

Initiatives launched to resolve political issues and cease regional armed conflicts

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing sent a message to the ceremony to mark the 50th Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of Akha National Day. The full text of the translated message is as follows: -

Esteemed Akha ethnic people brethren,

I extend my best wishes for the physical and mental well-being of all national race people of the Union residing in Myanmar, along with Akha ethnic people, on the 50th Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of Akha National Day, celebrated today, 28 December 2024.

The Akha National Day, which began in 1975 under the leadership of the Akha ethnic group leaders, has since been celebrated annually with unity by various Akha communities. This celebration has continued to grow in scale and success, and now, it has reached the significant milestone of its 50th anniversary. I am deeply honoured to have the opportunity to express my joy at this National Day event, where the unity, stability, peace, and prosperity of the Akha people are being showcased.

The Akha people have been residing together in unity with indigenous ethnic groups of Myanmar, particularly in the Shan State (East), since the early 11th century, when they first settled and established their presence in the region. They have done so with a spirit of cooperation and a sense of national unity based on the Union spirit. While the Akha people primarily follow their native religion — Akhazangr or Akha Way — like other ethnic groups in the area, they also adhere to Buddhism and Christianity.

SEE PAGE 5



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win inspects the graduate company of the 22nd Intake of the Nursing and Paramedical Sciences and the ninth Intake of Female Nursing and Paramedical Sciences of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences in Yangon yesterday.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win emphasized the importance of upholding higher personal ethics, not only as disciplined and exemplary soldiers but also as nurses and medical practitioners.

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win, on behalf of SAC Chairman

Upholding loyalty and respect among all ranks is essential

Medical corps members have to carry out their duties with genuine compassion and dedication, without discrimination based on gender.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing, delivered an address at the passing out parade of the 22nd Intake

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Vice-Senior General at the passing out parade at the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences

1. As soldiers, being individuals who must mutually protect and safeguard each other's lives on the battlefield, it is essential to uphold loyalty and respect among one another, as well as between ranks.
2. Tatmadaw personnel must uphold a spirit of unity that stands shoulder to shoulder and heart to heart.
3. Since it is necessary to engage in battles alongside infantry units on the battlefield, apart from hospitals and medical corps, it is crucial to cultivate and maintain virtues such as camaraderie, compassion, loyalty, and dedication effectively.

of the Nursing and Paramedical Sciences and the ninth Intake of Female Nursing and Paramedical Sciences of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences at its parade ground in Yangon yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General took the salute of the graduate companies and inspected these companies. The graduate companies marched past the Vice-Senior General.

SEE PAGE 3

NATIONAL

Literature: A Source of Knowledge to Enrich Lives and Guide Society

THE knowledge gained from individuals' reading of literature will be able to provide significant support to improve their lives. They can provide guidance and clear direction to their families and society in their workplaces.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with tutors, teachers and trainees at Mandalay Education Degree College on 26 August 2024.)

Commissioning of DSINPS 22nd & 9th graduates held

A ceremony to commission the trainees from the 22nd Intake and the ninth Intake (female) of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences was held at the convocation hall of the institute in Mingaladon Township, Yangon Region, yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Soe Min Oo of the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), senior Tatmadaw officers of the office of the Commander-in-Chief, Commandant of the institute Brig-Gen Win Bo, and graduates.

According to the agenda, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Soe Min Oo, senior Tatmadaw officers, the commandant of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences took seats in the convocation hall, and Lt-Gen Soe Min Oo handed the commissioning letter to each of the graduates.

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Soe Min Oo delivered a speech and concluded the ceremony. — MNA/KTZH

The DSINPS commissioning ceremony in progress yesterday.



29th graduation event held at Defence Services Nursing & Paramedical Institute



A graduate receives their degree certificate.

THE 29th Graduation Ceremony of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences was held yesterday afternoon at the institute convocation hall in Mingaladon Township, and Institute Commandant Brig-Gen Win Bo, and faculty members attended the event.

The convocation ceremony began with the National Anthem. Sub-

sequently, the rector announced the commencement of the convocation and led the graduates in pledging to abide by the code of conduct. Following this, the rector presented certificates to the graduate cadets, allowing them to wear academic regalia corresponding to their degrees, and signed the convocation record book. The commandant

then delivered the convocation speech and concluded the event.

The Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Sciences has held graduation ceremonies since 2003. The institute offers bachelor's, master's and PhD degree programmes in nursing, pharmacy, paramedical science, and so on. The faculty members of the institute were sent to foreign courses to achieve international-level skills. In 1998, 1999 and 2001, they were sent to La Trobe University in Australia for a doctorate in nursing and a master's degree. In 2022, they were sent to Burapha University in Thailand to study for doctorate degrees in nursing.

Similarly, senior nurses were sent to the People's Republic of China for practical nursing training and to the National University Hospital of Singapore for intensive care cardiology training. They were also invited for the Master of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Medicine courses at Chiang Mai University and Mahidol University in Thailand and the Master of Science in Nursing at the University of Airlangga Mulyorejo Surabaya in Indonesia. — MNA/KTZH

Five National Objectives for 77th Anniversary of Independence Day 2025

1. To address armed conflicts and differing perspectives lawfully, ensuring non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
2. To safeguard the State with unity and strength of all citizens, guided by the spirit of the Union
3. To conduct a free, fair, and credible general election to establish a genuine, disciplined democratic system
4. To promote balanced development across all sectors of the Union through the collective strength of the entire people
5. To collectively advance politics, the economy, defence, national identity, and spirit with perseverance, diligence, and dedication, guided by the motto: "Keep Moving Forward to Achieve Our Goal"

NATIONAL

THE door is open to all ethnic armed groups at all times for the sake of peace in the State. They are always welcomed to resolve the differences, not by military means, but through dialogue. Only when the entire population makes collective endeavours to achieve peace and stability, the rule of law and socioeconomic development, will Myanmar be able to stand tall in the world as a modern and developed country.

(An excerpt from the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudamma Min Aung Hlaing on the occasion to mark the Kayin New Year Day held on 11 January 2024)



Yangon's night beauty. PHOTO BY AUNG KYAW MOE

FROM PAGE 1

The Vice-Senior General presented the Best Trainee Award to trainee Hsu Myat Yadana in the ninth Intake of the Female Nursing and Paramedical Sciences, the Excellent in Training Award to trainee Su Pon Chit and the Excellent in Studies Award to trainee Shwe Sin Min Tun.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General, on behalf of the Senior General, delivered a speech. He said: The institute has so far turned out 5,573 graduates in different professions, post-graduate diploma, masters' degree and doctoral degrees.

In the context of public healthcare services, it is essential for healthcare professionals, as exemplary citizens, to carry out their duties with genuine compassion and dedication, without discrimination based on gender. These duties encompass treatment and care, disease diagnosis, prevention, health promotion, and rehabilitation.

As soldiers, being individuals who must mutually protect and safeguard each other's lives on the battlefield, it is essential to uphold loyalty and respect among one another, as well as between ranks. Only through such loyalty can mutual trust be built, enabling the successful execution of all tasks. Therefore, it is necessary to strictly adhere to the sixty military codes of conduct as steadfastly as one wears a soldier's uniform and to strive to serve as exemplary models of discipline and morality.

In the present time, when both domestic and foreign destructive forces are attempting to disrupt unity within the military through various methods, military personnel must uphold a spirit of unity that stands shoulder to shoulder and heart to heart. The unity within the Tatmadaw is of paramount importance, akin to life itself. If all Tatmadaw members and their

Upholding loyalty and respect among all ranks is essential



The Vice-Senior General warmly greets graduate nurses while attending the dinner.

families share the same understanding, perspective, beliefs, and convictions, the unity within the Tatmadaw will remain enduring and steadfast.

Not only as disciplined and exemplary soldiers but also as nurses and medical practitioners, it is essential to uphold higher standards of personal ethics than usual. Moreover, since it is necessary to engage in battles alongside infantry units on the battlefield, apart from hospitals and medical corps, it is crucial to cultivate and maintain virtues such as camaraderie, compassion, loyalty, and dedication effectively.

Also present at the ceremony were Daw Than Than Nwe, wife of the Vice-Senior General, 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, union-level dignitaries and their wives, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, the Yangon Region Chief Minister and his wife and officials.

After taking the salute of the graduate companies, the Vice-Senior General left the parade ground.

At the hall of the institute headquar-

ters, the Vice-Senior General met outstanding trainees.

In the evening, the Vice-Senior General attended the graduation dinner of the 22nd Intake of the Nursing and Paramedical Sciences and the ninth Intake of Female Nursing and Paramedical Sciences and had the dinner together with the graduate nurses and dignitaries.

The Vice-Senior General presented cash awards to the military band of the institute for its musical entertainment.

They also enjoyed the entertainment of the Myawady Entertainment Troupe at the Institute Thabin Hall. — MNA/TTA

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)

Tatmadaw members are the nation's valuable assets

Some have achieved distinguished honorary titles in recognition of their exceptional abilities and courage within a short period.



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets trainees from the People's Military Service training course in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region.

VICE-SENIOR General Soe Win underscored that trainees come from various layers of society wear the same uniform, trained under the same colours, thoughts, beliefs, and principles according to their respective academies.

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win yesterday afternoon met trainees from the People's Military Service training course at the local training depot in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region.

Also present at the meeting were SAC Member Union Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung, the regional chief minister, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and officials.

In his speech, SAC Member Union Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye explained the responsibilities of all citizens to serve military service, the systematic selection of eligible persons by the people's military service sermonizing boards under the law, the need to apply military arts in the battlefields, loyalty for the State, and health and fitness for trainees.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General stressed that as soldiers, the trainees have to uphold loyalty to the nation and the Tatmadaw, remain faithful to their comrades, and stay committed to their families. Loyalty to the nation is demonstrated through the responsible and successful fulfilment of assigned duties.

These individuals are the nation's valuable assets, respected heroes admired by their families, and expected to live with discipline and honour.

Individual trainees have to always uphold and safeguard the military code

of conduct and discipline of a soldier to protect and maintain one's dignity without degradation or loss.

It is also noteworthy that among the People's Military Service Training graduates, some have achieved distinguished honorary titles in recognition of their exceptional abilities and courage within a short period, granted by the State.

Although they come from various layers of society and have taken up different responsibilities, they now wear the same uniform, trained under the same colours, thoughts, beliefs, and principles according to their respective academies.

As they embrace their military identity with pride, they are moulded into trustworthy and dependable citizens of the nation and the armed forces, capable of excelling in any duty assigned.

After the ceremony, the Vice-Senior General presented cash awards to trainees and cordially greeted them.

At the local Tatmadaw hospital, the Vice-Senior General comforted Tatmadaw members receiving medical treatment and asked about their health conditions, progress of health and medical treatment, and presented foodstuffs and cash awards.

The Vice-Senior General presented cash awards for health staff serving the hospital and visited there.

He met with the regional chief minister, the commander and officials at the South-West Command Headquarters and discussed security measures.

The Vice-Senior General also cordially conversed with families at the staff housings in the station. He presented foodstuffs and cash awards to them and gave cash for feeding nutritious refreshments to pre-primary children.

The Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and senior Tatmadaw officers inspected relevant regiments and units and met families for fulfilling needs. — MNA/TTA

Initiatives launched to resolve political issues and
cease regional armed conflicts

FROM PAGE 1

They live peacefully under the guidance of their respective religious teachings. Regarding Akha literature, it is noteworthy that, since 2008, the Akha ethnic group has successfully developed their literature. This accomplishment highlights the efforts and dedication of the Akha people to preserve and promote their cultural heritage. The Akha people take pride in maintaining their clothing, culture, language, and traditional customs, just as they weave and wear their garments. It is noteworthy that they continue to preserve these cultural elements to prevent them from fading away. According to their beliefs, traditional customs, and rituals, the Akha people celebrate seasonally traditional festivals, where they joyfully participate alongside people of all ethnicities.

The Akha people have collaborated with Tatmadaw throughout generations to maintain regional peace, stability and the rule of law. As a result, the region where the Akha people reside, Shan State (East), has seen notable progress and development in various sectors, including economy, society, education, and healthcare. As a testament to the advancement in education, we now see Akha individuals actively and commendably serving in various roles within the country's defence, education, healthcare, and administrative sectors, as Tatmadaw members and civil servants. Given that the Akha people inhabit border areas adjacent to neighbouring countries such as China, Laos, and Thailand, they play a vital role in fostering goodwill and friendship between the peoples of these nations. By ensuring border stability and promoting border trade and development, they contribute significantly to the progress and growth of the nation on one hand.

Since assuming the responsibilities of the State, the State Administration Council has prioritized the interests of the nation and its people. It has established visions, the roadmap, and objectives aimed at achieving equitable, comprehensive development across the country. Regarding the ending of armed conflicts which are occurring in certain regions of the country, initiatives have been extended to resolve these political issues through political means and dialogue. However, it has been observed that some ethnic armed groups, turning a blind eye to their regional and ethnic interests, continue to engage in acts of terrorism persistently. As the Akha people have collaborated and aligned with the path taken by the government, they have witnessed improvements and progress in their socioeconomic lives. Therefore, the Akha people must continue to maintain their cooperation with the government, ensuring regional stability and peace while fostering development in various socioeconomic sectors. They should work towards further enhancing the benefits for their region and their community.

As the Akha people, we have already made significant contributions to the history of our nation and region that can be remembered as milestones, and we believe we will continue to make such contributions. Furthermore, as the Akha people, we strive to preserve and protect our deeply rooted history, traditions, customs, and cultural heritage to ensure they are not lost. Through occasions like this National Day, we aim to showcase the unity of the Akha people, elevate our pride, and actively work towards the betterment of our nation and region. On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of Akha National Day, I send this message with pride and joy, encouraging all Akha people to unite and contribute to these noble efforts to serve the interests of the State and the region.

Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing
Chairman, State Administration Council, Prime Minister

Agriculture & Livestock Development
Commission holds 1st meeting

THE Agriculture and Livestock Development Commission organized its first meeting yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Commission Chair General Nyo Saw highlighted the objectives of the formation of the commission, and the need to assign duties based on these objectives, draft policies for agriculture and livestock development, promote export volumes by increasing the production rate, local and foreign investment in agricultural sector; and sector-wise efforts to promote investment and economy ensuring agribusiness.

He then stressed the role of agriculture and livestock in the country, efforts to be a nation with an agro-based industry and the research to grab cultivation targets.

He added that Myanmar has about three million and 15 million summer and



The first meeting of the Agriculture and Livestock Development Commission in progress yesterday, led by Commission Chair General Nyo Saw.

monsoon paddy, respectively, totalling 18 million acres of paddy fields. There might be over 30 million acres per year when the double-crop system is improved. Moreover, the paddy production rate will be 200 per cent and it can ensure rice security and an

increase in the export sector.

He also instructed the need to develop the agriculture and livestock sectors fulfilling the crop targets and changing to an intensive cut and carry system from the traditional breeding system. He also talked

about the upgrading of existing breeding zones systematically and the establishment of new zones.

He urged the ministries concerned to work together to produce value-added products, prepare solar energy ensure access to electricity for the MSMEs, and enhance the cooperation among government, private and public to develop the MSMEs.

He called on the Ministry of Commerce and UMFCCI to create a proper market for crops, meat and fish. And, the private entrepreneurs should adopt and expand the contract farming system that can create capital markets for the farmers, he added.

He finally pledged that the commission members would work with ministries concerned with conducting supportive measures for the agriculture and livestock sectors.

Commission Vice-Chair Union Minister U Min Naung reported on the duties of the commission and, the formation of further committees, and attendees coordinated the discussion. — MNA/KTZH

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marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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

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

NATIONAL

Central Committee on Counter-Terrorism meeting 2024 held

THE Central Committee on Counter-Terrorism Meeting 2024 was held at 1 pm yesterday at the Areindama Hall, Myanmar Police Force Headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw. Attendees included State Administration Council Member and Chairman of the Central Counter-Terrorism Committee, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, as well as vice-chairpersons, members of the Central Committee, chairpersons and secretaries of the Working Committees and Working Groups, the Chief of the Myanmar Police Force, senior police officers, and commanders from Nay Pyi Taw, Region, and State Police Forces.

During the meeting, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae discussed the impact of terrorism on politics, society, economy, and geopolitics, the evolving tactics of terrorist groups with advancing technology, UN Security Council resolutions on drones, the utility of AI technology in counter-terrorism, and the connections between terrorism, drugs, money laun-



The 2024 meeting of the Central Committee on Counter-Terrorism in progress yesterday, presided over by Committee Chair Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae.

dering, and arms smuggling. He also emphasized the importance of international cooperation and the formulation of a national counter-terrorism strategy.

Vice-Chairman of the Central Counter-Terrorism Committee, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein, and Union

Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung also contributed to the discussion.

Following this, the Secretary of the Central Counter-Terrorism Group, Myanmar Police Force, Chief Police Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe reported on the group's activities. This included operations against terrorist

groups, the seizure of weapons and ammunition, compliance with Counter-Terrorism Law and Regulations, international information sharing, and the use of funds for anti-terrorism efforts and rewards for legal compliance.

Police Brig-Gen Kyaw Zeya, Head of the Transnational Crime

Department of the Myanmar Police Force Headquarters, provided updates on measures to control the assets and funds of terrorists, prohibit financial services to these entities, revise working groups as per law and regulations, and draft and implement the National Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Committee members, working committee chairmen, working group heads, secretaries, and members then presented their explanations and suggestions.

Finally, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae instructed relevant committees and groups to implement the recorded and approved points in line with procedures, continue studying the links between violence, drugs, money laundering, and arms smuggling, enhance international cooperation, raise international awareness of the true nature of the violence, and systematically use the Counter-Terrorism, Extremism, and Terrorism Prevention and Combatting Fund. — MNA/TS



SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung and officials view the thriving farm.

SAC Member reviews agricultural and development programmes in Thayawady

STATE Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung inspected the agricultural and regional development programmes in Thayawady district, together with Bago Region Chief Minister U Myo Swe Win, yesterday.

The SAC member first made the field study on the

harvesting of black grams along the Letpadan-Moenyo Road section, maintenance works on a dam in Ohngon village, Letpadan Township 56 acres of vegetable field that is implemented with water supply from the Gamon Creek by installing a water wheel in An-yatan village, Okpo Township.

During the inspection tour, he met local farmers highlighting the regional government's efforts in changing black gram species, provided them with agrochemicals, and paid homage to the Presiding Sayadaw of Thayettaw Monastery in Ohngon village. — MNA/KTZH

Renewal Notice: Recognition certificates for printing, publishing, and news agencies

1. Since 10 October 2014, the Ministry of Information has issued recognition certificates for printing, publishing, and news agency businesses with a five-year validity under the Printing and Publishing Enterprise Law.
2. If the recognition certificate expires, businesses must renew it within 60 days from the expiry date under Article 21 of the Law. To do so, they must submit the prescribed application form along with a fee of K10,000 to the Ministry of Information.
3. Operating with expired recognition certificates is strictly prohibited. Businesses which continue operations after the certificate's expiry will face legal action under the Printing and Publishing Enterprise Law.
4. Businesspeople can contact the Ministry of Information at 01 541413, 01 8604750, 01 8604751, 01 544583, or email at iprd.crd.ygn@gmail.com for further information.

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NATIONAL

Myanmar Film Academy Award Ceremony to be launched in Feb 2025

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn presided over the coordination meeting on the successful holding of the 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Award Ceremony in Yangon yesterday.

During the meeting, the Union minister mentioned the due date for the event on 9 February 2025 and instructed the need to prepare a better event, select the qualified artistes for the academy award by judging panel, and choose the academy awards receptionists reviewing their skills.

He also urged the judging panel to select the academy awards reviewing the opinions of the public following the rules and regulations, and highlighted



The coordination meeting to hold the 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Award Presentation successfully in progress yesterday, chaired by Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn.

the systematic timetable for the event, innovation and creative performance and live streaming processes.

The attendees coordinated the discussion, and the Union Minister concluded the meeting.

In the evening, the Union minister inspected the “va-

riety show” of MRTV and the Department of Fine Arts to be performed at a dinner event at MRTV (Yangon) marking the 77th Independence Day.

During the tour, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn enjoyed the 30-minute music session of the Myanmar National Symphony Orchestra and awarded the players and singers.

The Myanmar National Symphony Orchestra of MRTV is organized to entertain at the State-level ceremonies, receptions for foreign guests and on foreign trips.

Now, the orchestra is preparing and practising to perform at the dinner event for the 77th Independence Day. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar hosts annual law enforcement meeting with China, Laos, Thailand

THE Myanmar Maritime Police Force hosted the 2024 Annual Meeting on Joint Patrol and Law Enforcement Cooperation among Myanmar, China, Laos and Thailand yesterday morning. The opening ceremony was held at the Wyndham Grand Hotel, in Yangon.

Senior officials, including the Maritime Police Force Commander, the Yangon Region Police Force Command-

er, and delegates from the four countries, attended the event. Myanmar Maritime Police Force Commander Police Brig-Gen Nay Moe Thet welcomed the participants, exchanged commemorative gifts and concluded the ceremony with a group photo.

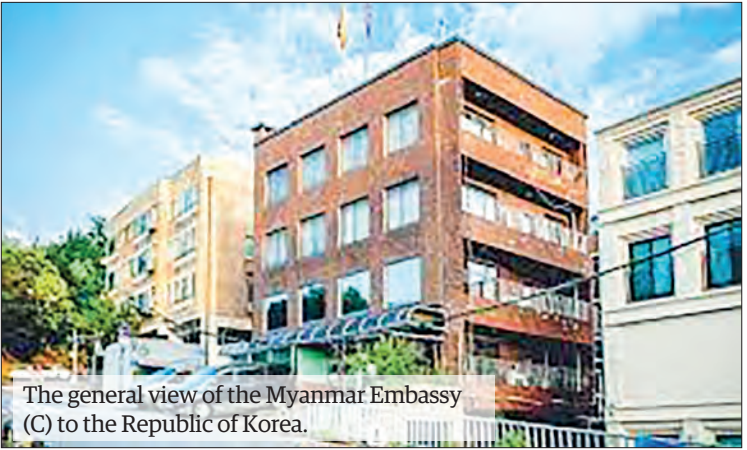
After the opening, representatives from Myanmar, China, Laos, and Thailand continued with the Multilateral Meeting. They discussed

law enforcement and security cooperation along the Mekong River, enhancing anti-drug operations and promoting economic development for people living in the Mekong region.

In the afternoon, Bilateral Work Talks were held at the same venue. Meetings were conducted between Myanmar and China, China and Laos, and China and Thailand to further strengthen collaboration. — MNA/KZL



The Annual Meeting of the Joint Patrol and Law Enforcement Cooperation Among Myanmar, China, Laos, and Thailand in progress yesterday in Yangon.



ME Seoul launches Glow Mate app for improved consular appointments

THE Myanmar Embassy to the Republic of Korea has announced that it will be handling consular affairs more easily, quickly and efficiently with an online appointment system using an application called Glow Mate.

The embassy carries out the services including passport renewals, lost and damaged passports, and new applications for Myanmar citizens staying in Korea for various reasons, following the procedures, rules, and regulations, it said. In these services, it switched to the Online Appointment System on 22 July 2024, which aimed to reduce the time and travel expenses to the embassy and to make it easier

and faster.

Based on the difficulties and experiences encountered while using the current system, the embassy will be changing to using the Glow Mate application to facilitate faster, more efficient and more convenient consular services. The current online appointment system can only be available until February 2025, so for appointments from March 2025 onwards, people can now make advance appointments through the Glow Mate application starting from 27 December.

The Glow Mate application can be downloaded from the Google App Store and the Apple App Store, it said. — MT/ZN

Emphasize trade of quality legal commodities

Due to the impact of illegal trade on consumers, the public, and domestic business owners, there have been significant losses. Therefore, efforts to combat illegal trade must be carried out effectively and efficiently. Since its establishment, the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee has held 16 meetings, adopting 560 decisions with plans to ensure ongoing action against illegal trade.

Due to illegal trade, the country has suffered significant losses in tax revenue. Illegal trading activities have also caused substantial government expenditure. In the domestic production sector, low-

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee,

task forces, and various

organizations involved in combatting illegal trade

have decided to intensify their efforts to effectively dismantle illegal goods.

They will carry out actions

more thoroughly and

comprehensively. In such

doing, they will focus

on improving exports

as determined by the

government, promoting

trade, enhancing domestic

production, ensuring the use

of high-quality products with

guarantees for the public, and

increasing exports efficiently.

effect, the increase in corruption behind trade could result in a decline in the performance and reputation of public servants, as well as a decrease in integrity and morale. This may negatively affect the development of human resources.

In the production of high-quality goods, intellectual property laws are already established. Therefore, business owners must ensure that their products are protected with intellectual property rights and adhere to standards and regulations. Intellectual property rights are not only extensive and complex but can also lead to intense international disputes.

According to findings from the Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Intellectual Property Organization, counterfeit goods trade is worth approximately US\$509 billion annually, accounting for about three per cent of global trade. The sale of counterfeit and pirated goods is increasing due to the high profits and the ability to avoid risks.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, task forces, and various organizations involved in combatting illegal trade have decided to intensify their efforts to effectively dismantle illegal goods. They will carry out actions more thoroughly and comprehensively. In such doing, they will focus on improving exports as determined by the government, promoting trade, enhancing domestic production, ensuring the use of high-quality products with guarantees for the public, and increasing exports efficiently.

cost, substandard raw materials smuggled into the country have led to locally produced goods lacking quality, posing a risk to domestic consumption. In international trade, the export of substandard goods has hindered the competitiveness of domestic products in global markets, severely impacting the market share of local goods.

The import of counterfeit, substandard, and low-quality raw materials at high prices without guarantees can harm the manufacturing sector. Illegal trade activities not only harm the country's economic development but also lead to significant losses in trade taxes, income taxes, special goods duties, and other taxes essential for national development, ultimately causing a decline in the nation's GDP growth.

Imbalances in income and expenditure in the consumption sector can lead to inflation.

As a subsequent negative effect,

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

EPISODE: 54

By THAN HTUN (GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

THIS article is the continuation of Episode 53 provided the explosive craters on both banks of the Chindwin River.

The Explosive Craters occur on both banks of the Chindwin River around the village of Shwezaye.

Olivine-Basalt: The predominant rock type in the ejected blocks from the Twintaung crater is a well-marked and highly characteristic olivine-basalt. It is compact and consists of a pale-grey matrix containing numerous large dark-green phenocrysts of augite. Besides these, there are a few small phenocrysts of olivine. The feldspars show every gradation from large sizes to the small stumpy ones of the groundmass. They are markedly zoned and show some resorption along the edges. Nearly all the feldspars show lamellar twinning but with a wavy extinction. The other minerals occurring as granules interstitially are mainly augite and magnetite.

Other ejected blocks from the Twintaung crater include pyroxene-hornblende-andesite, hornblende-andesite, augite-peridotite, biotite-hornblende-peridotite, hornblendite (hornblende-perkrite), augite-rock or pyroxenite and hornblende-schist.

Craters on the West Bank of the Chindwin River.

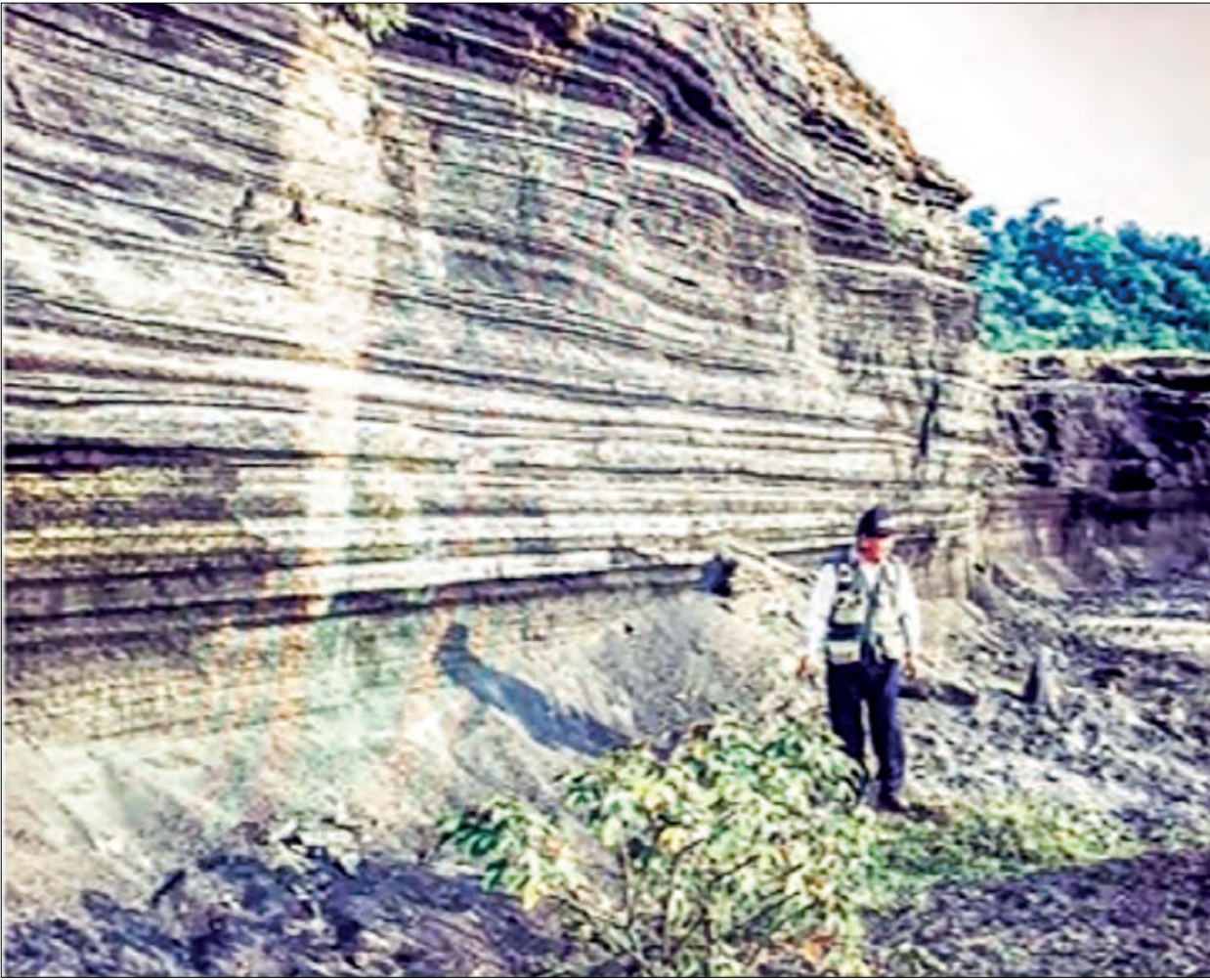
About 2 ½ miles south of Shwezaye Taung is a group of three craters lying contiguous to one another. The high ground from the river bank to the edge of Taungbyauk crater, the northernmost of the three, is covered by an ash deposit.

Taungbyauk Crater: Sloping up to the crater's edge from the north, west, and east are ash accumulations similar to those described above in the case of Twintaung. Mixed everywhere with the layers of ash as well as strewn about the surface, are small quartz pebbles. These beds are also coated with a calcareous sinter and emit the same hollow sound when traversed. They exhibit, near the crater's rim, a slightly undulating surface traverse to the direction of the slope.

The crater's inner walls are precipitous and usually composed of ash deposits with lava fragments and blocks. The rim is highest to the northeast, where a solid wall of lava is exposed. The lava is an olivine-basalt and differs further from the basalt and andesite of Twintaung in that large phenocrysts are not evident.

The crater measures approximately half a mile in diameter from rim to rim and averages about 200 feet in depth. The floor is now partially covered by a small lake which is fed by fresh-water springs at its edge.

Ejected blocks of lava from this crater consist of a greyish rock in which the flow structure is well marked by lines of elongated vesicles. A thin section shows numerous phenocrysts of olivine which are altered along the edges and cracks to serpentine. The phenocrysts of augite are smaller, and, in contrast to the majority of rocks from the Lower Chindwin region



Tephra layers at Taungbyauk crater. PHOTO: CHIT SAN MAUNG

are a brownish-green, while in others, of a normal greenish colour. The groundmass is coarser-grained than in most of the lavas of the district, and there is a marked fluxional arrangement of the long, lath-shaped feldspars. Occurring interstitially are abundant crystals and granules of augite and numerous grains of magnetite. The residual material resembles that of the rocks from Kyaukkadaung. It is colourless, with a feeble double refraction, and shows wavy extinction. The lava from this crater is very similar to the picrite-basalt of Kyaukkadaung.

Taungbyauk: The southern rim of Taungbyauk crater is no longer intact but has been partly obliterated by ash deposits thrown out from the middle crater of the group, into which the ashes dip at an angle of 30°, and it would appear, therefore, that the middle crater was formed after the outline of the first had been established. This middle crater is not so clearly defined as the others. No lake covers the floor, which is partly silted and now under cultivation.

Twintaung: Between the middle and southern craters of the group of three is a hill marked as point 812 on the one-inch map. This hill rises some 550 feet above level and is the highest point in the neighbourhood. It has been built up by a great thickness of ash accumu-

lations, which do not appear to be associated with the deposits from the existing craters and must, therefore, represent the remnants of the ash deposits that were originally spread over the neighbourhood. This hill, Twintaung, must not be confused with Twintaung, the craters on the other side of the River Chindwin.

Twinywa Crater: This crater is the southernmost of the group of three. It is the largest in diameter, measuring as much as three-quarters of a mile across. It is very shallow compared with its width, averaging not more than 150 feet in depth. No wall of lava is exposed. The ash beds, comprising a thickness of from 30 to 50 feet, are spread out over Irrawaddy sands and form the rim of the crater. The soft sands are well seen below the ash deposits and from the lower slopes of the sides and floor. The usual fragments and blocks of lava are strewn about the slopes and outer surface. The inner wall of the crater slopes gradually inwards to the edge of a lake, nearly half a mile across, which now covers the greater portion of the floor.

The chemical analysis of the olivine-basalt from the Twinywa crater with its molecular proportions. According to Professor Conrad Burri, the analysis shows higher alkalis than ordinary basalts, and the rock may well be compared with nepheline-bearing

lavas (basanites, berondrites, etc.) which is confirmed by the norm. The actual rock, however, contains no nepheline and also no glass. The augite must, therefore, contain some alumina and alkalis, and the plagioclase, perhaps some carnegieite molecules. The occurrence of calcite and the "reversed" zoning of augite from calcium-poor towards calcium-rich suggest probable assimilation of limestone by the rock, most probably from the Pegu Series.

Leshe Craters: Two miles to the southwest of Twin Crater are the compound craters of Leshe, which exhibit the same characteristics as those described above and are surrounded on all sides by a superficial covering of ash deposits that slope gradually up to the rim. No wall of lava is exposed in the crater, and the ash beds are seen to rest upon unaltered Irrawaddy sands, which form the lower slopes and the floor of the depression.

Banbwe: Immediately north of Banbwe village, which is situated about four miles to the southeast of Leshe, there is an isolated ridge of ash beds with a precipitous face to the north. This occurrence lies to the south of the Yinbo Chaung, which has produced a plain to the north of the village separating this ridge from the main ash deposits to the northwest. It would appear that this isolated occurrence of older volcanic tuff of a basaltic nature is a remnant of the deposits which were once scattered over the neighbourhood rather than derived from a crater additional to the above. There are several isolated occurrences in the immediate neighbourhood which were all derived from a common centre. The original deposits were spread out over soft Irrawaddy sands which are rapidly removed by sub-aerial denudation, and thus it is that the existing remnants of today are usually confined to the higher levels.

The bulk of the volcanic activity appears to have been centred about Twintaung and Taungbyauk, especially the former, and it is clear that these two craters mark the sites of older vents, now obliterated, which were in activity for a considerable period following upon the close of Irrawaddy times. It would appear, further, that the existing craters were formed subsequently to the cessation of former activities after the original deposits had been much modified in form by denudation.

The accumulations of ash beds with lapilli four and a half miles distant from the centre of the eruption (Twintaung), the quantity of debris strewn about the outer surface of the cones, all bearing jagged edges as though they had been torn away from a larger mass without the smoothing action of heat, and, finally, the

fragmental nature of the cones themselves, all point to an explosive type of eruption.

The successive layers of coarse lapilli, several inches in thickness, between thin layers of fine material, throughout a thickness of some 50 feet of deposits, confirms the suggestion advanced above that the craters were not formed by one explosion but were gradually built up by a series of explosive eruptions which must have extended over a considerable period.

The absence of evidence of any extensive lava outpourings from these craters is peculiar, especially as there occur in the vicinity thick sheets of andesitic and basaltic lavas that have been poured out from some vent, but which are not accompanied by ash accumulations. It would appear that the eruptions in the region varied from violently explosive at one extreme to gentle outpourings of sheets of lava at the other.

At Natlabo village on the east bank of the Chindwin River and three miles south of Wuntho, four miles south of the Chindwin River and three miles south of Wunbo, four miles south of the Twintaung crater and 3 ½ miles east of the Taungbyauk crater, a sheet of lava, 10 to 20 feet thick, resting upon Irrawaddy sands, can be observed from the river.

On the east bank of the Chindwin River opposite Natlabo North (22 ° 18', 95 ° 2') a cliff of basaltic tuff, similar to that of the other craters, stands conspicuously over the river, accompanied by huge basalt blocks. The latter suggests the proximity of the source, but no crater exists in the vicinity.

The Southern Volcanic Occurrences on the West Bank of the Chindwin River.

Minma: One mile south of the Leshe craters at Minma in the Yinbo Chaung masses of lava are exposed. Rising from the Chaung on the south side of the village are two plateau-like elevations marked on the map as the Myetthadaung, which are capped by a sheet of lava (vesicular dark olivine-basalt), resting apparently on quartzites. The rock is composed of phenocrysts of olivine, augite, hornblende and plagioclase, embedded in a groundmass of the same minerals with abundant laths of feldspar and a little glass occurring interstitially. In the Yinbo Chaung, half a mile to the west of Myetthadaung and west of Minma village is an outcrop of granite. This granite is coarse-grained with small flakes of yellow mica. It is very much decomposed at the surface and crumbles in the fingers.

Silaung Taung: Three and a half miles southeast of Minma and three miles south-south-west of Banbwe is an elevated plateau of about one and a quarter mile in length and some three-quarters of a mile in width, known as the Silaung Taung. This plateau rises about 150 feet above the level of the surrounding country and is capped by a horizontal sheet of lava, at least 50 feet in thickness, which presents a vertical cliff at its extremities. It is composed of a dark grey olivine basalt. Pink calcareous sinter with embedded fragments of basalt is met somewhat down the slope of the hill. There is no evidence of a vent in the immediate vicinity. It appears to be a very recent date and must have been poured out from a neck, which is now concealed by the flow. There are a few disintegrated blocks around the immediate edges of the flow, but they do not extend outwards for any distance.

References: Chhibber, HL, 1934: The Geology of Burma, Macmillan, and Co Limited, St Martin's Street, London.

NATIONAL

People's Military Service Training 6 concludes

THE graduation ceremonies for the People's Military Service Training 6 took place yesterday morning at various training depots across the country, organized by relevant military commands. The ceremonies followed the training graduation schedule with the graduates taking an oath while holding the national flag.

The People's Military Service Law which came into effect on 10 February 2024 enables young individuals eager to contribute to national defence and security to enroll in the training programmes.

During the ceremonies, the outstanding trainees from each training school achieved the certificates.

Following the graduation ceremonies, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, chief ministers from various regions, district commissioners, and officials met with the graduates. They gave best wishes to the newly graduated national service members.

The training was officially launched on 21 October 2024. During the course, participants took training in various subjects including physical fitness, military tactics, small arms handling,



The concluding parade of the People's Military Service Training 6 is underway yesterday at various training depots nationwide.

and military strategy through both theoretical lessons and practical exercises. They also received weekly training in battlefield engineering, battlefield management, and general subjects.

Section 385 of the 2008 Constitution states that the protection and preservation of the nation's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity is the responsibility of all citizens. Section 386 further stipu-

lates that every citizen is obligated to receive military training and serve in the defence of the nation following the law. The government protects the rights and freedoms of its citizens while citizens are expected to fulfil their duties to the nation.

Later in the evening, graduation dinners were held at each training depot in honour of the graduates of the People's Military Service Training Course Batch 6. — MNA/KZL

K14.1B worth of stimulants, Meth, and Happy Water seized in Bago

STIMULANT tablets, Ice (methamphetamine), and Happy Water valued at over K14.1 billion were seized in Bago Township, as reported by the Myanmar Police Force. Acting on a tip-off, a combined team, including members of the Anti-Drug Police Force, searched a Toyota Dyna driven by Kyaw San Oo, accompanied by Ma Lwan Yan, on Bo Aung Kyaw Street in Bago Township on 20 December. They seized 5,230,000 stimulant tablets, 170 kilograms of Ice, and 2.67 kilograms of Happy Water, with a total value of K14.1154 billion. According to the investigation, the police arrested Naing Naing Win (aka) Shaphi and Tin Htun Naing, who were tasked with transporting the drugs, at a hotel on Bo Aung Kyaw Street in Bago Township at 6 pm on the same day.

Offenders admitted that the seized drugs were intended for transport to Yangon Region, Rakhine State, and Kayah State through Bago, originating from Namsang Township in Shan State (South). Legal proceedings have been initiated against the offenders, and an ongoing investigation is underway to apprehend others involved. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

False reports spread about drone attacks in Moebye



This screenshot validates misinformation.

SOME unreliable media reported that drones used by security forces destroyed over 50 homes in Moebye, Shan State, near the Kayinni border. However, security officials say that security forces are working to keep the area safe and prevent terrorists from hiding there. Terrorists have been attacking civilian areas and causing damage.

The false news aims to blame security forces and mislead the public about what is happening. — MNA/KZL

2-day illegal trade crackdown confiscates items worth K1.008B

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade are continued effectively by the law.

On 26 December, the combined teams impounded 735 barrels of illegal diesel valued at K455.5 million at the junction on the outskirts of Kanbalu township on Shwebo-Myitkyina Strategic Road, four unregistered vehicles (approximately K27 million) in Dawei and Kawthoung townships, an unregistered vehicle and four unregistered motorbikes (estimated value of K7.15 million) in Magway, Minbu and Pakokku districts, 145 barrels of illegal diesel (refined) valued at K49.5 million with two iron tanks worth K4 million in Minhla Township and 0.180 tonne of illegal teak and 6.216 tonnes of illegal timbers valued at K462,080 in Taungdwingyi Township.

The action was conducted under the Export-Import Law, the Forest Law and the Petroleum and



Confiscated illegal goods across states and regions.



Petroleum Products Law.

Similarly, the combined on-duty teams nabbed industrial materials worth K15 million without official documents on the Yangon-Mandalay Up-train at the Mandalay Myohaung Railway Station and three kinds of industrial materials worth K446.435 million without official documents from nine containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port.

The action was carried out per Customs procedures.

On 27 December, the combined on-duty teams captured 3.247 tonnes of illegal teak, 1.337 tonnes of illegal hardwood and 4.437 tonnes of illegal other timbers valued at K3.695 million in Bago, Toungoo and Nyaunglebin districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 25 arrests on 26 and 27 December, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K1.008 billion. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Kayin New Year Festival to be celebrated in Yangon

ACCORDING to the Yangon Region Kayin Literature and Culture Association, the Kayin New Year Festival will be held on 30 December at the Union National Race Village in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region.

The Kayin New Year Festival will take place at two locations in Yangon Region: the Alainngasint Pagoda compound in Insein Township and the Union National Race Village in Thakayta Township.

A representative from the Kayin Literature and Culture Association (Yangon Region) said, “As always, the Kayin National Flag Hoisting Ceremony will be held in the morning at the Alaingnatha Pagoda while a



This photo captures a scene from the 86th Kayin National New Year Festival.

regional-level ceremony will be organized grandly at the Union National Race Village.

Visitors can expect traditional Kayin Don dances, musical performances, and cultural exhibitions. Market stalls will offer Kayin traditional attire, crafts, and food. There will also be a variety of traditional dance forms, including the Kayin Don Dance, Bamboo clasp Dance, Plough Dance, and Pole Balance Dance. This year’s programme will largely follow the schedule from previous years with minimal changes.”

The festival includes traditional Kayin dance performances, stalls selling Kayin crafts, clothing, cuisine and traditional sports competitions. — ASH/KZL

Inlay Traditional Boat Race to be held 3 times from Dec to Feb



This photo showcases an Inlay Traditional Boat Race.

ACCORDING to Deputy Director U Sithu Kyaw of the Shan State Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, the Inlay Traditional Boat Race will occur three times in Inlay, Shan State: in the final week of December 2024, and in January and February 2025.

“The Inlay Traditional Boat Race is usually held annually on Inlay Lake, together with the Inlay PhaungdawOo Pagoda Festival. However, the planned pagoda festival was not held this year due to Typhoon Yagi. Now that it is the dry season and tourists gradually return,

we plan to hold the boat racing again. Normally, it is a festival held alongside the PhaungdawOo Pagoda Festival, attracting large crowds.

This time, the boat racing is scheduled to be held three times: once in the last week of December 2024, once in January, and once in February 2025 to mark Shan State Day.

The main goal is to promote Shan State’s tourism industry. Various stakeholders in the tourism industry will work together to support these festivals,” said U Sithu Kyaw.

The Inlay Traditional Boat Race is a cultural festival of the Inlay region and a world-renowned competition that attracts tourists. — ASH/MKKS

Myitkyina to host 77th Anniversary of Kachin State Day

ACCORDING to the Kachin State government office, a ceremony to mark the 77th Anniversary of Kachin State Day will be held in Myitkyina, Kachin State, from 8 to 11 January 2025.

The event, which will take place over two days at the Kachin State government office premises in Myitkyina, will also feature a Manaw lawn, where the Manaw dance is planned to be performed.

“As a festival commemorating Kachin State Day, the Manaw Festival is held annually on 10 January. However, it will be celebrated from 8 to 11 January this year enthusiastically. In addition to the Manaw Festival, the celebrations will include local product exhibitions, fruit competitions, and a reading promotion festival. A work coordination meeting for the festival was held on 26 December,” said an official from the Kachin State government office.

The Kachin State Day ceremony will feature a traditional Manaw dance, as well as dance performances from the ethnic groups residing in Kachin State, including the Shan, Chin, Palaung, and Naga peoples.

Moreover, there will be a collective dance performance by the Kachin ethnic tribes. — ASH/TKO



This file photo captures the 76th Kachin State Day Ceremony.

Film actress donates K3 million to MMPO

ACTRESS Naw Phaw Eh Htar donated K3 million to the New Year donation programme for all members of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO) on 26 December, according to Vice-Chair U Aye Kyu Lay.

The organization will be providing its 15th round of rice

and food supplies to members in January 2025. To support this distribution, both members of the film industry and generous donors have contributed cash donations and food supplies.

The Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization also provided its 14th round of rice, oil, and other foodstuffs to members



This photo showcases Naw Phaw Eh Htar donating K3 million to MMPO.

in various roles within the film industry from 3 to 6 April 2024. — ASH/TRKM

NATIONAL BUSINESS

Foreign companies permitted to export select local products

THE Ministry of Commerce announced on 17 December 2024 that foreign companies are allowed to export some commodities that are locally produced, to enhance productivity, explore foreign markets, boost exports and find higher selling prices for manufacturers, as per its directive 93/2024 released in the exercise of the power conferred by Sub-Section 13 (B) of the Export and Import Law,

The ministry nodded for foreign companies to export processed fish, meat and seafood, processed fresh produce, pulp and various papers, seeds, refined ores, semi-finished or value-added products of fruits and vegetables, wood-based furniture and environmental goods connected to environmental

protection.

They must seek approval first before seeking an export licence from the Trade Department regarding the exportation of the aforementioned eight commodities groups. Recommendations from the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and the Department of Fisheries are required for the exportation of processed fish, meat and seafood.

Recommendations from the Department Food and Drug Administration for the exportation of processed fresh produce such as various pulses, maize and sesame are requisite to seek a licence from the Trade Department in line with the rules and regulations of relevant departments. For rice and broken rice



Overseas-bound vessels dock at Yangon Port, framed by the container yard and cityscape.

exports, an inward remittance statement (minimum capital investment of US\$3 million), a statement having a warehouse storage facility with adequate space and a membership certificate of Myanmar Rice Federation must be provided.

The entities must seek the export licence for pulp and paper in line with the rules and regulations of the relevant departments. Seed exports in line with pro-

cedures of the Agriculture Department under the Seed Law, exportation of refined ores with recommendation and metal selling and purchasing permits of the Department of Mines and the relevant departments, exportation of semi-finished or value-added products of fruits and vegetables under the National Food Law and following the rules and regulation of the relevant departments, exportation of wood-based furniture with

recommendation of the Forest Department and Myanma Timber Enterprise and exportation of biomass fuel made from paddy husk and by-products that mitigate environmental consequences in line with rules and regulation must be undertaken.

Therefore, this notification will override the previous ones 24/2019 dated 6 June 2019 and 48/2023 dated 20 July 2023, the Ministry of Commerce stated. — NN/KK

CBM pumps 500,000 yuan, 4.7M baht into financial market on 26 Dec

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over 500,000 yuan and 4.7 million baht on 26 December after its sales of over 320,000 yuan and 900,000 baht on 24 December.

CBM announced on 19 December that it would sell 10 million yuan to importers on foreign exchange trading platforms. It sold 1.36 million yuan and 2.48 million baht on that day.

CBM injected \$30 million and 2.14 million baht on 18 December, \$150,000 and over 810,000 baht on 17 December and \$28 million, one million baht and over 710,000 yuan on 16 December, 340,000 yuan and 400,000 baht on 13 December, \$28.51 million and 600,000 baht on 12 December and 500,000 yuan again on 11 December into the financial market.

CBM announced on 10 December that it would sell \$35 million and 40 million baht through foreign exchange trading platforms. Then, it sold about 900,000 yuan on 10 December, \$15 million, over one million yuan and 200 million baht on 6 December, over 1.55 million yuan on 5 December after sales of 1.48 million yuan on 4 December and 1.43 million yuan on 3 December.

Furthermore, on 2 December, CBM injected \$38 million, 1.48 million yuan and 107.46 million baht online foreign exchange trading platforms.

CBM pumped over \$59 million, over 280 million baht and 8.78 million yuan in November and over \$91 million, over 610 million baht and 9.8 million yuan in October into the financial market.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been joining 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. — NN/KK



The office building of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Yangon.

FTI Expo 2025 welcomes Myanmar businesspeople

FEDERATION of Thai Industries (FTI) Expo 2025, which will take place on 12-15 February 2025 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre Hall 5-8 in Thailand, cordially invited Myanmar businesspeople.

The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI), a non-profit organization advocating all private industries in Thailand, invites businesspeople to be a part of the FTI EXPO 2025, which is a landmark event showcasing Thailand's industrial strength and readiness as a global manufacturing hub through One FTI policy. The event's theme is "Empowering Thai Industry, Elevating Thailand's Future", highlighting Thailand's cutting-edge advancements in line with the

4GO concept: GO Digital & AI, GO Innovation, GO-Global and GO Green.

It will provide a platform to feature cutting-edge technologies and innovations supporting sustainable business growth, in-depth seminars on future global trends, networking opportunities to expand market reach, and a showcase of Thailand's finest products and industrial advancements. Those who want to reserve the booth can contact the FTI's Foreign Affairs Department via +662 3451000 and www.fti.or.th. Myanmar businesspeople can also register through the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization via 067 408622 and email td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

Climate change extends Türkiye’s tea harvest into Dec for 1st time: media

DUE to climate change and rising temperatures in Türkiye’s Eastern Black Sea region, the fresh tea harvest has been extended into December for the first time, according to local media reports on Thursday.

The Hurriyet Daily News reported that warmer temperatures, above seasonal norms due to climate change, have led to an increase in the harvest period, with producers now collecting fresh tea in four pluckings instead of the usual three.

In the provinces of Rize, Trabzon, Artvin, and Giresun, fresh tea production continues during the winter season, with one million producing families cultivating tea on 830,000 hectares of land, it said. — Xinhua



In the provinces of Rize, Trabzon, Artvin, and Giresun, fresh tea production continues during the winter season, with one million producing families cultivating tea on 830,000 hectares of land. PHOTO: PIXABAY

Afghanistan launches green tea plantation

THE Afghan caretaker government began a green tea plantation in eastern Khost province to bolster local products, reported the state-run Bakhtar news agency on Friday.

Farmers in the war-torn country have had limited experience with tea cultivation over the past decade, but have yet to achieve the desired results.

The experts have been supervising the tea cultivation, its harvest and processing to achieve the goal as part of efforts to boost domestic products, said the report. — Xinhua

Aimed at enhancing local products, the cultivation of the valuable plant as a pilot project was launched recently in the Gurbuz district of the province, it added.

Suzuki Motor’s former longtime leader Osamu Suzuki dies at 94

OSAMU Suzuki, the former charismatic head of Suzuki Motor Corp who turned the Japanese mini-vehicle maker into a global player with an overwhelming dominance in India’s car market, has died, the company said Friday. He was 94.

Before stepping down as the company’s chairman and leaving its board in June 2021 at age 91, Suzuki was at its helm for more than 40 years, serving as either president, chairman or CEO since 1978.

Suzuki, senior adviser at the automaker, died of malignant lymphoma on Wednesday at a hospital in Hamamatsu in the central prefecture of Shizuoka, the company said. — Kyodo



Suzuki had been a significant figure in the automotive industry, playing a key role in the development and success of Suzuki Motor Corp. PHOTO: KYODO/FILE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (246N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (246N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-12-2024** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BBC DESTINY VOY.NO. (1287039)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BBC DESTINY VOY.NO. (1287039)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-12-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-4** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Notice for change of distributor

We, **Zhejiang E-Tong Chemical Co., Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from **Yonta Myanmar Co., Ltd** to **LO TA PYAE WA COMPANY LIMITED**. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next two weeks.

No	Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration number	New Distributor
1	Yonta Myanmar Co., Ltd	E-T Glyphosate 48 SL	Glyphosate 48% SL	Full	F2018-1489	LO TA PYAE WA COMPANY LIMITED

LO TA PYAE WA COMPANY LIMITED (Address: No (631-A), Pyay Road & Inya Road Junction, 2 Ward, Kamayut Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph: 09251372886, 09403723854)

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Shandong Binnong Tecchnology Co.,Ltd** have registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "**Myanmar Max Agro Service Co.,Ltd**", to new distributor name "**Y Agro Solution Co.,Ltd**". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Y Agro Solution Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	BNS Imaze 100 SL	Imazethapyr 10% SL	P2023-6031

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Shandong Binnong Tecchnology Co.,Ltd** have registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "**Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd**", to new distributor name "**Myanma Taiza Co.,Ltd**". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Myanma Taiza Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	BNS Guard 300 SC	Chlorfenapyr 10% + Thiamethoxam 20% SC	P2024-5948
2.	BNS Halox 108 EC	Haloxypop-P-methyl 10.8% EC	P2020-4856

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ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

President Droupadi Murmu pays last respects to former PM Manmohan Singh

Singh, India's 13th Prime Minister, is renowned for his role in liberalizing the economy and introducing NREGA.

PRESIDENT Droupadi Murmu on Friday paid her last respects to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at his residence in Delhi. During her visit, she offered condolences to his family members.

In her condolence message, President Droupadi Murmu expressed deep respect for former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, recognizing him as a rare politician who excelled both in academia and administration. She highlighted his pivotal contributions to India's economic reforms, his unblemished po-

litical career, and his humility. President Murmu mourned the loss of one of India's greatest sons and extended her heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and admirers.

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankar, along with his wife, Sudesh Dhankar, also paid their respects, calling Singh a distinguished economist who transformed India's economic landscape. Vice-President Dhankar praised Singh for his role in the 1991 economic liberalization, which opened new avenues for growth and prosperity. — ANI



Manmohan Singh passed away on Thursday evening at the age of 92 due to age-related conditions. PHOTO: ANI

Russia's Oboronlogistika says 50×50cm hole found on starboard side of Ursa Major

A hole with a diameter of 50 by 50 centimetres was discovered on the starboard side of Russian cargo vessel Ursa Major after three explosions rocked her in

the Mediterranean Sea, Russian logistics and transportation company Oboronlogistika, a company that owns the ship, told Sputnik. The Russian Foreign Minis-

try's Crisis Management Centre said on Tuesday that Ursa Major sank in the Mediterranean Sea, 14 of the 16 crew members were rescued, while two were missing. The ship sank 67 miles off the coast of Spain and 45 miles off the coast of Algeria. The vessel left St Petersburg 12 days ago in the direction of the port of Vladivostok.

"A general ship alarm was declared on the vessel. During the external emergency inspection of the vessel, a hole with a diameter of 50 by 50 centimetres was discovered above the water line, the edges of the hole were torn and directed inward. The vessel's deck was strewn with fragments," the company said. — SPUTNIK



The new Ursa Major cargo ship is loaded at the Baltiysk Sea Port, where the Baltiysk - Ust-Luga ferry service is carried out, in Kaliningrad region, Russia. PHOTO: SPUTNIK/FILE

S Korea's parliament votes in favour of impeaching acting president

SOUTH Korea's opposition-controlled parliament voted Friday to impeach Prime Minister Han Duck-soo who had been serving as acting president following President Yoon Suk-yeol's impeachment.

National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik said in a televised plenary session that the motion to impeach Han was passed with 192 votes in favour in the 300-member unicameral parliament.

It was the first time in the country's modern history that an impeachment motion against an acting president is put to a vote and passed in the National Assembly. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

German president dissolves parliament, snap elections due in Feb

GERMAN President Frank-Walter Steinmeier on Friday dissolved the Bundestag, the lower house of parliament, paving the way for early federal elections.

Steinmeier announced in Berlin that the snap elections will be held on 23 February as previously agreed by major political parties. This announcement came after Chancellor Olaf Scholz lost a vote of confidence on 16 December in the Bundestag. Scholz recommended the dissolution of the Bundestag after the confidence vote.

In November, Scholz lost the majority in the parliament after Finance Minister Christian Lindner and other ministers from the Free Democratic Party left the ruling coalition due to lasting disagreements over tax allocation, economic stimulus measures, and funding for investment. On Friday, Steinmeier stressed that a capable government with a reliable parliamentary majority is needed during these challenging times. — Xinhua

WHO chief Tedros narrowly escapes aerial bombardment at Sanaa airport

WORLD Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus narrowly escaped an aerial bombardment at Sanaa International Airport in Yemen on Thursday, which resulted in the deaths of at least two people.

Tedros, along with his United Nations (UN) and WHO colleagues, was about to board a flight when the attack took place, injuring one of the plane's crew members.

WHO chief Tedros Ghebreyesus shared on X that their mission in Yemen, aimed at negotiating the release of UN staff detainees and assessing the health situation, concluded with a disturbing turn. — ANI

SPORTS



Manchester United's Argentinian defender (06) Lisandro Martinez jumps to head the ball during the English Premier League football match between Wolverhampton Wanderers and Manchester United at the Molineux stadium in Wolverhampton, central England on 26 December 2024. **PHOTO: HENRY NICHOLLS / AFP**

Amorim warns of 'long journey' ahead for miserable Man Utd

MANCHESTER United boss Ruben Amorim said he needs time on the training ground to iron out the Red Devils' flaws after a 2-0 defeat to lowly Wolves on Thursday.

United's case at Molineux was not helped by a third red card of the season for captain Bruno Fernandes just two minutes into the second half.

Matheus Cunha then exposed the visitors' frailties from set-pieces by scoring directly from a corner before the Brazilian teed up Hwang Hee-chan to

seal a vital win that lifted Wolves out of the relegation zone.

Amorim has won just two of his first seven Premier League games to leave United languishing down in 14th.

"I think we were always in control, not always dominating, but in control, but the same things, set-pieces and also the sending off was really hard for us," said Amorim.

"I said it before everybody: it will be a long journey and this moment will be really tough. We have to continue. We need

to have time to train".

United have now lost their last three consecutive games with a 4-3 League Cup exit to Tottenham followed by a damaging 3-0 home defeat to Bournemouth on Sunday.

In the last five league games, Amorim's side have conceded from either a corner or a free-kick. Andre Onana complained he had been fouled as the United goalkeeper was pinned between two Wolves players when Cunha's in-swinging delivery flew into the far corner. — AFP

Howe hopes Newcastle have 'moved on' in last two seasons

EDDIE Howe hopes his current Newcastle team have "moved on" from the one which finished fourth in the Premier League two seasons ago.

The Magpies continued an impressive run of results on Thursday by beating 10-man Aston Villa 3-0 at St James' Park — their fourth straight win in all competitions.

Newcastle climbed to fifth in the table and within six points of second-placed Chelsea.

Newcastle reached the Champions League for the first time in 20 years when they qualified

for last season's competition.

"I'd hope we've moved on from that team," Howe said.

"You can never go back in time and replicate what that team was. That team was an outstanding side...

"But you can never go back. It's all about the future. We've signed some new players, the dynamic is slightly different and for me, the evolution of the team always had to be that we wanted to be better with the ball, we wanted to control the game more with the ball". — AFP

French skier Sarrazin 'conscious' after training crash



FRENCH skier Cyprien Sarrazin is "conscious" after being airlifted to hospital following a nasty crash Friday during training for a

World Cup downhill race in Bormio, Italy.

The 30-year-old lost control of his skis and crashed into the protective netting before being evacuated by helicopter.

In a brief statement, the French ski federation said Sarrazin was "conscious" and would undergo tests.

Sarrazin enjoyed his best campaign on the World Cup circuit last season with four victories, but is yet to win in 2024/25 ahead of Saturday's race in Bormio. — AFP

Cyprien Sarrazin was fastest in the first training run. **PHOTO: AFP**

Team Myanmar gears up for international competitions



The Myanmar women's national football team during a training session. **PHOTO: MFF**

THE Myanmar women's national football team started training camp in mid-December to prepare for international tournaments scheduled for 2025.

The team consists of 32 preliminary selected players under the leadership of Japanese coach Yukitaka Tetsuro. While there are no immediate international matches lined up, the training camp ensures that the players maintain consistent performance levels.

The team is expected to participate in international friendlies in February, pending coordination between football federations. The Myanmar squad will compete in major events next year, including the ASEAN Women's Championship, the Thailand SEA Games and other international tournaments.

Coach Yukitaka leads a balanced squad that includes experienced players like Khin Mar Lar Tun alongside rising stars such as Myat Noe Khin, ensuring a mix of skill and fresh talent. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

President Droupadi Murmu
pays last respects to former PM
Manmohan Singh
PAGE 14



WORLD

Xi says China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway project strategic decision to regional connectivity, prosperity

Xi Jinping emphasized that the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway aims to enhance regional connectivity, prosperity, and stability in a congratulatory letter.

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said Friday that the construction of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway is a strategic decision made by the three governments to promote regional connectivity, prosperity and stability.

Xi made the remarks in his congratulatory letter to the commencement ceremony of the railway project.

Noting that the construction of the railway reflects the shared aspiration of the three countries to open up this



A freight train heads for the Lao capital Vientiane after departing Xi'an, China, 22 April 2022. PHOTO: LIU XIANG/XINHUA/FILE

strategic corridor, Xi said that the commencement ceremony marks the transition of the project from conception to implementation, taking a critical step

towards the goal of completion and operation.

Xi emphasized the need for close collaboration among the relevant de-

partments and enterprises of the three countries to ensure high standards and high-quality progress in the construction of the railway. — Xinhua

Yemen's Houthis claim targeting Ben Gurion Airport with "hypersonic ballistic missile"

YEMEN'S Houthi group announced on Friday that it launched a "hypersonic ballistic missile" targeting Israel's Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, claiming it had hit its target.

Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Sarea said in a televised statement on Houthi-run al-Masirah TV that the strike caused casualties and disrupted air traffic at the airport.

However, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said it had intercepted the missile. The IDF acknowledged that air traffic was halted for 30 minutes, while Israel's Magen David Adom emergency service said 18 people were slightly injured on their

way to shelters.

The Houthis also claimed responsibility for additional attacks, including a drone strike on what they described as a "vital" site in Tel Aviv and a vessel named Santa Ursula near Yemen's Socotra Island in the Arabian Sea. According to Sarea, the vessel was targeted for alleged connections to Israeli ports.

Meanwhile, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei on Thursday strongly condemned Israel's "military aggression" against Yemen's infrastructure.

He made the remarks when reacting to the Israeli airstrikes earlier in the day that targeted



The damaged control tower at the international airport in Yemen's rebel-held capital Sanaa, after Israeli air strikes. PHOTO: MOHAMMED HUWAIS / AFP

Sanaa International Airport, Hezyaz, and Ras Kanatib power stations as well as the ports of

Hodeidah, Salif, and Ras Kanatib on Yemen's western coast. — Xinhua

TOURISM REVENUE

Maldives
targets US\$5 bln
from tourism in
2025

THE Maldivian government plans to increase tourism revenue to US\$5 billion in 2025, PSM News, the official state media of the Maldives, reported on Thursday quoting Minister of Tourism Ibrahim Faisal.

The minister told a ceremony held on Thursday morning that the country has seen two million tourists in 2024. — Xinhua