

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects collapses of two walls and a bridging roof at Hsinka brick chamber, No 1042 of the world heritage list, in new Bagan satellite town, yesterday.

Master plans needed for long-term preservation measures of ancient pagodas

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council member General Nyo Saw, Union ministers and officials, yesterday afternoon inspected renovation of ancient temples and stupas for existence in Bagan ancient cultural zone and damaged parts in recent heavy rains.

At Shwezigon Pagoda, the Senior General inspected maintenance of the bronze chambers, excavation of original sandstone tiles from the terrace, collapses of ancient walls on the southern stairway, maintenance of stairways, preservation of ancient religious edifices and drums, and paving of the marble tiles along the passage in the terrace.

After hearing the reports of officials, the Senior General stressed the need to

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed systematic maintenance must be done for ancient religious edifices as invaluable heritages.

maintain original sandstone tiles from the terrace in conducting research. He continued that original well-wishers must be contacted for renovation of religious edifices and records of the buildings must be compiled. Systematic maintenance must be done for ancient religious edifices as invaluable heritages, he added. Moreover, the Senior General urged officials not to allow construction of other buildings in the precinct of the pagoda and systematically maintain the ancient stone inscription of the pagoda.

In meeting with members of the pagoda board of trustees, the Senior General urged them to systematically preserve over 960 years old Shwezigon Pagoda as ancient cultural heritage through modern techniques to sustain original works for ensuring long term existence. He stressed the need to maintain other temples and stupas. In Bagan region, he underscored that Shwezigon Pagoda is eminent similar to Ananda Temple, Htilo Minlo Pagoda and other ancient pagodas. He pointed out that it

is necessary to systematically consider maintenance of the pagodas under the long-term plans. Many requirements can be seen in current maintenance process, he added. It is necessary to adopt master plans for long-term preservation measures of ancient pagodas, he noted. He highlighted that preservation of ancient heritages comprises overall measures including inlet and outlet channels of water system.

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Palm oil distribution via Purchase Permit Book begins in Yangon Region

NATIONAL



Fourteen (14) days remain until the National Census.



Objectives of 25th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2024

- To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics
- To explore, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural characteristics
- To explore and preserve the traditional cultural heritage for the young generation and further propagate the national spirit
- To serve as a national cultural entity for State development, peace, and stability

Tun Tun Min's Lethwei World Champion Belt auction raises K37M

TO provide aid to flood victims, Myanmar lethwei fighter Tun Tun Min put his first champion belt up for auction, and K37 million was offered, Tun Tun Min told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM) on 14 September.



phone or by commenting on his Facebook post below.

“The bid has received K37 million now. I will announce officially on Friday and through my Facebook page, too,” he said.

A local technology college which nurtures young Myanmar

Lethwei fighter Tun Tun Min and his first champion belt that is set for auction.

The set floor price is K50 million, and he will give the belt to a bidder who would pay the highest at Theinbyu Lethwei Stadium in Yangon at 10 am on 20 September before the media.

People can bid for the champion belt by

mar talents has offered the highest bid of K37 million. Tun Tun Min said he would give all the proceeds of the bid to flood victims in the presence of the media. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS

Yangon riverine residents warned of high tide on 17-21 Sept



This photo depicts the general view of the Yangon River from the middle of it.

U Win Naing, a meteorologist, said that between 17 and 21 September, people living near the Yangon River should be careful of tide.

“Tide will reach its highest level on 17 till 19 or 20 September. According to the forecasts, there is a chance of heavy rain these days. The Pazundaung creek runs down from Hlegu. The Ngamoeyeik Creek overflows into the dam upstream Hlegu, but not too much. It is only two feet above the spillway. There is no water being released from the dam,” he said.

Being at a higher altitude than other cities, Yangon is not in a flood-hazard position. Still, the riverine residents and residential homes in lowland areas along Yangon's creeks need to be careful on high water from 17 to 21 September, he elaborated.

“What we have to worry about is the Sittoung River level, which is now very dangerous upstream and downstream Toungoo. The water will come down. Whether they have heavy rains or not, the Bago-Sittoung canal water level will rise when

it reaches Shwegyin, Madauk, Nyaunglebin and Myitkyo. Currently, the water is rising in Bago. So, the water in Bago and flood will be strong. Water combined from the Sittoung and Bago rivers will reach Yangon. As the river water level is falling, it is not that bad. The water from the Hlaing River will also reach Yangon. The Ngamoeyeik Creek is not very bad. However, people in low-lying areas need to be careful when on high tides from 17 to 21 September,” he emphasized. — Thit Taw/ZN

WEATHER

Deep Depression No 08/2024

Issued at 19:00 hours MST on 15-9-2024

Depression Condition

According to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, the Deep Depression over the interior of West Bengal (India) has slowly moved West-Northwestwards and still persists.

During next 48 hours forecast

The Deep Depression is likely to move slowly Westwards and may cross continue inland of India and weaken into a Depression during next 48 hours.

General caution

Due to the Deep Depression, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Chin and Rakhine states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls and scattered to fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions with heavy rainfalls from today evening to next 24 hours. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 mph. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet in Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts.

Advisory

Under the influence of deep depression, people should be aware heavy rain with strong wind, flash flood and landslide in the hilly areas and near small rivers and also domestic flight, trawlers, vessels and ships in Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts.

Flood Warning

(Issued at 09:30 hours MST on 15-9-2024)

According to the 08:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of Kalay at Myittha River is observed as about 1.5 feet (45 centimetres) below its danger level 36.09 feet (1,100 centimetres). It may reach its danger level during the next one day.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas at Kalay Township, to take precaution measure. — DMH

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)

Master plans needed for long-term preservation measures of ancient pagodas



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects damage of the archway at Thabbyinnyu Pagoda in Bagan yesterday.

FROM PAGE 1

The Mandalay Region Chief Minister, the Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture and the Union Minister for Construction reported on implementation of the guidance given by the Senior General on his tour of Bagan, progress in maintenance in Bagan ancient cultural zone, and needs of discussions among architects and engineers for preservation of ancient pagodas. The Senior General underlined that it is necessary to carry out maintenance works with expertise of experts through cultural and architectural outlooks.

The Senior General inspected preparations to gild the whole struc-

ture of the pagoda.

He inspected preservation of the inscription at the bell donated by King Bayintnaung and gave guidance on showcasing the meaning of the bell inscription for public observation.

At Thabbyinnyu Pagoda, the Senior General viewed round preservation of mural paintings, floral works, and ancient literature in the inner tunnel of the pagoda. He also inspected maintenance of the upper terrace for ensuring long-term existence.

The Senior General inspected partially collapse of the northern archway of the pagoda in recent heavy rains and left instructions on necessary mainte-



nance.

On arrival at Hsinka brick chamber, No 1042 of the world heritage list in new Bagan satellite town, the Senior General looked into collapses of two walls and a bridging roof.

The Senior General instructed officials to systematically maintain the collapsed structures in fine weather to have original measurement with the use of bricks from the collapsed buildings and visited the chamber. — MNA/TTA



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views ancient sandstone tiles on the terrace of Shwezigon Pagoda in Bagan yesterday.

NATIONAL

Torrential rain brings silt and sand into Kintha Embankment to lose control of water



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views construction of a temporary Bailey bridge at Nawin Creek Bridge on Yangon-Mandalay highway yesterday.

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected damaged roads and embankments in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Union ministers U Min Naung and U Myo Thant, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun Oo and officials, yesterday morning inspected on-going repairs of roads and bridges damaged in heavy rains and flooding occurrences in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The Senior General inspected damaged parts of Yangon-Mandalay highway eroded by Hsinthay Creek and waiting of cargo trucks and buses for their turn to drive. On arrival at Nawin Creek Bridge (Ahson), the Senior General viewed round construction of a temporary Bailey bridge. The Union Minister for Construction reported on construction of the bridge day and night for convenience of public transport.

In his response, the Senior General stressed the need to carry out repair works on the damaged parts of roads and bridges in flooding to ensure smooth transport for the people not to interrupt transport, adding it is necessary to straighten inlet and outlet channels of waterways at the bridges.

Instead of Nawin Creek Bridge (Ahson), a three-layer Bailey bridge, 100 feet long with a 24-foot motorway, which can withstand 40 tonnes of loads is under

construction. It is reported that the road can be used as usual on 16 September.

At Kintha Embankment, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Naung reported to the Senior General on flow of torrential rains along Kintha Creek, flowing out of water from three-foot higher than the embank-

ment, and inflow of logs, silt and sand in the dam to cause sandbanks.

The Senior General inspected occurrence of sandbanks, breakdown of the embankment in strong flow of torrential rains, and blockage of logs in the embankment. In his guidance, the Senior General said a large timber extraction



The Senior General encourages residents from 3rd-mile village hit by overflow of water near Kintha Embankment yesterday.

upstream of Kintha creek cause lesser control of water outflow. So, he added that heavy rains caused high momentum flow of water in the creek. He continued that it is necessary to clear the waterway and remove silt and sand from the dam step by step.

Kintha Embankment was built in 1994-95, and it is an earthen facility. It can store 72 acre-feet of water. A large volume of water affected by heavy rainfalls of storm Yagi flowed into the dam and water flows three feet above the embankment. Water eroded the conduit of the embankment. Torrential rain was 12 times more than the storage capacity of the dam. Torrential rain brought sand and silt into the dam. So, the dam lost capacity of storage of water and its earthen embankment was damaged. Moreover, logs from Kintha raft jetty flowed along the waterway and hit the embankment with momentum to cause damage.

The Senior General cordially greeted residents from 3rd-mile village and asked them about overflow of water.

The Senior General inspected damaged parts of the highway at Kintha junction eroded by flooding and gave guidance on clearing debris and carrying out repair works as quickly as possible.

The Senior General also looked into progress in building a temporary Bailey bridge crossing Hsinthay Creek for Thaikhaung Bridge on Pobbathiri circular road linking Zeyathiri and Pobbathiri township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. The Senior General and party rolled on the Bailey bridge and viewed round clearing debris in flooding. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

MIFER Union Minister leaves for Laos PDR to attend 56th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Meeting, related meetings

A Myanmar delegation led by Dr Kan Zaw, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, yesterday left for Laos PDR to attend the 56th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Meeting and related meetings from 15 to 23 September in Vientiane.

The Union Minister and party were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by the Director General and officials from Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

The Union Minister was accompanied Director General of the Foreign Economic Relations and senior officials. — MNA



Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw seen at the Yangon International Airport yesterday before departure Vientiane, Laos PDR.

Union SWRR Minister fulfills needs of flood victims at relief camps in Toungoo district

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win, along with Bago Region Chief Minister U Myo Swe Win, Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen Kyi Thihe, and officials, met flood victims and inspected the relief and rescue efforts in Toungoo, Bago Region on 14 September.

In meeting with departmental officials, officials from the military command headquarters, Red Cross Brigade members, and volunteers at the Disaster Management Office in Toungoo District, the Union Minister outlined the directives of the National Disaster Management Committee.

They then visited flood victims sheltering in temporary relief camps at No 3 BEHS, No 7 BEHS, and Aungmingala Hall at Shwesandaw Pagoda. The Union minister assured that the government would meet the basic needs of the flood-affected individuals as much as possible. He urged all to cooperate in the rehabilitation and reconstruction processes in unison.

He then inspected the distribution of financial assistance for rice, allocation of eggs, instant noodles and



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win provides financial assistance and foodstuffs for flood victims at a temporary relief camps in Toungoo yesterday.

snacks for children, cooking facilities, supply of drinking water, and healthcare services.

From 11 to 15 September 2024, over 87,000 individuals from more than 20,000 households across 73 village-tracts in Toungoo, Yedashe, Htantabin, Ottwin, and Pyu townships were affected by flooding and have been evacuated to 100 temporary relief camps. Local Tatmadaw members, police, volunteers, and charity organizations are working together to assist them.

Additionally, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye (Retired) and his wife Daw Mya Mya San donated 300 meal boxes

to flood victims at Ohndaw Buddhism Learning Centre in Pynmana Township. Union Minister for the Ministry 1 of the State Administration Council Chairman's Office Admiral Moe Aung, and his wife Dr Aye Khaing Nyunt's family donated 180 packages of instant noodle, 12 cartons containing 30 sachets each of Mamee instant noodle, 204 bottles of soft drinks, two cartons of 24 packs of instant cereal, and 300 lunch boxes to flood victims sheltering at the Thiri Mingalar Okshitgon Monastery and Hlaykhwintaung relief camps in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Union Territory. — MNA/TMT

Foodstuffs, relief aid presented to flood victims in Loikaw, Nyaungshwe

CHIEF Minister of Kayah State U Zaw Myo Tin yesterday morning presented foodstuffs to flood victims accommodated at Sasana Beikman in Loikaw and inspected reconstruction of Thiri Mingala market.

After viewing distribution of foodstuffs and rice boxes for flood victims, he explained that systematic prevention could be taken in Loikaw against overflow of Bilu Creek starting from 9 September. He continued that two relief camps have been opened in Loikaw to provide necessary aid to flood victims, pledging to provide assistance for local farmers to regrow crops in the damaged farmlands.

On 14 September, Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung visited the refectory of Yangon Myoma monastery in Nyaungshwe where flood victims are accommodated.

In meeting with those victims,

the Chief Minister said the state government will assist in growing crops in the agriculture sector. The Chief Minister presented rice, instant noodle and foodstuffs to the flood victims and cash assistance to the rescue teams.

In meeting with staff at Nyaungshwe Health Centre, the Chief Minister pledged to supply medicines for the hospital as quickly as possible and presented cash assistance to departmental staff who participated in rescue and relief measures in the flooding.

The Chief Minister viewed round flooded areas in Nyaungshwe. At a meeting with departmental officials, he urged relevant departments to cooperate with each other in providing safe water for flood-affected people and opening schools. — Kayah State IPRD/Maung Maung Than (Tgi)/TTA



People move their household materials from their houses due to flash flood in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State. PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG THAN (TGI)

NATIONAL

MoI Union Minister highlights counteraction against fake news by promoting accurate information at BRICS Media Summit

FAKE news and disinformation are severely undermining peace, stability, progress, and development in countries, which is why Myanmar, along with other nations, has been diligently working to counteract these issues by promoting accurate information, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn said at the BRICS Media Summit held in Moscow, Russia, on 14 September.

A delegation led by Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn, and Myanmar Ambassador to the Russian Federation U Thit Linn Ohn attended the summit held at the World Trade Centre on 14 and 15 September.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union minister alluded to the development of social media and advanced information technology, which has led to certain worrisome situations for the international community, as not only journalists but also ordinary people are involved in reporting in the age of new media, paving the way for the increased distribution of fake news, disinformation, and biased news.

“The media have been vested with such enormous power that it can impact the political, economic, and social aspects of nations around the world. Media penetration can strengthen friendly ties among nations, but, in contrast, fake news and disinformation can greatly endanger stability and create unrest,” the Union minister said.

He also cautioned about the profound effect of media and communication on daily life, as they can shape people’s opin-



Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn answers questions by Russian media outlets, including Izvestia TV Channel, TASS TV and newspaper, Russia Today, and China’s CGTN news agency.

ions, attitudes, and beliefs about the world around them, while becoming an integral part of daily life alongside basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter.

The Union minister said that the BRICS Media Summit has convened for the seventh time. He noted that the global power structure is shifting from unipolarity to multipolarity, with new regional powers emerging in international politics. The rise of inter-regional dialogues and advances in new media technology are enabling a constantly evolving and rapidly expanding network.

He also urged for increased efforts in sharing positive news and informa-

tion to foster international friendship and understanding. The Union minister emphasized that multifaceted international cooperation and collective action are essential for addressing global challenges such as climate change, air pollution, and deforestation. He called for unity across continents and regions through dialogue and inclusive consultations to achieve a unified global voice.

“Myanmar welcomes and supports the emergence of BRICS internet web page “Innovation Diary” which is the single corridor where the developing countries make their voices heard. I strongly believe that the BRICS Media Summit

could open the door for positive developments as the world nations can see and hear the true situations of developing countries,” the Union minister said.

Although Myanmar is not a BRICS member state, the country is actively cooperating in media development with many nations.

The heads of leading media structures of the BRICS countries and media outlets from 45 countries attended to the summit which focused on two key themes: “The Role of the BRICS Media Community in Strengthening Stability and Cooperation in a Multipolar World” and “BRICS Media: Technological Transformation on the Path to a New World”. On 15 September, the summit released the declaration of the BRICS Media Summit.

The Union Minister met with major Russian media outlets, including Izvestia TV Channel, Channel 1 TV, TASS TV and newspaper, Russia Today, Svobodnaya TV, and China’s CGTN news agency. He answered questions regarding Russia-Myanmar friendship, Russia-Myanmar media cooperation, Myanmar’s current situation, and the important role of the BRICS group.

On the evening of 15 September, the Union Minister attended a Russian folk art performance at the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre of Russia to commemorate the 120th anniversary of the Russian news agency TASS, and later enjoyed dinner at the Metropol Hotel with the delegates to the BRICS Media Summit. — MNA/TH

MoCRD issues 43% of business licences to small-scale industries for 2024-2025 FY

THE Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development has issued business licences to 43 per cent of 2,900 small-scale industries in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, as well as in various states and regions, in the 2024-2025 financial year, according to the Department of Small-

Scale Industries.

“Of the 2,900 industries set to receive business licences during the 2024-2025 financial year, 1,235 have been granted licences so far,” an official from the department stated.

The 13 types of industries eligible for business licences include consumer goods, household goods, raw materials, minerals, mechanical and electrical equipment, agriculture, transport, and general industries. — ASH/TKO

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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

Talk of SAC Information Team Leader about flood response and aid efforts

“TODAY, I would like to address the ongoing flooding and relief efforts following the recent Cyclone Yagi and a low-pressure depression in the Bay of Bengal. Early warnings about the developing low-pressure area were issued on 29 August. Subsequently, from 9 September, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology issued widespread alerts regarding the risk of heavy rainfall and landslides in central Myanmar due to Cyclone Yagi’s rapid movement in the South China Sea.

On the night of 9 September, heavy rainfall — approximately 11 inches — near Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw led to significant flooding in local creeks and villages. This flooding damaged roads, bridges, and residential areas. Affected areas included 56 townships in Kayah State, Kayah State, Bago Region, Magway Region, Mandalay Region, Mon State, Shan State, Ayeyawady Region, and Nay Pyi Taw.

As of 14 September, the

flooding and landslides had displaced over 72,900 homes and affected more than 78,000 households. Over 320,000 people have been evacuated to temporary relief camps. Tragically, 113 deaths have been reported nationwide, with 64 people missing and 14 injured.

In response, the government has launched rescue and relief efforts. Rehabilitation plans are being developed to address the damage as swiftly and effectively as possible. The Chairman of the State Administration Council, the Vice-Chairman, and relevant Union ministers are personally overseeing operations in the affected areas. The Disaster Management Committee (DMC) is working 24 hours a day to coordinate relief efforts. Tatmadaw members, Myanmar Police Force members, Fire Brigade members, Myanmar Red Cross Society representatives, NGOs, and volunteers are all actively contributing.



SAC Information Team Leader Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

However, it is important to note that certain media outlets and individuals who seek to harm Myanmar are undermining our relief efforts by spreading false information and creating fear. For example, there were false reports of 700 deaths in Thapyaypin village, Yamethin Township, whereas the actual number of fatalities is eight. The rescue teams have already reached the village, and the injured have been promptly transported to hospitals and

clinics.

Around 1:00 pm yesterday, a Tatmadaw member and a MPF member involved in rescue operations at Western Zayatgyi villages in Toungoo Township went missing while evacuating villagers.

I want to commend the bravery and selflessness of the Tatmadaw personnel, Myanmar Police Force members, firefighters, and volunteers who are risking their lives in these rescue efforts. I also extend my grati-

tude to all the public assistance and relief groups, including the Red Cross, for their invaluable contributions. The government is committed to conducting relief and restoration efforts efficiently. The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement is providing essential support, including rice and food at fixed rates, and financial assistance to the injured. We will also conduct a thorough assessment of property damage and provide support accordingly. For those in relief camps, we are offering food at a set rate.

We encourage donations to support these relief operations and appreciate all the volunteer contributions we have received. It is crucial that we remain united and strong in the face of natural disasters. Those who are far away and seek to harm Myanmar cannot affect our resolve. We must rely on our internal strength and work together to overcome these challenges. Thank you all.”

Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation receives K600M in flood relief donations

ACCORDING to Khaing Hnin Wai, the Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation received around K600 million in cash donations for flood victims within three days.

Artistes, along with the general public, have been contributing to the foundation’s flood relief efforts. The producer of the MRTV-4 series ‘Mel Cho’ and artistes donated over K12.80 million in cash, along with food and clothing. Similarly, Aung Thiri Film Production and artistes from the film ‘Thu Chit Khin’ donated K10 million as well as food and clothing.

It is also reported that the Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation, together with the Felicity Solar Myanmar family, will be travelling to flood-affected areas to distribute relief supplies and food to the victims.



Photo depicts ‘Mel Cho’ and ‘Thu Chit Khin’ groups donating cash at Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation.

Likewise, actress Poe Mahme Thar together from the artistes from the film ‘Hnaung’ donated K2 million, her separate donation K1 million, May La Thanzin K5 million, Chaw Yadana and family K1 million,

Hsu Htet Hlaing and friends K5 million, and Pyay Ti Oo+Eaindra Kyaw Zin and family K3 million.

Other artistes also presented cash donations to the foundation. — ASH/ TRKM

Monks, celebrities, and public donate cash and kind to flood victims

CURRENTLY, Tatmadaw members, Myanmar fire brigade members, police force members and social relief associations are making ongoing relief efforts and providing temporary shelters for flood victims.

MyaukU Sayadaw and Mizzima Gonyi Sayadaw donated K100 million and K50 million, respectively, and a Parahita organization led by Mizzima Gonyi Sayadaw will fund K100 million to flood victims nationwide.

Famous actors and singers have also made donations through actress Khaing Hnin Wai, who is renowned for her philanthropic works. Famous singers such as Cherry Thin

and Dun wrote on their Facebook pages that they would participate in charity shows for flood victims.

“If a charity show for flood victims is organized, I will lead it. It is fine for me to sing if it is a busking unplugged show,” said Cherry Thin.

Some theatrical artistes have also led fundraising in flood-hit areas, and professional photographers and artists have also announced that they would sell their own artworks, and proceeds will go to flood victims. The public from non-flooded regions have also provided food, clothing, and cash, and Parahita associations have also given necessary aid. — MT/ZS

OPINION

Efficiently apply AI with the essence of democracy

DEMOCRACY can be generally defined as a system where individuals have the freedom to act within the legal framework as long as they do not infringe on the physical or mental rights of others, irrespective of politics, religion, or any other doctrine.

People must enjoy the benefits of democracy by taking responsibility and being accountable for their actions. Their actions should not violate or harm the rights of others. If individuals adhere

to this system, society will develop with the true essence of democracy. Everybody who wishes to enjoy the essence of democracy has to accept the concept that anyone has freedom of diverse attitudes. Hence, society must admit any different attitude holders.

This year's theme for the International Day of Democracy emphasizes the importance of Artificial Intelligence as a tool for good governance. UN Secretary-General António Guterres has highlighted AI's potential to enhance public participation, equality, security, and human development but warns that if "left unchecked," its dangers "could have serious implications for democracy, peace, and stability."

The Secretary-General also stressed the need for effective AI governance at all levels, including internationally. He recalled that the High-Level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence recently released a report with recommendations on harnessing AI's benefits while mitigating

its risks.

In 2007, the United Nations General Assembly resolved to observe 15 September as the International Day of Democracy with the aim of promoting and upholding democratic principles. The Assembly invited all member states and organizations to commemorate the day in ways that contribute to raising public awareness.

Currently, Myanmar is implementing the Five-Point Roadmap, in line with its circumstances, to shape a Union with multiparty democracy and federal systems, as declared by the government. Therefore, all successive governments must sow the seeds of democracy so that the people can enjoy the fruits of a democratic nation. Meanwhile, people have the opportunity to benefit from artificial intelligence under relevant regulations. However, no one should violate human rights while applying AI. Crucially, everyone must avoid the abuse and misuse of AI in all areas.

In fact, the essence of democracy is of great importance to society. Democracy can protect all living beings, including humans. However, applying the advantages of AI under the guise of democracy to commit various crimes will lead society to utter devastation. Therefore, it is essential that everyone understands the essence of democracy to prevent deviation from genuine democratic practices.

WHEN I got off at Sule Pagoda Stand across the Yangon City Hall, it was 11 am. Some vendors grouped round me at once and asked me if I would buy snacks and a bottle of drinking water. The top of the glittering Sule pagoda towering above the tiered roofs of pavilions in the glow of the scorching sun compelled me to get quicker into its precincts. Shouldering my way through them, I, therefore, walked hurriedly to the Sule Pagoda through the zebra crossings and entered the precincts from the northern entrance, having bought a bouquet of the fragrant flowers from a nearby stall.

Upon entry into the precincts of the Sule Pagoda through the northern entrance, I, on the left side, saw the statue of Venerable Upagutta, who was a powerful Arahant and defeated the Mara (Evil One). An old well that is said to be the oldest one in Yangon and a Bodhi tree were also seen near it. With the Buddha's Footprint (Pada Ceti) by the side of the Bodhi Tree, I walked up to the northern shrine hall in which the image of Gotama Buddha is housed and offered the flowers I had bought to the Buddha image. Then, I walked clockwise round the precincts.

Passing by the Abhidhamma Hall, discourses (Sutara) preached, I saw the shrine of Sule Bo Bo Gyi (Guardian Deity). He stood

A Visit to the Sule Pagoda

By Maung Maung Aye

Passing the Abhidhamma Hall, I observed the shrine of Sule Bo Bo Gyi, a Guardian Deity, where pilgrims were making offerings and prayers.

raising his right hand with the forefinger pointing towards the direction of the Shwedagon Pagoda hill. Some pilgrims were worshipping him with joss sticks and offerings made of coconuts and bunches of bananas. It is believed by the worshippers that Sule Bo Bo Gyi could fulfil their wishes.

Since it was a super Sunday, the pagoda platform was congested with many pilgrims. Many people were doing various religious services on the pagoda platform. Some were worshipping the Buddha images; some were pouring water over the Buddha images; some were saying prayers; some were offering flowers, and some were telling the rosary beads. I walked round the precincts and noticed the statues of the four Buddhas already enlightened in this world were housed in the shrine halls on the four sides of the pagoda platform – that of the Gotama Buddha in the north, that of Konagamana Buddha in the south, that of Kakusandha Buddha in the east and that of the Kassapa Buddha in the west, respectively.

I went towards the pagoda, paid homage to it three

times and observed it from a close range. It was a gilded eight-sided pagoda 151 feet in height. It was a solid type with three receding terraces, which were said to represent the Three Gems: Buddha, Dhamma and Samgha. From the terraces on the plinth to the tapering top of the banana bud, the pagoda was of octagonal shape, which represents the Noble Eightfold Path leading one to attain Nibbana. The whole pagoda, from its plinth to the sacred umbrella, was richly decorated with elaborate floral designs. So I thought it was renowned for its excellent artistic works.

While looking at the pagoda, I remembered the connections between its name and the history of the Shwedagon Pagoda. Thus, when the hair relics carried from Majjhimadesa by Taphussa and Bhallika merchant brothers were presented to King Ukkala, he had all his ministers assembled (ဝေဝေ) at a spot to discuss an exploration of the site where the relics were to be enshrined and that, after the construction of the Shwedagon Pagoda with the deposition of the hair relics of the Buddha, a small

stupa named 'Su-wei' was erected at the spot where the king and his ministers assembled to commemorate this incident, that, with the passage of times, the term 'Su-wei' was corrupted to 'Sule', that, again, in comparison with the Shwedagon Pagoda, which is called 'Mahaceti' meaning 'Great Pagoda', the Sule Pagoda is smaller in size, that, it is, therefore, called 'Cula-ceti' in Pali meaning 'smaller or lesser pagoda' and, that, in the course of time, the term, 'Cula' was changed to 'Sule'.

I threw a sweeping glance and espied the office of the Trustees' Board a little down the pagoda platform. I walked there and enquired about the history of the Sule Pagoda. It was learnt from them that the Sule Pagoda was contemporary with the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Botahtaung Pagoda, that it was, however, hidden deep in the forests for many years, that it was later recovered and repaired by Mon kings, that while the British Government was extending

the roads in downtown Yangon, it was to be demolished, but, due to the request made by U Chan Tun, who studied law at Cambridge University, it was left undestroyed, that it was, however, bombed by the Japanese during the Second World War, that the British Government renovated and the then Myanmar Government when Myanmar regained her independence and that the Buddhajupaniya festival was held annually at this pagoda with pomp and ceremony.

Some hours, I elapsed unnoticed. When I looked at my watch, it was already 2 pm. So,

I paid homage to the pagoda and went down the pagoda platform. I crossed the road and got back to the bus stop, which was the starting point of many bus lines in Yangon. Across the bus stop stood the Yangon City Hall, which was a blend of Myanmar and Western architectural works. Behind it was the Maha Bandoola Park, where the Independence Pillar was jutting out starkly into the sky. I was also aware of some skyscrapers that had appeared in the immediate environs of the Sule Pagoda in recent years.

In conclusion, my casual visit to the Sule Pagoda gave me peace, happiness and relaxation. At the same time, I also got some knowledge of history and archaeology. So I think the Sule Pagoda is worth a visit by all people – local and foreign.



Statues of the four Buddhas enlightened in this world were displayed in shrine halls on the four sides of the platform: Gotama Buddha (north), Konagamana Buddha (south), Kakusandha Buddha (east), and Kassapa Buddha (west). PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Combination of EVs, hybrids, plug-in-hybrids will drive India's clean energy auto sector

The Indian EV market has seen remarkable growth, with a 90 per cent increase in 2023. Global EV sales hit 14 million, and by 2030, the Indian government targets a 30 per cent EV market share.

INDIA'S automobile sector's shift to EVs will not solely rely on electric vehicles but will also include hybrids and plug-in hybrids, as per a report by Elara Securities.

The report noted that a combination of electric vehicles (EVs), hybrids, and plug-in hybrids is set to drive the country's transition towards cleaner energy solutions, rather than relying solely on electric mobility.

As per the report, the Indian EV market has seen tremendous growth. Global EV sales reached 14 million in 2023, with India experiencing a 90 per cent growth rate. By 2030, the Indian government aims for 30 per cent EV penetration, with key enablers like expanded charging infrastructure, advanced battery management systems, and the release of new EV models playing a critical role.

According to Gaurav Gupta, Chief Growth Officer at JSW MG Motor India, "In the next 5-6 years, around 200,000 chargers will be needed, with 1 charger for every 50 vehicles. By CY30, connected car adoption is expected to reach 75-80 per cent, and ADAS adoption should hit 45 per cent, making BEV acquisition more attractive."

The report also added that one of the key trends shaping the future of the Indian automotive sector is the emergence of soft-

ware-defined vehicles (SDVs). These vehicles rely heavily on the integration of electronics, software, and electrical architecture into a unified system.

It added that such vehicles offer advanced features and services that can be monetized, pushing OEMs to shift their business models from hardware-focused to software and smart solution-driven operations.

Bevin Jacob, Partner & Co-Founder of Automobility, highlighted this trend, stating that OEMs are extracting value from smart solutions by incorporating cutting-edge technology and providing connected services to consumers.

He said, "On-demand mobility services, powered by internet connectivity, electrification, autonomous driving, and mobility-as-a-service, represent a transformative development for the industry's future."

As per the report, India's automotive sector is poised for a dramatic shift, driven by technological advancements, collaborative efforts, and a strong push toward sustainable mobility. The transition to clean energy will be multifaceted, with EVs, hybrids, and plug-in hybrids leading the way, supported by a robust ecosystem of localized production and smart solutions.

SOURCE: ANI



To support this transition, India will require significant infrastructure improvements. For instance, around 200,000 chargers will be needed over the next 5-6 years. PHOTO: PHOTO: ANI

NATIONAL

Relief and sanitation operations carried out in flood-affected areas



Tatmadaw members and rescue teams evacuate flood victims.

CONTINUOUS rains in some regions and states, including the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, has led to rising creek and river water levels, causing flooding in rural and urban areas of some townships.

Timely evacuation of affected residents and are being carried out with vigour by various teams, including members of the Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade, Red Cross Society, and social welfare rescue groups.

Operations were conduct-

ed yesterday in villages in Lewe Township. Similarly, rescue efforts were extended to Kyaukse, Myittha, Kume, and Yamethin townships in the Mandalay Region. These teams, alongside local volunteers, are clearing debris such as trees and branches, ensuring sanitation in areas where the floodwaters have receded.

Additionally, temporary relief camps have been set up in religious buildings such as Koekhangyi Dhamma Hall and Hlaykhwintaung Monastery in

Zeyathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw for flood-affected residents.



Tatmadaw members and volunteers clean classrooms of flood-affected school.



Lt-Gen Phone Myat from office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) donates alms to a monk yesterday.

Lt-Gen Phone Myat from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), along with Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Min and officials, visited these camps yesterday. They provided essential relief supplies to the affected residents.

Health screenings were also conducted by local Tatmadaw hospital in these shelters to ensure the well-being of the displaced residents.

The temporary Bailey bridges replacing the Thaikchaung Bridge on Hsintay Creek that connect Hsinteyi Village of Pobbathiri Township and Thai-

kchaung Village of Zeyathiri Township, as well as another Thaikchaung Bridge connecting Uyinsu Village of Pobbathiri Township and Doepinkon Village of Zeyathiri Township, were completed yesterday afternoon. These bridges are now fully operational.

Furthermore, the Tatmadaw families (Army, Navy, and Air), along with local authorities and volunteers, are distributing boxed meals, purified drinking water bottles, and other essential food items to the flood victims.

Flooding affected 531 villages across the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, as well as in Kayin State, Bago Region, Mandalay Region, Mon State, and both southern and eastern Shan State, and Ayeyawady Region. Up to now, a total of 113 people died in disasters, with 120 still missing.

Floods have resulted in damage to 25 bridges, 375 schools, one monastery, five dams, four pagodas, and 79,745 homes. Several roads, railways, and electric posts have also been damaged in flood and water erosion. — MNA/KZL

Monechaung Dam in Magway Region poses no risk

AS of the measurement taken on 14 September, the water level of the Monechaung Dam in Magway Region is approximately 11.4 feet above the allowable level. However, the situation is not critical since the dam's structures are strong despite the overflow.

In addition, dam surveillance teams have been deployed to monitor the rainfall and water storage capacity of dams, lakes, and reservoirs in Magway Region round the clock. Authorities are advising people living near the rivers to remain vigilant.

"There are 63 dams where excess water overflows and flows back into the original stream.



A scene depicts outflow of water from Monechaung Dam in Magway Region on 14 September 2024.

When the water overflows from the spillway, an emergency situation is designated as Level

1, which raises a green flag to notify the public," said U Kaung Myat Thein, Director of the De-

partment of Irrigation and Water Utilization Management.

A spillway or an overflow channel is a structure designed to provide the controlled release of water downstream from a dam when the allowable water level in the dam is reached. Any additional water will flow through the spillway and return to the original stream.

From small village reservoirs to large dams, lakes, and reservoirs, an overflow structure is necessary to release excess water. Without such a structure, incoming water has no outlet and may flow over the embankments of the reservoirs and dams,

causing erosion over time and increasing the risk of structural failure.

"The spillway cannot be opened to release water; it is designed to allow excess water to flow through only when the dams are full. If the dams are not full, the spillway will not allow water to overflow. This means that it is impossible to force the spillway to overflow or prevent it from overflowing. During heavy rainfall, more water will flow into the dam, leading to overflow through the spillway. Conversely, with insufficient rainfall, no water will overflow from the spillway," an engineer said. — Htun Htun/TH

NATIONAL

ME Tokyo announces scholarships from International Christian University, Japan

THE Myanmar Embassy to Japan announced on 13 September that students can apply for International Christian University (ICU) scholarships and participate in the ICU Global Youth Essay Competition 2024.

The ICU Public Relations Office has informed the embassy about the scholarships that will be opened in September 2025 for students, it said.

These scholarships are for the “University of Tomorrow Scholarship” for undergraduate courses that will be opened in September 2025 for least developed countries (UN type) and ASEAN member countries (excluding graduates from international schools). Undergraduate students can apply and must attend for four years, and the scholarship can be used online on the university’s website.

In addition, starting from the 2025 academic year, three more candidates will be selected by the “Global Citizenship Quota” for the 4-year ICU Torch Relay High Endeavour Scholarship, and it can also be applied online on the university’s website.

The introduction programme of ICU will be conducted online by Professor Ryosuke Fujinuma, who will present liberal arts education in two languages from 7 am to 8:10 am Japanese standard time on 30 September (Monday). Interested students, parents, and higher education officials can participate in the discussion by accessing the university’s website.

Moreover, the ICU Global Youth Essay Competition 2024 will be held under the leadership of the ICU, and young people



This photo showcases Japanese and international undergraduate students being seen at the ICU matriculation ceremony on 2 April 2024.

between the ages 14 and 18 from all over the world can compete. This year, they can choose from

the two topics “Peacemaking” and “The right to participate in a community’s cultural life”. Es-

says must be sent online to the university’s website by 9 October. — MT/ZN

Palm oil distribution via Purchase Permit Book begins in Yangon Region



This photo shows consumers queuing to purchase palm oil.

THE Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association has started distribution of palm oil using a Purchase Permit Book on certain days in 44 townships in the Yangon Region.

Under the scheme, a viss (equal to 1.68 kilogrammes) of palm oil will be sold three times a month to each book owner at the set reference price, and this facility is already available

in some townships.

“We are delivering palm oil to all regions and states, including Yangon, based on demand from the population through palm oil importing companies.

Additionally, we are launching a door-to-door distribution system in the Yangon Region. Currently, we plan to enable all households

to purchase palm oil using a Purchase Permit Book, with the goal of effectively reaching consumers through the relevant administrators under the Township Administration Body,” said an official of the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association.

The relevant personnel will seal the dates for purchasing palm oil. — ASH/MKKS

DICA bans three companies upon noncompliance

THE Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) blocklisted three companies (FPT Myanmar Company Limited, Kiss Telecom Group Company Limited, and Myanmar Cyber Company Limited) for failing to comply with Telecommunication Law, as per its notification revealed on 13 September.

Under approval of the Management Committee Meeting 3/2024 of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, those companies were put on the denylist on 22 March 2024 for compliance failure.

The DICA has already notified that the registrar will publicly declare the blocklist and weak compliance matters on the DICA’s website if companies registered on the online registry system, MyCO fails to comply with the existing law, rules and bylaws of the government institutions concerned and provisions stipulated in Myanmar Companies Law.

Additionally, the DICA added two companies to the blocklist upon noncompliance with rules and regulations on 9 August.

Kyaw Zaw Myanmar (KZM) Company Limited kept failing to repatriate export earnings, and it was blocklisted until the end of the 2024-2025 financial year, according to decision Stanza 28 of the Mandalay Region government’s meeting 11/2024.

Similarly, Myae Myan Khit Construction Company Limited was also put on the blocklist for failing to repatriate export earnings as per decision stanza 73 of the Magway Region government’s meeting 4/2024.

The DICA also blocked 28 companies for failing to repatriate export earnings above US\$500,000 starting from 26 June 2024.

The DICA also claimed that eight companies were blocklisted for misconduct in importing palm oil from 24 June 2024.

— NN/KK

ECONOMY WORLD

BRICS summit in Kazan will be global sensation

Zakharova praised BRICS as a model of international cooperation and a counter to Western dominance.



The BRICS summit will be held in Kazan, Russia, from 22-24 October, focusing on global economic, political, and social issues. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

THE upcoming BRICS summit will be held in Kazan, Russia, on 22-24 October. The bloc's leaders will convene to discuss and collaborate on global economic, political, and social issues, aiming to enhance cooperation and address contemporary global challenges.

The upcoming BRICS summit will be a global sensation, said Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharo-

va at the opening of the 7th BRICS Media Summit.

She noted that, under Russia's chairmanship to date, more than 150 events of various levels have taken place within the BRICS framework.

"Of course, we are eagerly anticipating the central event, the BRICS Summit, in Kazan. And everything indicates that it will be a global sensation, no less," emphasized the diplomat.

According to Zakharova, the BRICS group has become a model of intergovernmental cooperation, describing it as a "lifeline, a true panacea for everything happening in international relations today".

"BRICS expansion has been a real shock, a cold shower for the West, and an eloquent confirmation that there will be no return to a unipolar world," she added. — SPUTNIK

NEWS IN BRIEF

Greek PM requests EU intervention in energy market

GREEK Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis requested on Friday an immediate response from the European Union (EU) to distortions in European energy market.

The distortions have resulted in extremely high electricity prices in central, eastern European and Balkan countries compared to western European states, according to Mitsotakis.

In a letter addressed to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, which was released by the Greek premier's office, he said that in Greece's case, wholesale electricity prices in the country have more than doubled from 60 euros per megawatt hour (MWh) (66 US dollars/MWh) in April to 130 euros/MWh in August. — Xinhua

Sri Lanka adjusts personal income tax structures

THE Sri Lankan government announced proposed adjustments to the personal income tax structure on Friday, which will come into effect in April, next year, according to the president's media division (PMD) on Friday.

The PMD said these changes aim to maintain fiscal responsibility while providing relief to those most affected by tax reforms introduced in early 2023. — Xinhua

FAO applauds G20 focus on fisheries

THE Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) welcomed the inclusion of fisheries and aquaculture and family farming in this year's G20 priorities, emphasising their essential role in global nutrition and livelihoods.

Speaking at the G20 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Mato Grosso, Brazil, FAO Director-General QU Dongyu stressed the need for sustainable growth in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors to meet rising global food demand and address nutritional deficiencies, particularly in developing countries. — ANI

Germany and Kenya strike labour migration deal

GERMANY and Kenya on Friday struck a labour and migration deal to allow skilled workers from the east African country to live and work in the biggest EU economy.

The deal will help Germany as it struggles with an ageing and shrinking pool of workers, said Chancellor Olaf Scholz as he welcomed President William Ruto in Berlin.

The agreement will also streamline the repatriation of illegal immigrants, although there are relatively few Kenyan asylum seekers in Germany, which hosts far larger numbers of migrants from Syria and Afghanistan as

well as Ukrainian war refugees.

Irregular immigration has been a flashpoint political issue in Germany where popular fears have been fuelled by a recent spate of Islamist attacks and driven the rise of the far-right AfD party.

"The basis of our prosperity is being open to the world," said Scholz, who added that the deal with Kenya would help counter the "glaring shortage of skilled workers" in Germany.

He said Kenya boasts "an incredible number of highly qualified IT specialists" and said many of its skilled workers and young people could soon come to Ger-

many for work and vocational training. Ruto hailed the comprehensive migration and labour mobility partnership agreement, which he said would harness the "human capital in Kenya, where we have a big youth bulge".

"We can combine the innovation, creativity, energy, talent, knowledge of our young people with German investment, technology and resources and provide for a win-win outcome."

Scholz said the agreement also provides for "effective return procedures for those who have come to us from Kenya but do not have or cannot acquire a right of residence here". — AFP



Irregular immigration has been a flashpoint political issue in Germany. **PHOTO: SEBASTIAN KAHNERT / DPA / DPA PICTURE-ALLIANCE VIA AFP/FILE**

Pennsylvania's fracking industry plans to continue, whoever wins White House

Jennifer McIntyre, a sales representative from Keystone Clearwater Solutions, supports Trump for his strong pro-oil.

PENNSYLVANIANS working in the controversial fracking industry are confident that the sector will endure, whoever wins the White House in November's presidential election. In Pennsylvania's gas-rich Washington County, both Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Kamala Harris are vying for voter support by promising

to back the hydraulic fracturing industry. Trump's unwavering support contrasts with Harris's historical opposition, influencing some local voters who prefer Trump. Jennifer McIntyre, a 47-year-old sales representative from Keystone Clearwater Solutions, highlights her support for Trump, noting his strong

pro-oil and gas stance. She believes Democratic regulations have hindered the industry's success, though she questions the appropriateness of these regulations. Pennsylvania's adoption of advanced fracking techniques in the early 2000s has resulted in a natural gas boom, with the state's production sur-



Diversified Energy employees stand by natural gas well in Franklin Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. PHOTO: AFP

passing that of Canada and Qatar. Washington County alone hosts over 2,000 unconventional gas wells,

contributing significantly to state and local revenues. At Diversified Energy's South Franklin Township site, ten-year-old wells

continuously extract gas from the Marcellus Shale, underscoring the industry's economic impact. — AFP

Danish coin collection fetches 14.8 mln euros

A Danish coin collection decreed to be kept off the market for a century brought in 14.8 million euros as it finally went under the hammer in Copenhagen on Saturday, the auction house told Danish media. After an eight-hour auction in the Danish capital the 286 coins on sale had brought in 14,820,900 euros (about \$16.4 million), news agency Ritzau reported. Michael Fornitz, director of the Danish branch of auction house Stack's Bowers, told the news agency the final sum exceeded estimates by around 25 per cent. The auction represented the first batch of coins sold from the some 20,000 coins contained in the Bruun collection — which has been kept off the market for a century. — AFP

Deal with pilots averts strike at Air Canada



Air Canada says it has reached a last-minute deal with its pilots to avert a strike that would have grounded flights. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

FLAGSHIP carrier Air Canada said Sunday it has reached a last-minute

tentative deal with its pilots, averting a crippling strike that would have

grounded flights and risked devastating the economy. The agreement was announced just minutes after a key overnight deadline lapsed that would have seen hundreds of flights started to be cancelled over the coming days. "Air Canada has reached a tentative, four-year collective agreement with the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), representing more than 5,200 pilots at Air Canada and

Air Canada Rouge," the airline said in a statement. The two sides had been in talks for 15 months. This past week, groups representing more than 200,000 businesses across Canada urged the government to intervene, but Prime Minister Justin Trudeau refused, while impressing on both sides that "millions of Canadians (were) counting on everyone to get this resolved." — AFP

Tanzania launches investment reports

TANZANIAN Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has unveiled a series of investment reports showcasing progress in creating a more favorable environment for investment and business in the country, the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) said on Saturday. The reports are part of the ongoing implementation of the seven-year (2018-2024) strategy for improving the investment and business envi-

ronment, the TIC said in a statement. The launch of the reports highlighted the government's commitment to ensuring that Tanzania continues to be a top destination for investment in sectors such as manufacturing, transport, tourism, construction and agriculture, paving the way for a prosperous and competitive economy, the statement said. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2433E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2433E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3420S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3420S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-9-2024** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Smart tech to empower tourism, enhance experience of foreign visitors

Highlights include a multilingual humanoid robot, virtual try-on machines at popular sites, and mini-apps that offer personalized itineraries.

AT the ongoing 2024 China International Fair for Trade in Services in Beijing, China is witnessing a surge in the use of smart technologies in its tourism industry, highlighting the potential to provide the growing number of foreign tourists with greater convenience and more immersive journeys.

In addition to a humanoid robot with bobbed hair that speaks multiple languages, virtual try-on machines that generate stylized images for tourists at popular scenic spots, and mini-apps that automatically create customized itineraries, a wide range of innovative technologies have come into the spotlight, all promising to unlock the competitiveness of Chinese tourism among global tourists.

Swift payments have a significant impact on the overall experience of inbound tourists. To tackle payment inconvenience among foreign visitors, China's State Council released a guideline on improving payment services in March, pointing out the direction for further facilitating payment for foreigners through



People look at a hydrogen-powered motorcycle during the 2024 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) at the China National Convention Center in Beijing, capital of China, 14 September 2024. **PHOTO: CHEN YEHUA/XINHUA**

technical improvements.

At a special payment services counter at the fair, established with the joint efforts of Weixin Pay, the digital payment

service of Chinese technology company Tencent, foreign exhibitors can learn about China's upgraded payment services in 12 different languages. — Xinhua

Heatwave continues in Japan

MOST parts of Japan, from Kanto to Kyushu, on Saturday experienced intense late-summer heat, with high-pressure systems driving temperatures up, according to the country's weather agency.

Out of 914 monitoring locations across the country, 542 recorded temperatures of 30 degrees Celsius or higher, the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) reported.

The highest temperature recorded nationwide was 37.8 degrees Celsius in the city of Minamishimabara in Nagasaki prefecture, the data showed.

Tokyo also experienced intense heat with a high of 34.5 degrees Celsius recorded at Chiyoda in central Tokyo.

It will mark the latest recorded extreme heat day since records began if temperatures exceed 35 degrees Celsius on or after Sunday, according to the JMA. The current latest 35-degree day on record fell on 12 September 1942.

The weather is expected to change on Sunday, according to the JMA, adding that a weather front moving southward from northern to eastern Japan would bring cloudy skies and rain to areas like Kanto-Koshin. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Train collision in Egypt claims three lives

AT least three people were killed, and 49 sustained injuries, in a train collision in Egypt, CNN reported citing the country's health ministry on Saturday.

Following the collision, thirty ambulances and reinforcement medical teams were sent to the incident site in the city of Zagazig, the capital of Al Sharkia governorate, Egypt's health ministry said.

At least five of those injured were "unstable."

Those who sustained injuries were immediately transferred to Al-Ahrar and Zagazig University hospitals in the city, the ministry said, adding that rescue operations remain underway. Further details are awaited. For the past 20 years, there has been a fatal accident on Egypt's antiquated railway infrastructure nearly every year. According to the Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMAS), there were 2,044 rail accidents in Egypt in 2018 compared to 1,793 in 2017, reported CNN. — ANI

Historic private astronaut mission splashes down off Florida

THE SpaceX Polaris Dawn mission, which made history when its crew conducted the first spacewalk by non-government astronauts, splashed down off the coast of Florida early Sunday.

The Dragon spacecraft landed in the ocean at 3:37 am (0737 GMT), a webcast of the splashdown showed, with a recovery team deploying in the pre-dawn darkness to retrieve the capsule and crew.

The four-member team led by fintech billionaire Jared Isaacman launched Tuesday from the Kennedy Space Centre, quickly journeying deeper into the cosmos than any humans in the past half century as they ventured into the dangerous Van Allen radiation belt.

They hit a peak altitude of 870 miles (1,400 kilometres) — more than three times higher than the International Space Station and the furthest humans had ever travelled from Earth since the Apollo missions to the Moon.

Then on Thursday, with their Dragon spacecraft's orbit brought down to 434



SpaceX engineer Sarah Gillis plays "Rey's Theme" by John Williams on the violin during the SpaceX Polaris Dawn mission. **PHOTO: AFP**

miles, Isaacman swung open the hatch and climbed out into the void, gripping a structure called "Skywalker" as a breathtaking view of Earth unfolded before him.

"SpaceX, back at home we all have

a lot of work to do, but from here, Earth sure looks like a perfect world," he told mission control in Hawthorne, California, where teams erupted in applause. — AFP

SPORTS

'Canelo' Alvarez pummels Berlanga to retain supermiddleweight belts

MEXICAN superstar Saul "Canelo" Alvarez retained his unified super middleweight world title with a punishing unanimous decision over Edgar Berlanga on Saturday in Las Vegas.

Alvarez knocked down the previously unbeaten Berlanga in the third and was relentless throughout the 12 rounds.

The champion rocked Berlanga with a big right in the waning seconds of the ninth round and Berlanga's cornerman could be heard asking his fighter: "Are you awake?", as he sat on his stool before the 10th

Berlanga, who was warned for an intentional head butt, remained defiant, taunting Alva-

rez as they came out for the 12th.

But the Puerto Rican-American, who launched his pro career with 16 straight first-round knockouts, couldn't find the stoppage he'd brashly predicted.

The vastly experienced Alvarez put him under pressure early, Berlanga looking tentative in the opening two rounds as he was backed repeatedly into the corner.

He tried gamely to respond in the third after Alvarez landed a right to the head, but a devastating left hook from Alvarez sent him down. Berlanga banged his gloves together as he sat on the canvas and hopped up quickly. — AFP

IN an early morning fight on 15 September (Myanmar standard time), UFC 306 saw Myanmar fighter Joshua Van claimed victory by decision against Mexican opponent Edgar. The bout took place in the United States, where the two fighters battled it out across three rounds, with no clear knockout.

Ultimately, the fight went to the judges' scorecards, where Van secured the win. The first round was closely contested, with both fighters testing each other's skills. As the round progressed, Edgar appeared to have the

edge, landing more significant strikes.

However, in the second and third rounds, Joshua Van regained control of the fight, dictating the pace and outscoring Edgar, though unable to secure

a knockout. The decision win further solidifies

Van's rising trajectory in the sport. This victory marks Joshua Van's 11th in 13 career fights and his fourth win in five bouts since signing with the UFC. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Joshua Van (L) exchanges strikes with Edgar during UFC 306. PHOTO: UFC

UFC 306: Joshua Van wins by decision

Virus-hit Cristiano Ronaldo to miss Asian Champions League opener



Ronaldo's Al-Nassr will be in action when the Asian Champions League Elite kicks off. PHOTO: AFP

Ronaldo is aiming to win Asia's top club competition.

CRISTIANO Ronaldo was diagnosed on Sunday with a viral infection and will miss Al Nassr's Asian Champions League opener this week at Iraq's Al Shorta.

The Portuguese veteran is targeting Asia's top club crown to add to his long list of

achievements when the competition kicks off on Monday.

"Al Nassr captain Cristiano Ronaldo was not feeling well today and was diagnosed with a viral infection," said a club statement posted on social media platform X on Sunday.

"The team's doctor confirmed he needs to rest and stay at home. As a result he will not be travelling with the team to Iraq today. We wish our captain a speedy recovery".

The former Real Madrid and Manchester United forward saw his first attempt with the Saudi side Al Nassr end in a quarter-final penalty shootout defeat to eventual champions Al Ain earlier this year. — AFP

Rakhine, Ayeyawady share points in 1-1 draw

IN the third match day of the Myanmar National League's Fixture 10, Rakhine United and Ayeyawady United played to a 1-1 draw yesterday at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. Both teams, struggling near the bottom of the table, met in a tense encounter that saw Rakhine United salvaged a point with a late equalizer.

Ayeyawady United took the lead in the 22nd minute, courtesy of a goal from Chan Nyein. Despite Rakhine United's relentless efforts to equalize, Ayeyawady's defence held firm for much of the match. However, in the 88th minute, Htoo Wunna scored a crucial equalizer for Rakhine United, ensuring the points were shared.

This result marks Rakhine United's 10th consecutive match without a win and their second draw of the season. They remain at the bottom of the table with just two points and are yet to find a way out of their struggles. Ayeyawady United, with five points, are slightly better placed but still in need of improvement.

Rakhine United midfielder Thet Tun Aung was awarded Man of the Match for his performance. The final game of match day 10 in the 2024-2025 MNL season is scheduled to take place today at Yangon United Sport Complex as Myawady FC will go head-to-head with Hanthawady United in what promises to be an exciting contest. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Rakhine United and Ayeyawady United in action during their 1-1 draw. PHOTO: MNL



BRICS media leaders pledge for greater role in multipolar world

OVER 60 BRICS media leaders from more than 40 countries joined the BRICS Media Summit opened in Moscow on Saturday, discussing the role of BRICS media in promoting a multipolar world.

Fu Hua, president of Xinhua News Agency and executive chairman of the BRICS Media Forum, said in his keynote speech that today's world is in the midst of great changes unseen in a century and the global multilateral governance system is confronted with severe challenges.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said in a video message to the summit that BRICS is a unique multilateral cooperation mechanism, and all parties have carried out fruitful cooperation for many years.

He said that BRICS has become one of the important pillars in a multipolar world, and the interest of most countries in the world in this cooperation mechanism is growing day by day.

At present, BRICS media cooperation has been continuously enhanced, and it plays an important role in promoting the development of relations between countries, deepening people's

The summit aimed to deepen media exchanges and cooperation among BRICS countries and to present BRICS and the contemporary global landscape to international audiences.



The BRICS Media Summit is held in Moscow, Russia, 14 September 2024. PHOTO: BAI XUEQ/XINHUA

friendship, and promoting mutual trust and understanding, he said, adding that he hopes the summit will deepen media exchanges and cooperation among

countries, and play a role in comprehensively presenting BRICS countries and today's world to the audience in various countries.

TASS Director General An-

drey Kondrashov, in his speech, thanked Xinhua for its strong support for the summit.

Russia serves as the rotating chair of BRICS countries

this year. Xinhua and TASS have agreed to jointly hold the BRICS Media Summit under the framework of the BRICS Media Forum mechanism. — Xinhua

Global South plays larger role in world peace, security

This year's forum theme, "Promoting Peace for a Shared Future," underscores the collective responsibility of all nations in maintaining global security.



The 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum opens at the Beijing International Convention Centre in Beijing, capital of China, 13 September 2024.

PHOTO: HAN QIYANG/XINHUA

THE Global South, including China, is playing an increasingly pivotal role in world peace and security, according to officials, strategists and scholars from around the world who participated in the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum this week.

At a time when the world faces increasingly interconnected challenges, the theme of this year's forum, "Promoting Peace for a Shared Future," is a "powerful reminder of our collective responsibility" in the world security system, which includes the responsibility of the Global South, said Kamal Gunaratne, defense secretary of Sri Lanka, at the forum.

This year's Beijing Xiangshan Forum was attended by more than 1,800 guests from over 100 countries and international organizations, including many from the Global South countries. — Xinhua

Defensive Measures

Ballistic missile from Yemen hits central Israel

A long-range surface-to-surface missile fired from Yemen struck an unpopulated area near Israel's international airport outside Tel Aviv on Sunday, Israeli sources said.

The missile triggered sirens in Tel Aviv and other cities in central Israel, sending residents running to shelters during the morning rush hour.

The Israeli military said in a statement that interceptors were launched but failed to shoot down the missile, which landed in an open area. — Xinhua