

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing lays bejewelled stake for Sarso Beikman construction

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the ceremony to drive bejewelled stakes for the construction of Sarso (literati) Beikman for the sake of literati and writers who emerged in Myanmar at the venue on Bo Min Khaung Road in Uyin Ward of Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon Region yesterday morning.

The Senior General drove a jewellery stake at the centre for the construction of the building and sprinkled scented water on it.

The SAC Joint Secretary, the union-level dignitaries, union ministers, the Yangon Region Chief Minister, the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar and female and male doyen literati who have won the National Lifetime Awards for Literary Achievement laid stakes at designated places and sprinkled scented water on them.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn reported on undertakings for the construction of Sarso Beikman in accord with the guidance of the Prime Minister; a plan to construct a three-storey building with the aid of India as India-Myanmar friendly relations, formation of the committees to build the building systematically, displays for booths on relevant floors of the building, and preparations for the previous building of the Sarpay Beikman as the Sarpay Beikman public library.

In his response, the Senior General stressed the need to systematically construct the buildings and gather portraits,



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing warmly greets doyen literati at yesterday's event of the laying of stakes for Sarso Beikman construction in Yangon.

photographs, and statues of ancient literati from relevant eras as much as possible. It is necessary to collect documentaries related to song composers in advance. Sarpay Beikman public library must be formed systematically with reading rooms for people to read works of literature and leave necessary guidance.

The Senior General cordially greeted female and male awardees – doyen literati – who attended the ceremony.

Also present at the ceremony were Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur, officials of the Myanmar-India Friendship Association, doyen literati and departmental officials.

The Sarso Beikman building will be a three-storey one. Upon completion, historical documentary photos will be displayed for the development of literature in addition to the formation of the reading room, library, and booths

for historic music art. Moreover, booths will showcase palm leaves, folded papers, historic poems, award-winning books, statues of eminent doyen literati in three eras, literati and poets who won the National Lifetime Awards for Literary Achievement.

The previous Sarpay Beikman library is located on the first floor of the three-storey Sarpay Beikman building. As the population is growing year

by year with the development of urban situations, the previous building will be renovated as the Sarpay Beikman public library with the aim of improving the knowledge of the people, contributing to the development of Myanmar literature and raising the reading habit of the people in accord with the motto of Sarpay Beikman “Dispelling darkness, guiding light” and in line with the guidance of the Prime Minister. — MNA/TTA



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Visitor arrivals expected to rise at Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung, and Bagan during Thadingyut



NATIONAL PAGE 6

DEMU carriages operate Yangon-Bago route, serving 700 passengers daily



BUSINESS PAGE 7

MFSPEA invites member companies to engage in competitive pricing

NATIONAL



Nationwide Census Collection continues on the 10th day.



Education: The Foundation of a Nation's Strength and Future

- The strength of a country lies in its education.
- Students with five key capabilities are not only the nation's strength but also the future of the State.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening of the Myanmar National Education Conference 2024 on 25 June 2024)



၂၀၂၄ ခုနှစ် အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာသဘာဝဘေးအန္တရာယ်ထိခိုက်ဆုံးရှုံးနိုင်ခြေလျှော့ချရေးနေ့

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (2024)

“အနာဂတ်မှာ ကြံ့ကြံ့ခိုင်ခိုင်ဖို့ မျိုးဆက်သစ်တို့စွမ်းအား မြှင့်တင်ဖို့”

“Empowering the next generation for a resilient future”

အောက်တိုဘာလ (၁၃) ရက်



Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur secures the building stake for Sarso Beikman, which will be constructed with India's aid (See news on page 1).

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

The people are urged to receive vaccination of Covid-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of Covid-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

VISITOR arrivals to Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung, and Bagan are anticipated to rise during the Thadingyut holidays, said Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association Chair U Naung Naung Han.

Due to the recent flood, tourist arrival is likely to decline in Shan State's famous destinations, such as Inlay and Kalaw, despite October being peak season. However, visitor arrivals are expected to mount on beaches and religious sites.

"Local visitor arrival is expected to rise in some destinations like beaches and Bagan, which were not impacted by floods. We know that most of the hotels in Chaungtha and Ngwehsaung are already fully booked. Rooms are still avail-

Visitor arrivals expected to rise at Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung, and Bagan during Thadingyut



able at four-star or five-star hotels where foreign visitors usually stay. Visitor arrival to Inlay, Kalaw, and other flood-battered areas in Shan State is likely to fall," he said.

Many people have prepared to go on vacation during the Thadingyut holidays, which is why some travel companies have now planned to expand the number of cars. Foreign tourist arrival has also increased during the dry season, October, compared to the monsoon season, he added.

— MT/ZS

Beachgoers enjoy their time at Chaungtha Beach.

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)



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the third cash donation ceremony yesterday in Yangon.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing requested well-wishers and businesspersons to invest as much as possible in the agriculture sector, while the government delivers capital to farmers to regrow crops in the flood-affected areas.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said so at the third cash donation ceremony at the hall of the Yangon Region government yesterday afternoon for taking relief and rehabilitation measures in the flood-stricken areas triggered by Typhoon Yagi.

At the ceremony, the Senior General noted that the high level of Inlay Lake has not yet ebbed, whereas Lawpita and upper Paunglaung have not been able to generate electricity due to the

Rehabilitation efforts require sufficient time

It is necessary to remedy the traumas of flood-ravaged people while taking rehabilitation measures.

inflow of large water volume.

He disclosed that so far, cash donations for flood-impacted people amounted to more than K50 million on aggregation.

The Senior General recounted well-wishers donated more than K32 billion for the first time and more than K10 billion for the second time.

He underlined that it is important to take adequate time to carry out rehabilitation undertakings as the government is carrying out necessary rehabilitation tasks yearly whenever natural

disasters hit.

The Senior General requested well-wishers and businesspersons to invest as much as possible in the agriculture sector while the government delivers capital to farmers to regrow crops in the flood-inflicted areas.

He added that their contributions could help re-operate agricultural tasks as well as the manufacturing sector.

He revealed that currently, as foreign investment is less, businesspersons have to invest in agriculture and livestock breed-

ing sectors.

The Senior General highlighted that it is necessary to remedy the traumas of flood-ravaged people while taking rehabilitation measures.

He underscored that the government manages the collection of population and household census as preparations for holding the election as part of efforts not to participate in politics but to work for the food of the country.

The Senior General accepted relief supplies and cash donations from ministries, regional

and state governments, staff, and well-wishers at home and abroad and returned certificates of appreciation.

Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council members General Mya Tun Oo, Admiral Tin Aung San, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and General Nyo Saw, Union Ministers and the Yangon Region Chief Ministers also accepted the cash donations and returned the certificate of honour. At the ceremony, well-wishers donated relief supplies and more than K11.97 billion. — MNA/TTA

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NATIONAL



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win speaks at the fourth work coordination meeting of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

Eradication of illegal trade must be designated as a national duty for all

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win delivered a speech at the work coordination meeting 4/2024 of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee at the Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

He stressed the duties of the steering committee, region and state special task forces to crack down on the illegal trade effectively and decisively, as the unlawful trade causes disadvantages such as hardships in the State economy and loss of capacity for the national entrepreneurs in manufacturing and market competition sectors.

He continued that Myanmar is rich in natural resources and is an agriculture-based country, so it should encourage the production of natural re-

source produce and agricultural produce. MSMEs should promote the production sector and export new items. While the government is working according to economic objectives, illegal trade brings huge hindrances to the state economy and socioeconomic sectors.

He continued that, after forming the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, smuggled and illegal commodities worth K300.028 billion were seized in 14,659 cases from January 2022 to August 2024.

With regard to seizures in Myanmar, the Vice-Senior General noted that the Customs Department and Mandalay Region stood first for the seizure of smuggled and illegal commodities in July and August 2024, followed by the Sagaing Region and Kachin State. Among them, he continued that unregistered vehicles

and illegal commodities were seized as the most enormous volume, followed by intermediate goods and capital goods.

The World Economic Forum estimated the value of illicit trade and transnational criminal activities to be five to 15 per cent of the global GDP. Moreover, there is a risk that lack of monitoring, oversight and transparency on activities undertaken in numerous Free Trade Zones create opportunities for illicit trade even though these zones are designed to attract legal trade and foreign investments.

He then stressed the need to supervise the trading processes at the Thilawa Special Economic Zone to prevent illicit trading.

In regard to the State economy, the manufacturing and trading sectors should be developed. In doing so, the agriculture and livestock

breeding sectors should be supported. The ministries concerned should distribute agrochemicals, animal feed and vaccines to the farmers in time in respective seasons. On the other hand, the organizations should supervise not to give rise to illegal goods transport and frequent distribution.

He underscored that illegal goods imported via land borders can cause disease transmission and losses in the agriculture and livestock breeding sector. He then mentioned the adverse effects of the illicit trade of cosmetics and substandard electronic appliances.

He then mentioned the consequences of illegal trade that affects the economy, local production, economic objectives of the country, agriculture, manufacturing and trading sectors.

He also stressed the chal-

lenges to curbing illegal trade, such as specific weaknesses in security measures in border areas, law enforcement, scarcity of staff in anti-illegal trade activities, and corruption. He added that eradication of illegal trade must be designated as a national duty for all.

He also instructed the region and state illegal trade eradication special task forces to conduct spot checks at the inspection camps, border areas and trading routes, local warehouses and markets to prevent illicit trading of natural resources.

He then said the people informed 97 illegal trading in July and August 2024, of which three were false news, three were late news, and 91 were accurate news. A high number of trustworthy news outlets show supportive measures to carry out duties more effectively. The steering committee appreciated the efforts of people, and they will be presented cash prizes in a timely manner. A total of K2,140.951 million worth of illegal goods, including wood, industrial materials, foodstuffs and unregistered vehicles, were seized from 117 cases.

He added that five reports were received recently, and informers were awarded cash prizes under a K2 billion grant. The seizures in August are higher than the ones in July and August.

He then urged the region/state illegal trade eradication special task forces and relevant departments to conduct public awareness programmes regarding the disadvantages of illicit trade, prevent illegal natural resource productions, be free of corruption and serve duties with security awareness and conscience.

After hearing the reports made by the attendees, the Vice-Senior General coordinated all discussions and reports.

— MNA/KTZH

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NATIONAL

MoL Union Minister receives IOM Chief

UNION Minister for Labour U Myint Naung met Mr Daihei Mochizuki, Chief of the Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Myanmar, and his delegation at the Ministry of Labour in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The Union minister expressed gratitude for IOM's ongoing support in ensuring the safety and security of Myanmar migrant workers employed in various countries. He highlighted the assistance provided by

IOM in offering social protection and humanitarian support to these migrant workers. The Union minister also discussed plans to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry and IOM to further collaborate on labour-related matters.

Both sides held open discussions on managing international labour migration, emphasizing the need for continued cooperation between the Ministry of Labour and IOM. — MNA/KZL



Union Minister for Labour U Myint Naung meets Mr Daihei Mochizuki, Chief of the Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

MNHRC Chairman inspects Insein Prison

A team led by U Paw Lwin Sein, Chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC), conducted an inspection of Insein Central Prison in Yangon from 7 to 9 October, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 43 and 44 of the Commission Law.

During the inspection, the team examined various facilities within the prison, including the inmate dormitories, prison hospital, library, vocational training

The inspection team also reviewed the rights of inmates, ensuring that their basic needs – such as food, healthcare, clean drinking and utility water, family visitations, and access to essential items – were met. In addition, they assessed whether inmates were accessible to physical exercises and educational opportunities, as well as vocational training. They enquired if there were any reports of mistreatment by prison staff

or among inmates.

Religious freedom within the prison was also assessed, with the team examining the arrangements made for Buddhist, Christian, Islamic, and Hindu inmates to practice their beliefs freely. In addition, the Commission donated educational, recreational, and religious books for inmates.

Findings and recommendations from this inspection will be submitted to the relevant authorities in accordance with the Commission Law to ensure appropriate actions are taken, according to the Commission's report. — MNA/KZL



Chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) U Paw Lwin Sein meets an inmate (above) and inmates from Insein Central Prison (right) yesterday.

schools, prison schools, kitchen, food storage, water purification systems, and sanitation of both inner and outer compounds.

Following this, the team held meetings with inmates, including those who had requested private meetings. The team interviewed 96 inmates, including those seeking individual sessions, and documented their concerns.



Myanmar hosts ASEAN Tourism Committee Meetings



Participants from ASEAN countries pose for a documentary group photo during ASEAN Tourism Committee Meetings at Sedona Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

MYANMAR hosted the 18th Meeting of the ASEAN Tourism Competitiveness Committee (ATCC), 32nd Meeting of the ASEAN Tourism Professional Monitoring Committee (ATPMC), 18th Meeting of the ASEAN Sustainable and Inclusive Tourism Development Committee (ASITDC), 18th Meeting of the ASEAN Tourism Resourcing, Monitoring, and Evaluation Committee (ATRMEC) at Sedona Hotel in Yangon from 9 to 11 October.

At the opening ceremony for the meetings, Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Khine said Myanmar is working with regional countries, including ASEAN members, to increase tourist arrivals to the country and develop the tourism industry. She also mentioned that the tourism industry is a focal sector in strengthening

cooperation among ASEAN countries and cultural exchange.

They will discuss measures to promote human resources and skill standardization, and mutual recognition to develop the tourism industry in ASEAN countries, she added.

Senior officials from the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, team leaders and representatives of ASEAN countries, the ASEAN Secretary-General Office, Myanmar Federation of Tourism and Brothers Association attended the ceremony.

Myanmar served as vice-chair of the 18th Meeting of the ASEAN Sustainable and Inclusive Tourism Development Committee (ASITDC).

The Union minister hosted a dinner event for attendees of the ASEAN tourism committee meetings. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL



Kyaiktiyo to begin Buddha Pujaniya Festival on Full Moon of Thadingyut

THE Buddha Pujaniya Festival at the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda in Kyaikto Township, Mon State, will be held for seven months, from 17 October 2024 (Full Moon of Thadingyut) to 11 May 2025 (Full Moon of Kason), according to the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda Trustees Board.

The board will provide free accommodation for pilgrims in the Pyaezone Community Hall and the

9,000 Oil Lamp Community Hall. In addition, paid accommodations, such as hotels and guest houses, are also available for pilgrims.

“The Buddha Pujaniya Festival at the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda will begin on Full Moon of Thadingyut. We have conducted tests to ensure that the vehicles are fit to climb Kyaikhtiyo Mountain, with various mechanic groups working at the foot of the mountain. Pilgrims will be able to visit safely and happily. Arrangements are also underway for accommodation and meals for the pilgrims during the festival. Regarding the festival

programs, as in previous years, the opening ceremony will be held,” said U Soe Hla, chairman of the board of trustees of the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.

The board of trustees of the pagoda has issued guidelines for restaurants and souvenir shops at the pagoda’s base station and on the terrace to ensure that pilgrims receive convenient and healthy service.

Although it is currently the rainy season, pilgrims from all over the region visit Kyaiktiyo Pagoda every day, with approximately 50 buses providing transport up and down the hill. — ASH/TH

This photo showcases pilgrims at Kyaiktiyo Pagoda.

DEMU carriages operate Yangon-Bago route, serving 700 passengers daily

MYANMA Railways (MR) is operating the Yangon-Bago route using new DEMU (Diesel Electric Multiple Unit) carriages, with approximately 700 passengers travelling daily, according to MR Division 7 (Yangon Region).

“The daily number of passengers is around 700, and it is increasing. There are often standing passengers due to the demand. As some stations are still undergoing upgrades, boarding and disembarking can be a little difficult, so we have provided mobile staircases. The DEMU train departs Yangon station at 4:45 pm and reaches Bago station around 7:15 pm. It leaves Bago station at 6 am and arrives in Yangon station around 8:20 am,” said an official from Division-7.

Only personal items are allowed on board, and passengers are prohibited from carrying strong-smelling foods, smoking, chewing betel, or disposing of waste inside the carriages. The fare from Yangon to Darpein is K1,300, while the



This photo showcases people riding on new Spanish DEMU train carriages.

fare beyond Darpein is K2,500. The train stops at 12 stations, with supervision provided by a rail transport officer, supervisors, and carriage guards.

The No 15 Up and No 16 Down trains started running between Yangon and Bago, using Spain-made DEMU carriages, on the evening of 2 October. — ASH/MKKS

Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation donates K500 million to flood victims in Yamethin

ON 8 October, the Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation, along with generous donors, contributed K500 million in cash as well as food, clothing, purified drinking water, and personal items to assist the flood victims in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region, marking their third round of aid.

“I am not a wealthy person; I simply distribute donations according to the wishes of the donors. We intentionally avoid areas that have received significant donations, focusing on those that are often overlooked. After our second donation trip, we were met with some hurtful comments that caused us to lose our philanthropic spirit. Some even advised against donating in Tachilek, claiming that many peo-

ple there are affluent. However, during natural disasters, both the rich and the poor are equally vulnerable and left with nothing. A solar company had offered K500 million for the children in my orphanage, but I requested that the funds be directed towards flood relief instead. Unfortunately, some people have misunderstood my actions,” said Khaing Hnin Wai.

In addition, the foundation provided K15 million to support 15 high school students who lost their parents and homes due to the floods in Yamethin Township, enabling them to continue their education at a boarding school for the second term of the academic year. — ASH/TKO

Myanmar seeks African investment at 14th Europe-Africa Forum in Brussels

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar Ambassador to Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and the EU U Soe Lynn Han highlighted Myanmar’s investment prospects at the 14th Europe-Africa Investment Forum, held in Brussels, Belgium, from 3 to 4 October.

Speaking alongside Mr Junior Lodge, Deputy Secretary-General of the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS), and ambassadors from countries such as Congo, Mali, and Burkina Faso, U Soe Lynn Han delivered a presentation titled “Investing in Myanmar: Overview of the Investment Potentials.” He detailed the investment opportunities in Myanmar and emphasized sectors that could foster trade between Myanmar and African countries.

The forum, organized by the

Brussels-based Credassur Group with support from the OACPS Secretariat, sought to create connections between European and African businesses. Prior to the event, U Soe Lynn Han gave an interview to Chairperson Ms Esther Misheng Mbidi of the Credassur Group at the Myanmar Embassy on 2 October to highlight Myanmar’s involvement and the potential for economic collaboration with OACPS member nations.

During the forum, the Myanmar Embassy in Brussels set up an exhibition booth featuring products such as Myanmar rice, lacquerware, jade, and hand-made cotton items. Embassy staff provided information on these products and explained Myanmar’s tourism, trade, and investment opportunities to visitors. — ASH/TMT



This photo showcases the Myanmar ambassador and embassy staff at the exhibition booth at the event.

Myanma Insurance pays out K4B+ for crop insurance policyholders

MYANMAR Insurance paid out K4.02 billion to the insured farmers in six townships (Thayawady, Letpadan, Minhla, Moenyo, Gyobingauk and Oakpho) in Bago Region due to excess rainfall.

The Bago Region Chief Minister said so at the Handover ceremony of Crop insurance compensation held at Sayasan Hall in Thayawady on 6 October.

They will proceed to compensate for the flood-damaged paddy fields of the insured in cooperation with the relevant agriculture monitoring bodies.

He encouraged crop insurance programmes to help manage risk triggered by climate change with the weather index insurance for vulnerable farmers, he added.

Managing Director Dr Sandar Oo of Myanma Insurance explained about weather index insurance. With rainfalls exceeding the set index, K5.745 billion will be paid out to the crop insurance policyholders in Hinthada, Ayeyawady Region. Insurance coverage will be continued in other regions and states. Myanma Insurance will continuously provide crop insurance services



A farmer receives compensation from an official from Myanma Insurance during an event of Myanma Insurance providing weather-based insurance due to excess rainfall in Thayawady, Bago Region, on 6 October 2024.

for the interest of the farmers.

A Public-private partnership task force led by Myanma Insurance under the Ministry of Commerce is trying to help manage risk triggered by climate change with the weather index insur-

ance for vulnerable farmers.

Afterwards, Managing Director U Min Thu of Myanma Agricultural Development Bank elaborated on the cooperation situation with Myanma Insurance for farmers to have crop

insurance coverage.

After handing over the compensations to the insured in six townships, a farmer, on behalf of policyholders, also delivered a speech of gratitude at the event. — NN/KK

MSME loans available at 15 private banks beyond MEB, MADB

MICRO, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs can get loans from 15 private banks besides state-owned Myanma Economic Bank (MEB) and Myanma Agricultural Development Bank (MADB), according to the MSME Development Fund Management Body.

Under the guidance of the State Administration Council, the State established the MSME Development Fund in line with stipulations enacted in Section 20 (C) of the SME Development Law, and MEB has been providing loans at cheaper interest rates to MSMEs in Nay Pyi Taw, regions and states.

That service has extended to 15 private banks beyond MEB and MADB to facilitate MSMEs. Those private banks are Global Treasure Bank, Shwe (Rural

and Urban) Development Bank (Shwe Bank), First Private Bank, Kanbawza Bank, SME Development Bank, Myanma Oriental Bank, Myanmar Tourism Bank, Myanmar Citizens Bank, Cooperative Bank (CB), Myanmar Apex Bank, Myanmar Metro Bank, Ayeyawady Bank, Mineral Development (MD) Bank, Construction, Housing and Infrastructure Development Bank, Ayeyawady Farmers Development Bank (A bank).

Those who want to seek MSME loans can apply for them through the nearest MSME development agency branches in self-administered zones, regions, and states, and the MSME Development Fund Management Body has been notified. — NN/KK



This photo shows the facade of Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank in Yangon.

MFSPEA invites member companies to engage in competitive pricing



This picture captures spraying of humic foliar fertilizers by a staff of the Yezin Agriculture Research Department.

MYANMAR Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association (MFSPEA) called for member companies that want to import fertilizer and distribute it under a competitive pricing system.

MFSPEA will organize the importation of urea fertilizer and NPK 15-15-15 compound fertilizer of good quality by practising competitive pricing in November and December under the guidance of the Urea Fertilizer Purchasing and Distribution Steering Committee.

Those member companies can contact MFSPEA by 14 October 2024 to import urea fertilizer and compound fertilizer. They can enquire about details through the contact number of MFSPEA at 09 988539360.

MFSPEA has instructed member companies to sell fertilizer as per the set reference prices for October.

The reference prices set for Yangon

are K97,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Urea fertilizer (large granular), K124,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Rock Phosphate and K137,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Di Ammonium Phosphate. Yet, MFSPEA has not confirmed the reference price for Complex fertilizer.

Figures showed an increase of K14,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Urea fertilizer (large granular), K9,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Rock Phosphate and K9,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Di Ammonium Phosphate compared to the rates of September.

Prices may vary a bit depending on transport charges in other regions and states as the aforementioned prices are set for Yangon Region, MFSPEA stated.

Additionally, reference prices will be further announced as per rules and regulations. For overcharging, consumers can complain to the committee through contact numbers 067 410032 and 09 883353358.

At present, the Fertilizer Committee holds a quarterly meeting to ensure quality fertilizer for growers without facing shortages. Under the approval of the Fertilizer Technology Group, 11,573 fertilizer registrations have been granted after the 41st meeting of the Fertilizer Committee. With individuals' consent, 1,957 registrations were voluntarily cancelled. The department revoked 2,793 registrations for expiration of validity, and 6,823 registrations are still being processed. — NN/KK

OPINION

Sustain mental health at work to initiate better relations

MENTAL health plays a crucial role in daily life and is essential for building better relationships, especially in the workplace. In Myanmar, a predominantly Buddhist country, it is believed that the mind governs all actions, and mental activities influence every physical and verbal process. A healthy mind fosters positive feelings like compassion and affection toward others, helping individuals develop an optimistic outlook on life.

To achieve this, it is important that everyone strives to maintain a clean and innocent mind. When people purify their minds, their actions and words naturally become more genuine and virtuous. Those who nurture a healthy mental state find it easier to avoid negative behaviours and work more happily in their professional lives. As a result, individuals with good mental health tend to perform better and can complete their tasks and goals with greater ease.

World Mental Health Day, celebrated on 10 October each year, seeks to raise global awareness about mental health issues and inspire actions to improve mental well-being. Since its inception in 1992 by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH), which includes over 150 countries, this day has served as a platform for professionals and organizations to prioritize mental health.

The theme for 2024, "Mental Health at Work", focuses on the crucial link between mental health and workplace environments. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), healthy and safe workplaces can serve as protective factors for mental well-being. On the other hand, harmful conditions like stigma, discrimination, harassment, and poor working environments pose significant risks to mental health, affecting both quality of life and job performance.

Given that 60 per cent of the global population is employed, urgent measures are needed to safeguard mental health in the workplace. Ensuring that work environments prevent mental health risks and offer adequate support is a crucial step towards fostering a mentally healthy workforce.

The United Nations System Mental Health and Well-being Strategy for 2024 and Beyond aims to create such supportive work environments. This initiative provides a roadmap for building inclusive and sustainable workplaces where mental health and well-being are integral to the organizational culture. The strategy focuses on preventing workplace risks to mental health, promoting well-being, and offering support to employees with mental health conditions. Ultimately, the goal is to create a work culture that values mental health as much as productivity and success.

HARBANS LAL CHHIBBER

Professor LD Stamp founded and headed the Geology and Geography Department at the University of Yangon in 1923, inviting HL Chhibber in 1924. Dr Chhibber succeeded him as head of the department and served until 1928, after which he joined the renowned Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India. Prof Chhibber's research on the geology of India and Burma remains pioneering in the field. Alam Sarfaraz described HL Chhibber as follows: -

Family and Education

Harbans Lal Chhibber was born on 4 December 1899 in a Mohyal Brahmin – also known as Hussaini Brahmin family of Shahpur district of then-undivided India. He was married to Shrimati Vidya Vati Chhibber, and they had two sons and a daughter.

HL Chhibber received his early education in Jammu from the erstwhile Prince of Wales College (then affiliated with Punjab University, Lahore, and now renamed as Government Gandhi Memorial College), completing his Bachelor of Science in 1921 and Master in Geology in 1923. During those days, the college was renowned for its teaching and research in the field of Geology. He got the opportunity to be taught by some of the most outstanding and inspiring teachers of that time. He received his first lessons in geology from distinguished professors like DN Wadia and BK Bose, and he received his first lessons in chemistry from Prof Prabhu Dial Dhavan. Among other distinguished teachers who taught him were RS Suri, the Principal of the college, Prof Manak Chand Khosla, and Dr S Varman Chhibber, who never shied away from acknowledging the contributions of his teachers in shaping his career and inspiring him to opt for teaching and research as a profession.

As a student, Chhibber was an extraordinary talent in the college. He won the prestigious Pratap HV Cobb Gold Medal for standing first in the BSc Examination at the Punjab University. No wonder Prof DN Wadia considered him as his best student at the Prince of Wales College. In 1927, he obtained his Doctorate in Science (DSc) degree from the Punjab University. The topic of his research thesis was The Rhyolites and Rhyolitetuffs of Thaton District, Lower Burma. He completed his PhD in 1933 from the University of London and obtained a Diploma from the Imperial College (DIC), London, in 1934. He was awarded a DSc from the University of London in 1937.

Professional Achievements

Soon after passing post-graduate with first class in 1923, HL Chhibber joined the Department of Geology, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) as an Assistant Professor. On the invitation of Prof Lawrence Dudley Stamp, HL Chhibber joined the newly created Department of Geology and Geography, University College, University of Rangoon, in 1924. Prof LD Stamp was the founder and head of the department. In collaboration with Prof Stamp, he conducted rigorous fieldwork and produced research works of the highest quality. But this partnership ended soon when, in 1926, Prof Stamp left for England to join as Sir Ernest Cassel Reader in Economic Geography at the London School of Economics. Dr Chhibber succeeded him as the head of the department and served in the same capacity till 1928 when he left the university.

After leaving Rangoon University, Dr Chhibber joined the Geological Survey of India on 4 January

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

EPISODE:46

By **THAN HTUN**
(GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

1928 as Assistant Superintendent. His interest in the geology of Burma led him to join the famous Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India in 1928, where he got the opportunity to interact and work with some of the distinguished geologists of that period like Mr ELG Clegg (in charge), Messrs EJ Bradshaw, VP Sondhi, Dr MR Sahni, and LAN Iyer. As a member of the Burma Circle, he undertook field surveys in many parts of Burma, including that of unhealthy and hostile jungles, where he fell ill on several occasions during the course of his field visits. Dr HL Chhibber also joined the Hukwang Valley Expedition during March-May 1930. He conducted geological studies in the southern Shan States during 1934. He conducted geological studies in the southern Shan States during 1934. Henzada and Bassein districts, west of Rangoon, were the other areas of Burma where he conducted his survey.

Dr HL Chhibber also conducted fieldwork as far as 150 miles from the Myitkyina railhead in the north-eastern frontier of Burma and the areas adjacent to China, including Khewra and Warchha. However, his most intensive study was the Jade Mines area of Myitkyina district, which was the result of two years of hard work from 1928 to 1930. His work on jade mines is rated very highly by experts. Several of the localities were photographed, and samples were collected for analysis. The immediate results of these surveys were published in successive general reports by the Director of the Geological Survey of India. This fieldwork provided materials for some of his most significant research contributions.

Dr Chhibber resigned from the Geological Survey of India in 1935 on account of ill health. According to JB Auden (1956), Chhibber "went into seclusion" for over five years. However, his frail health failed to extinguish his academic spirit. During this time, he kept working independently. In 1937, he was awarded a DSc from the University of London. Subsequently, he undertook an ambitious project of writing a comprehensive book on the General Geography of India. Later on, his works were published in three volumes.

In 1941, Dr KP Rhode left the Geology Department of BHU to fill his vacancy. Dr Chhibber was appointed as Assistant Professor on 24 November 1941. In no time, he started shouldering the academic responsibilities of the department by participating in class teaching and field and laboratory work. Dr HL Chhibber was given an extension as a temporary Assistant Professor of Geology up to 31 March 1944.



HL Chhibber (1899-1955), SOURCE: SALAM

In the meantime, he was appointed as a permanent Assistant Professor of Geology on 16 January 1944. Dr HL Chhibber was appointed as Professor of Geology and Geography in the College of Science of the University on 16 July 1944. He was in charge of geography at the undergraduate stage.

Research Contributions

Prof HL Chhibber had eclectic and diverse academic interests. Although a geologist by training, his research interests comprised as varied themes as physical geography, climatology, geomorphology, soil geography, and biogeography. Moreover, he worked on the economic geography of India and Pakistan.

Needless to say, travelling and fieldwork are prerequisites to excel as a researcher of earth science. He had received excellent training in field observations from his illustrious teachers at the Prince of Wales College, Punjab University. Since then, travelling and fieldwork have become his passions. Besides observations of physical features, he

used to interact with local people to understand their relationship with the environment. For his research, he did extensive fieldwork in Burma and the Himalayas. He also travelled to the length and breadth of India and Pakistan. As an Assistant Professor of geology and geography at Rangoon University, HL Chhibber travelled extensively all over Burma from Mergui to Myitkyina and from the Shan States to Akyab Province from 1924 to 1928. As a member of the Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India, Dr Chhibber travelled extensively throughout the length and breadth of Burma. Some of the noteworthy places he visited and made observations of include the Thongwa-Rangoon area, Hanthawaddy, Insein, Pyapon, and Tharrawaddy districts, Jade Mines in the Myitkyina district, and Hukawng Valley.

Prof HL Chhibber was perhaps the only scholar in India whose contribution to the field of both geology and geography is so profound and substantial that he was concurrently eligible for holding the post of professor in these departments. Space does not permit him to discuss his contributions to research in these fields at length. Therefore, a brief account of some of his important research contributions is presented here.

Geological Works

Prof Chhibber's research works on the geology of India and Burma are still considered pioneering on the subject. Soon after joining Rangoon University, he got involved in research. In collaboration with L Dudley Stamp and other colleagues, he conducted fieldwork and produced some of the best quality works, as JB Auden (1956) has put it: -

"A period of intensive research activity followed, which involved touring throughout much of Burma and resulted in the publication of no less than ten papers in 1927. The main studies were petrological, being devoted to the volcanic rocks of Mount Popa, in Central Burma, and the serpentines of Henzada and Bassein districts, west of Rangoon."

Dr HL Chhibber, along with Prof L Dudley Stamp (1926), is credited with coining the name of a rock consisting of pillow-shaped concretions, exactly comparable with grains of oolites and pisolites in structure and origin and differing only in being larger in size. They observed this kind of rock formation while doing fieldwork in the Irrawaddy basin and Mount Popa in Burma.

After joining the Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India in 1928, he, along with CJ Brown and P Leicester, investigated a major area of Burma, including the Pegu Earthquake of 5 May 1930. In his later works, Chhibber concluded that the movement of the Sagaing fault caused the earthquakes in the

region. The Sagaing fault is an active strike-slip fault that stretches across the entire active fluvial plains of Burma for 1,000 kilometres. This fault plays a major role in Burma's tectonics. Later, researchers confirm the existence of geological evidence on the relationship between this fault and seismic events.

As far as the acceptability of Prof Chhibber's works is concerned, he is considered one of the outstanding authorities on the physical geography, geology, and mineral resources of Burma. His classic books, particularly Geology of Burma and Mineral Resources of Burma (1934), are highly rated books on the subject. The publication of these books helped establish his international reputation as the most celebrated scholar of the geology of Burma. There is an interesting story about these books. Dr DN Wadia, then Assistant Superintendent in the Geological Survey of India, was to have written on the geology and mineral resources of Burma. But he passed on the work to Dr HL Chhibber, whom Prof DN Wadia considered to be his best student at the Prince of Wales College, for the mere asking. These books represent an invaluable combination of personal research and fieldwork and a minute and critical examination of the existing literature.

His most famous book is Geology of Burma. The book is organized into two parts. The first contains an account of the main physiographic features of the country's landforms, river systems, lakes, earthquakes, hot springs, mud volcanoes, denudations, limestone caves, and coastlines, while the remaining part is devoted to stratigraphy. The book also contains a discussion on igneous activities concerning tectonics. It has mapped and described the geotectonic features of the country.

In the Mineral Resources of Burma, HL Chhibber has systematically described all the country's mineral resources, their modes of occurrence, how they are worked, and their uses and trade. It is worth noting that Burma at that time was the most important province of the British Empire in India from the point of view of mineral resources. The book describes the geology of oil fields. Other important mineral deposits, such as lead-zinc-silver deposits of Bawdwin, tin and tungsten deposits of Tavoy and neighbouring regions, rubies, other precious stones, jade, and amber, are also occurring. It also contains a chapter on soil and water resources. His description of occurrences of the formation of jadeite and amphibolites is most interesting and complete. He considers jade rocks to be a unique petrographical type. The jadeite-albite rocks occur as dykes and sills, intrusive into serpentinized peridotites. Chhibber considers these rocks as products of interaction between a soda-granite-aplite magma and the wall rock under high pressure, so high that the molecules that would normally have crystallized as nepheline were unstable and reacted with albite to form jadeite molecule. The excess of silica combined with the olivine of the peridotites to form amphibolites, which is commonly associated with jadeite. He also gave a detailed historical account of the working of jade mines. The book went to five editions in English between 1934 and 1942. (To be continued).

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NATIONAL



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement Dr Soe Win accepts donations from retired deputy ministers in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Donations made for flood-impacted regions

A donation ceremony for the flood-affected regions was held yesterday afternoon at the meeting hall of the Disaster Management Centre under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement. Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement Dr Soe

Win attended the event, accepted the donations, expressed his gratitude, and presented certificates of appreciation to the appreciation.

At the ceremony, retired deputy ministers (2011-2016) donated K3 million, while Nang Ngan Aye Rice Warehouse

from Lanmadaw No 6 Aungmyay Quarter of Chauk Township, together with his family, staff, and traders, donated K50 million. Additionally, Money King Company Limited contributed K10 million, making the total donation amount K63 million. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar marks 2024 World Post Day

THE Ministry of Transport and Communications celebrated 2024 World Post Day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

It was attended by Deputy Ministers U Lu Mon and U Aung Myaing, Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Myint, relevant officials, award recipient students and parents.

During the event, Deputy Minister U Lu Mon highlighted the theme of World Post Day, “150 years of enabling communication and empowering peoples across nations”, and commitment to con-

tinue offering postal services in the long run.

Then, the video message delivered by the UPU director-general on World Post Day occasion and video clip marking the ceremony and activities of Myanmar Post were screened, and the deputy minister presented awards to the first, second and third prize winners of the 53rd International Letter-Writing Competition (local) under 15. After the ceremony, the Deputy ministers cordially greeted the attendees and observed the booths. — MNA/KTZH



The World Post Day 2024 event in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Embassy warns CSC required for passport extension by next week

THE Myanmar Embassy to Singapore said in a statement that the original or copy of the Citizenship Scrutiny Card (CSC) must be submitted for passport extension, with effect from next week.

At present, the embassy has provided passport extension services for Myanmar nationals working in Singapore after verifying that they have paid income tax. However, some are found using the Citizenship Scrutiny Card of someone else in registering tax payments, it said on 9 October.

Therefore, Myanmar nationals in Singapore must bring an original or copy of the Citizenship Scrutiny Card when they come to apply for passport extension at the embassy, it said. It urged Myanmar nationals to apply for a new one if their Citizenship Scrutiny Card is lost, and they should not avoid income tax by using someone else's NSC card.

The embassy has announced on Fridays the list of approved persons for passport extension for less than 14 months, and passport extension service is provided from Monday through Friday. Myanmar nationals in Singapore aged above 65 years are given priority, and they do not need to seek an appointment date. Those who have difficulty in applying for an appointment date if they have an emergency can contact the embassy in person to request a walk-in service. — MT/ZS

Myanma Economic Bank and Myanmar Tourism Bank sign participation agreement



After signing the agreement on behalf of the MSME Business Development loan task force and on behalf of the Myanmar Tourism Bank Limited, U Win Naing Oo, Managing Director, and U Win Lwin, CEO, are seen exchanging agreement record books.

THE signing ceremony of the participation agreement between the loan task force (Myanma Economic Bank) under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Fund loan support programme from the Ministry of Planning and Finance and the Myanmar Tourism Bank Limited was held, according to the

MTB.

It was held at the May Thazin Hall, Myanma Economic Bank (Headquarters) in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, and U Win Naing Oo, Managing Director, on behalf of the MSME Business Development loan task force. CEO U Win Lwin, on behalf of the Myanmar Tourism Bank

Limited, signed the agreement. U Khin Maung Nyunt, general manager of the credit task force and U Kyaw Thura Win, chief loan officer of the Myanmar Tourism Bank Limited, as witnesses signed the agreement.

The purpose of signing this agreement is to establish an MSME development fund in order to support funds to MSMEs, to transfer funds to banks and financial institutions under the deposit system, and to give out loans at low interest rates to MSME businesspersons, pursuant to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Law (2015).

As per the assignment of the MSME Development Fund, the loan task force will manage the loans to be extended through PFI banks on behalf of the MSME Development Fund Management Group. Myanmar Tourism Bank Ltd has been selected as a PFI bank, and thus, it was followed up by signing a participation agreement with the loan task force. — MT/ZN

NATIONAL

Two-day illegal trade crackdown yields K554M in seized goods

EFFORTS to combat illegal trade, supervised by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, are being carried out effectively in accordance with the law. On 8 October, joint teams under the supervision of the Customs Department seized a Yutong bus (worth approximately K70 million) carrying foodstuffs and consumer goods valued at K6.9 million, without proper documentation, at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint. Additionally, two kinds of industrial materials, valued at K99.392 million, were seized from six containers at Myanmar Industrial Port,

and another two types of industrial materials worth K180.332 million were found in 10 containers at the Asia World Port Terminal. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

In separate operations, teams from the Yangon and Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Forces inspected and seized an unregistered Honda Insight (worth K4 million) in Hlinethaya (East) Township, along with three vehicles transporting industrial materials (valued at K16.51 million) near the 21 Milepost on the PyinOoLwin-Mandalay Road.



Confiscated illegal timbers in Bago Region on 8 October 2024.

Similarly, in Taninthayi Region, two trucks (estimated value K30 million) carrying industrial materials and foodstuffs

worth K38.585 million without proper documentation were seized at the Hintha roundabout checkpoint and Minywa village. The action was taken under the Export-Import Law and Customs procedures.

On 9 October, a further 1.99 tonnes of illegal teak, valued at approximately K1.75 million, was confiscated in Bago and Pyay Districts under the Forest Law. In total, the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 19 arrests on 8 and 9 October, with the value of illegal goods seized amounting to approximately K554.47 million. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

False report on U Naing Ngan Lin's health: Prison officials confirm good condition

THE media outlet Mizzima News in Burmese falsely reported that former Yangon Region social affairs minister U Naing Ngan Lin had suffered a leg fracture and was receiving medical treatment in prison.

However, investigations revealed that U Naing Ngan Lin is in good health and has been appropriately cared for by prison officials and staff since

his arrival. The claims that he slipped in prison, fractured his leg, and had a steel rod inserted were entirely untrue.

As a result, the report published on the Mizzima Media Facebook page is both incorrect and misleading, aiming to create misunderstanding about the prison's standard procedures and operations. — Thitsa/TMT

Media outlet spreads fake news: Prisoners die from lack of medical treatment

MALICIOUS media outlet Khit Thit Media intentionally circulated false information on their Facebook page claiming that 12 prisoners — 11 male and female political prisoners and one CDM policeman died from lack of medical treatment at the prisons across the nation on 1 October.

According to the investigation, there was no political prisoner, and the deceases were the ones who faced imprisonment for breaking specific existing laws, and they were suffering from underlying diseases. They passed away despite the medical treatment of doctors from prisons and general hospitals.

Inmates Yar Shin (aka) Har Shin and Pyae Phyo Aung from Kyaikmaraw prison died of heart diseases, Ma Su May Aung from Magway prison died of mental illness, kidney and lung disease and so on, while Kyi Ya Aung from Kalay prison died of AIDS, TB and anaemia, Ma Yin Moe from Myingyan prison died

of kidney and sepsis, Aye Win from DaikU died of heart disease, Khin Soe died of gastric perforation, Lin Lin Tun died of heart disease, TB and liver disease. Nyi Nyi from Thayet prison also died of hypertension; Myo Thu from Pyay prison died of heart and lung diseases; Nay Lin Htike from Insein prison died of cancer; and Thant Zin from Thaton prison died of heart disease.

The Prison Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs provides the prisoners with proper healthcare services as per the SOP. Moreover, it also buys the needed medical supplies monthly and allows the inmates to get medical treatment at prison hospitals and clinics and transfer to general hospitals in severe cases. There is no discrimination in prison, and all the prisoners must follow the Prison Law and Rule, and the prison staff must follow the law.

The Khit Thit Media spread fake news to mislead the public regarding prison procedures. — Thitsa/KZL

False reports spread on alleged arrests of women in Myaing Township

MALICIOUS news media spread false reports, claiming that security forces arrested five women working in a field in Myaing Township, Magway Region.

These fabricated stories were circulated with the intent to mislead the public. A security official from the area clarified that security forces in Myaing Township conducted security operations for the rule of law in accordance with legal procedures. He confirmed that no unlawful arrests of local civilians were made.

Instead, it was revealed that terrorists arrested and executed individuals who did not support their violent activities. Subversive news media deliberately spread false news in an attempt to mislead the public about security forces' operations in the region. — MNA/KZL



Screenshot of DVB TV News validates misinformation.

ECONOMY WORLD

Modi initiates development projects in Maharashtra

PM Modi highlighted initiatives across multiple sectors, including metro expansions, airport upgrades, and road projects, aimed at enhancing infrastructure and supporting agriculture.



Vadhavan Port is an upcoming deep-sea port located in Maharashtra, India. The Vadhan Port project is worth Rs76,000 crore and will change the landscape of Maharashtra. **PHOTO: GONDWANA UNIVERSITY**

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of various development projects in Maharashtra worth over Rs7600 crore on Wednesday through video-conference.

In his speech during the

initiation of the projects, PM Modi said, "Development projects worth thousands of crores have been launched in various districts, with metro expansions in several cities, airport upgrades taking place in some locations, and road

and highway-related projects progressing rapidly. Projects related to infrastructure, solar energy, and textile parks have been initiated. New initiatives have been taken for the benefit of farmers and livestock owners." — ANI

Iran warns Israel not to attack its infrastructure

IRAN warned Israel on Tuesday against attacking any of its infrastructure amid fears of a possible Israeli assault on oil or nuclear sites following Iran's missile barrage last week.

"Any attack against infrastructure in Iran will provoke an even stronger response," state television quoted Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi as saying.

He spoke after Israel said it was preparing a response to Iran's 1 October missile attack on its arch-enemy, its second on the country in six months.

On Monday, an official statement quoted Araghchi as say-

ing Iran did not seek war in the region.

On Friday US President Joe Biden cautioned Israel against attacking oil installations in Iran, one of the world's top 10 producers of crude.

Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps General Rassul Sainairad warned Israel on Sunday any attack on nuclear or energy sites would cross a "red line".

The Fars news agency quoted him as saying following the Israeli threat: "Some political leaders have spoken of a possible change in Iran's nuclear policy." — AFP



Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi stated that any assault on Iranian infrastructure would provoke a stronger retaliation. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

China to impose temporary anti-dumping measures on brandy originating in EU

CHINA'S Ministry of Commerce (MOC) announced Tuesday that it will impose temporary anti-dumping measures on brandy originating in the European Union (EU) by requiring importers to pay a cash deposit on purchase.

The imported brandy originating in the EU involves dumping, the MOC said in its preliminary assessment publicized on 29 August following an investigation launched in January of this year.

It added that the domestic brandy industry is under substantial threat of damage, and there is a causal relationship between the dumping and the



China imported more brandy than any other spirit in 2022, most of it from France, according to research group Daxue Consulting. **PHOTO: GEORGES GOBET/ AFP**

substantial threat of damage.

Effective from Friday, importers of brandy originating in the EU must place deposits

with Chinese customs based on dumping margins of between 30.6 per cent and 39 per cent. — Xinhua

Vietnam's food sector to reach nearly US\$30 bln in revenue

REVENUE from Vietnam's food and beverage (F&B) industry will grow by 10.92 per cent this year, reaching more than 720 trillion Vietnamese dong (US\$29.8 billion), Vietnam News cited a forecast made by the Ministry of Industry and Trade on Tuesday.

A survey by Vietnam Report from July to August this year shows that 62.5 per cent of businesses expect the F&B industry to grow by five per cent to 10 per cent this year.

Up to 52.7 per cent of consumers believe that their income will improve slightly and 21.8 percent will improve significant-

ly in the next 12 months, according to the survey.

Compared to a year ago, concerns about weak purchasing power or rising inflation have cooled down significantly, giving way to concerns related to changes in consumer behaviour and large inventories.

Up to 72.2 per cent of F&B businesses surveyed said changes in consumer behaviour were one of the biggest difficulties this year.

This rate has increased sharply from 37.5 per cent in 2022 to 75 per cent this year. — Xinhua

New Zealand's tourism industry embraces China's Golden Week holiday

During China's National Day holiday, Dong Bing and her family began a 13-day vacation in New Zealand, seeking unique experiences and natural scenery.

DONG Bing flew to Auckland from Beijing on the first day of China's National Day holiday with her husband and five-year-old son. The long-awaited overseas vacation has been highly anticipated by the family of three during the "Golden Week" which offers a nice respite for them.

"New Zealand has a lot of unique natural scenery and many different places from China. We

would like to have a special experience with our son," said Dong who planned a 13-day family trip in both of New Zealand's North and South Islands.

The National Day holiday, dubbed "Golden Week" by the Chinese, normally runs for seven days on 1-7 October annually. A longer holiday fuels people's enthusiasm to travel, with popular Chinese tourist destinations flooded by visitors. Over-

seas tourism industries have increasingly benefited from China's holiday economy consumption boom.

Chinese tourists are now spending more on specialty food, attractions and experiences, such as glacier hiking, skydiving and other extreme activities, said Uncle Rong, head of Travel Together Ltd, a tour operator in New Zealand's South Island. — Xinhua



Chinese tourists visit Glenorchy, New Zealand. PHOTO: SU LIANG/FILE

Boeing suspends negotiations with striking workers

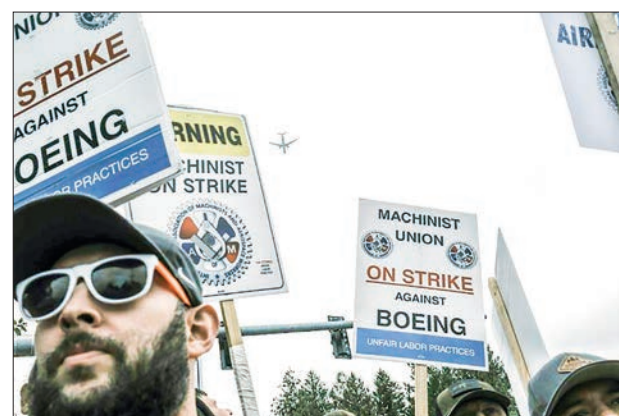
BOEING on Tuesday suspended negotiations with its striking workers as it accused the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) of making unreasonable demands and withdrew its offer.

"The union made non-negotiable demands far in excess of what can be accepted if we are to remain competitive as a business," the US aerospace giant said in an email to employees late Tuesday. "Given that position, further negotiations do not make sense at this

point and our offer has been withdrawn."

About 33,000 Boeing workers in the Pacific Northwest have been on

strike for nearly a month in a fight focused on higher wages and improved retirement benefits. — AFP



The US aerospace giant withdrew its offer, citing excessive union demands. PHOTO: AFP

Kering names new head at Gucci to revive sales

FRENCH luxury holding company Kering on Tuesday named Stefano Cantino as director-general of Gucci to revive sales at its trou-

bled flagship subsidiary. He will replace Jean-Francois Palus, a close associate of Kering CEO Francois-Henri Pinault, who was named

interim head of the Italian fashion company in July 2023 with the aim of hiring new top management. — AFP

PESTICIDE TRADE NAME CHANGE ADVERTISING

The following pesticide distributed by **Golden Lion High Tech Agricultural Resources Co.,Ltd** and here we would like to pesticide trade name change advertising. Anyone who would like to object or inquiry about new trade name contact within 14 days to Joint-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon. Golden Lion High Tech Agricultural Resources Co.,Ltd Tel:09-401573814

Sr.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1.	Bentapro 440 SL	Pro - 2	Acifluorfen 80 g/l + Bentazone 360g/l SL	P2023-5302

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V EVER FELICITY VOY.NO. (003)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V EVER FELICITY VOY.NO. (003)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** 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: **2301191, 2301178**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S ECL (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB439A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB439A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-10-2024** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV9YS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV9YS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-10-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

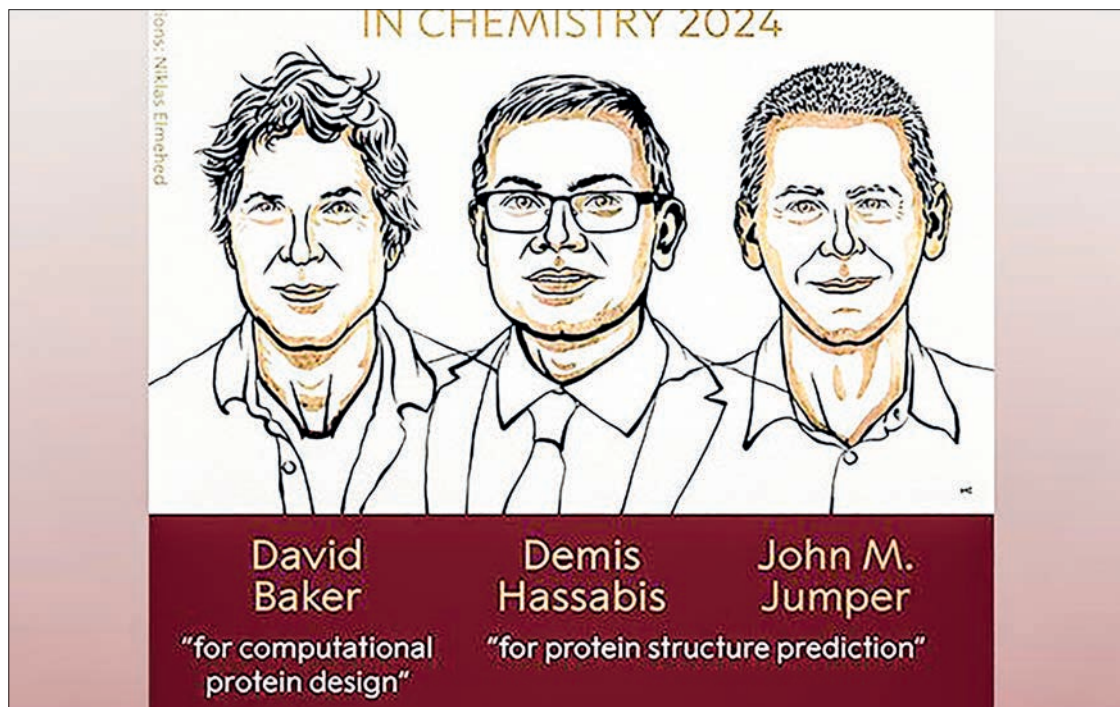
2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry awarded to Baker, Hassabis, Jumper

THE 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to David Baker, Demis Hassabis, and John M Jumper, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced on Wednesday.

The prize is divided into two halves, with one half awarded to David Baker for his work on “computational protein design” and the other half jointly awarded to Demis Hassabis and John M Jumper for their discoveries in “protein structure prediction”, according to the Academy.

The Academy noted that both awardees had “cracked the code for proteins’ remarkable structures”, with Baker successfully creating entirely new types of proteins, while Hassabis and Jumper developed an artificial intelligence model that solved a 50-year-old problem of predicting complex protein structures, offering significant potential for understanding pro-

Their breakthroughs have significant implications for understanding protein functions and advancing medical applications, such as pharmaceuticals and vaccines.



The prize is split between Baker and Hassabis-Jumper. PHOTO: ANI

tein structures.

Proteins typically consist of 20 different amino acids, often referred to as the building blocks of life. In 2003, David Baker used these blocks to design a new protein unlike any previously seen. Since then, his research group has generated numerous innovative protein designs, including proteins that can serve as pharmaceuticals, vaccines, nanomaterials, and tiny sensors.

The second discovery relates to the prediction of protein structures. In proteins, amino acids are linked together in long chains that fold into three-dimensional structures, which are crucial for their function. Since the 1970s, researchers have struggled to predict protein structures from amino acid sequences, a task that was “notoriously” difficult. However, a significant breakthrough occurred four years ago. — ANI

Bahrain aims for 100 new air routes by 2026 following global aviation conference

BAHRAIN plans to expand its air connectivity to 100 new destinations by 2026, a senior official revealed on Tuesday, following the conclusion of Routes World 2024, a key event in the global aviation sector.

The 29th edition of the summit, held in Bahrain, facilitated more than 9,000 meetings between airline and airport representatives and attracted over 2,300 delegates from 230 airlines and 530 airports worldwide.

Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah, CEO of Bah-

rain Airport Company, underscored the importance of the event in positioning Bahrain as a hub for strategic partnerships and innovation in aviation.

“We are committed to driving the continued growth of this crucial sector,” he said.

Bahrain’s Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Mohamed bin Thamer Al Kaabi highlighted the conference’s role in shaping the future of global aviation and enhancing air connectivity. — Xinhua



Gulf Air aircraft at Bahrain International Airport on 5 November 2019. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

BRIEF: WORLD

Japan’s PM dissolves lower house of parliament

THE lower house of Japan’s parliament was officially dissolved on Wednesday, setting the stage for the general election as Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba seeks to secure his party’s lower house majority.

The general election is slated to be held on 27 October, with campaigning set to begin on 15 October.

Ishiba won the presidential election of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on 27 September and was elected prime minister on 1 October in the parliament controlled by the LDP-led coalition.

The timing marked the shortest period between a prime minister taking office and the dissolution of the lower house in Japan’s postwar history. The general election will be the first since the LDP’s political funds scandal surfaced in late 2023.

In his first policy speech to the parliament last week, 67-year-old Ishiba vowed to restore public trust in politics following a series of scandals and tried to reassure the public amid rising living costs.

In an effort to address public outrage, the LDP on Wednesday decided not to endorse 12 lawmakers embroiled in the political funds scandal as official candidates in the upcoming election.

The LDP, which ruled Japan for most of the post-war era, previously held 258 seats in the 465-member lower house, and it governed in coalition with Komeito, which held 32 seats.

The main opposition is the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan led by former Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, which held 99 seats. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson set for six weeks out

In his absence, Liverpool faces critical fixtures, including Champions League matches against RB Leipzig and Bayer Leverkusen.



Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson Becker leaves the pitch after picking up an injury against Crystal Palace. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

LIVERPOOL goalkeeper Alisson Becker is expected to be sidelined for around six weeks with a hamstring injury, which would rule him out of matches against Chelsea and Arsenal.

The 32-year-old Brazil international was hurt during last weekend's 1-0 victory over Crystal Palace and went off late in the second half.

Reports in the British press say tests have shown Alisson is not likely to be fit to play until after next month's international break.

That would mean the first match he would potentially be available for would be the trip to Southampton on 24 November.

Arne Slot's Premier League leaders face Chelsea on 20 October and Arsenal a week later, while their next two Champions

League fixtures pit them against RB Leipzig and Bayer Leverkusen.

Caoimhin Kelleher, who missed the Palace match through illness, will be expected to deputise, as he did last season when Alisson was ruled out with another hamstring injury.

Speaking after the victory at Crystal Palace, Slot predicted a lengthy lay-off for his number one goalkeeper.

"We have to wait and see but it will be a few weeks for him to be back. I think it is, yes (his hamstring)," he said.

"He's clearly our number one, he's the best goalkeeper in the world. It's always a blow when he gets injured, not only for him but us as a team."

Liverpool have 18 points from seven Premier League matches -- one more than defending champions Manchester City and Arsenal. — AFP

Ederson: Time for Brazil to 'dig deep'

GOALKEEPER Ederson said Tuesday that Brazil must "dig deep" to arrest a form slump that threatens to derail the team's World Cup qualifying campaign.

Dorival Junior's side, currently fifth in the South American qualifying group, will meet Chile in Santiago on Thursday and Peru in Brasilia five days later.

"We are not in great form, but neither are Chile," the Manchester City player told a news conference.

Brazil have just three wins from eight outings in the CONMEBOL qualifying tournament.

A failure to emerge from the rut against Chile and Peru could leave the five-time world champions outside the automatic qualifying places for the 2026 World Cup in the United States, Mexico and Canada.

"We have to show more and dig deep to get back to the top of the table, where we should be," Ederson said. "With victories comes confidence and the most important thing now is to win," he added.

Ederson is in line to start against Chile after Liverpool's Alisson was cut from the squad because of a hamstring injury.

The 31-year-old said he was relishing the chance to be a leader and a role model for his younger teammates. — Xinhua

Sinner, Alcaraz secure spots in last eight of Shanghai Masters

WORLD No 1 Jannik Sinner beat American Ben Shelton with a 6-4, 7-6 (1) straight-set win in the fourth round of the ATP Shanghai Masters on Wednesday.

In the opening set, facing an aggressive start from Shelton who created two break points at 2-1, Sinner showed his resilience. In the ninth game, the Italian finally found an opportunity to embrace his first break point of the match and successfully converted it into a 5-4 lead.

When it comes to the decisive tie-break in the second set, Shelton notched the opening point on serve, but Sinner never gave his opponent any chance later by striking his best balls at critical moments to win seven consecutive points.

"Obviously, we cannot take only one match. I think it was a very tough match today. He had chances in the first and second sets," said Sinner. "I'm happy how I handled this situation. Obviously I reached the position where I have been last year, but it is different. So I'm happy to be in the position where I am."

The 23-year-old has reached the quarters in all 14 tourna-

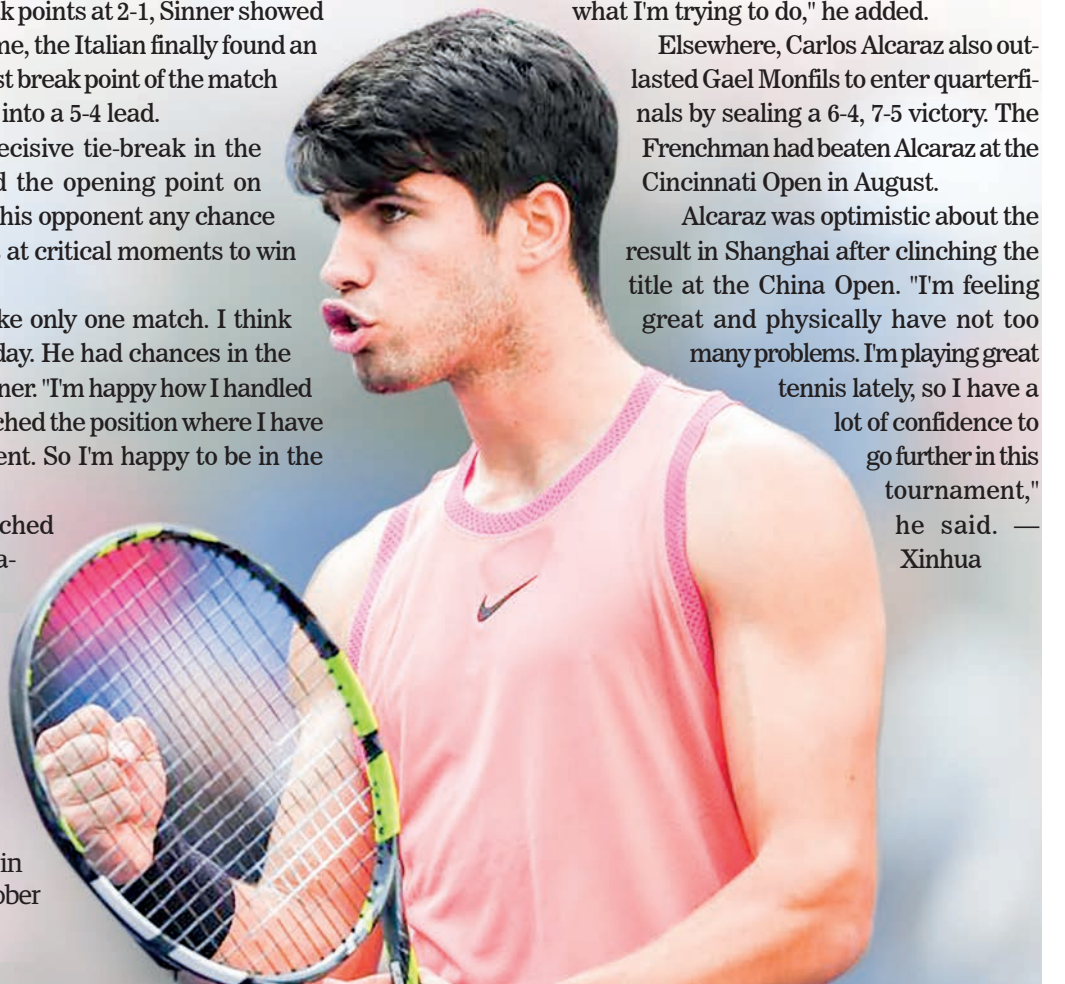
ments he has entered this season. About the secret of his consistency, Sinner said he tries to accept every challenge he meets. "There are always very tough times on court. You have to be mentally ready to go against them. That's exactly what I'm trying to do," he added.

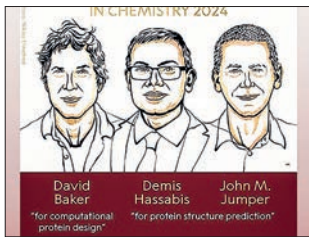
Elsewhere, Carlos Alcaraz also outlasted Gael Monfils to enter quarterfinals by sealing a 6-4, 7-5 victory. The Frenchman had beaten Alcaraz at the Cincinnati Open in August.

Alcaraz was optimistic about the result in Shanghai after clinching the title at the China Open. "I'm feeling great and physically have not too many problems. I'm playing great

tennis lately, so I have a lot of confidence to go further in this tournament," he said. — Xinhua

Carlos Alcaraz celebrates during the men's singles round of 16 match between Carlos Alcaraz of Spain and Gael Monfils of France at the ATP World Tour Shanghai Masters tennis tournament in Shanghai, east China, 9 October 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**





MOUNTAINEERING ASPIRATION

Nepali teen sets record for summitting 14 peaks

An 18-year-old Nepali mountaineer on Wednesday broke the record for the youngest person to summit all 14 of the world's 8,000-metre peaks, his team said.

Nima Rinji Sherpa reached the summit of Tibet's 8,027-metre-high (26,335 feet) Shisha Pangma on Wednesday morning, completing his mission to stand on the world's highest peaks.

"He reached the summit this morning. He had trained well and I was confident he would do it," his father Tashi Sherpa told AFP.

Summitting all 14 "eight-thousanders" is considered the peak of mountaineering aspirations. Climbers cross "death zones" where there is not enough oxygen in the air to sustain human life for long periods.

"This summit is not just the culmination of my personal journey, but a tribute to every Sherpa who has ever dared to dream beyond the traditional boundaries set for us," Sherpa said in a statement. "Mountaineering is more than labour, it is a testament to our strength, resilience and passion."

Sherpa is no stranger to the mountains, hailing from a family of record-holding mountaineers, who also now run Nepal's largest mountaineering expedition company. — AFP



Expanded meeting of the CIS Heads of State. PHOTO: VALERY SHARIFULIN/TASS

Putin: CIS leaders coordinate on significant global and regional issues

Russian President Vladimir Putin stated that their positions are often closely aligned or identical.

THE CIS leaders constantly coordinate positions on key global and regional issues, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday.

"We are constantly coordinating positions on key global and regional issues. Moreover, our approaches regarding them are traditionally close or completely coincide," Putin said at a meeting of the expanded Council of CIS Heads of State.

All CIS countries advocate the forma-

tion of a just world order with the central role of the UN, he added.

"In the current difficult situation in the world, it is extremely important that all CIS states advocate the formation of a just world order based on universally recognized principles of international law with the central role of the United Nations," the president noted.

On CIS Cooperation

CIS leaders, led by President Putin, discussed enhancing cooperation within the Commonwealth and addressing international issues at their summit.

Important decisions were made to shape the CIS's future, emphasizing development and collaboration with BRICS.

The leaders expressed a commitment to strengthening their collective position in global affairs through deeper partnerships. — SPUTNIK

DPRK to cut off roads, railways connected to S Korea



Photo shows a session of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly, which took place at Pyongyang's Mansudae Assembly Hall on 7-8 October 2024. PHOTO: KCNA/KYODO

The Korean People's Army (KPA) cited ongoing military exercises by South Korea, the presence of US nuclear assets, and threats to the DPRK's regime as reasons for this drastic measure.

THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) will completely cut off roads and railways connected to South Korea beginning Wednesday amid the precarious situation on the Korean Peninsula, the General Staff of the Korean People's Army (KPA) was quoted by the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) as saying.

The KPA General Staff

stressed that the gravity of the situation on the peninsula can not be overlooked, with daily military exercises in the South Korean region near the DPRK's southern border, the frequent presence of US strategic nuclear assets, and the repeated talk about the "end of the regime" in the DPRK, said the report.

The acute military situation on the peninsula requires

the DPRK armed forces to take stronger measures to effectively defend national security, it added.

"To this end, a project will be launched first on 9 October to completely cut off roads and railways connected to the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and fortify the relevant areas of our side with strong defense structures," the report said. — Xinhua