

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Lorries transporting export and import cargo cross the Myanmar-China border in Kachin State.

Myanmar-China border trade hits US\$280M in one month

THE border trade value between Myanmar and China declined to US\$280.44 million as of 10 March of the current financial year 2024-2025, beginning 1 April, from \$407.7 million recorded in the corresponding period last year, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics showed.

The figures reflected a significant decrease of \$127.28 million this FY compared to that of the year-ago period.

Myanmar conducts cross-border trade with neighbouring China via Muse, Lweje, Chinshwehaw, Kampaiti and Kengtung. The Muse border registered the highest trade figure of \$140.28 billion.

The trade values stood at \$67.66 million via Kampaiti, \$1.214 million via Lweje and \$71.27 million via Kengtung, respectively.

Myanmar has been carrying out border trade with the four neighbouring countries — China, Thailand, Bangladesh and India.

Export items are agricultural products, livestock products, fisheries products, minerals, forest products, manufacturing goods and other goods, while capital goods, intermediate goods, manufacturing goods and raw materials by CMP enterprises are imported. — NN/EM

New mobile pay system for toll collection on Thanlyin Bridge 3

ACCORDING to the Department of Bridges under the Ministry of Construction, the toll fee for Thanlyin Bridge No 3, which connects Thakayta Township and Thanlyin Township in Yangon Region, will be collected through the Mobile

Pay system using a QR code.

To ensure there is no delay in toll collection at the Toll Plaza on Thanlyin Bridge No 3, both human toll collectors and the Mobile Pay system will be used, according to the Department of

Bridges.

This four-lane bridge has a total length of 8,638 feet and a width of 75 feet. It can bear a weight of up to 75 tonnes (vehicle plus goods).

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The photo shows the construction status of the Thanlyin Bridge No 3.

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New Media Workshop

delivers key messages, good insights

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Failure to perform military service will result in penalties

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MoBA Union Minister inspects development activities in Shan State (South)

NATIONAL

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organization transferred and confirmed

1. The State Administration Council has transferred and appointed U Win Kyaw Aung, Director-General of the Printing and Publishing Department of the Ministry of Information, as Director-General of the Union Minister Office of the same ministry from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The State Administration Council confirmed the appointment of Daw Yu Yu Khin as Director-General of the Legal Advocacy Department under the Ministry of Legal Affairs on 20 May 2024.

2 special criminal cases, 7 special civil appeal cases passed judgements; 5 special civil appeal cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Thar Htay and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Myo Maung, U Khin Maung Gyi, U Thein Ko Ko and Daw Pyone Pyone Aye was convened yesterday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgement for two special criminal appeal cases – Nos 1/2024 (Mandalay) and 2/2024 (Bago), and seven special civil appeal cases — Nos 45/2023 (Yangon) and 46/2023 (Mandalay), 47/2023 (Mandalay), 48/2023 (Mandalay), 49/2023 (Shan), 7/2024 (Yangon), and 10/2024 (Ayeawady).

In addition, a total of five special civil appeal cases – Nos 9/2024 (Magway), 11/2024 (Mandalay), 12/2024 (Yangon), 16/2024 (Mandalay) and 17/2024 (Mandalay) — were heard. — MNA



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“သဲကန္တာရတိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနှင့် မိုးခေါင်ရေရှားဒဏ်ခံနိုင်ရေး မြေယာပြန်လည်ဖြူပြင်ပေး”
“Land restoration, desertification and drought resilience”

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.

Bagan’s murals reveal ancient links with Middle East

BY observing the murals in Bagan, one can see a connection between Bagan and the Middle East region since ancient times, U Kyaw Myo Win, director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch), told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Of the 3,837 remaining ancient pagodas in Bagan, 416 have mural paintings.

“The art of painting in Myanmar has kept pace with the world since the ancient Bagan era. I say it has been global. A tiny temple near Kyaukmyathmaw has murals depicting the Arabs of the Middle East, including camels, their fauna and flora. By looking at these paintings, we can conclude that a connection with the Middle East was estab-



Some murals from the ancient Bagan era. (PHOTO - KYAW MYO WIN)



lished in the Bagan era. So, the Bagan era’s murals are not inferior to the world-class murals. With its own style and creation, Myanmar’s art of painting has reached the world-class for 1,000

years ago,” he said.

The artists of the Bagan era might have painted these murals in the caves of the pagodas during the scorching summer, he suggested on his Facebook

page.

“When they took a break from agricultural work during the extreme heat, they seemed to paint the cave walls while enjoying full sunlight and escaping

the heat. The underlying layer of the walls may have dried with low humidity due to the summer heat, so this would be the best time to create murals,” he said.

These murals look like the artistic work of teams rather than individuals, while outstanding works by these artists show their extensive knowledge of Jatakas of the Buddha’s life in addition to painting, or some great Buddhist scholar Sayadaws might have closely supervised them during their drawings, he suggested.

In addition, masons, who prepared the undercoat layer in detail for the convenience of painters to paint murals, were found to have played an essential role in the creation of these artistic works, he said. — MT/ZN

NATIONAL

Failure to perform military service will result in penalties

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San, in his capacity as Chairman of the Central Body for Summoning People's Military Servants, attended the 4/2024 coordination meeting of the central body in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, he talked about the previous meetings, drafting of the People's Military Service Rule (fourth draft) after receiving the recommendations of the Ministry of Legal Affairs, cooperation to offer suggestions for the rule (fourth draft) and plans to seek approval by submitting it to the Union Government Meeting via the Security, Peace and Stability and Rule of Law Committee.

He then mentioned the time frame for the 3rd batch training amended to be fit with the ground situation, and public awareness programmes, distri-



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister MoD Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San chairs the 4/2024 coordination meeting of the Central Body for Summoning People's Military Servants yesterday.

bution of 686,250 handouts, news releases via MRTV, Radios, TV Spot, articles, editorial and announcements by the leader of SAC Information Team and an official of Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological

Warfare as TV magazine and radio magazines and on web portal of the Ministry of Defence, sending of Short Message Service (SMS) about the People's Military Service Law and Sections 22 and 15 (a) by

four Mobile Operators.

Vice-Chairman of the central body Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye also discussed taking action against those who fail to join training

courses as per the existing law and make preparations to conduct Training No 3 successfully.

In conclusion, the Admiral said the challenges encountered in meeting the target numbers in previous training courses were met, and there was a substitute section. As there were no perfect SOPs, it took time to check the inventory discrepancy. Therefore, it should learn from such experience to be able to manage systematically for coming training courses.

He finally called on the officials of Nay Pyi Taw Council, regions, and states to carry out the tasks in accordance with the checklist to fit the time frame and report to the chief ministers for difficulties. He stressed the need to summon the military servants correctly and systematically and not to summon the ones who are not citizens, associate citizens, and naturalized citizens. — MNA/KTZH

Roscosmos holds space technology seminar at Yangon Technological University



The group documentary photo of yesterday's seminar held at Yangon Technological University.

A seminar on space technology initiated by Russian astronaut of Roscosmos State Cooperation was held at Yangon Technological University yesterday.

The event was attended by Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation Mr Savelyev Sergey Valentinovich of Roscosmos State Cooperation, Executive Director for Manned Space Programme astronaut Mr Krikalev Sergey Konstantinovich, representatives of Samara

University, rectors, pro-rectors and students of Yangon Technological University, University of Computer Studies (Yangon), University of Information Technology, West Yangon Technological University, Technological University (Hmawby) and Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University.

Yangon Technological University Rector Dr Myint Their first made an opening

speech, and Russian Executive Director for Manned Space Programme astronaut Mr Krikalev Sergey Konstantinovich shared his aerospace experiences with faculty members and students.

Chief Executive Officer Dmitriy A Baranov of Samara University then discussed the exchange programmes on space technology between Yangon Technological University and Samara University. — MNA/KTZH

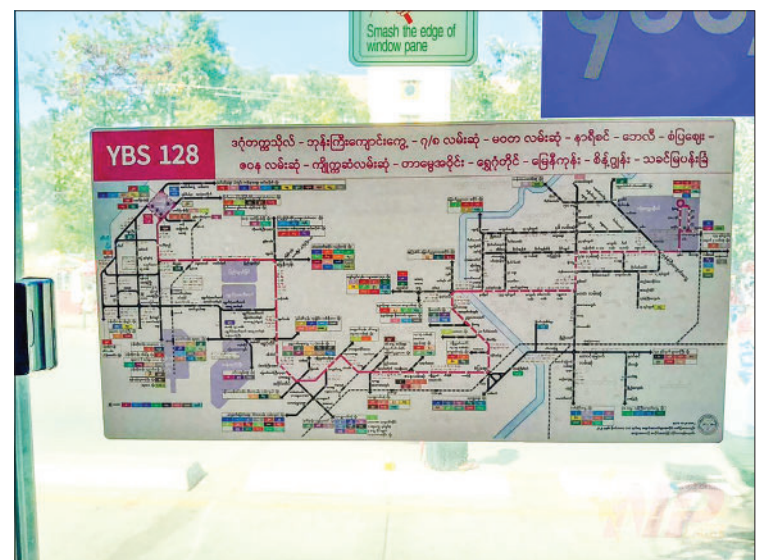
YRTC to display bus route maps on YBS bus lines in Yangon Region

ACCORDING to U Lyan Cing Mang from the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC), bus route maps will be displayed on YBS bus lines.

Currently, bus route maps are placed on 24 bus lines from Yangon Urban Public Transport (YUPT), 14 bus lines from Yangon Bus Public Company (YBPC), nine bus lines from Bandoola Transport Service, and six bus

lines from Luhtu Mateswe Company.

Additionally, six bus lines from Shwe Taungpaing Company, two bus lines from Konbaung Yangon Company, and 10 bus lines from Pyay San Thu Company will also have bus route maps on their buses. Arrangements are being made to ensure that these maps can be easily viewed on the application. — ASH/TRKM



The photo shows route direction maps for YBS buses.

NATIONAL

MoBA Union Minister inspects development activities in Shan State (South)

UNION Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, along with Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung and other officials, inspected various development projects in southern Shan State on 18 May.

They visited the development training school for ethnic youths in Pindaya Township, where the Union minister emphasized the importance of improving the school's facilities and urged cooperation for the education sector's development. Cash awards were given to teachers and students.

The inspection also included observing an agricultural pilot project using solar-powered water pumping systems and inspecting motor road asphalt resurfacing work in Pindaya Township.

On 19 May, they visited the



Photos show Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung inspecting the status of the asphalt resurfacing work in Pindaya Township.

Women's Domestic Vocational Education Training School in Hsihseng Township of in Pa-O Self-Administered Zone and Development Training School for Ethnic Youth in Seikkhoung,

where the Union minister interacted with staff and students, provided assistance, and inspected ongoing projects.

They also inspected road network construction in Menel

and Loimaw hilly regions and holding an electrical training course at the Industrial Training School for Ethnic Youths in Aungban.

The Union minister also

inspected construction works in Kalaw Township, which will benefit 13,145 national race people and contribute to local tourism development. — MNA/TS

TS

MRTV to broadcast alms-offering to Buddhist monks live

MANDALAY Region government arranges auspicious ceremonies on the Kason Full Moon (Buddha Day) in accord with religious traditions. Starting from 6 am on 22 May 2024, meals and alms will be offered to 10,272 members of the Sangha, 2,568 on each side of the moat at

Mandalay Royal Palace.

MRTV-HD Channel, MRTV Parliament Channel, MWD-HD, MWD-Variety, MWD Education, Knowledge & Sports Channel, Channel LIGHT Channel, Sky Net Buddha Channel and Channel -9 will broadcast the ceremony live. — MNA/TTA

MRTV to broadcast gala ceremonies on Buddha Day, Kason Full Moon Day live

THE Buddha Day on the Full Moon of Kason will be celebrated on a grand scale at Uppatasanti Pagoda and Maravijaya Buddha Park in accord with religious traditions in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 May.

A ceremony to convey torches, which is one of the programmes of Buddha Day on the Full Moon of Kason, will take place along the circular road of Uppatasanti Pagoda from Tabaung Ground, starting from 3:30 pm on that day, then along the route from

Uppatasanti Pagoda to Maravijaya Buddha Park and the path from the archway of the park to the Bo tree. Moreover, a ceremony to pour water on Bo trees in the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Park and Uppatasanti Pagoda will be held, respectively. These ceremonies will be broadcast live by MRTV-HD Channel, MRTV Parliament Channel, MWD-HD, MWD-Variety, MWD Education, Knowledge & Sports Channel and Channel LIGHT Channel.

Moreover, the Dhamma

preaching ceremony in which Sitagu Sayadaw will preach Dhamma will be held at Agga Dipati Sasana Beikman in the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Park starting at 8 pm. The ceremony will be broadcast live on the MRTV Parliament Channel, MWD Education, Knowledge & Sports Channel, and Channel LIGHT Channel.

MRTV-HD Channel, MWD-HD and MWD-Variety Channel will broadcast the ceremony live after the news broadcasting programme at 8 pm. — MNA/TTA

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Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com
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NATIONAL

Security and electrification improvements in Hsihseng Township

REPORTS indicate that the security situation in Hsihseng Township has improved, and street lights have been restored as rehabilitation works progress.

Officials and personnel from the Hsihseng Township Electricity Supply Corporation have commenced work on 11 kV line, 400-volt power cables, and transformer renovation. As a result, the city's streets are now illuminated. Subsequently, electrical wiring work is underway to connect departmental offices and houses in the area. Once these repairs are completed, residents will regain access to electricity.



Photos show the restoration of street light the progress of electrification works. PHOTO: U GYI DEYL (STAFF OFFICER/IPRD)

In Hsihseng Township, respective department officials and security personnel are collaborating with social organizations and locals to carry out rehabilitation activities. — Nay Min (Hsihseng)/MKKS

Illegal goods seized in various states/regions

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, legal action is being taken against illicit trading nationwide.

During inspections on 17 and 18 May, a combined team overseen by the Customs Department seized 53,762.08 kilograms of PVC-coated copper wire from India, differing from the Import Declaration (ID), and four sets of Hua Du plane cutting machines from China without an Import Licence. These were valued at K310.34 million and were found in five containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint. Additionally, at the Mayanchaung permanent checkpoint, a Mitsubishi

Fuso truck (approximately worth K40 million) travelling from Hpa-an to Yangon was intercepted. It was carrying 140 Crazy bicycles from China worth K16.8 million, which were not declared in the ID. These enforcement actions were conducted in accordance with Customs procedures.

In Patheingyi and Hinthada Districts, a total of 8.475 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K3.823 million was seized, and action was taken under the Forest Law.

On 19 May, on-duty teams impounded a Jin Bei mini-bus (estimated value of K37 million) travelling from Kyaukse to Mandalay, carrying four types of goods worth K10.46

million. These included 950 safety helmets from China without official documents at the 16th-Mile Kyaukse checkpoint. At the Shwegyin checkpoint, a Yutong bus (estimated value of K45 million) travelling from Myittha to Mandalay was stopped. It was carrying nine types of goods worth K22.579 million, including 555 kilograms of disposable plastic boxes from China without official documents. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

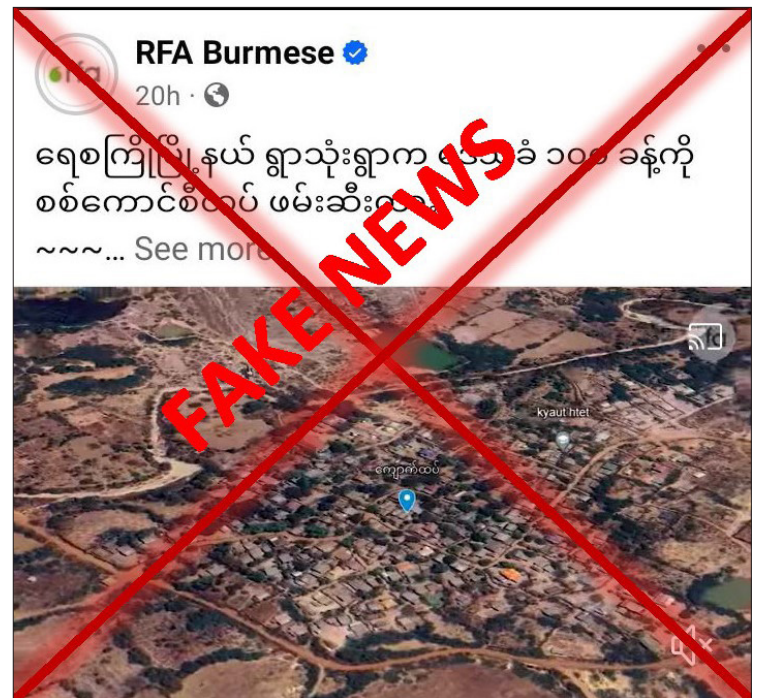
The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported ten arrests were made on 17, 18, and 19 May, with an estimated value of K486 million. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal items in different states and regions.

Counter-argument to false information

Media spreads misinformation: Security forces detain over 100 residents in Yesakyo



The screenshot validates false claims.

THE malicious media posted misinformation status on social networks, alleging that the security forces detained over 100 residents of Yesakyo Township.

According to a security official, a conscientious local reported to the security forces that the PDF terrorists were residing in Zeetaw, Kyaukse and Thaedaw villages of Yesakyo Township on 17 May, and the security forces

conducted security measures. Meanwhile, terrorists launched attacks using homemade weapons, leaving homes incinerated. During the counterattack of security forces, they retreated, and their arms and ammunition were seized.

In this regard, fake news was reportedly spread through malicious media, defaming the security forces. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL



Form 8 certified wooden and chopped items were shown on auction on 19 September 2022 with competitive price bidding in Tamu, Sagaing Region.

MoNREC to auction wooden items, charcoal, and teak furniture components

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has announced that wooden items, charcoal, and components of teak furniture will be put up for auction.

The auction will feature various items, including 0.222 tonne of chopped gum-kino and 40.9 tonnes of coal from the Htantabin Township Forest Department. Additionally, teak doors and door pieces, sewing machine tables and drawers weighing 37.7132

tonnes, and other wooden items weighing 1.6566 tonnes will be available for auction. Furthermore, 28.16 cubic tonnes of charcoal in 220 bags will be sold.

The auction is scheduled to take place at noon on 27 May in the compound of the Forest Department in Insein Township, Yangon.

Applicants are required to inspect the items personally three days prior to the auction day. — TWA/TMT

Electrical equipment procurement to follow tender system

THE Ministry of Transport and Communications has announced that Myanmar Railways will procure electrical equipment through a tender system for the installation and construction of transformers at the Mahlwagon bridge frame factory and the Setsan staff housing.

The items to be procured through the tender system

include two types of 350 kVA x 95mm².

Diesel Engine Generator (Sound Proof) generators, 18 types of electrical equipment such as CU/PVC/Insulated Only Wire 1Cx6mm² (100M/Coil), and 21 types of CU/PVC/PVC Wire (Single) 7/.064 (100Yds/Coil), along with ten types of Power Electrical Equipment (21) CU/XLPE/CTS/PVC-Triplex (CVT) 3C

Individual entrepreneurs can obtain tender forms from 20 May at the Supply Department of Myanmar Railway located at the intersection of Merchant Street and 51st Street in Botahtaung Township. The deadline for submitting tender forms is 20 June. — TWA/MKKS



The photo shows Ministry of Transport and Communications office building in Nay Pyi Taw.

MoI announces purchase of local cotton through tender system

THE Ministry of Industry has announced that local surplus cotton will be purchased through a tender system. The ministry intends to purchase 2.9 million visses of Grade A cotton and 100,000 visses of Grade C cotton for its cotton gins.

Currently, the ministry is reportedly providing loans of K200,000 per acre for cotton cultivation. Cotton is considered an essential commodity and is primarily grown in the Magway, Mandalay, and Sagaing regions.

Cotton wool comes out from November to mid-April. Additionally, authorities have prohibited the hoarding of cotton crops to manipulate or increase market prices. — TWA/TMT



The photo shows cotton production from a cotton gin.

Public Notice

1. The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.
2. The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via Short Code No "1111" for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).
3. According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via Short Code No "1111" will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.
4. Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at short code "1111". Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission

Answer "1111" to fight against corruption
Answer "1111" to improve services

NATIONAL

YGN palm oil wholesale reference rate dips for week ending 26 May

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market was set lower a bit to K5,200 per viss this week ending 26 May from K5,220 per viss ending 19 May, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the

wholesale market reference rate for edible oil on a weekly basis.

Nonetheless, the market price is higher than the reference price.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed the consumers of lodging the complaints for overcharging through the call centre's hotline in late August. The department urged consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in raising price and hoarding oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of



Vendors are arranging cooking oil for sale in the market.

the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

Oil dealers have to avoid

sale of blended cooking oil for the sake of consumers not to face health problems triggered by unlimited adulteration of cooking oils in various types —

NN/EM

China leads imports of Myanmar's broken rice in April

CHINA is the top country importing Myanmar's broken rice, with over 26,000 tonnes in April of the current financial year 2024-2025. Belgium follows this with over 24,000 tonnes and Spain with over 10,600 tonnes, Myanmar Rice Federation's statistics showed. Myanmar ships over 110,000 tonnes of rice to external markets in April.

Myanmar's rice and broken rice exports through sea-borne trade reached 111,462 tonnes, and 400 tonnes were delivered at the border, according to statistics released by the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

The federation aims to achieve over two million tonnes of rice exports in the 2024-2025 financial year (April-March), bagging 1.1 billion US dollars. Myanmar primarily exports rice to European countries. The federation will make efforts to export premium rice to China, Indonesia, and the Philippines at reasonable prices,



Export rice bags seen being loaded onto the overseas-going merchant vessel at Yangon Port.

es, according to an official of the MRF.

The federation aims to achieve 2.5 million tonnes of rice export in the FY 2023-2024, generating earnings of one billion dollars. However, rice exports fell short of the target with 1.6 million tonnes worth \$845 million.

The Central Bank of Myanmar's monetary policy to control export earnings impeded

rice exports, hurting exporters financially. The El Nino weather condition also hampered rice export, the president of the Myanmar Rice Federation affirmed.

Myanmar exported 2,261,203 tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign trade partners in the past 2022-2023 FY (April-March), with an estimated value of \$853.472 million. — NN/EM

New mobile pay system for toll collection on Thanlyin Bridge 3

FROM PAGE-1

Thanlyin Bridge No 1 was built in 1993. Due to the increasing number of vehicles passing through it daily, the Ministry of Construction began the construction of Thanlyin Bridge No 3 in 2019 with assistance from Japan, aiming to facilitate the flow of commodities.

Upon completion, the construction

will alleviate traffic jams on Thanlyin Bridge No 1 and, with the increase in domestic and foreign businesses in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, the socio-economic lives of the residents of Thanlyin, Kyauktan, Kayan, and Thongwa townships, including Yangon, will improve. — ASH/TKO



An aerial view of the construction progress of the Thanlyin Bridge 3.

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OPINION

Avoid using mobile phones while driving to save lives

TO ensure the safety of passengers and all road users, it is crucial for drivers to avoid using mobile phones while driving. The perception must be clear: using a mobile phone while driving significantly increases the risk of fatal traffic accidents.

When drivers use mobile phones, their control over the vehicle is compromised, regardless of their driving skills. This distraction prevents them from being fully aware of their surroundings, heightening the likelihood of collisions. Authorities continually emphasize the dangers of distracted driving, urging adherence to traffic rules and regulations.

The Yangon Region Private Transport Committee (YRTC) has issued a press release highlighting the risks associated with using mobile phones while driving. They encourage the public to report drivers of YBS buses who smoke or use mobile phones while driving. Offending drivers will face a fine of K30,000. Currently, approximately 3,800 buses from 131 bus lines serve about 1.6 million passengers daily in the Yangon Region.

The message is clear: to save lives and reduce traffic accidents, drivers must avoid using mobile phones while driving. Adhering to this principle will help create safer roads for all. Calling a phone while driving is very dangerous. Using mobile phones while driving vehicles at 60 miles per hour is the most likely to cause traffic collisions. A traffic accident in a few seconds may bring terrible social and economic losses to the losers and society. As such, all drivers need to understand the threatening life of passengers in vehicles if they violate basic driving norms.

for drivers to prioritize human life and safety while providing transportation services.

Research has shown that drivers who frequently send text messages are significantly more likely to be involved in traffic accidents compared to those who refrain from texting while driving. Therefore, it is imperative for all drivers to avoid using mobile phones to ensure the safety of everyone on the road.

The message is clear: to save lives and reduce traffic accidents, drivers must avoid using mobile phones while driving. Adhering to this principle will help create safer roads for all. Calling a phone while driving is very dangerous. Using mobile phones while driving vehicles at 60 miles per hour is the most likely to cause traffic collisions. A traffic accident in a few seconds may bring terrible social and economic losses to the losers and society. As such, all drivers need to understand the threatening life of passengers in vehicles if they violate basic driving norms.

WITH a view to enhancing Myanmar-China media cooperation and deepening Swe-Myo-Pauk-Phaw friendship, Myanmar's media delegation was cordially invited to visit the capital, Beijing, and Kunming City, a commercial hub of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China. The Myanmar media delegation comprising ten representatives from nine media: MITV, The Global New Light of Myanmar, Myawady, Sky Net, Swe Myo Pauk Phaw magazine, The Standard Time Daily, Myanmar Golden Phoenix newspaper, Vidya and Monnect Group attended the New Media workshop in China from 22 to 28 April 2024. The China Foreign Languages Publishing Administration organized the workshop (also called the China Centre for International Communication Development (CCICD)) under the guidance of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar. That workshop emphasized media cooperation and digital media transformation to empower the content creator, media companies and consumers with innovative tools and platforms, cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

The Myanmar Media delegation also visited the Temple of Heaven in Beijing on 23 April. That massive complex of magnificent buildings is one of the top tourist destinations in Beijing, and it has historical facts, amazing architecture, symbolism, and numerology.

A brief introduction to the Temple of Heaven: an imperial sacrificial altar in Beijing

The dignified complex of temples is set in gardens and surrounded by historic pine woods. Visitors can visit three historic sites in the park: the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, The Imperial Vault of Heaven and the Circular Mound Altar. While visiting the Temple of Heaven, tourists can experience the grand praying ceremony of ancient emperors and observe impressive arts and crafts, the unique Echo Wall and the triple sound stones. The Temple of Heaven in Beijing is a masterpiece of ancient Chinese culture, architecture and landscape design. The entrance fee varies depending on peak season or off-season. All four gates are accessible by public

transportation. Senior citizens over 60 years old with senior citizen privilege cards or related documents are free of charge, like most of China's parks.

All the buildings share specific architectural details using circles and squares, with circles representing Heaven and squares representing Earth.

It was constructed in 1420 and used to be the palace where emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties worshipped the God of Heaven and offered sacrifices to pray for bumper harvests and favourable rain. Most structures

we see today were constructed in the Qing Dynasty in compliance with the layout system set in the Jianjing's reign of the Ming Dynasty.

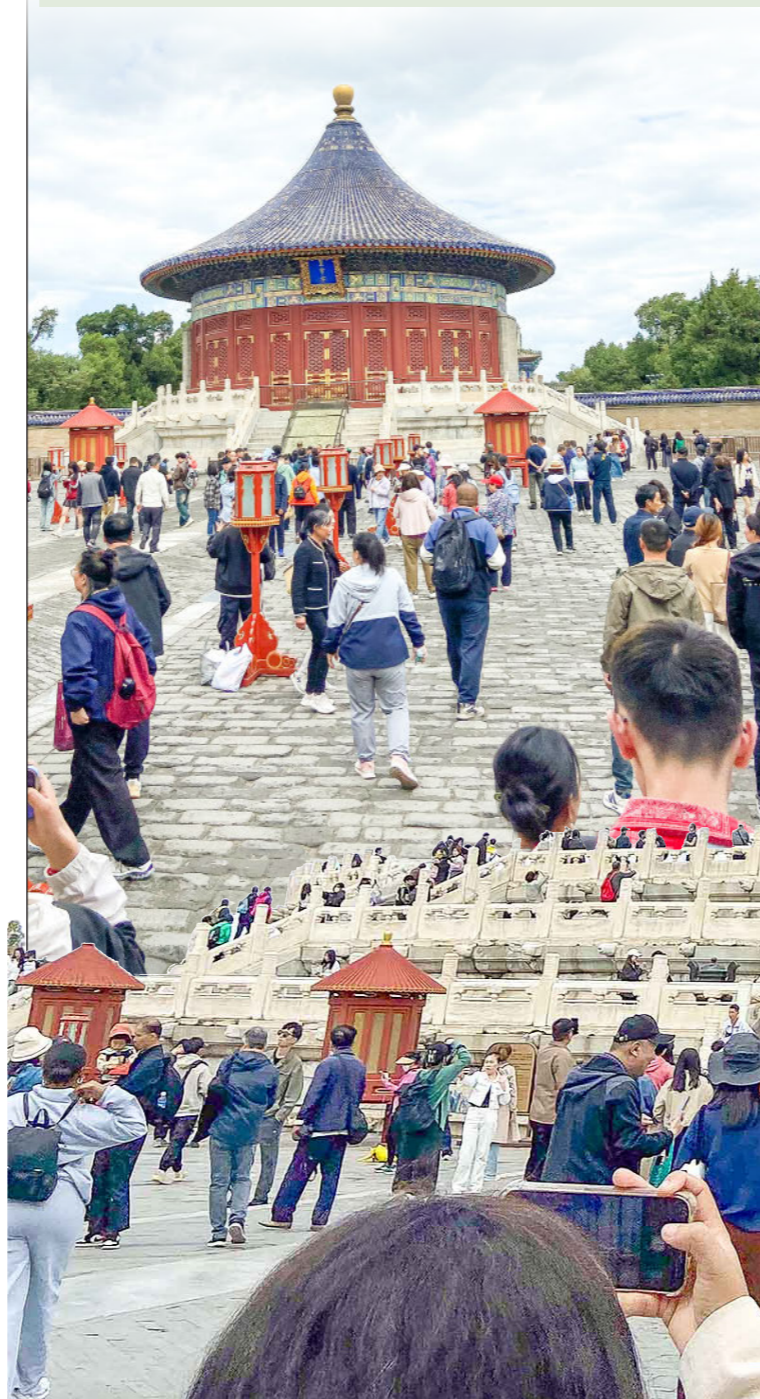
The compound wall was built in a semi-circle in the north and a square in the south. Surrounded by double annular walls, the Temple of Heaven is divided into an inner part and an outer part. The whole area is 273 hectares. In the inner part, ancient architectural complexes, including the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, the Circular Mound Altar, the Imperial Vault of Heav-

en and the Abstinence Palace which served as a residence for the emperors during the period of abstinence before the rituals, as well as the Danbi Bridge (Red Stairway Bridge) the Long Corridor, the Seven-Star Stones, and the Nine-dragon Cypress, among others can be found. The main structure in the outer part is the Divine Music Administration, where the musicians and dancers rehearsed ritual music for ceremonies during the Ming and Qing dynasties.

The Temple of Heaven is one of the ancient Chinese temples

New Media Workshop delivers key messages, good insights

By EM



Architectural splendor of Chinese temples draws homegrown visitors and tourists (Top). Mesmerizing view of Imperial Circular Mound Altar on three marvel terraces with majestic stairway (Above).

of its kind that still stands with supreme status, integrity and characteristics. In 1961, it was designated a "State Priority Protected Site", and in 1998, it was inscribed on the World Heritage List. In 2007, it was listed among the national AAAAA scenic areas in China, and in 2009, it was listed among the national model scenic areas.

The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests

When we entered the complex, we could see the Long Corridor extending 1,148 feet long and 16 feet wide. The corridor is a popular gathering place for people to sit and read or hang out with friends. The senior citizens also play board games. It is a spot for daily exercises and dancing groups. Walking along

the corridor, it leads up to the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, which sits atop three levels of marble stone base. We felt amazed at the iconic structure. The building is constructed with only wood. The original building of the Qing Dynasty was built in 1420, but a fire burned it down. It was reconstructed 150 years ago. The four columns along the inner circle represent the four seasons (spring, summer, autumn and winter), and the 12 columns along the middle circle represent 12 months. All the buildings have dark blue roof tiles, representing Heaven.

There is a famous tree called the Nine Dragon Juniper. It was named after the groves in the tree's trunks, which looked like nine dragons wreathing up towards the sky. There is a small pavilion for snacks and souvenirs.

Danbi Bridge

Danbi Bridge is a 360-metre-long and 30-metre-wide avenue, extending from the Circular Mound Altar to the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests.

Lingxing Gates

These gates are made of white marble in the specialized gate form for the surrounding walls of ancient altars, similar to the monumental archway. The outer and inner surrounding walls of the Circular Mound are each equipped with four groups of gates, each group with three gates, totalling 24 Lingxing gates, known as "Cloud Gates Towering Like Jades".

Imperial Vault of Heaven

From the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, one can catch a glimpse of the structure: the Imperial Vault of Heaven, a smaller circular building constructed with crossbeams. The marble stone base is surrounded by a circular wall known as the Echo Wall. It is

considered that if one speaks into it, another one on opposite ends of the wall can hear.

Circular Mound Altar

The Circular Mound Altar is an open, three-layered circular stone altar. The number nine represents the Emperor, so the balusters and steps are related to the number nine. At the very centre of the altar is a round slate (the Heart of Heaven) where the Emperor prayed for favourable weather. Nine circles of stones surrounded it. Some visitors stood in line to pray at the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests.

Heavenly Centre Stone

As the surface of the uppermost terrace of the Circular Mound is paved with nine concentric rings of stone slabs, the round stone slab in the centre is called the Heavenly Centre Stone. It is surrounded from the inside to the outside by nine stones in the first ring, 18 in the second, and up to 81 in the ninth ring, symbolizing the Nine Heavens. If one speaks standing on the Heavenly Centre Stone, your voice will become particularly resonant and sonorous.

The Hall of Abstinence

Then, we got to the Hall of Abstinence. It was believed to be a special place for the Emperor to retreat and fast before the performance of sacrificial worshipping at the temple. The visit to the Temple of Heaven is a truly unforgettable experience to explore the essence of ancient philosophy, historical facts, and ancient Chinese architecture and design. It is worth visiting for a culturally enriching experience.

TO BE CONTINUED



Travelling through history: Myanmar media delegation's visit to Temple of Heaven on 23 April 2024.

ARTICLE

NATIONAL

Shwepyitha man's laundry basket air cooler draws public attention

A man from Shwepyitha township, Yangon Region, has made an air cooler out of a plastic clothing bin that has attracted the attention of many people.

The innovator is Ko Win Moe Kyaw, who made the air cooler from the clothing bin he used at home.

"I made it with my own idea and found it practical. So, I wish other people could use the same thing and offer it. Because it is usable, people order

it. Some people make enquiries, and some place orders. A lot of people are interested. They are ordering more than before," he said.

After buying and washing used electric fans and other accessories, he puts them all in a laundry basket to make an air cooler that can be used with AC or DC power.

"The air cooler I made is similar to the imported ones, which look smarter. There are

some requirements in my cooler as I have just started assembling it. But, its cooling capacity is quite high. Right now, I am using clothing bins. We can use ice boxes. However, plastic baskets are stronger and can withstand rough handling. I am making this air cooler with readily available things," he explained. Prices are K50,000 for DC to DC, K55,000 for AC to DC and K60,000 for AC/DC. — Thit Taw/ZN



Clothing bin air cooler innovated by Ko Win Moe Kyaw.

18 deaths in YBS accidents reported from January to mid-May

FROM January to 15 May 2024, there were 32 YBS accidents, leaving 18 dead, according to statistics released by the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC).

Thirty-seven were wounded in these accidents. Of these accidents, there were seven deaths and four injuries in pedestrian accidents and two deaths from falling out of the bus. There were three injuries

and four deaths in collisions with bicycles, five injuries and two deaths in collisions with motorcycles, one injury and two deaths in collisions with taxis, 15 injuries and one death in collision with private cars and nine injuries in crashes with street lampposts.

In order to regulate YBS buses to run in accordance with traffic rules, inspections have been carried out in the re-

gion on a daily basis, based at 16 bus stops, along with eight combined teams comprised of three districts. From 1 January to 15 May 2024, monthly violations of traffic rules by YBS companies were 23,892 cases, said YRTC joint secretary U Lyan Cing Mang.

From January to May, YRTC recorded and took action against 22,417 cases: 453 cases were exceeding limited speed, 140 cases were not driving in compliance with the specified route, 301 cases were complaints, 209 cases were overtaking, 143 cases were running a red light, 91 cases were reckless driving, 99 were other cases, 35 cases were prolonged stops, three cases were complaints from Facebook, and one case was unethical behaving.

YRTC has also taken action against buses for violating rules, having driver assistants, and overcharging. — MT/ZS



YBS collided with a box truck in Dagon Myothit (East) Township in Yangon Region on 30 January 2024.

Kids also succumb to heat stroke, not just older people

THIS summer, not only adults but also children also died from heat stroke, according to a social relief association.

All ages suffer from heat stroke, and older people tend to suffer. Still, recently, even children with high fever and low oxygen levels suffocated and died, according to the Shwegon Yeikmon social relief association.

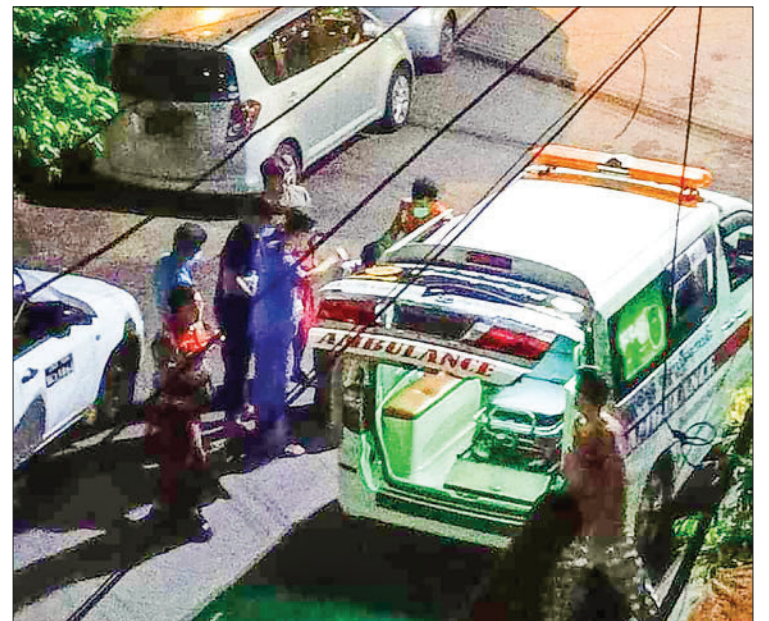
"Not only older people, but children also suffer heat stroke recently. It happens mostly in cities with extremely high temperatures. Children had high fevers, fit, low oxygen levels, suffocation and blue discoloration of the skin. It is because of weak immunity. In some cases, parents thought the child was sleeping but were found dead in the morning. It isn't very pleasant. The main cause is heat-related. We need to be aware of it in time," said the

association's official.

Similarly, there are cases where people suffer heat stroke at home and suffocate due to extreme heat as they don't get enough air.

"According to our association's doctor, when it comes to having a heat stroke, go near the window and take a breath deeply, drink two bottles of oral rehydration solution, put a wet cloth on your forehead, take a bath if the body temperature didn't fall, and take sweet," he said.

Not only those who are outside in the sunlight but also those who are working in shady areas can suffer heat stroke. That is why it is best to go to the clinic or hospital as soon as possible if it is in an emergency state, and the patient may die if medical treatment is not provided. — MT/ZS



Shwegon Yeikmon social relief association sends a heat stroke patient to the hospital.

The Global New Light of Myanmar

www.gnlm.com.mm

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Online reservations begin for Mt Fuji climbers to ease congestion

ONLINE reservations were introduced Monday for visitors climbing Mt Fuji on the most commonly used trail situated in Yamanashi Prefecture to ease congestion, with local authorities set to start charging 2,000 yen (\$13) when the trail opens this summer.

Bookings can be made on the official website for climbing Mt Fuji, which is operated by the prefecture and other stakeholders, until the day before



店舗情報・アクセス

富士山吉田ルート (山梨県)

山梨県富士吉田市上吉田5617

・富士急行河口湖駅、富士山駅、富士山パーキングから登山バスを利用・バス新宿(新宿高速バスターミナル)から高速バスを利用・中央自動車道河口湖IC、東富士五湖道路富士吉田IC、または国道139号から富士スバルライン(有料)を利用

特定商取引法に関する表示

予約情報の入力

Supplied photo shows the online reservation website for climbing Mt Fuji's Yoshida Trail on the Yamanashi Prefecture side of the mountain. PHOTO: KYODO

the climb.

The Yoshida Trail on the Yamanashi Prefecture side of the 3,776-metre mountain is usually open from 1 July to 10 September. The prefecture accepts a maximum of 4,000 climbers per day and 3,000 slots will be available via on-line booking.

The remaining slots will be available on the day of the climb, with the fee collected at the site. Climbers reserving online will receive a QR code via email that they must scan at the 5th station of the trail. They will be given an identification wristband.

Designated as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site in 2013, Japan's highest peak, straddling Yamanashi and Shizuoka prefectures, is a popular tourist destination in Japan.

Yamanashi Prefecture will set up a gate this summer at the 5th station to close the trail between 4 pm and 3 am except for those who have made prior reservations to stay overnight in huts. Local authorities are seeking to deter "bullet climbing," or the attempt to reach the summit and return without staying the night near the top. — Kyodo



US actor Dennis Quaid, US actress Margaret Qualley, French director Coralie Fargeat and US actress Demi Moore (from L to R) arrive for the screening of the film "The Substance" at the 77th edition of the Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, southern France, on 19 May 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Hollywood icons Costner and Demi Moore make Cannes comeback

TWO Hollywood legends made their comeback at the Cannes Film Festival on Sunday, as Kevin Costner launched his sprawling self-funded Western and Demi Moore returned in a gore-filled body horror flick. The star-studded premieres arrived midway through the world's most famous movie festival, where "Emilia Perez" — a musical about a transgender drug lord, starring Selena Gomez — is currently the talk of the town.

Epic Western "Horizon, an American Saga" is a passion project for Costner, who told AFP he had started working on the screenplay in 1988.

Despite having enormous success with Westerns, including the Oscar-winning "Dances with Wolves", "Open Range" and television's "Yellowstone", he could not find a studio willing to fund his script.

"But I loved it and so I decided I would write four,

which is very American of me — insane," said Costner, who bankrolled the project himself.

The first film premiered at Cannes on Sunday in a special screening outside the main Palme d'Or competition. A second film has also been shot, and both will launch globally in theatres this summer. "Horizon" follows multiple characters and storylines on the violent frontier, as Europeans establish settlements on Native American land. — AFP

Modern design breathes new life into traditional Chinese clothing

IF you ask Gen Z what the current fashion craze in China is, "new Chinese style" will probably be a quick answer. After gaining immense popularity during this year's Spring Festival, the organic blend of traditional Chinese aesthetics and modern style continues to charm hearts during the spring and summer seasons, becoming a new buzzword in the domestic consumer market.

New Chinese-style clothing is typically defined as attire that seamlessly integrates traditional Chinese elements with contemporary styling. It not only encapsulates traditional aesthetics and cultural heritage but also integrates materials, techniques, and technologies stemming from modern science.

On social media platforms like Douyin and Xiaohongshu, the "new Chinese style" remains a fervent topic of discussion. E-commerce data from short video platform Kuaishou showed that in the first quarter of this year, orders for products of "new Chinese style" increased by 700 per

cent compared to the same period last year, while orders for Han Chinese clothing increased by nearly 300 per cent.

"Our orders are booked six months in advance, with a compound annual growth rate of over 100 per cent in revenue," said Lin Qi, inheritor of the craftsmanship for making horse-faced skirts and the founder of a clothing brand. The horse-faced skirt is a type of Hanfu featuring a high and flat front and pleated sides that originated in the Song Dynasty (960-1279) and prevailed in the Ming and Qing Dynasties (1368-1911).

In 2016, Lin started creating unique horse-faced skirts, initially selling only a dozen pieces in a year.

In just a few years, the annual sales volume of horse-faced skirts her company made has soared to an impressive 100,000 pieces. Reflecting on this remarkable growth, Lin said, "The market has undergone notable changes." Currently, a significant portion of her clientele are young people. — Xinhua

Museum inaugurated to provide tactile, auditory experiences for visually impaired visitors

A museum was inaugurated Saturday in Beijing to provide the visually impaired people with tactile and auditory experiences. The museum, with an exhibition area of about 1,050 square metres, displays over 700 exhibits. Set within the China Braille Library, it also features a section for popularizing ophthalmology knowledge.

At the inauguration ceremony, Lai Wei, head of China Braille Press, pledged efforts to build the museum into a comprehensive hub, encompassing an educational base, an exhibition centre, and a centre for research, exchange, and culture and leisure for the visually impaired people. — Xinhua

ECONOMY: WORLD

DESPITE the United States' claims that the new tariffs on Chinese products aim to protect its workers and domestic businesses, both Chinese and foreign experts doubt whether these measures will truly benefit the US manufacturing sector.

Earlier this week, the White House unveiled new tariffs on a variety of imports from China, including electric vehicles (EVs), lithium batteries, photovoltaic cells, critical minerals, semiconductors, steel and aluminum.

Wang Honglin, a research



Latest tariff hikes won't revitalize US manufacturing sector: experts

fellow at the China Academy of Financial Research, Shanghai Jiaotong University, expressed scepticism about whether higher tariffs on Chinese goods would rejuvenate the US manufacturing

sector:

High tariffs could negatively impact US manufacturing firms by diminishing their incentive to streamline production costs and enhance product quality, he

told Xinhua in a recent interview, adding that consequently, domestically produced goods might struggle to compete internationally, ultimately jeopardizing the longevity of US businesses

This photo taken on 15 February 2023 shows a factory of Chinese electric vehicle (EV) maker Li Auto Inc in Changzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

in a fiercely competitive global market.

Among the more than a dozen categories of newly-targeted Chinese goods, tariffs on Chinese

EV imports will rise to 100 per cent this year.

"While American EV companies may experience temporary success in the domestic market, they risk eventual obsolescence due to their inability to match the competitiveness of their Chinese counterparts on a global scale," Wang warned.

"Tariff walls do nothing to improve the competitiveness of US domestic carmakers. Worse, it creates a security blanket and extends the life of their gas-powered vehicles," said Bill Russo, founder & CEO of Automobility Limited, a Shanghai-based strategy and investment advisory firm.

Furthermore, solar cell imports will face a 50-per-cent tariff increase, certain Chinese steel and aluminum products will see tariffs rise to 25 per cent this year, while semiconductor tariffs will escalate to 50 per cent by 2025.

Hu Jie, a professor at the Shanghai Advanced Institute of Finance, believes that the latest tariff hikes targeting Chinese products could have a greater impact on American businesses and consumers. —Xinhua

Economists maintain positive outlook on Malaysia's GDP growth

ECONOMISTS maintained their positive outlook on Malaysia's gross domestic product (GDP) growth on Monday, after the country's GDP exceeded expectations at 4.2 per cent.

Maybank Investment Bank said in a note that given the first quarter growth performance, it raised Malaysia's 2024 and 2025 real GDP growth forecasts to 4.7 per cent (from 4.4 per cent) and 5.1 per cent (from five per cent).

According to the research house, key revisions are in the projections for gross fixed capital formation on stronger private investment and public investments that feed into upgrades in growth forecasts for construction and imports of goods and services.

These revisions reflect growing momentum in the realization of robust approved private sector investment over the past three years, which led to higher construction activities in the non-residential buildings/structures and increase in capital expenditure for machinery



A cargo ship cruises towards the North port in Port Klang, on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur on 19 January 2024. **PHOTO BY MOHD RASFAN / AFP**

and equipment, thus imports of capital goods.

Kenanga Research, on the other hand, maintained Malaysia's 2024 GDP growth forecast at 4.5 per cent to five per cent, driven by solid domestic demand and sustained expansion in manufacturing and services sectors.

According to the research house, this outlook is supported by strong growth in the services

sector, driven by resilient domestic demand. Furthermore, an increase in tourist arrivals and a healthy labour market, would significantly support the growth trajectory.

It also foresees a significant recovery in the export-oriented industries later this year, particularly with a potential upturn in the technology cycle, especially in the second half. —Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Malaysia's car sales down 18% on month in April

MALAYSIA'S total car sales fell 18 per cent to 57,991 units in April from 71,052 units in March, Malaysian Automotive Association (MAA) said Monday. The MAA said in a release that the lower car sales were because of short working month due to Hari Raya festive holidays. On a year-on-year comparison, car sales increased by 21 per cent from 47,802 units a year ago.

From January to April, the total car sales stood at 260,236 units, up eight per cent from 240,417 units a year earlier. —Xinhua

Thailand's economic growth slows to 1.5% in Q1

THAILAND'S economy expanded 1.5 per cent in the first quarter of 2024 from a year earlier, driven by the tourism sector and private consumption, the country's economic planning agency said on Monday.

The gross domestic product (GDP) in the January-March period slowed from a 1.7-per-cent growth in the previous quarter due to declines in public investment, government spending and merchandise exports, according to the data released by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC). On a quarterly basis, the economy grew a seasonally adjusted 1.1 per cent in the first three months of this year, rebounding from a revised 0.4 per cent drop in the October-December quarter, the NESDC said in a statement. —Xinhua

BIZ: WORLD/AD



A jeweller arranges gold bars at his shop in downtown Kuwait City on 20 May 2024. The price of gold hit a record high on 20 May, as the shock death of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash boosted support for the precious metal seen as a haven investment. **PHOTO: AFP**

Gold hits high as Iran shock triggers haven support

THE price of gold hit a record high Monday as the shock death of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash boosted support for the precious metal seen as a haven investment.

Copper also struck an all-time peak and silver jumped to the highest level in more than 11 years — with markets generally gaining from a brighter economic outlook.

Gold had already hit a series of record highs this year.

Asian and European stock markets began

the week higher, having recently struck all-time peaks along with indices on Wall Street.

The metals are priced in the dollar, which has come under pressure recently from expectations that the US Federal Reserve will soon start to cut interest rates as inflation cools. Gold struck a record \$2,450.07 an ounce Monday, while copper's all-time high stood at \$11,104 per tonne.

Raisi was confirmed dead on Monday after search and rescue teams found his crashed heli-

copter in a fog-shrouded western mountain region, sparking mourning in the Islamic republic.

Foreign countries had been closely following the search at a time of high regional tensions over the Gaza war raging between Israel and Hamas since 7 October.

"Gold and copper have hit record highs, (and) silver jumped to an 11-year high... after the death of Iran's president in a helicopter crash," noted Neil Wilson, chief market analyst at Finalto trading group. — AFP

Vietnamese airlines use environmentally-friendly aircraft to realize net-zero emission targets

VIETNAMESE airlines have worked hard to implement the net-zero emission targets by using new generation aircraft in their operation, which are more environmentally friendly thanks to advanced technologies, Vietnam News Agency reported Monday.

The national flag carrier Vietnam (Airlines) will start operating wide-body aircraft on routes between capital Hanoi and the Chinese cities of Shanghai and Beijing, alongside Airbus A321, from June this year.

Wide-body aircraft will be used for all flights between Viet Nam's southern Ho Chi Minh City and Shanghai

from July.

The new generation aircraft have integrated advanced technology that helps reduce fuel consumption and emissions, said the report.

According to the Science, Technology and Environment Department under the Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam, Vietnamese airlines are actively completing documentation to participate in the process of carbon reduction and offsetting. Viet Nam aims to transition to using 100 per cent green energy, sustainable aviation fuel for aircraft to minimize greenhouse gas emissions. — Xinhua



MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE INTERNAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT

NOTICE TO FILE INCOME TAX RETURN, ANNUAL SALARY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL COMMERCIAL TAX RETURN

- Income Year or the Year in which Sale proceed or Receipt is accrued:** The period to file a tax return for the income year or the year in which sale proceed or receipt is accrued (reporting period) is from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
- Return Receiving Offices:** Existing taxpayers have to file their returns at the respective revenue offices where their taxation matters are assessed. If the company which is not being a taxpayer yet, has to enter the IRD website to register electronically by clicking "e-Registration Service Login Here" pattern to get Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). After receiving TIN, e-Filing Management System and e-Payments System can be used. For an individual who is not being a taxpayer yet, has to file the returns to the respective township revenue offices.
- Ways to file the Return:** Returns can be filed by either of the following three ways -
 - Filing in person:** In the case of filing a return in person, the return is considered filed on the date it is stamped as received by the department.
 - Filing by mail:** In the case of filing a return by mail, the return is considered filed on the date of the postmark.
 - Filing by electronic system:** In the case of filing a return by electronic system, the return is considered filed on the date it is received electronically by the Department. If that date falls on public holidays, it will be deemed to have been received on the following business day. Electronic Filing means the process of filing a tax return electronically, using the online software (E-Filing Management System). The user guide video files on how to register an account for using e-Filing Management System and how to submit an electronic tax return by using the system can be found on the Internal Revenue Department's Website at www.ird.gov.mm.
(Note: The taxpayers from Large Taxpayers' Offices and Medium Taxpayers' Offices are required to file their tax returns electronically.)
- The process of completing a tax return:** The following are required-
 - The tax return forms specified by the Internal Revenue Department shall be used; respective forms are available at www.ird.gov.mm and the respective revenue offices.
 - Since taxpayers are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their tax returns, it is necessary to be filled out completely and correctly.
 - The return form must be signed and submitted by the taxpayer himself. If the tax return or part of it, is prepared for a fee, the person who prepared it must also sign the return.
 - It is required for the new corporate taxpayer to send taxpayer's signature (original) to the respective revenue offices without fail when using the e-Filing Management System to submit tax return.
- Due Date of Submission:** July 1, 2024 (Monday)
- Penalties:** If a taxpayer fails to submit tax returns on time is liable to higher of the following two fines;
 - Five percent of the amount of tax payable, plus one percent of the amount of tax payable for each month or part of a month during which the failure continues to be submitted from the date fixed for submission until the time of assessment by the Director General.
 - K 100,000
- Taxpayer Rights:** Taxpayers can apply to the respective revenue office in advance to extend the time limit prescribed for filing a tax return if it is difficult to do so on time due to various reasons.
- Enquiries:** If there are any unclear points, enquiries can be made at the respective revenue offices and please contact the following Taxpayer Service Offices for further questions;
 - Centralised Taxpayer Service Unit
No. 128/132, 2nd floor & 3rd floor, Pansodan Street (Middle Block), Kyauktada Township, Yangon
Ph: 01-8389311, 01-8389322
 - Taxpayer Service Unit (Nay Pyi Taw)
Building No. 46, Internal Revenue Department, Nay Pyi Taw.
Ph: 067-3430522, 067-3430544
 - Taxpayer Service Unit (Mandalay)
65th Street, between 22nd and 23rd Streets, Aung Mye Tharzan Township, Mandalay.
Ph: 02-4030192, 02-4030637, 02-4030638, 02-4030639

Internal Revenue Department

ROLLING UPDATES: WORLD

UK report finds decades-long infected blood scandal was covered up

A decades-long UK scandal in which thousands of people died after being treated with infected blood was covered up and largely could have been avoided, found a bombshell report published on Monday.

More than 30,000 people were infected with viruses such as HIV and hepatitis after being given contaminated blood between the 1970s and early 1990s, the Infected Blood Inquiry concluded.

More than 3,000 of them died in what has been described as the biggest treatment disaster in the eight-decade history of the state-run National Health Service (NHS). The long-awaited report, running at more than 2,500 pages, laid bare a “catalogue of failures” with “catastrophic” consequences for victims and their loved ones. Authored by judge Brian Langstaff, it found that there were deliberate attempts to conceal the scandal, including evidence that government



Demonstrators hold placards reading message related to the NHS infected blood scandal as Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is questioned by Infected Blood Inquiry, in London, on 26 July 2023. **PHOTO: AFP**

officials destroyed documents in 1993. “Viewing the response of the NHS and of government overall,

the answer to the question, ‘Was there a cover-up?’ is that there has been,” the report stated.

“Not in the sense of a handful of people plotting in an orchestrated conspiracy to mislead, but

in a way that was more subtle, more pervasive and more chilling in its implications. “In this way there has been a hiding of much of the truth,” it added.

Victims included those needing blood transfusions for accidents and in surgery, and those suffering from blood disorders such as haemophilia who were treated with donated blood plasma products. On top of the 3,000 who died, many more were left with lifelong health problems. Langstaff said that “the scale of what happened is horrifying”.

“I have to report that it could largely, though not entirely, have been avoided,” he concluded.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is expected to express regret when he speaks in parliament later on Monday. A compensation package for victims and their families, which is expected to be worth several billion pounds (dollars), is due to be announced by the government on Tuesday. — AFP

Iran mourns president Raisi's death in helicopter crash



A picture shows wreckage at the crash site of a helicopter transporting Iran's President, his Foreign Minister, and others in a fog-covered mountainous area of Varzaghan in northwestern Iran on 20 May 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

IRANIAN president Ebrahim Raisi was confirmed dead on Monday after search and rescue teams found his crashed helicopter in a fog-shrouded western mountain region, sparking mourning in the Islamic republic.

Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has ultimate authority in Iran, declared five days of mourning and assigned vice-president Mohammad Mokhber, 68, to

assume interim duties ahead of elections within 50 days.

Earlier Monday, state TV announced that “the servant of the Iranian nation, Ayatollah Ebrahim Raisi, has achieved the highest level of martyrdom” and broadcast pictures from Raisi's life as a voice recited the Koran.

The ultraconservative Raisi, 63, had been in office since 2021, during a time that has seen Iran rocked by mass

protests, economic crisis deepened by US sanctions, and armed exchanges with arch enemy Israel.

Condolences flooded in from Palestinian militant group Hamas, Lebanon's Hezbollah and from Syria, all members of the so-called Axis of Resistance against Israel and its allies, at a time of high Middle East tensions over the Gaza war. Khamenei had urged Iranians Sunday, as the search was still ongoing, to “not worry” about the leadership of the Islamic republic, saying “there will be no disruption in the country's work”.

Killed alongside Raisi were Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, known for his fierce anti-Israel sentiment and scepticism of the West, and seven others, including the pilot, bodyguards and political and religious officials.

Iran's top nuclear negotiator Ali Bagheri was appointed as acting foreign minister, government spokesman Ali Bahadori Jahromi said on state television. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Indonesia's Mount Ibu erupts again, sending 5 km of volcanic ash

IBU volcano in Indonesia's Halmahera Island erupted again on Monday, sending volcanic ash as high as 5,000 metres to its peak, the Centre for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation said on Monday. The eruption occurred at 11:36 am local time for more than two minutes, and the thick ash column leaned towards the southwest and west, said Ibu Volcano Observation Post Officer Ridwan Djalil. — Xinhua

Singapore, Pacific Island states to discuss sustainable issues

OFFICIALS from Singapore and Pacific Island states exchange views on climate change, sustainable development, and urban planning during the 3rd Singapore-Pacific High-Level Visit from Monday to Wednesday in the city-state. Representatives from Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, and other island states will visit the Marina Barrage, Singapore City Gallery, and Port Operations Control Centre, according to a statement from the Foreign Ministry. — Xinhua

Julian Assange wins High Court victory in case against extradition to US

WIKILEAKS founder Julian Assange on Monday won a victory in his battle against extradition from the United Kingdom (UK) to the United States after the High Court in London granted him permission to appeal. Assange had been granted permission to appeal only if the US government was unable to provide the court with suitable assurances that Assange is permitted to rely on the first amendment (free speech) and is not prejudiced at trial. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar advance to quarterfinal in ISTAF World Cup 2024

THE last match of the group in the ISTAF World Cup 2024 took place in Malaysia on 20 May when the Myanmar team sailed into the quarterfinals in the regu event.

Myanmar beat Japan 2-0 in the last group match in the regu event. On 19 May, Myanmar won over India in the first match of the group. So, Myanmar secured the first position in the group and advanced to the quarterfinals.

Matches of quarterfinals and semifinals will take place on 21 May. So, Myanmar has to play against India in the double regu event and Indonesia in the regu event. — Shine Htet Zaw/TTA

Myanmar badminton team heads to SEA U-17 & U-15 Championship in Laos

THE Myanmar badminton team departed yesterday for the Badminton Asia South East Asia (U-17 & U-15) Mixed Team & Individual Event 2024, which will be held in Vientiane, Laos, from 22 to 26 May. The team was seen off by President of the Myanmar Badminton Federation U Aung Paing, the Joint Secretary, and the parents of the athletes.

The Myanmar badminton team comprises administrator U Aung Khaing Htwe, coach Daw Thwe Tah Oo, and eight athletes. Teams from Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Brunei, and Timor-Leste will participate in the tournament. — Arkar Lin/TKO

The Myanmar badminton team poses for the group documentary photo before leaving for Laos yesterday.



South Korea overcomes China to win FIFA U17 Women's World Cup ticket



Members of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) celebrate with the trophy during the awarding ceremony after winning the final between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Japan at the AFC U-17 Women's Asia Cup in Bali, Indonesia, 19 May 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

SOUTH Korea earned a hard-fought 2-1 win over China to finish third at the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup in Bali, Indonesia on Sunday.

The victory means the 2009 Asian Cup winner joins Japan and DPR Korea to represent Asia at the FIFA U17 Women's World Cup in the Dominican Republic from 16 October to 3 November.

Goals by Casey Phair in the 13th and 84th minutes cancelled out China's equalizer from Dong Yujie in the 81st minute.

Later in the day, Jon Il Chong scored the only goal in the final as DPR Korea defeated Japan 1-0 to clinch the title.

DPR Korea had a perfect five wins without conceding a single goal at the tournament. — Xinhua

Guardiola drops hint that his time at Manchester City is drawing to an end

MANCHESTER City coach Pep Guardiola watched his side lift this season's Premier League title on Sunday and then dropped a bombshell by saying next season could be his last as coach at the club.

Guardiola made his declaration after his side beat West Ham 3-1 to assure their fourth consecutive league title and the sixth since he took over in the summer of 2016. However, speaking to Sky Sports after the final whistle, the 53-year-old, who has a contract until June 2025, implied that his time at the Etihad Stadium is coming to an end.

"The reality is I'm closer to leaving than to staying. It's eight years, will be nine," commented Guardiola, who made it clear that his "feeling" was "I want to stay next season."

"I want to stay next season. During the season, we will talk. But after eight, nine years..." he said, adding that he had thought about stepping down after last season's Champions League win. — Xinhua

Brighton's Mitoma focused on health after injury-hit season

JAPANESE football star Kaoru Mitoma is focused on coming back healthy next season after wrapping up an injury-shortened English Premier League campaign with Brighton on Sunday.

The Samurai Blue winger has been out of action since February with a lower back injury and was sidelined earlier in the season by a sprained ankle.

His absence dented the hopes of a Brighton side who finished 11th, five spots

down from the previous season, following their 2-0 loss to visiting Manchester United on Sunday.

Speaking after the game, Mitoma expressed frustration that he was not able to complete his recovery in time to return before the end of the season.

"I've been running, but I'm still not fit enough to play a game anytime soon," Mitoma said. "It's a shame, as my condition has been improving, but doing everything

I can next season is what's important."

With reported interest from multiple clubs, Mitoma was equivocal about his future with Brighton, where he flourished under Italian manager Roberto De Zerbi, who is leaving the team by mutual consent.

"I'm currently under contract here, so I think this is where I'll play, but I still don't know anything yet," Mitoma said. — Kyodo

UK report finds decades-long infected blood scandal was covered up

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WORLD

Viet Nam votes in new National Assembly head

VIET Nam's rubber stamp National Assembly voted in its new chairman on Monday, after the previous head stepped down after getting swept up in a corruption crackdown.

Tran Thanh Man, 61, is now one of the Southeast Asian country's four most powerful leaders.

"It is a huge honour... I will devote myself to serving the people," he told the assembly after the vote. Thousands of people — including top officials and senior business leaders — have been caught up in Viet Nam's "blazing furnace" anti-graft campaign, led by Communist Party General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong.

Man, previously the assembly's deputy chairman, succeeds Vuong Dinh Hue, who stepped down last month because of "violations and shortcomings", according to the party.

He has not yet served a full term in the politburo, after joining in 2021, which is unusual for

a top leader in Viet Nam.

According to Nguyen Khac Giang, visiting fellow at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute in Singapore, that will mean he has "less authority to really assert his influence over the National Assembly". By comparison, his predecessor "was a very strong chairman... He confronted the government, he initiated many ideas and he forced the government to be accountable in some cases", Giang told AFP.

The National Assembly elects its chair by secret ballot, before deputies vote whether to pass that result. Man carried all of the 475 votes.

The Communist Party on Saturday nominated public security minister To Lam to be the country's new president after his predecessor also resigned.

Vo Van Thuong stepped down in March after just one year in the job, and Lam will likely be confirmed as president on



Viet Nam's newly elected National Assembly Chairman Tran Thanh Man (C) takes his oath during the opening session of the National Assembly's summer session in Hanoi on 20 May 2024. PHOTO: AFP

Wednesday.

The political upheaval is highly unusual in Viet Nam, where for years all changes were carefully orchestrated with an

emphasis on cautious stability. On Thursday, another influential politburo member resigned. Truong Thi Mai was the permanent member of the secretariat

in the central party committee — the most important position in Vietnamese politics outside its four-pillar leadership structure. —AFP

North Korea will increase readiness for nuclear deterrence amid US subcritical test

NORTH Korea was forced to increase its overall nuclear deterrence readiness after the US conducted another subcritical nuclear experiment at the Nevada National Security Site, a spokesperson for the North Korean Foreign Ministry said.

"To cope with the strategic instability in the region and the rest of the world caused by the US unilateral action, the DPRK cannot but reconsider the measures necessary for the improvement of the overall nuclear deterrence posture within the range of its vested sovereign right

and possible options," the spokesperson was quoted as saying by North Korean state-run news agency KCNA.

North Korea will not allow the creation of a strategic imbalance in ensuring security on the Korean Peninsula, the spokesperson added. — SPUTNIK



Air Force soldiers showing off their combat alert at the drills. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

China builds radar network to support global space weather forecast

CHINA has built a mid-latitude high-frequency radar network in the country's northern regions to provide high-quality detection data for global space weather forecast and warning.

The first batch of scientific detection results of the network was released at an international workshop of the Super Dual Auroral Radar Network (SuperDARN), which opened in Beijing on Monday.

The network, constructed by the National Space Science Centre (NSSC) under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, was completed in October 2023. It's also a part of the second phase of China's Meridian Project, a space weather monitoring network comprising ground-based stations.

China has made new breakthroughs in high-frequency coherent scattering radar technology and scientific research,

and will deepen international cooperation in this field, said NSSC.

The ionosphere is home to all the charged particles in Earth's atmosphere. It's also home to many spacecraft including the space stations. Ionospheric irregularities can disrupt signals, scientists say.

Six high-frequency coherent scattering radars were set up in Jilin Province, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in northern regions of China.

This high-frequency radar chain achieves large-scale continuous detection of ionospheric irregularities in mid and high latitudes of the Asian sector. The detection range can reach 4,000 kilometres from south to north, and the east-west span exceeds 12,000 km, according to NSSC. — Xinhua