

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

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Trawlers seen at the shore.

Fisheries Dept enacts seasonal ban to recover marine resources

The Fisheries Department has implemented seasonal closures in the waters to replenish marine resources during their reproductive seasons. Freshwater fishing is prohibited from 1 May to 31 July this year. Saltwater shrimp

harvesting is restricted from 1 June to 31 August, while lobsters, scorpion prawns, and mottled eels fishing is halted during the same period. Stonefish harvesting is also suspended from 1 July to 30 September.

U Nyunt Win, director of the Development and Research Division, said: “The nationwide prohibition aims to conserve the marine resources to prevent decline of these sources. This restriction occurs annually. Additionally, we will oversee offshore fishing vessels from other states and regions operating near the shore and enforce appropriate restrictions”.

The ban encompasses not only catching but also purchasing marine creatures. Despite Myanmar’s wealth of marine resources, mismanagement has led to significant waste. The authorities have taken measures in place to conserve the resources in time. — ASH/NT



Myanmar exports over 1,500 MT of honey to Japan in 2023-24 FY

ACCORDING to the Apiculture Division under the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the country exported over 1,500 metric tonnes of honey to Japan in Financial Year 2023-24.

Japan imports honey for 95 per cent of total local consumption annually and it generally amounts to over 45,000 tonnes of honey.

Myanmar produces sesame honey, jujube honey, niger honey, sunflower honey, lychee honey and flower honey. Honey is utilized as a traditional medicine in Myanmar and mainly exported to South Korea, Japan, the United States, Chinese Taipei, Singapore and Thailand.

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A beekeeper checking hives at the farm.

NATIONAL



Wanet Elephant Camp draws record visitors in Thingyan holiday

DURING the Thingyan holiday, Wanet Elephant Camp, located on the route to Yeywa Dam between Mandalay and PyinOoLwin saw around 300 visitors per day, marking a significant increase



PHOTOS: MAUNG AYE CHAN

compared to the previous year, according to the official in charge.

Many visitors were drawn to see Nyein Chan Oo, a three-month-old calf born on Independence Day (4 January). The camp also features a playground for children.

The official added: "We've arranged bamboo mats and fans to offer a comfortable

resting spot for visitors at our camp ahead of the holiday. Interestingly, this year, many visitors are making deliberate trips to our location and not just stopping by incidentally. Even on weekdays, we're seeing a steady flow of 50 to 100 visitors per day."

Visitors particularly enjoy the shaded space offered by the camp.

The camp had been busy from the beginning of Thingyan, 13 April, to the second day of New Year, 18 April.

"The calf seemed delighted by the presence of visitors. Despite their desire to interact with him directly, we had to maintain him within a small enclosure for his safety.

Additionally, we observed at least four people per day arranging banquets for the elephants".

The food stalls for both visitors and elephants reported higher revenue during the holiday. The camp charges K1,000 for admission and K3,000 for one short trip of elephant ride. — Maung Aye Chan/NT

Thingyan taxi fare hike reverts to normal



The photo shows some of the taxis in Yangon.

THERE was a temporary increase in taxi fares during the holiday period, but afterwards, the prices returned to normal, Ko Kyaw Thein, a taxi driver, told GNLN.

"I had to pay up to K5,000 from downtown to Sangyoung

Thiri street during the Thingyan holidays as the route cost only K 3,500-K 4,000 until the holiday," said Ma Aye Myint, a resident in Sangyoung township.

A taxi driver named U Nay Lin told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM) that he was

paid K30,000 to travel up and down the North Okkalapa to Botahtaung route in Myanmar on New Year's Day. Ko Thein Myint, who visited Kalaw during the Thingyan holiday, said that the cost of renting a car from Ahlon Township to the Aung Mingala Highway Bus Terminal was K30,000.

The price of 92 octanes per litre is set at K2,850, and 95 octanes per litre are priced at K2,960, marking an increase of about K300 per litre and K1,500 per gallon. Both drivers and passengers are keeping an eye on the possibility of changes in taxi fares in Yangon on 22 April, when businesses are operating normally. Passengers may reduce the use of taxis and increase the use of regular buses (YBS) if taxi fare rises. — TWA/MKKS

40 CNG filling stations open starting from 18 April

ACCORDING to CNG Department of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE), 40 CNG filling stations have been in service in Yangon since 18 April.

Except for one CNG station, which is temporarily closed for repair and construction, vehicles can easily fill up with gas at the other nearby stations.

CNG stations are open daily from 5 am to 10 pm, with service extended until 11:30 pm if there are any waiting vehicles to fill gas.

The CNG Department and Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation (YESC) have collaborated to supply full-time electricity to the CNG filling stations through direct, separated power lines from their respective electrical substations.

Officials have advised motorists to use CNG vehicles carefully due to the high temperature of the current weather. — TWA/TRKM



One of the CNG filling stations in Yangon.

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NATIONAL

National Security Adviser Union Minister to attend 12th Meeting of High-Ranking Officials on Security Issues in Russia

AT the invitation of Mr Nikolay Patrushev, Secretary of the Russian Federation Security Council, a Myanmar delegation led by National Security Adviser and Union Minister at the State Administration Council Chairman Office Ministry 4 Admiral Moe Aung left Yangon by air for St Petersburg, the Russian Federation yesterday to attend the 12th Meeting of High-Ranking Officials on Security Issues and related meetings to be held at St Petersburg, the Russian Federation, from 23 to 26 April.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off by Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Iskander Azizov, the Russian Military Attaché and officials at Yangon International Airport. — MNA/KZL

The Myanmar delegation headed by Admiral Moe Aung is seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for the Russian Federation yesterday.



Industry Union Minister talks to elevate edible oil crops & cotton production, productivity of garment factories

A meeting for boosting edible oil crops, cotton plantation and manufacturing, and textile industry took place at the Ministry of Industry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than said that the State Administration Council formed the Oil Mills Development Loan Management Task Force on 6 July 2022. It is tasked with providing loans for upgrading and expanding oil mills to increase edible oil production and reduce reliance on imports.

By recycling some edible oils, except Extra-virgin Cold Pressed Oil and Virgin Cold Pressed Oil, entrepreneurs may be able to boost oil production. He also highlighted that the manufacturing process must follow the GMP and be approved by FDA.

The cotton plantation meets the local consumption, according to statistics. The ministry oper-



Union Minister Dr Charlie Than inspects No 8 Garment Factory in Pyawbwe Township on 20 April 2024.

ates 16 cotton ginning mills and the private sector has 191. The ministry oversees 14 cotton and garment factories, two of which are leased by businesspeople, while the private sector operates

nine factories.

Subsequently, the relevant officials debriefed the Union minister on the progress of upgraded oil mills to reduce waste in milling peanut and sesame in producing

edible oils, status of cooperation with private millers, and developments in textile sector.

He also inspected No 8 Garment Factory in Pyawbwe Township and No 8 Garment Factory

Branch in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region, on 20 April.

Following this, the Union minister instructed the repair of cotton ginning to boost production, the sale of finished goods to increase revenue, raising awareness among MSME entrepreneurs about the factory's products, managing production increases, conducting repairs of automatic machines, management for full capacity of machinery, warehouses for raw materials and finished goods, and the installation of equipment for the cotton production process.

He also urged officials to develop plans for activities to be undertaken during the financial year; adding purchase and installation of the necessary equipment to increase productivity for finished goods. Moreover, the Union minister advocated for the opening of training courses to repair machinery of factories. — MNA/NT/TKO

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NATIONAL

Illegal timbers, commercial equipment, motorcycles seized



UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, illegal trade is effectively prevented and prosecuted in accordance with the law. On 20 April, the combined on-duty teams managed by the Yangon Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force confiscated 1.118 tonnes of illegal teak (estimated value of K1.56 million) and a Super Custom carrying these timbers (estimated value of K30 million) in Hlegu Township. A total estimated value of K31,565,480 was seized, and action is being taken in accordance with the Forest Law.

Similarly, on 20 April, the customs team under the management of the Customs Department



Confiscated illegal timbers and vehicle in Yangon, Pyu and Bago.

seized one set of DJI Air Drone (Used) (estimated value of K3.5 million) from a cargo trunk at the Import Desk of Yangon International Airport, which could not present legal documents.

In addition, on 21 April, Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized 0.410 tonne of illegal teak, 5.956 tonnes of hardwood, and 1.842 tonnes of other wood (estimated value of

K4.62 million) in Bago, Toungoo and Pyay Districts. Action was taken in accordance with the Forest Law.

On the same day, Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force impounded one unlicensed Kenbo 125 motorcycle (estimated value of K300,000) in Kalay Township, and one unlicensed Kenbo 125 Motorcycle (estimated value of K100,000) in Tamu Township, totalling K400,000 and action is taken in accordance with the Export & Import Law.

On 20 April, the combined

timbers weighing 6.104 tonnes valued at K1,259,515 in Bago and Toungoo districts and two unregistered vehicles (approximately K13.5 million) in Okshitpin and Indagaw. Action was taken under the Forest Law and the Export and Import Law. In addition, the combined teams supervised by the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force seized an unregistered Hijet (approximately K6 million) at the Yadanabon bridge combined checkpoint in Sagaing township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.



on-duty teams managed by the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Special Task Force captured illegal teaks weighing 0.829 tonne, illegal hardwoods weighing 0.535 tonne and illegal other

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that 13 arrests were made on 20 and 21 April, with an estimated value of K60.84 million. — MNA/TKO/MKKS

Illegal drugs captured in some townships

AT 3:00 pm on 19 April, the anti-narcotics squad raided a home in Wamsaukhon (Arkha) Village in Tachilek Township, and found 6,000 stimulant tablets. Similarly, at 5:00 pm on the same day, a combined team searched another house in the same township, and found 2,000 stimulant tablets. At 1 pm on 20 April, the team searched Ma

Mie Chu's home in Wamgounng Ward, Tachilek, and found 6,200 stimulant tablets.

In addition, at 2:00 pm on 19 April, a combined team searched a motorcycle driven by Wu Bao Chou (aka) Sein Naing

Win near Khashi Village, Lashio Township and seized 200,000 stimulant tablets. Action was taken against offenders under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA/TKO

Wu Bao Chou (aka) Sein Naing Win seen with seized stimulant tablets and motorcycles.



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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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

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NATIONAL

Paytaw layer chicken farms, Shwemyo livestock zones inspected in Tatkon Township

DEPUTY Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Gyi inspected progress of Paytaw layer farm in Paytaw Village in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Area yesterday morning.

He called for collaboration in transferring techniques for farming systems, feeding, nutritious factors, and disease control, as well as in formulating and grasping the market share.

In Paytaw Village, 75,000 layers are raised in three farms in evaporated cooling system, resulting in the production of over 22 million eggs per annum. The breeding system, aimed at creating job opportunities and increasing family income in the village, is implemented in collaboration with the ministry, CP Co Ltd, and local stakeholders. It utilizes advanced livestock technologies and prioritizes biosafety.

The Deputy Minister also



Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi inspects Paytaw layer farm in Paytaw Village, Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

inspected the genetic improvement research of the domestic blue green cow conducted by the ministry's researchers, calling

for the maintenance of well-documented research records to enhance research outcomes and foster cooperation among

researchers from various fields.

He also inspected the installations of incubators in Shwemyo livestock zone, emphasizing

the provision of necessary assistance to private entrepreneurs and farmers to increase the productivity of layer duck, goat, cow, pig, layer chicken, broiler chicken, and duck productions in accordance with Good Animal Husbandry Practice (GAHP).

At the meeting of Pyinmana District Department of Livestock and Veterinary, he met with livestock entrepreneurs, farmers, and interested individuals operating with the State economic promotion fund. They discussed the State's subsidies for livestock industry development, potential ministry assistance, and development prospects of MSMEs in the livestock industry.

Reportedly, the relevant supervisory committees will systematically vary allocation of K15.255 billion for farming of cow, goat and chicken through the State economic promotion fund. — MNA/TMT

Plan to improve hand-weaving, gold and silver embroidery, traditional fabrics industries

ACCORDING to the Department of Small Scale Industries, local hand-weaving products, gold and silver embroidery, and traditional fabrics will be researched to be marketable. In addition, competition shows for the works of trainees will be held.

According to U Kyaw Zin Latt, Deputy Director General of the Department of Small Scale Industries, 14 weaving training schools including the Saungda Weaving and Vocational Institute will conduct research on gold and silver embroidery products and traditional fabric products as innovations, and will hold an exhibition and competition for the works of the trainees.

"Weaving training schools are drafting new beautiful designs in conformity with the market demand as hand-weaving products in order to bring local weaving products to a



Some female workers working at domestic hand-weaving looms.

new market. Similarly, new designs of gold and silver embroidery products, and traditional fabric products are also being weaved. After completion from the course, we will organize an exhibition and competition for trainees to evaluate their design works," U Kyaw Zin Latt said.

In addition, plans are underway to open and teach a fashion design course based

on traditional clothing as a research project for the promotion and development of local textile products. Currently, there are one-year textile diploma course, one-year skilled textile course, six-month course on silkwares made of 100 looms, six-month hand-weaving course and three-month gold and silver embroidery course. — ASH/TKO

Myanmar participates in lunch food festival by UN Women's Guild of Vienna

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs has reported that those from the Myanmar Permanent Representative Office joined the the UNWG International Charity Luncheon at Vienna International Centre on 19 April and displayed and sold the Myanmar traditional food.

The UNWG International Charity Luncheon is annually organized by the United Nations Women's Guild of Vienna-UNWG aiming to provide assistance for children in need and/or mother-childcare programmes throughout the world.

A total of 26 international embassies and missions from Australia, Austria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Egypt, France,

Ghana, India, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia and the United States participated in the event.

The United Nations Women's Guild of Vienna was founded in 1967 as a charitable organization. Membership in the UNWG is open to any woman who is a staff member or the spouse of a staff member of the United Nations, International Organizations and Permanent Missions to these organizations in Vienna. The approximately 500 members come from over 100 countries, and all are volunteers for charitable activities. — ASH/TMT

NATIONAL

Fares of highway express bus, vessel go up during Thingyan holidays

DURING the Thingyan holiday of 2024, highway bus fares tend to rise as usual, with Yangon-Mawgyun minibuses, which accommodates up to 14 passengers, increasing from the usual rate of K10,000 to K12,000 per passenger before the holiday, according to travellers.

If passengers don't book the ticket in advance, the fare will be as high as K17,000 during the Myanmar New Year holidays. Normally, the taxi rental fee from Mawgyun to Yangon was only K120,000, but these days taxi drivers charged K25,000 per person, allowing seven passengers per vehicle.

The driver mentioned that there are few passengers available on the way back from Yangon to Mawgyun, with those working in Yangon for the Thingyan holiday spending around K50,000 for a round-trip fare per person.

In addition to the waterways, there are passenger lines that run from Hlinethaya Highway Bus Terminal, but very few people travel to Mawgyun by bus.

In the past, the fee for large



Some passengers are seen at the highway bus ticket booths at the terminal.

speed boat was around K6,000 per passenger, but now, during the holiday season for travellers, the price was higher than the ordinary rate, and the number of passengers allowed for a large craft was around 300 to 400, a passenger told the GNLM.

Prior to 2015, during the

Thingyan holidays, when there were many passengers, large speed boats install a temporary shelter on the roof to carry passengers.

Carrying more than the limit of passengers on the waterways is dangerous, and since 2015, when the relevant author-

ities have inspected and taken action against offenders, there have been no more passengers on the roof of the ferry boat, Ko Pyone Cho from Mawgyun told the GNLM.

According to a passenger, the fare for a trip from Dagon-Ayeyaya Highway Bus Terminal was

usually only K5,000 to K7,000 for big cars carrying around 35 people, but these days, the fare was charged around K9,000 to K10,000.

Ko Maung Win, the owner of Bogale-Yangon bus line, told the GNLM that if passengers go directly to the bus station, the fare will be cheaper. However, if passengers go through a broker, the bus operator may have to pay a pick-up fee to the broker, resulting in higher passenger fares.

A vehicle owner mentioned that only half of the round trip has passengers, while the other half remains empty, leading to an increase in fares.

In addition to the Ayeyawady Region, passengers from Yangon to Aungmye and Yangon to Sinbaungwe also face high fares, according to the travellers.

Ma Nyein, who returned to Aungmye, and Ma Zin Mar to Sinbaungwe, informed the GNLM that this year's bus fare increased to K25,000 for Aungmye and K35,000 for Sinbaungwe, up from K15,000 for both towns. — TWA/KZL

Long-day outbound trips on the rise

AMONG outbound trips, most take long-day trips, according to Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Federation.

As of the end of the matriculation exam, students and parents go on summer vacations to local destinations as well as to foreign countries and

there are those who went to Thailand, Viet Nam and European countries in April. Among them, most take 7 to 10 days.

"Most overseas trips last 7 to 10 days. There are people who go to neighbouring Thailand and packages to Viet Nam and European countries have

been sold well. There were many people who took European tours during Thingyan," said an official from the association.

Foreign visitors from Thailand, China and Russia have visited well-known destinations in Myanmar. — MT/ZS



Local and foreign visitors at Yangon International Airport.

Yangon circular trains back on track after Thingyan festival

THE Yangon circular trains are running back on the track as usual after Thingyan festival hiatus, according to the Yangon Central Railway Station.

The Yangon city circular train service was halted from 13 to 16 April and the trips are continuing as usual starting from the first day of Myanmar New Year.

The Yangon's circular trains are running at a daily rate of 26 plies and the number of passengers has also increased in the current days.

Currently, the railways are being upgraded and it will be able to improve rail transport services using high-speed trains when the

project is completed.

Before April of the previous year, there are 4,000 passengers of the circular train per day and there are about 7,000 starting from May.

Since 1 July 2022, the circular train fare has been changed to K200 per trip, with two trains operating during office hours in the morning and another two in the evening, totalling 26 trips daily.

Upon completion of upgrading process, high-speed trains will be able to carry up to 240,000 people daily, operating every 10 to 12 minutes and reducing the duration of the trip across the city to about one hour and 50 minutes. — TWA/ TRKM

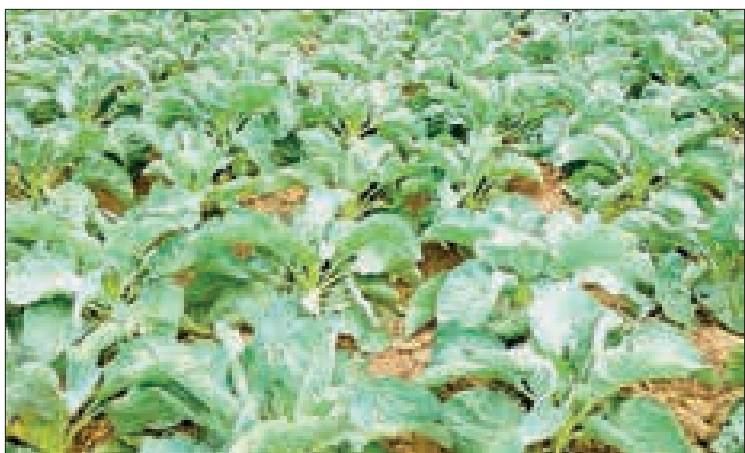
Kyaukse cauliflower growers reap profitable returns

THE report indicates that various vegetables are cultivated for sale in villages of Kyaukse Township, Kyaukse District, Mandalay Region, particularly those near rivers, creeks, and easily accessible water sources. Among these villages, farmers from Pintale Village reported cultivating cauliflowers, which fetch K350 per cauliflower.

Daw Thein Mya, a cauliflower grower, said that the Hmyar brand cauliflower is predominantly grown in Kyaukse Township. Since cauliflowers are easy to cultivate and transport, farm-

ers typically sow five packs of seeds per acre. The major costs associated with cauliflower cultivation include land preparation, weed and grass clearance, fertilization, application of plant vitamins, pesticide spraying, irrigation, and other miscellaneous expenses totalling around K700,000 to K800,000.

The report also states that over 100,000 plants can be grown per acre. When selling the cauliflowers, brokers visit the plantation and typically purchase them for K350 each. — Thet Maung (Kyaukse)/ TMT



A thriving cauliflower farm in Kyaukse Township. **PHOTO: THET MAUNG (KYAUKSE)**

Myanmar exports over 1,500 MT of honey to Japan in 2023-24 FY



File photo shows a bee keeper sorting out a hive at a bee farm.

FROM PAGE - 1

Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department conducts honey business development and services in 31 townships located in various states and regions including Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.

In 2023-24 FY, a total of 818 beekeepers of both private and public sectors are operating 209,021 hives which have produced over 4,100 MT of honey, 2,000 MT of which has been ex-

ported to Japan, China, Thailand, Korea and Germany.

In Japan, honey is used in varieties of jams, jelly, bread, cake, pizza, ice-cream, foods and beverages, health related products, medicines and cosmetics. They use honey as a substitute for sugar.

Moreover, Japan's individual honey consumption is 0.37 kilogramme on average. It is also predicted that honey consumption in Japan will be

increasing 4.9 per cent during the period from 2023 at 2028 in health related products.

Myanmar ships agricultural produce, animal products, aquatic products, mining products, forestry products and finished industrial products. In 2022-23 FY, Myanmar exported over 1,900 tonnes of honey which generated income US\$3 million, according to the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department. — TWA/TMT

Rose price declines, order drops too

PRICE of rose, which is generally used for offering to Buddha, decoration at houses and shops and giving present, has plunged down, with just a few orders.

"It is the period that rose price usually falls. The rose price usually gets high in the first half of February, even unavailable in the market on the eve of Valentines' Day. Due to transportation difficulty, orders become fewer. Sellers are getting trouble because there is no one who would use rose as many as its yield," said a rose grower and seller from PyinOoLwin township.

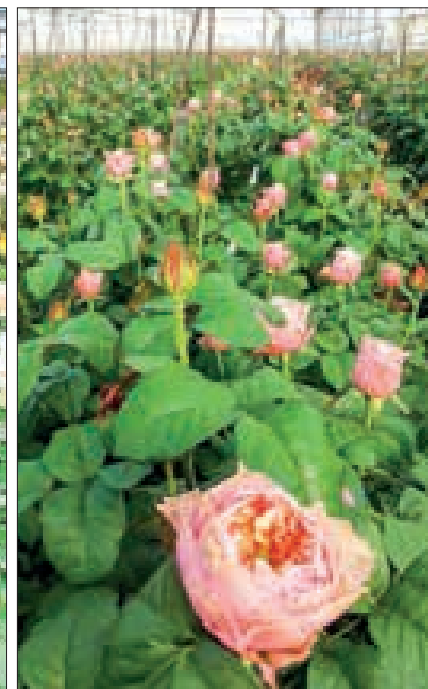
In early February, price of a 10-rose bunch mounted to K4,000 but declined to K1,500-K1,700 in April.

Rose price normally rises in Thadingyut and Chinese New Year and even the supply is short during these festive periods.

"I hope orders will increase back. And it is expected the price will be high again in a next couple of months," said a rose grower and seller from PyinOoLwin.

At the Vegetable, Fruit and Horticultural Show, in commemoration of 75th Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) Independence Day, held in January 2023 at Myay Padethakyun in Yangon, rose was one of the most attracted flowers which were used for home decoration. — Thit Taw/ZS

A rose garden in PyinOoLwin.



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.

OPINION

Sustain health of mother earth with plastic waste management

The Earth serves as a vital habitat for all forms of life, encompassing humans, animals, plants, and various objects. Every existence relies fundamentally on Mother Earth's support. With its vast expanses of freshwater and seawater, as well as solid ground, the Earth's ecosystems require preservation for their perpetual existence. As the most intellectually advanced species, humans bear the responsibility of ensuring Mother Earth's sustainability.

To achieve this, attention must be directed towards restoring ecosystems to shield the planet from natural disasters like extreme heat, wildfires, floods, catastrophes and so on, which imperil millions of living beings, including humans worldwide. Sustainable ecosystems offer a promising chance for the survival of all life forms. Simultaneously, efforts must be made to safeguard the perpetual existence of flora and fauna species globally and address pressing issues such as climate change, global warming, environmental degradation, and the prevention of catastrophes.

Human-induced alterations to nature, including deforestation, changes in land use, intensified agriculture and livestock production, and the illegal wildlife trade, hasten the planet's destruction, exacerbating the challenges we face.

Recognizing the urgency of these issues, the United Nations General Assembly designated 11 April as International Mother Earth Day in 2009. This day serves as a reminder of Mother Earth's significance as humanity's shared home and underscores the imperative to protect it to improve livelihoods, combat climate change, and halt biodiversity loss.

Despite their societal utility, plastics pose a growing threat due to their persistent presence in the environment. Plastic waste has become a global concern, prompting nations worldwide to seek effective solutions. Consequently, the theme for the 2024 International Mother Earth Day is "Planet vs Plastics."

Concerted efforts must be made to manage plastic waste effectively in order to sustain the health of Mother Earth. This involves prioritizing the cleanliness of our planet by reducing plastic pollution on a global scale. Addressing this challenge will not only enhance public health and living standards but also ensure a healthier, more resilient planet for future generations.

As such, priority must be given to shaping Mother Earth to be clean, tidy and free from plastic waste all over the world. If so, global people can enjoy good health and higher living standards by mitigating various diseases based on plastic waste. Hence, individuals are responsible for sustaining the health of Mother Earth with proper management of plastic waste.

Shakespeare was a famous writer. He wrote many good and winning plays. He created many attractive plays. When I was in 10th standard, I had to study two English textbooks. I like them and keep them in my drawers. One is "Seven Inventors", and another book is "Six Tales" by Shakespeare. From Seven Inventors, we learnt about Thomas Edison, Charles Goodyear, the Wright brothers and other inventors. For their inventions, we can conveniently use many usable things. Six tales from Shakespeare contained "Julius Ceasar", "King Lear and his three daughters", and other exciting stories. Julius Ceasar passed away for his faithful friend "Brutus", and his wife Cleopatra was suicide by biting a cobra. Cleopatra's film was famous, and the audience loved it so much, and the cinema hall was crowded. My father also liked it, and he watched several times with me. This film indicates that no one trusts it. Brutus betrayed his lovely friend Julius Ceasar. We got many lessons from King Lear and his three daughters. King Lear asked his daughters how much they loved him. The elder two sisters replied they loved more than their lives. The youngest daughter replied she loved him as much as she could. The King angried his youngest daughter and drew out from the palace. But when the King was old, only the youngest daughter looked after his father. These tales also gave good lessons to the audience.

Shakespeare passed away over 400 years ago, yet his writing remains as influential as ever. An English professor and two actors explained why his work is so profile. It has been translated into more than 80 languages, including Klingon, a constructed language that first appeared in Star Trek. More recently, it drew massive audiences to the Pop-up Globe theatres in Auckland, Melbourne and Sydney.

So, why do we still care so much about the language from the "Bard of Abon"? Although William Shakespeare was a playwright for not much more than 20 years, he is still considered by many to be the greatest dramatist of all time.

The most famous writer who ever lived

"It seems contradictory for a world her hurtling headlong into an increasingly grim future to embrace preservation of any kind," says Tom Bishop' professor of English and drama at the University of Auckland and author of Shakespeare and the Theatre of Wonder. "Yet, Shakespeare's prestige had never been higher or more widely invested in. His floating head with its balding pate is probably better known globally than that of any other artist of the past.

"In part, this fame is merely contingent, he explains". "If the

dominant world power of the age of colonial settlement had been Spain, as it nearly was, we would now be reading and recognizing Calderon or if it had been China, J, Junxiang". We should not underestimate this extent to which Shakespeare's contemporary dominance is the product of circumstances that have little to do with his actual work".

Still, Shakespeare's language is an intrinsic reason for his position. "The modern Anglophone world has embraced its intensity, its dynamism and its express pungency," says Professor Bishop. Pop-up Globe is the world's first full-scale temporary working replica of one of the greatest theatres in history, the second Globe, the theatre Shakespeare and his company built in 1614 after the first Globe burned down. The Pop-up Globe host Shakespeare festivals in Australia and New Zealand. The Merchant of Venice performed in front of Kiwi and Australian audiences.

Engaging the Emotions

It's the raw emotion that makes Shakespeare's language so engaging to Albert Walker, 27, who acted in the Pop-up Globe in Auckland.

"No writer is as good at find-

Shakespeare's Enduring Legacy

Despite passing away over 400 years ago, Shakespeare's legacy remains vibrant and continues to shape the literary and cultural landscape of the modern world.

By Mya Thae (Research)



Vintage colour lithograph from 1853 of William Shakespeare, an English poet and playwright, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. **ILLUSTRATION: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE /DUNCAN 1890/ISTOCK**

ing the core themes of human existence and exploring them in great, simple storylines," says Walker. "I think the only barrier is the language, which is often misunderstood and can become something to be feared, especially during high school, where, to me, it was taught in a stale and torturous way.

"I think Shakespeare is as

relevant now as he ever was and ever will be. His stories deal with universal themes that transcend time. Whether it's the devastating, conflicting loss Hamlet suffers or the intense, forbidden love that our famous lovers Romeo and Juliet go through, Shakespeare's themes relate to people of all generations.

Universal Themes and Emotional Truth

Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (AADA) trained New Zealand actor Lisa Harrow, 75, has spent many years performing with the Royal Shakespeare Company. Harrow has attained much acclaim in both theatre and film and has acted with Dame Judy Dench, David Suchet Pierce Brosnan, Peter O'Toole and Nigel Havers. At the Pop-up Globe in Auckland, she performed as Prospero in the Tempest.

"I think for an actor there's nothing more thrilling than standing on a stage and engaging fully in the fibre of your being-mental, as well as physical with some of the things Shakespeare wants us to say," says Harrow.

"It just vibrates through your body. In his plays, there are some heroic characters, but most of them have feet or clay. There are some great leaders, but most of them fail. What he's able to do is be honest and fearless about what makes us tick. And exploring emotion is what makes us want to act.

I've never really studied Shakespeare. I've never done a course or read literary criticism because, for me, it's never been about that. It's about emotional thought. It's about what's inside the consonants and vowels that he

puts on the page. It's the feeling of the power of his language and the clarity and depth and perception with which he expresses what it's like to be human with at our foibles," she says.

Shakespeare's Appeal is Worldwide

Bard's work has made its mark around the globe because of its enduring language and themes. "I've heard of a project in the US where they take military veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and work with them on Shakespeare plays in which soldiers and military readers' experience war and brutality' deceit and betrayal, victory and remorse," says actress Lisa Harrow.

Shakespeare with Veterans is a free weekly conversation and acting ensemble based in Kentucky for military service personnel. Veterans of the US Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps are finding confidence and comfort in Shakespeare's language despite never having acted before.

The group discusses and tells stories about their lives, helping with the healing process and performing snippets of Shakespeare for other veterans and civilians.

"People who have never encountered a Shakespeare play

in their lives find his work is giving them a way of getting to the grief that has been trapped inside them," says Harrow.

"There can be no greater argument for Shakespeare's continuing relevance than the power to heal some who is so destroyed by his or her experience of the brutality of war, and to help, then find their humanity again, and therefore find themselves".

Shakespeare in short

Although his official birthdate is not recorded, in church records, Shakespeare was baptized on 26 April 1564. In Shakespeare's time, it was traditional for baptisms to take place three days after birth.

The third child of a leather merchant and later bailiff, John Shakespeare, who landed heiress Mary Andrey William, was born in Stratford-upon-Avon during the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

He wrote 37 recorded plays from 1590 to 1613, and experts estimate Shakespeare passed away on his 52nd birthday, 23 April 1616. Amazingly, the Bard is considered a late bloomer and was once called an 'upstart crow' by a fellow playwright, Robert Greene.

In fact, his full literary genius wasn't recognized until the 19th century.

Shakespeare's birth is located in Henley Street Stratford upon Avon, England.

By Judy Wilford
Ref - *Ingenio, the alumni magazine of the University of Auckland*

WHO clarifies terminology for air-transmitted pathogens

The World Health Organization (WHO) has introduced a new, comprehensive term for pathogens that spread through the air, aiming to eliminate confusion that arose during the Covid-19 pandemic. The distinction between droplet and aerosol transmission became a significant challenge during the crisis.

The World Health Organization on Thursday announced a new, catch-all terminology for pathogens that transmit through the air, erasing a distinction that caused dangerous confusion during the Covid pandemic.

During the Covid-19 crisis the standoff between experts arguing over whether the SARS-CoV-2 virus spread through droplets or through an aerosol mist proved a crucial public health challenge. In the initial months of the pandemic in early 2020, the WHO

and other experts said the virus was spreading via droplets, emitted through coughs and sneezes.

It was understood that such droplets did not linger in the air but sank to cover surfaces that others might touch. That meant the main advice to ward off infec-

tion was frequent and thorough handwashing.

It took a while before most experts acknowledged that the virus was spreading more easily through the air, which required other precautions.

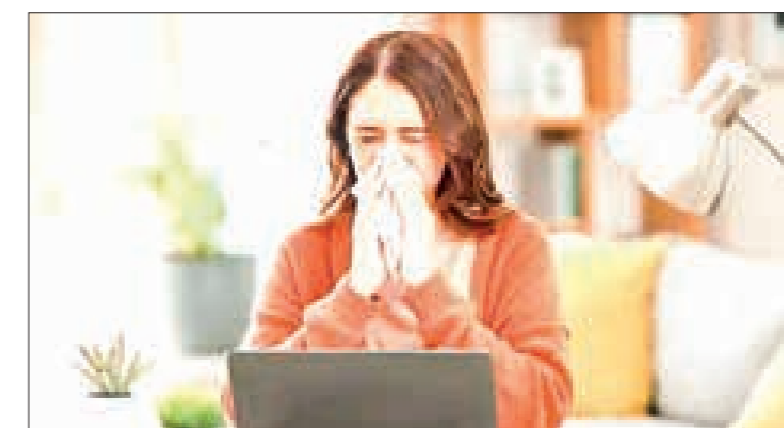
But as experts argued over

whether or not Covid was airborne, it became apparent that there was a lack of a common understanding and terminology across scientific disciplines to describe the transmission of pathogens through the air.

"Varying terminologies highlighted gaps in common understanding and contributed to challenges in public communication and efforts to curb the transmission of the pathogen," the WHO said in a statement.

Infectious respiratory particles

The WHO said that after more than two years of consultations, it had been agreed that all pathogen particles transmit-



Experts initially believed that Covid-19 spread mainly through droplets expelled during coughing and sneezing, leading to advice emphasizing handwashing to prevent surface transmission. However, it later became evident that the virus could also spread more readily through the air, prompting a change in precautionary measures. **ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ISTOCK**

ted through the air, regardless of size, should be referred to as "infectious respiratory particles",

or IRPs.

The new terminology will apply not just to the Covid virus,

but to other respiratory infections such as tuberculosis, influenza and measles.

Broad agreement on the new terminology across the scientific community should improve understanding and make collaboration easier across disciplines, WHO chief scientist Jeremy Farrar told reporters in Geneva.

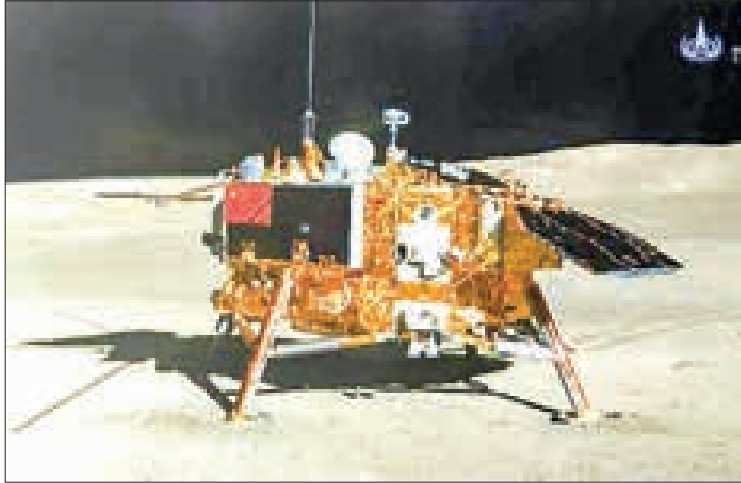
"It is difficult to make scientific progress unless we all agree with the terminology," he said.

The new terminology should simplify "the categorisation, so that we no longer have what I think were, to some degree, false dichotomies", he added.

SOURCE: AFP

SCI/ENVIRON: WORLD

“Bridge” in place, China ready to sample on moon’s far side



This photo taken by the rover Yutu-2 (Jade Rabbit-2) on 11 January 2019 shows the lander of the Chang'e-4 probe. **PHOTO: CHINA NATIONAL SPACE ADMINISTRATION/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

To facilitate this mission, China launched the Queqiao-2 relay satellite on 20 March, which has now entered its intended orbit around the moon and successfully completed communication tests.

AS China is determined to drive economic growth via sci-tech innovations, it also casts its wisdom and courage in exploring Earth’s closest neighbour — the moon. This year, it plans to retrieve lunar samples from the far side of the moon for the first time in human history.

To carry out this unprecedented mission, it first launched Queqiao-2, a new relay satellite,

on 20 March to provide Earth-Moon communications services. The satellite has recently entered its target elliptical orbit around the moon and completed in-orbit communication tests, according to the China National Space Administration (CNSA).

Queqiao, meaning magpie bridge, derives its name from a Chinese folktale, in which magpies formed a bridge across

the Milky Way with their wings to help a separated couple reunite.

In reality, Queqiao-2 is expected to serve as a vital communication link between Earth-based controllers and the Chang'e-6 probe, which will be launched in the first half of this year to collect samples from the mysterious far side of the moon. — Xinhua

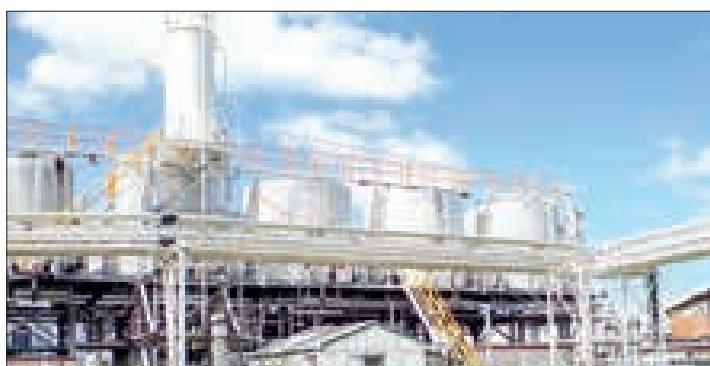
US says two ‘forever chemicals’ are hazardous, tells polluters to pay

So-called ‘forever chemicals’ are present in the water, soil, air and food supply – they are invisible and never break down in the environment.

THE US Environmental Protection Agency on Friday classified two so-called “forever chemicals” as hazardous substances, meaning those responsible for releasing them will have to pay to clean up contamination.

The two chemicals, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), are the most studied and most widely detected among the “forever chemicals” known as PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances).

Exposure to these substances “has been linked to



Chemical plants and other industrial facilities, along with landfills and treatment plants, are among the common sources of PFAS contamination. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

cancers, impacts to the liver and heart, and immune and developmental damage

to infants and children,” the EPA said in a statement. — AFP

Afghanistan: Nine people killed due to floods in Helmand

NINE people were killed after their houses collapsed due to heavy rainfall and flooding in the Greshk and Kajaki districts of Afghanistan’s Helmand province, Khaama Press reported, citing the Taliban-appointed local authorities.

In a statement, the Taliban-appointed head of information and culture in Helmand said that the incident first happened on Thursday night in

the Abghol area of the Kajaki district.

According to the statement, these houses were demolished due to severe flooding, claiming the lives of seven members of a family, including one man, four women, and two children, Khaama Press reported.

According to Taliban-appointed authorities, one woman lost her life, one child was killed, and another was injured after

the house roof collapsed on Friday night.

The deaths have been reported in Helmand amid heavy rainfall and floods in Afghanistan in recent days, which have claimed the lives of many people and caused material losses in various provinces of Afghanistan. According to the Taliban-led Ministry of Disaster Management, 70 people have lost their lives. — ANI

H5N1 strain of bird flu found in milk: WHO

THE H5N1 bird flu virus strain has been detected in very high concentrations in raw milk from infected animals, the WHO said on Friday, though how long the virus can survive in milk is unknown.

Avian influenza A(H5N1) first emerged in 1996 but since 2020, the number of outbreaks in birds has grown exponentially, alongside an increase in the number of infected mammals.

The strain has led to the deaths of tens of millions of poultry, with wild birds and land and marine mammals also infected.

Cows and goats joined the list last month — a surprising development for experts because they were not thought to be sus-

ceptible to this type of influenza.

US authorities earlier this month said a person working on a dairy farm in Texas was recovering from bird flu after being exposed to cattle.

“The case in Texas is the first case of a human infected by avian influenza by a cow,” said Wenqing Zhang, head of the global influenza programme at the World Health Organization.

“Bird-to-cow, cow-to-cow and cow-to-bird transmission have also been registered during these current outbreaks, which suggest that the virus may have found other routes of transition than we previously understood,” she told a media briefing in Geneva. — AFP



Last month, cows and goats were unexpectedly added to the list of animals susceptible to a particular type of influenza. This development surprised experts, as these animals were previously not believed to be vulnerable to this strain of the virus. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

Sydney Sweeney condemns producer's disparaging remarks on her

'EUPHORIA' star Sydney Sweeney is speaking out against recent remarks made by veteran producer Carol Baum on her.

Baum, best known for her work on films like 'Fly Away Home' and 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer', criticized Sweeney during a talk, questioning her talent and appearance, according to E! News.

In response, Sweeney expressed disappointment, stating, "How sad that a woman in the position to share her expertise and experience chooses instead to attack another woman."

Her representative conveyed this sentiment to E! News, highlighting the impact of Baum's words on the industry's culture.

Baum's comments came during a discussion with the audience following a screening of her 1988 film 'Dead Ringers'.

She questioned the hype surrounding Sweeney, describing her as "not pretty" and claiming she "can't act", reported E! News. Baum even brought up Sweeney's 2023 romcom 'Anyone But You,' which she found "unwatchable". — ANI



Sweeney expressed disappointment at Baum's remarks, stating her regret that a woman with expertise chose to attack another woman instead of sharing her knowledge. **PHOTO: ANI**

Prince Harry declares US as his new home, renounces British residency

PRINCE Harry has officially declared the United States as his primary residence, marking a significant step in his separation from the British royal family.

According to documents obtained by Page Six, the Duke of Sussex listed the US as his "new country/state usually resident", a notable change from his previous ties to the UK.

The paperwork, filed by Companies House for Harry's eco-travel venture, Travalyst, indicates that this residency shift occurred on 29 June 2023, following Harry and Meghan Markle's departure from their UK home, Frogmore Cottage, the day prior.

This legal move comes amidst ongoing discussions about the couple's status within the royal family and their future plans.

While the impact of renouncing his British residency on Harry's royal titles remains uncertain, there's speculation that he may address this issue during an upcoming visit to London, as per Page Six.

Despite this change, Harry has expressed conflicting sentiments about his connection to the UK, acknowledging it as his "home" but citing safety concerns that prompted their move to the US. — ANI

Int'l book fair kicks off in Tunisian capital

Running until 28 April the event features 314 exhibitors from 25 countries, displaying around 109,300 books. Italy is honoured as the guest country, hosting workshops for children in its pavilion.



People select books at the Tunis International Book Fair in Tunis, Tunisia, on 19 April 2024. The 38th edition of the Tunis International Book Fair kicked off on Friday at the Kram Exhibition Centre in Tunis. **PHOTO: ADEL EZZINE/XINHUA**

THE 38th edition of the Tunis International Book Fair kicked off on Friday at the Kram Exhibition Centre in the Tunisian capital of Tunis.

This year's fair, which is sponsored by the Tunisian Ministry of Culture, adopts the

theme "Go beyond what your eyes can see ... with a book in your hands". It is scheduled to run until 28 April, as announced on the event's official Facebook page. The fair has attracted 314 exhibitors from 25 countries, showcasing approximately

109,300 books. Italy is the guest of honor this year and will have a pavilion offering workshops for children.

The event is expected to host a number of Arab and international authors, according to the organizer. — Xinhua

Women in tech, AI in focus as Web Summit opens in Rio

THE future of artificial intelligence, technology to fight climate change and other glimpses at the cutting edge were in focus Tuesday as mega-tech conference Web Summit opened in Rio de Janeiro.

Known as the "Davos for Geeks", the conference is holding its second edition in the Brazilian beach city, with more than 600 tech gurus, public personalities and other speakers joining entrepreneurs from more than 1,000 startups.

In a male-dominated industry, organizers said 45 percent of the startups represented this year were founded or are led by women, a record for Web Summit, which start-



signboard of the Web Summit is seen at the Copacabana seafront in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **PHOTO: AFP**

ed in 2009.

Dozens of women tech entrepreneurs from countries including Argentina, Brazil,

Portugal and Uruguay took the stage to applause as organizers opened the three-day event. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Hanoi to host 2024 Vietnam Medipharm Expo from 9-12 May

THE 31st Vietnam International Medical and Pharmaceutical Exhibition (Vietnam Medipharm Expo 2024) is scheduled to take place in Hanoi from 9-12 May, an official of the Ministry of Health (MoH) told a press conference on 19 April.

According to the Vietnam New Agency (VNA), the event, to be held at the Hanoi International Exhibition Centre on Tran Hung Dao street, will feature 550 booths and attract 350 businesses from over 30 countries and territories, including the US, Poland, Germany, Russia, China, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand and India.

In a statement VNA carried, Ha Anh Duc, head of the MoH Office, said that the expo will introduce the latest and most

The event, hosted at the Hanoi International Exhibition Centre, will comprise 550 booths and welcome 350 businesses from over 30 countries and territories, including major players like the US, Germany, China, and Japan.



Vietnam Medipharm Expo 2023 features many healthcare products, food supplements, medical equipment. **PHOTO: VINEXAD**

outstanding achievements of the medical and pharmaceutical industry in Vietnam and the world. It will serve as a venue for businesses to advertise products, exchange experiences, seize investment, production and business opportunities, and expand markets, contributing to public health care and improvement.

This year's event will comprise a range of specialised activities focusing on science and technology applications to the health sector, he noted.

A business matching programme and specialised seminars will also be held, along with charitable and social activities such as fundraising for poor patients, a blood donation event, health screening for the elderly, advice provision, and free check-ups for visitors. — ANI

'No to mining': activists demand closure of Guatemala gold mine

Guatemala's new government announced plans to reverse the decision, citing anomalies. Opponents highlight the environmental threat posed by the mine.



Activists from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras hold a protest on Lake Guija against a Canadian-owned gold mine. **PHOTO: MARVIN RECINOS/AFP**

WAVING banners and shouting "no to mining," environmental activists gathered in small boats on a lake between El Salvador and Guatemala on Friday calling for the closure of a Canadian-owned gold mine.

Residents fear that the Cerro Blanco site, which has been granted permission by Guatemala to convert from an underground to open-pit mine, will contaminate Lake Guija.

"All these extraction projects do is sell out our environment and

our future," said Claudia Rodriguez, a 41-year-old member of an association of women environment defenders.

"The goal is for Cerro Blanco to close, even if we have to give our lives for it," she said.

The previous Guatemalan government in January gave approval to Canadian owner Bluestone Resources to turn Cerro Blanco into an open-pit mine, just days before right-wing president Alejandro Giammattei left office. — AFP

UAE: Non-oil foreign trade through Abu Dhabi's ports reached AED 281.9 billion in 2023

THE total volume of non-oil foreign trade through the border crossings of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi amounted to AED 281.903 billion during the year 2023, with a growth rate of 8 per cent compared to AED 260.435 billion in 2022.

Imports grew by 19 per cent during the past year, reaching a value of AED 136.45 billion, compared to AED 114.355 billion in 2022. Re-export activities also achieved a growth of 11 per cent, reaching a value of AED 52.394 billion, compared to AED 47.277 billion in 2022.

Rashed Lahej Al Mansoori, Director-General of the General Administration of Abu



CSP Abu Dhabi Terminal of Khalifa Port in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Dhabi Customs, emphasised that the growth rates reflect Abu Dhabi's economic expansion across all sectors, which contributes an active role in driving the economic growth wheel of the country, resulting

from the policies, decisions and strategic initiatives adopted by the UAE government to create a business environment open to the global economies, thereby enhancing the country's competitiveness. — ANI

Ugandan businesses reopen after four-day tax protest

BUSINESSES in major towns and cities across Uganda reopened Saturday after a four-day strike against high taxes and a newly enforced revenue collection system.

The action was launched by the Federation of Uganda

Traders Association on Tuesday and spread from the capital Kampala to many other parts of the country.

"We have called off the protests countrywide and agreed to reopen our businesses as consultations with the govern-

ment on the electronic Fiscal Receipting and Invoicing Solution, Value Added Tax and other practices that were hindering our businesses" are being held, the president of the association, John Kabanda, told AFP Saturday. — AFP

Foreign investors turn net sellers in India stocks amid Middle East crisis

FOREIGN portfolio investors (FPIs) have turned net sellers in Indian stocks lately, as the ongoing geopolitical crisis in the Middle East likely pushed investors to take money off their portfolios.

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), who continued to remain net buyers for the third month until a few days ago in April, have cumulatively sold stocks worth Rs 5,254 crore, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) showed.

"Coming to portfolio changes by the FPIs, this month FPIs have been big sellers in IT in anticipation of poor Q4 results. They were also sellers in FMCG and consumer durables. FPIs were buyers in autos, capital goods, telecom, financial services, and power," said VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services.

They had aggressively sold Indian stocks and turned net sellers in the Indian equity market in January 2024, before turning net buyers thereafter. In February and March, they were net buyers.

Firm GDP growth forecasts, inflation at manageable levels, political stability at the central government level, and signs that the central bank is done tightening its monetary policy have all contributed to painting a bright picture for the Indian economy. — ANI

Over 5,000 public interest lawsuits concerning food, drug safety filed in Q1

PROCURATORIAL organs across China filed 5,126 public interest lawsuits concerning food and drug safety in the first quarter of 2024, the Supreme People's Procuratorate (SPP) said on Sunday.

Among the cases, 4,235 were related to food safety, including the quality and safety of agricultural products, while the remaining cases were related to drug safety, according to the SPP.

Procurators urged administrative organs to launch a special campaign against counterfeit agricultural materials and regulate online advertisements for food and



Farmers load the harvested rice at Gangkou Township in Yueyang County, central China's Hunan Province, 11 July 2020. PHOTO: CHEN ZEGUO/XINHUA/FILE

medical products.

The SPP said it had continuously stepped up efforts on litigation con-

cerning food and drug safety. It urged more efforts to guarantee the right to information for

consumers and the safety regarding online consumption of food products. — Xinhua

Specific Procurement Notice Request for Bids Goods (Two-Envelope Bidding Process)

Country: Myanmar
Name of Project: RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
Contract Title: Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Solar PV Systems for Households
RFB Reference No.: NCB S&I-DRD-5

- The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for supply, installation and maintenance of solar PV Systems for households in the following Regions:
Lot 1- Solar PV Packages in Shan East
Lot 2- Solar PV Packages in Ayeyarwaddy
The Contracts will be financed by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the address below and inspect the bidding document during office hours 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at the address given below.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English may be obtained set price by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **May 23, 2024 (10.00 a.m.) Myanmar time**. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. The outer Bid envelopes marked "ORIGINAL BID", and the inner envelopes marked "TECHNICAL PART" will be opened at the address below on **May 23, 2024 (10.00 a.m.) Myanmar time**. All envelopes marked "SECOND ENVELOPE: FINANCIAL PART" shall remain unopened and will be held in safe custody of the Purchaser until the second public opening.
- The address referred to above is :
Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development,
Department of Rural Development,
Office No. 36 (B), Pandita Street, Oattara Thiri Township, Naypyitaw,
Country: Myanmar
Tel : +95 673 418633
myomyonpd@gmail.com, drdne.p.solar@gmail.com.

Musk postpones India trip due to 'Tesla obligations'

TECH billionaire Elon Musk announced Saturday he was postponing his visit to India, during which the Tesla boss was meant to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and discuss big investment plans.

The news came a day after Musk's electric car company announced the recall of nearly 4,000 Cybertruck vehicles owing



Experts doubt that the Indian market will provide an immediate boost to the company, largely due to the high price of Tesla vehicles. PHOTO: ANI

to an acceleration pedal defect that increased

crash risks.

"Unfortunately, very

heavy Tesla obligations require that the visit to India be delayed, but I do very much look forward to visiting later this year," he said in a post on his social media platform X.

Media reports had suggested the trip would begin as soon as Sunday and last two days, during which Musk would meet with Modi and aerospace companies. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2409S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2409S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **22-4-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2404S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2404S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **22-4-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO.LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Afghanistan prevents smuggling of over 1,400 cultural relics: official

The relics were discovered primarily in Kabul, Nangarhar, Baghlan, and Jawzjan provinces. The artifacts span various periods, including the Stone Age and Kushan Empire.

THE Afghan caretaker government has prevented the smuggling of more than 1,400 pieces of cultural relics abroad within the past two years, an official has said.

"Since the establishment of the Islamic Emirate, the Ministry of Information and Culture has been able to prevent the smuggling of 1,460 pieces of antiquities in collaboration with security and



Mes Aynak, a Buddhist archaeological site in Afghanistan. **PHOTO: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

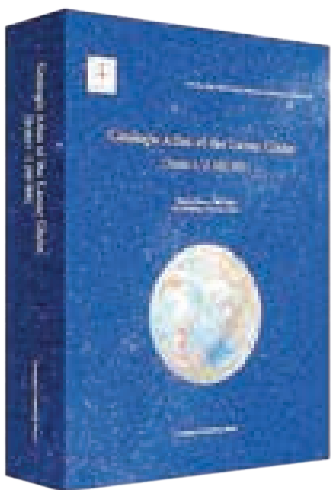
intelligence agencies," local media TOLONews quoted Khubaib Ghufuran, spokesperson for the Ministry of Information and Culture, as saying on Saturday.

Most of these relics have

been discovered in Kabul, Nangarhar, Baghlan, and Jawzjan provinces of the country, said Ghufuran, adding that the artifacts belong to periods including the Stone Age and Kushan Empire.

According to the ministry, more than 60,000 ancient artifacts belonging to different eras have been registered and put on display at the Afghanistan National Museum in Kabul. — Xinhua

China publishes world's first high-definition lunar geologic atlas



China Sunday released a set of geologic atlas of the global moon with a scale of 1:2.5 million, which is the first complete high-definition lunar geologic atlas in the world, providing basic map data for future lunar research and exploration. **PHOTO: CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

CHINA on Sunday released a geologic atlas set of the global moon with a scale of 1:2.5 million, which is the first complete high-definition lunar geologic atlas in the world, providing basic map data for future lunar research and exploration.

This geologic atlas set, available in both Chinese and English, includes the Geologic Atlas of the Lunar Globe and the Map

Quadrangles of the Geologic Atlas of the Moon, according to the Institute of Geochemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

"The geologic atlas of the moon is of great significance for studying the evolution of the moon, selecting the site for a future lunar research station and utilizing lunar resources. It can also help us better understand the Earth and other planets in the solar system, such as Mars," said Ouyang Ziyuan, who is a CAS academician and a well-known lunar scientist.

"The world has witnessed significant progress in the field of lunar exploration and scientific research over the past decades, which have greatly improved our understanding of the moon. However, the lunar geologic maps published during the Apollo era have not been changed for about half a century, and are still being used for lunar geological research. With the improvements of lunar geologic studies, those old maps can no longer meet the needs of future scientific research and lunar exploration," said Liu Jianzhong, a senior researcher from the Institute of Geochemistry of the CAS. — Xinhua

Mass protests in Canary Islands decry overtourism



Chanting slogans and waving placards, demonstrators called for measures to limit tourism numbers, arguing that the current economic model harms the community. **PHOTO: AFP**

TENS of thousands of demonstrators hit the streets across Spain's Canary Islands on Saturday to demand changes to the model of mass tourism they say is overwhelming the Atlantic archipelago.

Rallying under the slogan "The Canary Islands have a limit", demonstrators began rallying at midday (1100 GMT), flag-waving crowds packing the streets of the main towns across all of the archipelago's seven islands.

Chanting and whistling,

they waved scores of placards and banners emblazoned with slogans reading: "The Canary Islands are not up for sale!" or "A moratorium on tourism" while others simply said: "Respect my home."

Organizers say mass tourism perpetuates an economic model that harms local residents and are demanding the authorities limit the numbers.

Police said 20,000 demonstrators had turned out for the demonstrations, but organ-

isers put the figure closer to 50,000, Spain's public television said.

"We are not against tourism," one woman demonstrator called Rosario Correo told Spain's TVE public television.

"We're asking that they change this model that allows for unlimited growth of tourism."

They are calling for a halt to the work on two new hotels on Tenerife, the largest and most developed of the archipelago's seven islands.

And they also want residents to be given a greater say in what they see as uncontrolled development which is harming the environment.

"The government and the islands' regional leaders must stop this corrupt model of never-ending growth which is based on the destruction of the environment and which only weakens the economy," said another demonstrator called Alfonso Bouillon.

Protesters also gathered in Madrid and Barcelona to show their support for the rallies in the Canary Islands, public television said. — AFP

SPORTS

Messi double keeps Miami on top in MLS



Messi's performance ensured Miami maintained their position at the top of the Eastern Conference.

Inter Miami's US goalkeeper (01) Drake Callender blocks a shot on goal during the MLS football match between Inter Miami FC and Nashville SC at Chase Stadium in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on 20 April, 2024. **PHOTO: CHRIS ARJOON / AFP**

LIONEL Messi scored twice and created another for Sergio Busquets as Inter Miami beat Nashville 3-1 on Saturday to maintain top spot in Major League Soccer's Eastern Conference.

Miami suffered an early setback when their defender Franco Negri deflected a corner from Daniel Lovitz into his own net in just the second minute of the game at Chase Stadium.

Gerardo Martino's team have now failed to keep a clean sheet in each of their last 11 games and it could have been worse when three minutes later Josh Bauer blasted a shot against the bar.

But Messi soon had Miami on level terms — the Argentine set free by a clever flick from Diego Gomez saw a shot parried out by Nashville keeper Elliot Panico, but after Luis Suarez directed the loose ball back to him Messi slotted home to make it 1-1 in the 11th minute.

Two minutes later, Messi took advantage of some sloppy play from Nashville but his low right-foot shot came out off the post.

Everything Miami was creating was coming through Messi, who flashed a snapshot wide before moments later whipping in a cross for a Gomez header which was saved by Panico's feet. — AFP

Garcia drops Haney three times en route to majority decision win in super-lightweight bout

RYAN Garcia handed Devin Haney the first defeat of his career Saturday, knocking down the WBC super-lightweight world champion three times on the way to a majority decision victory.

Haney's title wasn't on the line after Garcia failed to make weight for the fight at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, coming in 3.2 pounds over the 140-pound

limit.

But Garcia emerged from a chaotic buildup to the bout that included a string of erratic social media posts from "KingRy", who also teased onlookers by appearing to drink beer at the ceremonial weigh-in but later indicated on social media it was apple juice and sparkling water. — AFP

Team Myanmar fail to make next stage despite beating China 3-1

THE Myanmar futsal team won the Group A final match of the Futsal Asian Cup 2024 against the Chinese team in Thailand yesterday, but had to leave the group.

The Myanmar team played hard because they could only hope to advance to the next round if they beat the Chinese team by a wide margin of goals. But, Myanmar was only able to score a few goals against the Chinese team, and as Viet Nam lost to the Thai team by only one goal, team Myanmar lost the chance to advance to the next round.

Hlaing Min Tun scored two goals for Myanmar and Ko Ko Lwin, one goal for team Myanmar to secure a victory against China.

After the group A matches, Thailand

garnered full nine points in three wins while Viet Nam took the second place, earning four points in one win, one draw and one loss. Both Thailand and Viet Nam had already advanced to the semifinal of the tournament. Team Myanmar, who have collected four points and team China, who secured no win, was eliminated from the group stage.

Although the Myanmar team had the same score as Viet Nam, they only got the third place in the group due to the goal difference. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Myanmar (red) passes the China (white) during the Group A final match of the Futsal Asian Cup 2024 held in Thailand on 21 April 2024. **PHOTO: MFF**



OBITUARY

U Hla Pe Than

B.A. (Hist.), P.H.G, R.L, D.B.L, JPO (UN, NY)
Director/Minister Counsellor (Rtd.)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

79 Years

No. (145/B), First Floor, 46th street, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Beloved Husband of Daw Kyu Kyu, beloved father of Ma Khine Khine Nyein, Ko Khine Zin Hla and Ma Aye Mon Than (Temporarily UK) U Hla Pe Than died at home at 11 PM, 18th of April 2024 Thursday. On Monday, 17 PM we would like to inform relatives and friends that the cremation will be held at Yayway Cemetery. Cars will be leave the house at 15:15 PM.

Surviving Family

Elena Rybakina fends off Iga Swiatek to reach Stuttgart Open final

FOURTH seed Elena Rybakina ended World No 1 Iga Swiatek's campaign for a third title at the Stuttgart Open with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 triumph in the semifinals.

Rybakina's 2-hour, 49-minute victory ended Swiatek's 10-match winning streak at the competition and ensured that a new champion would be crowned at the Porsche Arena. In the final, Rybakina will face unseeded Ukrainian Marta Kostyuk.

"It was a very tough match, like always, against Iga. Really happy that I won on clay. Gives confidence, of course," Rybakina said as quoted by WTA.

Swiatek began the encounter as if poised to extend her unbeaten record in Stuttgart to 11. She led 2-0 in the first set and had two break points to go ahead 3-0. From there, the match was almost always played on Rybakina's terms. The Kazakhs maintained consistent pressure on Swiatek's serve throughout the match, creating 20 break-point opportunities across three sets. Swiatek saved 16 of them, but the combination of seven double faults and 42 unforced errors contributed to the result. — ANI



Sri Lanka introduces online visa system for sea route travellers

This system allows ship arrivals to obtain a four-day visa online at a cost of \$25. Gunawardena emphasized the necessity for all visitors to complete an eVisa application before their arrival, highlighting the launch of an official eVisa website.



The Hambantota International Port is a deep water port in Hambantota, Sri Lanka. Indian tourists disembark at HIP to set off on local excursions. **PHOTO: HAMBANTOTA INTERNATIONAL**

SRI Lanka's Immigration and Emigration Department has introduced an on-line visa system for travellers entering Sri Lanka by ship, a senior official said on Saturday.

Additional controller general of the department, Imal Gunawardena, told

journalists that those who arrive in the country via ship can obtain a visa valid for four days using the online system. He added that this visa would cost 25 US dollars.

Gunawardena said Sri Lanka has launched an official eVisa website and

all visitors must complete an eVisa application before arriving in the country.

He said an eVisa fee waiver scheme has been introduced for citizens of China, India, Indonesia, Russia, Thailand, Malaysia and Japan until 30 April 2024, for tourism only. — Xinhua

NATIONAL ANTI-IMPERIALIST ACTION DAY

Peace March taking place in Greece against involvement in military plans of NATO, EU, US

THE 41st Marathon Peace March is taking place in Greece on Sunday within the framework of the National Anti-Imperialist Action Day against the country's participation in the military plans of the US, NATO and the EU, as well as against the ongoing bloodshed in the Gaza Strip, a RIA Novosti correspondent reported.

The first Marathon Peace March took place in Greece in 1963 despite a ban from the authorities at the time.

The current march started in Greece's Attic Peninsula at 8 am local time [05:00 GMT], the correspondent reported.

"We are sending a signal to fight against the war and Greece's involvement in it," the organizers of the march said in a statement.

Several hundreds of people are currently marching, however, the number of demonstrators is expected to increase later in the day, the correspondent reported.

The march's slogans are "No participation in the NATO-US-EU plans," "Close the death bases in Greece" and "We stand for solidarity with the Palestinian people." — SPUTNIK

Palestinian Authority to review ties with Washington after US' UNSC veto



Abbas stated that the review aims to safeguard the interests, cause, and rights of the Palestinian people. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas announced in an interview that the Palestinian Authority will reassess its relationship with the United States following the US veto of its request for full UN membership.

THE Palestinian Authority will review its policy toward the United States after the latter vetoed its request for full UN membership this week, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said in an interview out Saturday.

"The Palestinian Authority will review bilateral relations with the United States to safeguard the interests of our people, our cause and our rights," he told the Palestinian news agency Wafa.

Abbas argued that the US veto of Palestine's UN bid constituted "a blatant aggression against the rights, history, land, and sanctities of the Palestinian people, challenging the will of the inter-

national community".

"While the world agrees on the application of international law and stands by the Palestinian right, America continues to support the occupation, refusing to compel Israel to stop its genocidal war. It provides Israel with weapons and funds that kill our children and destroy our homes," he said.

Russian envoy to the UN Vassily Nebenzia said the US was almost completely isolated during the UN Security Council vote on Thursday. Twelve other countries voted in favour of granting Palestine full membership of the UN, while the United Kingdom and Switzerland abstained. — SPUTNIK