

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

DEMU locomotives and carriages to be locally built

Preparations must be made to raise the speed of trains to drive 80 kilometres per hour and for freight trains to 60 kilometres per hour.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, on his inspection tour of the City Circular Diesel Locomotive Shed (Insein) of Myanmar Railways under the Ministry of Transport and Communications yesterday morning, gave guidance to officials to continuously strive to operate electric multiple unit (EMU).

At the meeting hall of the locomotive shed, the Senior General noted that it is necessary to conduct research on railway sections to limit the speed of trains at some bending while implementing the project to raise the speed of trains to drive 80 kilometres per hour.

He underlined that preparations must be made to raise the speed of passenger trains to drive 80 kilometres per hour and for freight trains to drive 60 kilometres per hour.

The Senior General emphasized that DEMU locomotives and carriages must be built at home, stressing that it is necessary to improve locomotives and carriages as well as to make rail tracks.

He underscored that as running the electric train is a must in Myanmar, necessary research must be done for accomplishing the project, urging all to strive to operate electric multiple unit (EMU) continuously. As such, he continued that it is necessary to ease level crossings and build underpasses to enable trains to drive at a set speed.

The Senior General noted that rail transport in Myanmar is still underdeveloped compared to other countries.

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State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into the Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) locomotive at the City Circular Diesel Locomotive Shed (Insein) in Yangon yesterday.

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General during his inspection tour at Diesel Locomotive Shed (Insein)

1. Preparations must be made to raise the speed of trains to drive 80 kilometres per hour and for freight trains to 60 kilometres per hour.
2. It is necessary to ease level crossings and build underpasses to enable trains to drive at a set speed.
3. DEMU locomotives and carriages must be built at home.
4. As running the electric train is a must in Myanmar, necessary research must be done to accomplish the project, urging all to strive to operate electric multiple unit (EMU) continuously.

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Palin Riverview Elephant Camp welcomes Thadingyut holidaymakers

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Bagan to entice visitors with tree-hanging puppets for Thadingyut

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Consumer Dept: Rice must be sold at fair market prices

NATIONAL



Nationwide Census Collection continues on the eighth day.



United Strength Needed to Stop Internal Threats Undermining National Progress

- While many citizens work to improve the country, some engage in obstructionism, undermining progress.
- Terrorists, often from within the region, commit destructive acts.
- Outsiders cannot destroy a region; the threat often comes from within.
- It's like those who take shelter under a tree but cut off its branches.
- These terrorists must be stopped through the united strength of the people.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the SAC Meeting 3/2024 on 7 June 2024)

| COVID-19 report, 7 October 2024 | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| NEW TESTS | NEW CASES | CASUALTIES |
| 10,987 | 25 | Nil |

6 special civil appeal cases passed judgements; 6 cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Tha Htay and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Myo Maung, U Khin Maung Gyi, Daw Thin Thin Nwet and Dr Ko Ko Naing was convened Monday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgements for six special civil appeal cases – Nos 41/2024 (Ayeyawady), 5/2024 (Shan), 31/2024 (Mandalay), 50/2024 (Mon), 54/20204 (Bago) and 63/2024 (Ayeyawady).

In addition, a total of six special civil appeal cases – Nos 52/2024 (Yangon), 55/2024 (Shan), 56/2024 (Mandalay), 62/2024 (Bago), 64/2024 (Yangon) and 65/2024 (Mon) were heard. — MNA

Palin Riverview Elephant Camp welcomes Thadingyut holidaymakers

PALIN Riverview Elephant Camp in NyaungU Township, Mandalay Region, is open to welcome holidaymakers during the Thadingyut holidays, said a person in charge of the elephant camp.

Palin Riverview Elephant Camp, operated by the Myanma Timber Enterprise under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conserva-

tion, is opened on the Ayeyawady River bank. It is situated near Palin village on Myingyan-Pakoku Road in NyaungU Township. Visitors can drop in on the camp during their trip to the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone.

The camp has two male elephants with ivory tusks and four female elephants. Elephant lovers can relax at the serene retreat, enjoying rides and scenic

views of the Ayeyawady River, watching elephants bathing and feeding buffets to elephants. Visitors can chill out at a long-legged riverside camp with authentic Myanmar street food and Chinese food from restaurants and breathtaking river views.

Photo spots are also created with some artificial decoration. There are playgrounds for children and other facilities.

The entrance fee is set at K1,000 per local visitor and K10,000 per tourist. The elephant ride costs K5,000 for a local and K10,000 for a tourist. Children below eight can enjoy a ride with their parents for free.

Asian elephants are considered brilliant creatures. They have close and less aggressive interactions with people. Visitors can also observe the livelihood, habitat, behaviour and characteristics of the Asian and African elephants and mahouts at the elephant museum, featuring the structure of elephants



Gentle giants feast on a buffet of feed at the Palin Riverview Elephant Camp.



The Palin Riverview Elephant Camp presents an impressive demonstration of pachyderm intelligence.

and elephant tusks, the video presentation of the most dangerous areas with elephant hunting and 80-year record book stating Kings owning white elephants, spot for white elephants and timber production camp where twin elephants were born, a warden said.

There are more than 20 ele-

phant camps across the country, and the elephant lovers can treat them to a buffet. They can also donate to the elephants via the camp's official Facebook page.

Myanmar implemented ecotourism sites and elephant-based tourism by opening elephant camps near rivers and mountain ranges. — Dipalin/KK

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)

DEMU locomotives and carriages to be locally built

FROM PAGE 1

Railway areas and yards must be in accord with the law and disciplines, and these environments must be decorated with proper landscape and greening activities, he added.

The Senior General urged all to revitalize rail transport for people as it is an essential part of the nation's transport system.

SAC Member Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo reported on the progress of improving the Yangon circular railway, matters concerning the City Circular Diesel Locomotive Shed (Insein), the background history of the circular railway, and traffic safety along the railway, Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing on preparations to allow higher speed of trains in main railway sections, mechanical requirements of locomotives, carriages and DEMU (rolling stocks), signals and traffic requirements and reviews, manufacturing of concrete



SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears the reports from SAC Member MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo yesterday.



The Senior General inspects the interior of the DEMU carriage.

sleepers for all sections and further production of sleepers.

The Senior General inspected new

DEMU carriages which arrived from Spain and gave necessary guidance to

officials. — MNA/TTA



A glimpse of DEMU trains imported from Spain.

NATIONAL

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing chooses proper corps for graduate female cadets of 11th Intake of OTS (Hmawby)



The selection ceremony for the appropriate corps for OTS 11th Intake female cadets in progress, attended by SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday at the Defence Services (Army) Officer Training School (Hmawby) in Hmawby Station, Yangon.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the choice of arm for female graduate cadets of the 11th In-

take of the Graduate Female Cadet Course of the Defence Services (Army) Officer Training School (Hmawby) in Hmawby Station of Yangon yesterday morning.

Accompanied by SAC mem-

ber Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Maung Maung Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Htein Win, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Of-

fice of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Yangon Command and the commandant of the OTS (Hmawby), the Senior General met female cadets individually and chose appropriate corps of Tatmadaw (Army,

Navy and Air) for the cadets depending on the discipline, outstanding performance in relevant subjects, hobbies, industriousness and endeavours along the training period of each cadet. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh attends meeting of Heads of Mission of ASEAN-Dhaka Committee

MYANMAR Ambassador to Bangladesh, U Kyaw Soe Moe attended the 61st ASEAN-Dhaka Committee's meeting of Heads of Mission held at the Thai Embassy in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 3 October.

During the meeting, the alternate chair, Thai Ambassador Mrs Makawadee Sumitmor reviewed the programmes that

had already been implemented by the ASEAN-Dhaka Committee and discussed the future programmes.

Discussions also covered the upcoming ASEAN Family Day event, the status of ongoing efforts to strengthen relations between the relevant ASEAN countries and host country Bangladesh, as well

as exchanging views on the current developments within the region and the country.

The Thai ambassador handed over the alternate chairmanship of the ASEAN-Dhaka Committee to the Vietnamese ambassador during the meeting. — ASH/TMT



The 61st Meeting of Heads of Mission of the ASEAN-Dhaka Committee (ADC) in progress on 3 October in Bangladesh.

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
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NATIONAL

LOCAL and foreign visitors to the Bagan Ancient Cultural Zone enjoy taking photos with the puppets hanging from the trees and purchasing these puppets during the Thadingyut festival.

Bagan is crowded with visitors during the Taungpyone Festival in Wagoung, the Aba Boe Min Khaung Festival at Popa in Tawthalin and Thadingyut, the Bagan Thadingyut Festival, the New Year Festival and the Thingyan Festival. Although the number of visitors to Bagan might decline during the COVID-19 period and due to the political situation and flooding in September, the locals are making preparations to provide services to travellers to Bagan, where ancient cultural heritage is concentrated.

As the hotels are fully booked this year, the local businesspeople estimated that the number of visitors to Bagan this year will be higher than the number of visitors during

Bagan to entice visitors with tree-hanging puppets for Thadingyut



Visitors enjoy a variety of puppets hanging from trees in Bagan. PHOTO. ZWE MARN

the 2023 Thadingyut Festival. Moreover, they prepare to facilitate the travellers arrivals

and trading. There are many Margosa or Nim trees, Vachellia leucophloea trees, pagodas, and

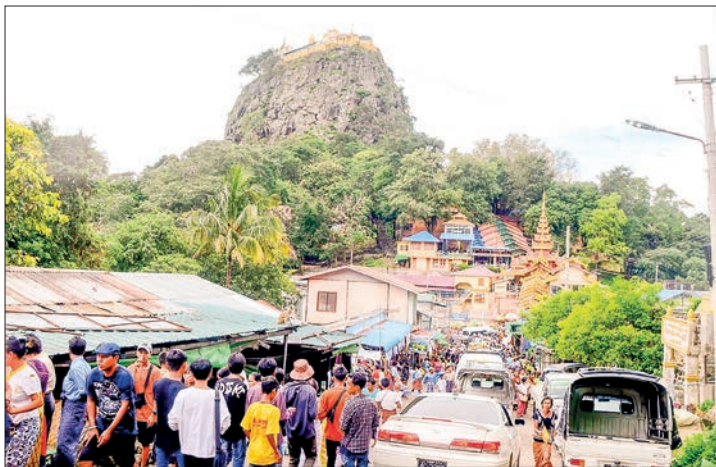
temples in Bagan that are symbols of the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone. Moreover,

visitors ride horse carts, take photos with puppets hanging from the trees, and buy the puppets to display at houses, companies, hotels, shopping centres and restaurants as decoration.

The wooden puppets such as male dancer, female dancer, Zawgyi, king, minister, general, Kyansittha, Manisanda, Thungetaw, ogre, Kinnari/Kinnara, Napansan, elephant, horse, spiritual Nat, Thagyamin, monk, nun, Pyittinehtaung are hanging from the Margosa trees near the pagodas. The prices of 6, 8, 10, and 12-inch puppets range from K8,000 to K100,000 per head. A fully decorated puppet with string costs K1 million. Moreover, the shops sell triangle-shaped solid brass gongs, gongs, bells, masks and small bells.

The local travellers enjoy taking photos with these hanging puppets, and it can be done free of charge or with extra charges. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Many Yangon residents flock to Popa Taungkalat



People are pictured visiting Popa Taungkalat.

THE influx of visitors from Yangon Region has visited Popa Taungkalat recently, according to a local car rental service.

Some visitors go hiking to the peak of Mount Popa, but the number of visitors who go to Taungkalat is more significant.

“Over recent days, visi-

tor arrival to Bagan has been quite high. Visitors to Bagan also go to visit Popa Taungkalat. Some come with family, and some come with friends and colleagues to take pleasure. Some come here for pilgrimage and other ritual purposes. Most of the visitors to Bagan

go to Popa Taungkalat by connecting us in our vehicles, and the majority are from Yangon. People who go to the summit of Mount Popa only go hiking,” said the Naing Naing Bagan Taxi service.

Most of the hotels and motels in Bagan have already been fully booked for the Thadingyut holidays, and the visitor arrival to Bagan is expected to be high in Thadingyut.

“Hotels and motels are almost fully booked for the Thadingyut holidays, which start on 16 October. Hopefully, visitor arrivals to Bagan will be quite high on the full moon day of Thadingyut. The majority of them are Yangon residents, and they come by connecting with travel companies. It is usual every year,” said the Naing Naing Bagan Taxi. — Thit Taw/ZS

Yangon buyers purchase Kyaukse’s crown melon directly

YANGON buyers are coming to purchase crown melons produced in Kyaukse, Mandalay region, according to the Mandalay fruit market.

Crown melons are produced all year round, and the fruit from Kyaukse is hard and tastes better, so the wholesalers from Yangon connect with farmers from Kyaukse and Mandalay markets to buy them.

“During February and March, the price was a little low. They were summer fruits and plenty. In recent months, the fruit has been a little rare. You can say that the price is good. In the cold season and rainy season, fruits are less sweet. Yangon buyers

buy this Kyaukse’s crown melon. It is hard and tastes better. Some repurchase it from Mandalay. Wholesalers directly buy from farmers. Both Yangon and Mandalay markets are good. Price is better in Lashio and Muse. They buy in kilograms. They pick one fruit a tree for Muse and Lashio markets, and for the Mandalay market, some collect two fruits a tree,” said a crown melon wholesaler and retailer from Mandalay.

Since some buy beautiful and sweet crown melons to give as gifts and to offer to the Buddha, there is a good market, and many fruit shops sell crown melons.

“Crown melons are present all year round but it may be either abundant or scarce. It is grown here. If the market is good, they go up, and if not, they go down. In the Mandalay market, they buy a lot of gifts and offerings. The shops also sell it. The fruit is beautiful, and the market is good. They grow it in Kyaukse, where fruits are harder than spongy ones in other areas. Right now, it is quite rare, and the price is good,” said a wholesaler and retailer in Mandalay. — Thit Taw/ZN



This image shows crown melons being prepared for delivery to the market.

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

NATIONAL

9 private companies approved for international express services

THE Ministry of Transport and Communications has announced that nine private companies have been granted authorization to operate as registered service providers for international express services.

The companies include MYGO Myanmar Company, OmniTech, Zhejiang BFS International Logistics, Asia Mega Link Services, Zego Express, Star Banner, Myanmar Elite Logistics, Thant Phyu Company, and Royal Express Services.



A box truck offering domestic and international express delivery services is pictured here.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications will supervise the operations of these companies. — ASH/MKKS



This photo showcases Khaing Hnin Wai donating at the MMPO office.

Khaing Hnin Wai donates K1M for Myanmar Motion Pictures Day

ACCORDING to Vice-Chairman U Aye Kyu Lay of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO), actress Khaing Hnin Wai donated K1 million on 6 October to support the 104th Myanmar Motion Pictures Day and the 47th Respect-Paying Ceremony, which will take place on 13 October.

The event will be held at the MMPO (Central) office in Bahan Township, Yangon Region, and donations from well-wishers and artistes are currently being accepted.

“The ceremony is approaching soon. Khaing Hnin Wai has generously contributed K1 million to it. We are currently finalizing the list of senior individuals to be honoured at the event, as some have passed away, while others need to be added to the list,” said U Aye Kyu Lay. — ASH/TRKM



Vocalist Yoon Myat Thu.

Vocalist Yoon Myat Thu's birthday show to include charity for flood recovery

VOCALIST Yoon Myat Thu announced that her birthday show will be held on 15 October at the Inya Lake Hotel Garden in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region. The event will also include a charity initiative to support the rehabilitation of flood-affected areas.

“I've planned four concerts for my fans to enjoy, especially those feeling down, with a selection of blue songs. At my 26th birthday party on 15 October, we'll perform many songs, making it a fun and memorable experience. Along with the performances, there's a plan to donate towards flood recovery efforts in commemoration of my birthday. Fans who wish to join me in this charitable act can also contribute through the show,” Yoon Myat Thu said.

The show will feature special guests, including violinist Ko Chan Hein Kywe and saxophonist Philip Min Min. Harmony Hangover and Here & Now Dance Crew will also perform, to the accompaniment of the Daily Gita Band. — ASH/TKO

Children's and young adult books sell well in used market

CHILDREN and young adult books are selling more in the old book market, according to market sources.

Favourite youth books such as self-help, novels, and children's favourites Shwe Thway, Aurora, Pu Tet Yinkyay Leinma, Tutpi, Kidzone, Teza and cartoons, which can provide invaluable knowledge at a cost as cheap as K1,000, are the best sellers.

“This is an old book market. The price is around K1,000 or K2,000 to the maximum of

K5,000. The best selling are children's books and young adult favourites. The young buy self-help books and novels, while children prefer story books and drawing books. We don't have many adult customers. I hope sales will be better in the future because the knowledge and enjoyment attainable from books are of great value compared to the average cheap price at K1,000,” said an official from the English bookshop in Yankin township.

In addition, the bookstore aims to hold an

online live sale of knowledge and fiction books in both English and Myanmar languages, with cash on delivery almost nationwide, to those who always have a progressive attitude to develop, from 30 September to 4 October from 10 am to 8 pm.

“Recently, young adults tend to read more. That's why there are more sales. The shops that resell old books also sell like new books,” said a second-hand book dealer in Sanchaung Township. — Thit Taw/ZN

‘Don't Catch, Don't Sell’ campaign to launch on Popa Langur Day

IN order to preserve Popa langur from Mount Popa, the Mahagiri group will conduct campaigns under the theme “Don't Catch, Don't Sell” on 11 November, which is designated as Popa Langur Conservation Day.

Popa langur is a species of monkey found only in Myanmar, with a population of about 300 in the world, and as they are beautiful, there may be cases of them being caught and sold as pets.

11th November has been designated Popa Langur Conservation Day by the Mahagiri group in cooperation with locals, and this is the third time the event has been held.

“As for Popa langur conservation, this



This photo showcases some Popa Langur monkeys being preserved in the Popa area.

year will be the third time. Together with locals, we have designated 11 November as Conservation Day and are focusing on an advocacy campaign. Because these

monkeys are exquisite, people want to keep them as pets, so we will invite guests and make campaigns to prevent them from being kept as pets. In previous years, we invited people and made plans to climb the mountain. Doing this disturbed the monkeys, so this year, we will not go into the forest. Instead, we will conduct a campaign called “Don't Catch, Don't Sell”, for Popa Langur Day. We will hand out pamphlets,” said Ko Tin Ko Min of the Mahagiri group.

In addition to Popa, the Popa langur lives in other places such as Hpa-an, Bago Yoma and Pyadalin Cave, and such campaigns are necessary to be launched in some areas so as not to kill and eat them, he said. — MT/ZN

THE Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce stated that reasonable market prices of rice for October were announced, and failing to do so is subject to legal action.

The Ministry of Commerce issued reasonable prices for all varieties; of non-premium rice (Aemahta, Ngasein, Sinthukha, Ngasein Yakyaw, Kayinma, Yadanatoe, Tunpu, GW-11, 747, Theepu, Shweman, Hnankauk, etc.), locally consumed and export-designated rice groups (Zeeya, Ngwetoe, Shweman, Shwethwe, Hmawby-2, Hmawby-3, 90-day short matured rice, Manawthukha, etc.), moderate quality rice produced from Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon regions (Magyantaw, Ayeyamin, Ayeyapadetha rice varieties), high-quality rice from Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw and upper Myanmar regions, and premium Pawsan rice (Ay-

Consumer Dept: Rice must be sold at fair market prices



Rice sacks are neatly organized for sale in the supermarket.

eyawady Pawsan, and Shwebo Pawsan). Retailers are not allowed to make profits of more

than eight per cent of the set reasonable market prices, the ministry announced.

The ministry determined reasonable market prices by considering the following factors:

fair profit for the farmers, millers and distributors, reasonable prices for consumers, last year's market price, global market prices and other commodities prices. There are separate prices for modern trade with consumer packaging at mini-marts and supermarkets.

If individuals have difficulty buying rice, they are urged to contact the Myanmar Rice Federation. The buyers can complain about overpricing to the Consumer Affairs Department and MRF.

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

Telematics now mandatory for passenger vehicles on Yangon-Mandalay highway

ONLY passenger vehicles installed with a telematic system will be allowed to run on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, notified the Expressway Maintenance and Supervision Task Force of the Department of Highways.

Telematics devices are now made mandatory for passenger vehicles to run on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, in accordance with the Expressway Law. It ensures drivers' adherence to speed limits and safe driving practices, improving road safety for passengers.

Telematics devices will help monitor vehicles the whole day. An awareness period for telematics installation is set from 18 June to 15 October 2024. Afterwards, the department notified vehicle owners that telematics installation is compulsory for highway passenger vehicles from 16 October 2024. — NN/KK



An express bus is parked at the bus stand.

Yangon palm oil wholesale rate drops to two-week low of K6,455 per viss this week

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market was set at a two-week low of K6,455 per viss this week ending 13 October, down from K6,720 of last week and K6,850 registered in the past week ending 29 September 2024, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The figures showed a drop of K395 per viss compared to those of the past two weeks.

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.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

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



A vendor skilfully siphons cooking oil for sale at the market.

hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices. The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and 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.

Complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

OPINION

Actively participate in nuclear non-proliferation

AS of today, approximately 12,100 nuclear weapons remain in existence worldwide. Countries possessing such weapons have well-funded, long-term plans to modernize their nuclear arsenals. However, these weapons pose threats not only to the countries that own them but also to surrounding nations. The most powerful nuclear weapons can endanger the entire world at any time.

While human innovation has led to the creation of newer and more powerful tools that benefit society, some innovations – such as nuclear weapons – pose significant dangers to global security. Although nuclear-armed countries showcase their capability, they are often concerned about passing these weapons on to future generations, fearing that they may fall into the hands of unscrupulous individuals.

Achieving global nuclear disarmament is a top priority for the United Nations. It was the subject of the UN General Assembly's first resolution in 1946, which established the Atomic Energy Commission (dissolved in 1952) with a mandate to propose measures for controlling nuclear energy and eliminating atomic weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Since then, the UN has been at the forefront of major diplomatic efforts to advance nuclear disarmament. In 1959, the UN General Assembly endorsed the objective of general and complete disarmament. The first Special Session of the UN General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament in 1978 further emphasized that nuclear disarmament should be the top priority in the field of disarmament.

No one wishes to endure the consequences of another Cold War. People around the world are now acutely aware of the dangers and negative impacts of nuclear weapons, which has fuelled their eagerness to pursue disarmament

by all means. Despite this, the doctrine of nuclear deterrence remains an integral part of the security policies of nuclear-armed states and many of their allies. Additionally, the international arms-control framework that helped prevent the use of nuclear weapons and promoted disarmament since the Cold War has come under increasing strain.

In accordance with UN General Assembly resolution 68/32 and subsequent resolutions, the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons aims to enhance public awareness and education about the threat posed by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their complete elimination. It is hoped that these efforts will help to mobilize new international initiatives towards achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world as well as an actually safety world so as to ease tension and worries of the people worldwide.



Let's Promote Integrated Travel and Tourism in Myanmar

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

MYANMAR has a rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, and diverse ethnic groups, and it offers a unique opportunity to develop an integrated travel and tourism approach that can benefit local communities and provide an enriching experience for local travellers and tourists. Integrated travel and tourism in Myanmar can be considered

promoted through several vital aspects, and the following are some all-inclusive steps to approach these considerations;

- 1. Market Research and Analysis**
- 2. Sustainable Tourism Development**
- 3. Infrastructure Development**
- 4. Environmental Conservation**
- 5. Community Involvement**
- 6. Cultural Heritage Preservation**

Identify Target Markets: Determine who the potential tourists are (domestic, regional, international) and what their preferences and needs are.

Competitive Analysis: Study other countries with successful integrated tourism models to understand best practices and potential challenges.

❖ **SWOT Analysis:** Conduct a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis

do not harm historical sites and cultural landmarks. Work with local communities to maintain and showcase their

buses or bikes.

❖ **Accommodation and Facilities:** Upgrade existing hotels, resorts, and other accommodation facilities to meet international standards. Promote the development of eco-lodges and community-based homestays.

4. Community Engagement

❖ **Local Involvement:** Engage local communities in tourism planning and decision-making processes. Provide training and capacity-building programmes to help them benefit economically from tourism.

❖ **Empowerment:** Encourage local entrepreneurship by supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the tourism sector, such as local guides, artisans, and food vendors.

5. Combined Tourism Packages

❖ **Thematic Tours:** Develop themed travel packages (e.g., cultural tours, adventure tours, eco-tours) that integrate various attractions and activities.

❖ **Multi-Destination Tours:** Create tours that connect different regions and highlight the diversity of Myanmar, such as combining urban experiences with rural and natural attractions.

❖ **Collaborative Partnerships:** Work with local businesses, tour operators, and international agencies to create comprehensive packages that offer

diverse experiences.

6. Marketing and Promotion

❖ **Branding:** Develop a strong brand identity for Myanmar as a unique and attractive travel destination. Highlight its diverse culture, rich history, and natural beauty.

❖ **Digital Presence:** Utilize social media, websites, and other digital platforms to promote tourism. Offer virtual tours and interactive experiences to attract international tourists.

❖ **Trade Shows and Exhibitions:** Participate in international travel and tourism fairs to promote Myanmar as a travel destination.

7. Partnerships and Collaboration

❖ **Public-Private Partnerships:** Foster collaborations between government bodies, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to pool resources and expertise.

❖ **International Cooperation:** Work with international tourism organizations and neighbouring countries to create regional travel packages and joint promotional activities.

8. Policy and Regulation

❖ **Regulatory Framework:** Establish clear policies and regulations that govern tourism activities, ensuring they are sustainable and beneficial to local communities.

❖ **Incentives:** Provide incentives for businesses and investors who adopt sustainable prac-

ARTICLE

tices and contribute to local development.

9. Education and Training

❖ **Skill Development:** Offer education and training programmes for individuals seeking careers in tourism and hospitality. Focus on areas like customer service, language skills, and sustainable tourism practices.

❖ **Awareness Campaigns:** Conduct awareness campaigns to educate tourists and locals about the importance of preserving the environment and respecting cultural heritage.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

❖ **Impact Assessment:** Regularly assess the impact of tourism on the environment, economy, and local communities. Use these assessments to make informed decisions and adjustments.

❖ **Feedback Mechanisms:** Establish channels for tourists and locals to provide feedback on tourism services and experiences, using this feedback to improve offerings.

In addition, Myanmar can develop a robust travel and tourism sector that leverages its unique strengths and offers meaningful experiences for visitors. By focusing on the above-mentioned areas, Myanmar can develop and promote an integrated travel and tourism industry that is sustainable, inclusive, and beneficial to both visitors and local communities as well as for our country.

Census and Public Health Initiatives

By Dr Zeyar Win

REGULARLY collecting population and household censuses is an essential process for countries to obtain the necessary statistics. The census and the public health sector are closely related. Population data received from the census, birth/death information, demographics and age groups, home contents, information on maternal and child health, disease and disability information, etc., measures for the public healthcare process, are helpful in making policies.

Milestones of Census

The practice of conducting population censuses, hereafter referred to as "the Census", has a long historical tradition. Throughout history, various rulers have employed censuses to gather information about the populations under their control, whether for purposes of taxation, social services, or conscription. For instance, during the Babylonian period around 3800 BC, censuses were used to count land holdings, livestock, and the population. Similarly, under the Pharaohs in ancient Egypt around 2700 BC, a population census was conducted to facilitate the construction of the pyramids. In

China, censuses have been documented since approximately 1600 BC, with records from the Han Dynasty in the 2nd century AD indicating a population of about 57 million. Both the Greek and Roman civilizations also conducted censuses to manage their populations and resources.

The most famous ancient census recorded is the land ownership, which was collected in AD 1086 during the reign of King William of England. Historical records say that during the reign of Emperor Akbar of the Mongol Empire, who ruled the whole of northern India in the 16th century BC, the number of workers and the contents of land ownership were enumerated. Under Peter the Great, Russia conducted a census primarily for tax collection and to register men eligible for military service. In France, early population surveys were ordered by King Louis XIV for tax purposes and conscription.

The modern concept of the census was first implemented in the United States in 1790, shortly after the country gained independence. Since then, a decennial census has been conducted alongside US elections, serving purposes related to congressional representation

and taxation. In Britain, modern censuses have been carried out every ten years since 1801, with the only interruption occurring in 1941 due to World War II. Like many other nations, the 19th and 20th centuries marked the beginning of national census processes, which were employed to develop social, economic, healthcare, and infrastructure plans.

In the present era, census data is critical for determining representation in government (such as allocating seats in legislative bodies), planning infrastructure, and making decisions on public services like education and healthcare. Typically conducted every ten years, modern censuses benefit from advancements in technology, enabling the digital recording of data. The integration of satellite communications and geographic information systems (GIS) has further enhanced the accuracy and efficiency of census-taking processes.

Myanmar and the Census

Historical records indicate that censuses were conducted in Myanmar even during the reigns of ancient kings. Notably, there

were population surveys akin to a census during the reigns of Thalun Mintayagyi and Bodaw Phaya. During the colonial period, a decennial census began in 1872, and by the final colonial census in 1941, the population was recorded at approximately 16.82 million. After gaining independence, censuses were conducted in 1973, 1983, and most recently in 2014. The population and household census has been underway since 1 October, and it will last up to 15 October 2024. As in many nations, conducting a census every ten years remains crucial for the country's long-term development, regardless of the prevailing circumstances.

Health-Related Data and the Census

Health data is frequently collected as part of national censuses, providing vital insights into the overall health status of the population, as well as essential statistics on living conditions and various health-related factors. In contemporary times, the measurement of national development extends beyond GDP alone. It now includes the Human Development Index (HDI), which is calculated based on three key factors: life expectancy at birth, the average years of schooling for adults, and gross national income per capita, reflecting the standard of living. The data gathered from censuses plays a crucial role in calculating these indicators, offering a comprehensive picture of a country's development.

SEE PAGE 12

NATIONAL

Donors continue cash assistance for flood victims

PRESIDING Patron Sayadaw of Pyinmana Township KanU Monastery Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha Maha Kammathanacariya Bhaddanta Nandamala donated K10 million for flood-impacted people yesterday. Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win accepted the cash donation at the Disaster Management Centre and presented a certificate of appreciation to the Sayadaw. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister Dr Soe Win receives the flood donations yesterday.

Bamboo shoot prices rise this year

DOMESTIC demand for bamboo shoots has been more robust and prices have been better, too, according to bamboo artist U Kyaw Win.

At present, an association of bamboo and bamboo shoot manufacturers has been set up in Nay Pyi Taw, and production of dried bamboo shoots, sour bamboo shoots and sweet bamboo shoots has been initiated. The market has potential even internally, he said.

“Bamboo shoots are not collected by our association alone but stocked by those who we gave training. We have many orders from the domestic market alone. Price has been better this year,” said U Kyaw Win.

Buyers have even come in person to purchase.

“We have received local orders of about 100,000 visses for sweet bamboo shoots, and about 45,000-50,000 visses were already delivered. This year’s bamboo shoot has been pretty good, and buyers have even come in person to make purchases,” he said.

In addition to orders for sweet bamboo shoots, orders for dried bamboo shoots have been high, too, but only a few were able to export due to raw material shortage. — MT/ZS



Dried bamboo shoots are produced in different varieties.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 7 October 2024)

BAY INFERENCE: Southwest monsoon has been withdrawn from East-central Bay of Bengal and Deltaic Myanmar areas. Weather is partly cloudy over the Northeast and Eastcentral Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is weak over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 8 October 2024: Rain or thunderstorms will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw and Chin State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago Regions, scattered in Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, (Northern and Southern) Shan States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Nay

Pyi Taw, Magway Region. Degree of certainty is 100%.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Chin, Rakhine States. The area along the Cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 3-6 feet in off and along

Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Weak monsoon over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8th October 2024: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8th October 2024: Likelihood of isolated light rain with partly cloudy. Degree of certainty is 60%.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8th October 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

— DMH



Members of Tatmadaw, police, fire brigade, Red Cross, and civil society organizations are diligently conducting cleanup efforts following the flash floods.

Post-flood cleanup efforts ongoing

villages in Nay Pyi Taw, regions and states.

They conducted cleaning processes in Nay Pyi Taw, Kalaw township in Shan State (South) and supported the removal of materials at monasteries, schools, hospitals, clinics and departmental offices yesterday.

Moreover, medical teams provided healthcare services. They conducted health awareness programmes for the flood victims at the relief camps and provided relief items, commodities, foodstuffs and cash. The relevant officials inspected these working processes. Officials also repaired the damaged roads and bridges to facilitate public transport. — MNA/KTZH



MEMBERS of Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade, Red Cross Society and social welfare organizations actively participate in cleanup measures and rehabilitation processes in flood-hit wards and

NATIONAL

Crackdown on illegal trade seizes K125M worth of goods in 2 days

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat illicit trade continue effectively in accordance with the law.

On 6 and 7 October, combined teams seized an unregistered Toyota Caldina (valued at approximately K7 million) at the Taungsinaye checkpoint in Lewe Township and an I-Zone light truck (estimated value of K18 million), travelling from Hpa-an to Thaton, which was carrying a variety of car parts worth K1.009 million without official documentation at the Thanlwin Bridge combined

checkpoint (Tayokhla side). The action was taken under the Export-Import Law and Customs procedures.

Similarly, combined teams made further inspections, seizing four types of motorbike parts worth K6.003 million that were stockpiled in Kawthoung Township, an unregistered Suzuki Ciaz (estimated value of K7 million) in Dawei Township, and an unregistered Daihatsu Hijet (estimated value of K6 million) at the Yadanabon Bridge checkpoint in Sagaing Township. The action was carried out under the Export-Import Law.

Additionally, combined

teams managed by the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted further inspections. They seized illegal teak weighing 0.586 tonne and other illegal hardwoods weighing 5.390 tonnes, with a total value of K9,984,692, in Nyaunglebin and Pyay Districts. They also seized a Nissan diesel tractor head with a trailer worth K60 million, which was transporting two types of industrial materials worth K10.6 million from Thamanya to Yangon at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray station. The action was taken under the Export-Import Law and Customs procedures.

The Illegal Trade Eradica-



Confiscated illegal goods in Taninthayi Region.

tion Steering Committee reported that nine arrests were made on 6 and 7 October, resulting in

the seizure of illegal goods worth approximately K125 million. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Fabricated claims of villager raids in Palaw Township by subversive media denied

SUBVERSIVE media outlets have been fabricating reports, claiming that Tatmadaw security forces invaded Taungyakan Village in Palaw Township, Taninthayi Region, on 4 October. These reports allege that the forces stole gold, money, and motorbikes and arrested women, children, and other villagers.

In response, a regional security officer clarified that security forces did not bully, torture, or attack civilians or non-military targets in the area. He stated that the accusations stem from terrorists and malicious media groups that resent Tatmadaw for its collaboration with people in combatting terrorism, leading to baseless claims against them.

The officer emphasized that malicious media spread false information, blaming Tatmadaw for actions carried out by PDF terrorists as part of their propaganda efforts. — MNA/TMT



This screenshot validates fabricated stories.

Official denies false claims on census enumerator expenses



This screenshot validates fabricated claims.

MALICIOUS media outlets are falsely reporting that ward administration body teams in Amar, Pyapon District, Ayeyawady Region, have been collecting money in certain wards to provide food and entertainment for census enumerators.

When questioned about the issue, an official from the township administration clarified that the 2024 census is being conducted smoothly as part of a national effort. The data collection, which began on 1 October, involved relevant teams with active public participation. However, subversive media outlets are circulating these false claims in an attempt to undermine public cooperation with the government and create misunderstanding. — MNA/TRKM

Trafficker sentenced to 15 yrs for attempted exploitation of teenager

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Police Force, Sandar Myo, also known as Ma Lin, a human trafficker from Indaw Township in the Sagaing Region, was sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labour under the Anti-Human Trafficking Law as she was found guilty of attempting to persuade a girl from Thakayta Township in Yangon Region to marry a Chinese man.

Sandar Myo deceived the 16-year-old girl by promising her K10 million if she married

the Chinese man without signing an official marriage certificate and agreed to live with him for about a year. Consequently, she was charged with human trafficking under Section 35/44 of the Anti-Human Trafficking Law at the No 8 Myoma Police Station in Chanayethazan Township. The case was then forwarded to the Mahaaungmyay District Court, which sentenced her to 15 years in prison with hard labour on 4 October. — MNA/TMT

National Complaint Mechanism (NCM) to deal with forced labour complaints

THE Myanmar government has been dealing with forced labour complaints in cooperation with ILO and relevant ministries since 2007. Since 2020, forced labour complaints have been settled through the National Complaint Mechanism (NCM), which includes representatives of the National Human Rights Commission, employer organizations, employee organizations, and relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Labour.

Nowadays, it is reported that forced labour victims can safely contact and complain to the Office of the State Administration Council, Region and State governments, the Nay Pyi Taw Council, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the ILO Liaison Office (Yangon) and other organizations or to the Ministry of Labour Office No 51, Nay Pyi Taw, in person or in writing via 067 3430184, 067 3430229, 067 3430274 and directorgeneral.dol@gmail.com, moloffice51@gamil.com, and research.org.dol.mm@gmail.com. — MNA

LIFESTYLE

WORLD/ARTICLE

Census and Public Health Initiatives

FROM PAGE 9

The health-related data to be collected in Myanmar's upcoming census includes direct and indirect questions related to public health. These questions include: Current age, Marital status, Whether a birth certificate exists, Age at first marriage, Number of living children, Number of children born and passed away, Age when the first child was born, Visual impairments, including difficulty seeing even with glasses, Hearing impairments, including difficulty hearing even with a hearing aid, Difficulty walking or moving, Difficulty learning or comprehending, Difficulty with self-care, Difficulty communicating with others, Availability of a kitchen, Sources of drinking and household water, Type of fuel used for cooking, Type of toilet facilities, Methods of waste disposal, Handwashing practices, Whether any deaths have occurred in the household, Causes of death if the deceased was a child, their age and whether the death occurred during pregnancy, childbirth, or within the first six months after

birth, the list goes on. These questions aim to assess various aspects of public health, such as maternal and child health, disabilities, living conditions, and sanitation practices.

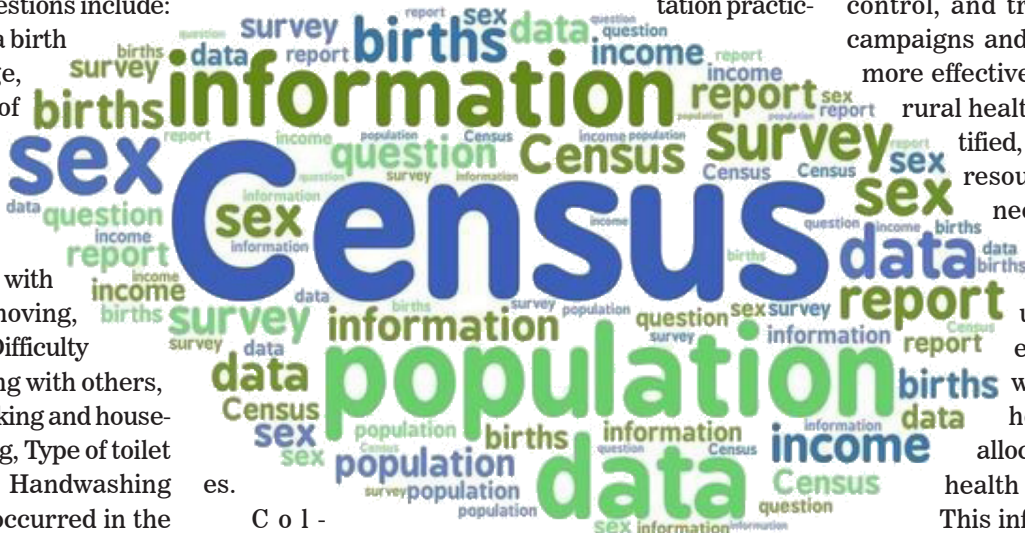
Collecting such data will be beneficial for managing public health initiatives, such as controlling infant and maternal mortality, responding

to outbreaks like COVID-19, and calculating the need for hospitals and clinics.

This data will also support efforts to prevent, control, and treat common diseases. Vaccination campaigns and disease control efforts will become more effective, and disparities between urban and rural healthcare conditions will be clearly identified, allowing for better allocation of health resources and infrastructure to meet the needs of the population more efficiently.

In summary, the data collected from the census regarding the population and housing will significantly enhance public health initiatives. It will contribute to the formulation of health policies, planning, and budget allocations, ultimately leading to improved health outcomes for the community.

This information will serve as a valuable resource for developing targeted strategies to elevate public health standards and address specific health challenges faced by the population.



World's largest lego enlivens iconic ancient Chinese painting

THE National Day Golden Week has seen a highlight, with tourists flocking to New Town Plaza in Sha Tin, the eastern New Territories, to see for themselves another new Guinness World Record.

Here a long scroll of the "Along the River During the Qingming Festival," an iconic painting of Northern Song Dynasty (960-1126), unfolded and has been on display, ingeniously constructed straight from lego bricks.

Covering 47 square metres, the world's largest lego exhibit, shown from 25 September through 31 October, has been the latest weekend and holiday hotspot, delicately piecing together a marvellous world where the old and the new converge.

For viewers, the exhibit is impressive in a way that it blends two vastly different cultural representatives from the East and the West: a masterpiece of ancient Chinese painting and a classic toy igniting childhood memories of Westerners.

"We rolled out this exhibit mainly to promote traditional Chinese culture through creative events, in a way that is more relaxed, entertaining and appeal-

ing to young people," said Tania Wan, deputy general manager of Personal Banking and Wealth Management with Bank of China (Hong Kong), which initiated the programme.

As people walk along the 26-metre-long and three-dimensional diorama made from up to three million lego bricks, they can picture themselves in bustling streets centuries ago, where vendors were selling melons and kids were playing hide and seek.

"There were myriad depictions of people in all walks of life going about their daily activities and no two objects are identical," Hong Kong local surnamed Chung told Xinhua. "Everything seemed to be brought to life within seconds".

Pointing at a two-storey building with a front door decorated with colourful ribbons, Li Chun-tung, an art lecturer at the University of Hong Kong, said, "This was one of the busiest restaurant then, with decorations typical of taverns and bars in Northern Song Dynasty. It was among many buildings and structures that were vividly restored in this model." — Xinhua

New 'Joker' film, a dark musical, tops N America box office

WARNER Bros' "Joker: Folie a Deux", a dark new musical Batman spinoff, earned an estimated \$40 million over the weekend to top the North American box office, industry watchers reported Sunday.

But that was far behind the \$96.2 opening of the original "Joker" in 2019, a movie that earned Joaquin Phoenix a best-actor Oscar and grossed more than \$1 billion worldwide. Industry analyst David A. Gross called it "a weak opening for the follow-up sequel in a superhero series".

"Folie a Deux" — French for "shared madness" — again stars Phoenix as the unbalanced titular villain, this time joined by Lady Gaga (playing the cheerily deranged Harley Quinn) as the two sing, dance and plan assorted acts of mayhem. Todd Phillips directs, and the cast includes Brendan Gleeson and Catherine Keener.

Last week's box office leader, family-friendly sci-fi tale "The Wild Robot" from DreamWorks Animation, slipped a spot to second, taking in \$18.7 million for the Friday-through-Sunday period,



Lady Gaga attends the Los Angeles Premiere of Warner Bros Pictures "Joker: Folie a Deux" at TCL Chinese Theatre on 30 September 2024 in Hollywood, California. PHOTO: MONICA SCHIPPER/GETTY IMAGES/AFP

industry watcher Exhibitor Relations estimated.

Lupita Nyong'o voices Roz, an intelligent robot who is marooned on an uninhabited island and, to survive, has to befriend a menagerie of woodland animals — and ends up adopting an adorable gosling.

Warner Bros.' "Beetlejuice Beetlejuice" also slipped a spot, to third, earning \$10.3 million.

Michael Keaton again plays the creepily hilarious title character with Winona Ryder reprising her role as

Lydia Deetz, backed by "Beetlejuice" newcomers Jenna Ortega, Monica Bellucci and Justin Theroux.

In fourth was Paramount's animated action film "Transformers One," the latest installment in the toy-based franchise, at \$5.4 million.

And in fifth, for the second straight week, was "Speak No Evil", a psychological horror film from Blumhouse and Universal Pictures, at \$2.8 million. James McAvoy and Mackenzie Davis star. — AFP

Asian markets track Wall St rally on US jobs data

ASIAN markets rose Monday after a blockbuster US jobs report soothed any concerns about the world's top economy, while the dollar held gains with traders scaling back bets on another bumper interest rate cut.

Oil prices rose as traders await Israel's response to Iran's missile barrage last week amid fears of a region-wide war in the Middle East.

All three main indexes on Wall Street rallied Friday on data showing a forecast-busting 254,000

US jobs were created last month and the unemployment rate fell.

The reading was the best in six months and sharply higher than readings in July and August, which had sparked worries that the economy could be heading for a recession.

The dollar rallied on the reading as investors lowered their expectations the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates 50 basis points for a second straight meeting when it gathers this month.



A financial monitor in Tokyo shows the 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average falling over 1,900 points from the previous trading day's close on the morning of 30 September 2024. PHOTO: KYODO

"The September payrolls print was meaningfully better than expected," said Taylor Nugent, a senior markets economist at National Australia Bank.

"It was going to take more bad news for the (board) to match the extent of cuts in near-term pricing.

"But instead the data was supportive of (its) assessment that the US labour market is not primed for imminent, sharper deterioration and may even be holding up a little bet-

ter than expected."

Inflation data later in the week will be closely watched by traders hoping for more of an idea about the Fed's decision-making.

Jim Reid at Deutsche Bank Research said: "My personal view was always that the amount of rate cuts priced in since mid to late summer was only likely if we had a recession.

"If we didn't, then the rates market overall was too pessimistic. I would still say that today." — AFP

China embraces world economy with unswerving opening-up

MOHAN, a small town in the southernmost part of southwest China's Yunnan Province, reached a trade

milestone last month, with over 10 million tonnes of freight, including fresh fruits, coffee, air condi-

tioners and new-energy vehicles, transported on the China-Laos Railway over the previous three years.

Since the launch of the 1,035 kilometres rail line in December 2021, Mohan has become an important transport hub with significant highway and railway ports. Also, it's the only national-level land port linking China and Laos, with new development opportunities mushrooming.

The story of Mohan is a telling example of China's unwavering high-level

opening-up. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China 75 years ago, China has achieved leapfrog development in opening wider to the world.

Confident that opening-up is the right path, China has been implementing proactive strategies, including spurring trade growth, attracting foreign investment and expanding institutional opening-up, to accelerate cultivating new international competitive advantages and achieving mutual benefits with other countries. — Xinhua



This aerial photo taken on 24 November 2022 shows a freight train to enter the China-Laos Railway's Friendship Tunnel connecting Mohan in southwest China's Yunnan Province and Boten in northern Laos. PHOTO: XINHUA

ADB approves US\$125-mln loan, grant to boost irrigation in Nepal

THE Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Monday said it has approved a financing package of US\$125 million to provide long-term sustainable solutions to increase year-round access to irrigation water in rural communities in Nepal's Madhesh province.

The financing package comprises a 110-million-dollar concessional loan and a 15-million-dollar grant from the Asian Development Fund, which provides grants to ADB's poorest and most vulnerable developing members.

The ADB said the Mechanical Irrigation Innovation Project will build a network of deep tube wells equipped with pump houses, prepaid

smart card systems, and a dedicated electricity distribution network.

The project will construct approximately 900 kilometres of underground pressure pipe distribution networks to bring irrigation water from pump houses to farms.

The project is expected to help farmers improve their capacity to shift to climate-resilient agricultural practices. This includes introducing high-value and high-yielding crops to diversify crop production, adopting more efficient irrigation practices such as micro-irrigation, and strengthening farmers' value chain and marketing linkages. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3422S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3422S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-10-2024** 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
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHANA BHUM VOY.NO. (885N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CHANA BHUM VOY.NO. (885N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-10-2024** 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
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed from the 16th October 2024 to 18th October 2024 (Thadinkyut Public Holiday), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Macron talks with Netanyahu amid tensions over arms embargo



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (R) shakes hands with French President Emmanuel Macron (L), as they hold a joint press conference in Jerusalem on 24 October 2023. **PHOTO: CHRISTOPHE ENA/POOL/AFP**

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held a telephone conversation about the Middle East situation on Sunday after the latter criticized the French leader's call for an arms embargo on Israel.

A statement from the Elysee Palace noted that the two leaders acknowledged their different opinions and emphasized their mutual desire for better understanding.

Macron also told Netanyahu his belief that it's now time for a ceasefire. "The arms deliveries, the prolongation of the war in Gaza, and its extension to Lebanon cannot produce the security expected by the Israelis and by everyone in the region. We must immediately produce the decisive effort that will allow us to develop the political solutions necessary for the security of Israel and everyone in the Middle East,"

read Elysee's statement.

On the eve of the first anniversary of the Hamas' attack on Israel, Macron also reaffirmed the solidarity of the French people with the Israeli people, especially the victims, the hostages and their loved ones.

France-Israel relations became strained over the weekend after Macron's radio interview on Saturday evening, where he stressed the need to prioritize a political solution and called for halting the supply of weapons to Israel for its operations in Gaza. Netanyahu strongly condemned the stance, saying: "President Macron and other Western leaders are now advocating for arms embargoes on Israel. Shame on them." He vowed that Israel would prevail regardless of external support.

The French government announced that Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot would meet Israeli officials on Monday to further discuss the situation. — Xinhua

News in brief

Indonesia continues evacuating citizens from Lebanon

INDONESIA continued its evacuation efforts for its citizens from Lebanon following the escalating Israeli attacks in the Middle Eastern country.

According to Indonesia's Foreign Ministry, as many as 20 Indonesian nationals and one foreign national reportedly arrived here on Monday morning. The foreign national is the spouse of one of the Indonesian evacuees.

All of them were transported by airplane from Amman, the capital of Jordan, on Sunday, it said.

The ministry also reported that more than 40 Indonesians had been evacuated from the Lebanese capital of Beirut to Amman.

More evacuees were expected to arrive here on Monday afternoon. — Xinhua

Over 900 Australians leave Lebanon on assisted departure flights

MORE than 900 Australians have left Lebanon on assisted departure flights coordinated by the Australian government, according to official data.

The government on Monday said that 904 Australian citizens, permanent residents and their immediate family members have left Lebanon in plane seats secured by the government.

The government on Saturday operated two charter flights from Beirut to Cyprus for Australians, with flag carrier Qantas and Qatar Airways running connecting flights from Cyprus to Sydney.

The first of the Qantas flights departed on Sunday night and was due to land on Monday morning with 349 Australians and their immediate family on board. — Xinhua

Sweltering heat kills five at crowded India airshow

SOARING temperatures at a hugely crowded airshow in India where organizers had hoped to break record attendance figures left at least five people dead, media reported Monday.

Hundreds of thousands of people gathered along a beach in the blazing sun on Sunday with temperatures hitting 35 degrees Celsius (95 degrees Fahrenheit) at the airforce show in the southern city of Chennai in Tamil Nadu state.

The Press Trust of India news agency, quoting government officials, said Monday that five spectators had died from "heatstroke and exhaustion" during the airshow.

The Indian Express also quoted a police officer as saying five people had died in separate incidents due to "dehydration and stress".

One eyewitness who spoke

to the newspaper said the sheer numbers of people was "suffocating", while roads were reported to be jammed with traffic and trains overcrowded.

Broadcaster NDTV reported that the Indian air force had been "aggressively" pushing the event to set a record in the Limca Book of Records, the country's archive of records held by Indians.

But Ma Subramanian, Tamil Nadu state minister for medical and family welfare, said the authorities had provided "adequate" facilities, including medics on standby and drinking water for the crowds.

Scorching summer temperatures are common in India but years of scientific research have found climate change is causing heatwaves to become longer, more frequent and more intense. — AFP

Exit polls show Tunisian President Kais Saied winning presidential election



Tunisian voters line up to vote outside a polling centre in Tunis, Tunisia on 6 October 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

EXIT polls showed that Tunisian President Kais Saied is expected to win the presidential election on Sunday, Tunisian State TV reported.

According to the estimated results of a poll by Sigma Con-

seil, a Tunisian survey company, Saied won 89.2 per cent of the vote, followed by Ayachi Zammel with 6.9 per cent and Zouhair Maghzaoui with 3.9 per cent.

In a press briefing fol-

lowing the election, Farouk Bouaskar, president of the Independent High Authority for Elections (ISIE), said the preliminary turnout in the presidential election reached 27.7 per cent.

According to statistics from the ISIE, a total of 2,599,252 Tunisians voted in Tunisia and 104,903 Tunisians went to the polls abroad.

The official TAP news agency said the Chahed Observatory reported a turnout of 28.8 per cent when the polling stations closed.

The total number of voters registered on the electoral register is around 9,753,217 people.

The preliminary results of the election will be announced Monday evening, according to the ISIE. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Sri Lankan National Football Team prepares for friendlies

THE Sri Lankan national football team, which is now in Yangon, is taking training to play against the Myanmar national team in two friendly matches.

The Sri Lankan team is made up of 25 players, most of whom are star players, including adopted citizens. The guest team arrived in Yangon on 6 October, and they planned to play two friendlies with the Myanmar national team.

The Sri Lankan team deploys Europeans and Australians as adopted citizens in its line-up. The team has won over the Cambodian team in



the play-off match for the 2027 Asian Cup qualifier third round held in September.

Myanmar and Sri Lankan national teams will meet in two friendlies at the Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna in Yangon at 4 pm on 10 and 13 October.

— Ko Nyi Lay/TTA

Players of the Sri Lankan national football team are undergoing training in Yangon for friendly matches. **PHOTO: MFF**

Frankfurt share spoils with Bayern in dramatic six-goal thriller in Bundesliga

TWO goals from Omar Marmoush, including an injury-time equalizer, earned Eintracht Frankfurt a 3-3 draw with Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga on Sunday.

Bayern started brightly and created several

chances, but neither Michael Olise nor Serge Gnabry were able to beat Frankfurt goalkeeper Kaua Santos. The German giants were rewarded for their efforts and broke the deadlock in the 15th minute when Kim Min-jae tapped in Thomas Muller's square pass from a corner.

Frankfurt equalized seven minutes later when Ansgar Knauff found Marmoush, who shrugged off Raphael Guerreiro before slotting past Bayern goalkeeper Manuel Neuer. — Xinhua

PSG held by Nice to leave Monaco clear at top of Ligue 1

PARIS Saint-Germain missed the chance to retake top spot in Ligue 1 after they were held to a 1-1 draw away at Nice on Sunday, leaving Monaco clear at the top going into the October international break.

Nice had led at half-time on the Cote d'Azur thanks to a deflected strike late in the first half from their Tunisian international full-back Ali Abdi.

However, PSG were much improved in the second half following coach Luis Enrique's decision to replace Randal Kolo Muani at the interval and bring on Lee Kang-in up front.

Their equalizer came from Nuno Mendes in the 52nd minute, with Ousmane Dembele setting

up the Portuguese defender for a shot from outside the box on his weaker right foot which lacked power but found the bottom corner of the net.

Dembele's return was notable after the France winger was surprisingly dropped for the midweek Champions League defeat away to Arsenal. He tested Nice goalkeeper Marcin Bulka on several occasions and PSG had chances to take all three points, including a Marquinhos header which came back off the post.

Luis Enrique's side have won just one of their last four games in all competitions and go into the international hiatus in second place in Ligue 1, two points behind Monaco. — AFP

Ten Hag in trouble after Man Utd draw while top three win in Premier League



Manchester United's Dutch manager Erik ten Hag (L) and Aston Villa's Spanish head coach Unai Emery react during the English Premier League football match between Aston Villa and Manchester United at Villa Park in Birmingham, central England on 6 October 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

MANCHESTER United coach Erik ten Hag's future is uncertain following his team's 0-0 draw away to Aston Villa on Sunday.

While a draw against a high-flying Premier League rival with strong Champions League performances might not seem poor, Ten Hag urgently needed both a win and a convincing display.

Both sides looked flat in the game, with Villa creating more chances, although United almost scored when Bruno Fernandes' shot hit the bar. This result does little to secure Ten Hag's position, especially after United's joint-owner Jim Ratcliffe made non-committal comments about the Dutchman's future earlier this week. Ad-

ditionally, the team has not scored a Premier League goal in over 300 minutes.

An impressive Nottingham Forest held Chelsea to a 1-1 draw at Stamford Bridge in a match where both goalkeepers were the standout performers with a series of impressive saves.

Chris Wood put Forest ahead in the 49th minute, but Cole Palmer then set up Noni Madueke for the equalizer eight minutes later. Forest then held on for the last 12 minutes of regular time and 13 minutes of added time after James Ward-Prowse was sent off for a second yellow card.

Tottenham fell apart in the second half to suffer a 3-2 defeat away to Brighton after having led 2-0 at halftime. Ange Postecoglou's side was excellent in the first 45 minutes, leading through goals from Brennan Johnson and James Maddison. — Xinhua



Paris Saint-Germain's players react at the end of the French L1 football match between Nice (OGCN) and Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) at the Allianz Riviera stadium in Nice on 6 October 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**



UN warns world's water cycle becoming more unpredictable



World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Secretary-General Celeste Saulo (L) speaks with WMO Scientific Officer Sulagna Mishra during a press conference on Switzerland, on their report on the state of world water resources, in Geneva, on 7 October 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

INCREASINGLY intense floods and droughts are a “distress signal” of what is to come as climate change makes the planet’s water cycle ever more unpredictable, the United Nations said Monday.

Last year the world’s rivers were their driest for more than 30 years, glaciers suffered their largest loss of mass in half a century and there were also a “significant” number of floods, the UN’s World Meteorological Organization said

in a report.

“Water is the canary in the coalmine of climate change,” WMO Secretary-General Celeste Saulo said in a statement accompanying the State of Global Water Resources Report.

“We receive distress signals in the form of increasingly extreme rainfall, floods and droughts which wreak a heavy toll on lives, ecosystems and economies,” she said.

Saulo said the heating up of Earth’s

atmosphere had made the water cycle “more erratic and unpredictable, and we are facing growing problems of either too much or too little water”.

Last year was the hottest on record. High temperatures and widespread dry conditions produced prolonged droughts.

There were also many floods around the world.

These extreme events were influenced in part by naturally-occurring climate conditions including the La Nina and El Nino weather phenomenon — but also and increasingly by human-induced climate change.

“A warmer atmosphere holds more moisture, which is conducive to heavy rainfall. More rapid evaporation and drying of soils worsen drought conditions,” Saulo said.

Massive glacier melt

Currently, 3.6 billion people have insufficient access to fresh water at least once a month per year, according to the UN.

This is forecast to rise to five billion by 2050.

For the past three years, more than 50 per cent of river catchments have been drier than usual.

Rising temperatures meant glaciers melted at unprecedented rates, losing more than 600 gigatonnes of water, the worst in 50 years of observations, according to preliminary data for September 2022 to August 2023. — AFP

BRICS Financial Bloc to hold final meeting on 11 October — Russian Finance Ministry

REPRESENTATIVES of the BRICS member states will hold a meeting of the bloc’s finance ministers and central bank governors on 11 October to finalize the results of their work in 2024, the Russian Finance Ministry said on Monday.

“On 11 October in Moscow, as part of the Russian Federation’s BRICS chairmanship, the final meeting of BRICS finance ministers and central bank governors, including representatives from the new BRICS member countries, will take place. The meeting will be preceded by a high-level seminar on the topic of improving the international monetary and financial system on 10 October,” the ministry said in a statement.

Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov will report on the results of Russia’s work as chair of the BRICS financial track and will present a report on improving the international monetary and financial system, which was prepared with the participation of the Yakov and Partners consulting company.

The meeting will focus on improving the international monetary and financial system, global economic prospects, BRICS countries’ economies, and customs and tax cooperation. — SPUTNIK

2024 Nobel Prize in Medicine honours 2 scientists for discovering mircoRNA

THE 2024 Nobel Prize in Medicine was awarded Monday to two American scientists, Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun, for their discovery of microRNA and its role in post-transcriptional gene regulation.

MicroRNAs are a new class of tiny RNA molecules that are essential in gene regulation. It is now known that the human genome codes for over 1,000 microRNAs.

The Nobel Assembly said that the pair’s surprising discovery revealed an entirely new dimension to gene regulation.

“MicroRNAs are proving to be fundamentally important for how organisms develop and function,” the assembly added.

The announcement marked the start of this year’s Nobel Prize award season. The Nobel announcements will proceed with the physics prize on Tuesday, followed by chemistry on Wednesday, and literature on Thursday. The Nobel Peace Prize will be revealed on Friday, and the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences will be announced on 14 October. — Xinhua



Portraits of the 2024 Nobel laureates in Physiology or Medicine, Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun, are seen at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, on 7 October 2024. The 2024 Nobel Prize in Medicine was awarded Monday to two American scientists, Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun, for their discovery of microRNA and its role in post-transcriptional gene regulation. **PHOTO: XINHUA**