not the euro, nor is it euro-BRICS or BRICS-euro," the deputy minister specified.

Moreover, Pankin added, Trump's recent statements on the matter could not have influenced the decision-making process.

"That is definitely not the case. I think that the president-elect's statements will change in the future. Not once and not in one direction. Which was typical of his first term," the Russian diplomat said.— SPUTNIK



Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin sign and issue a joint statement on deepening China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries after their talks in Beijing, capital of China, 16 May 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA /FILE**

UNESCO adds three Chinese cultural elements to heritage list



An aerial drone photo taken on 23 January 2024 shows the Yonggui Bridge, a wooden arch bridge, after snowfall in Qingyuan County of Lishui City, east China's Zhejiang Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

THREE Chinese cultural elements, namely traditional Li textile techniques: spinning, dyeing, weaving and embroidering, Qiang New Year festival, celebrated in China's Sichuan province, and traditional design and practices for building

Chinese wooden arch bridges, were added by UNESCO to its Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity during the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage held in Asun-

cion, Paraguay, on Thursday.

UNESCO added on Thursday traditional design and practices for building Chinese wooden arch bridges to its Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. — Xinhua

SAMAN-1 SPACE TUG

Iran launches domestically designed and manufactured space tug

IRAN has launched a space tug domestically designed and manufactured by Iranian experts and technicians into space aboard a homegrown satellite launch vehicle (SLV), Press TV reported.

The Saman-1, along with a CubeSat and a research payload, was sent into space using a Simorgh launcher from the Imam Khomeini Space Launch Terminal on Friday. With an apogee of 410 kilometres and a perigee of 300 kilometres, the payloads were placed in an orbit around the Earth.

According to the report, Simorgh, developed by the Iranian Ministry of Defence, is a two-stage SLV. The Simorgh, in its eighth launch, has created a new record for the liftoff of payloads, Press TV reported. During the multi-phase mission, the Simorgh placed the Saman-1 orbital transfer block and two other research payloads, weighing nearly 300 kilogrammes, into orbit.

The Saman-1 system has been designed and developed by technicians from the Iranian Space Research Centre (ISRC). The Saman-1 system has been created to place satellites in higher orbits, lowering costs and removing the need for large launch vehicles with high fuel consumption. The space tug was test-launched in 2022. — ANI