

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Terror attacks expose political immaturity

Residents have to collectively oppose the existence of armed groups to reduce terror acts, as these armed groups hamper the peace and stability of the region and destroy the security of residents.



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round the rebuilding of the Thiri Mingala Market in Loikaw yesterday.

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing noted that as terrorists commit attacks, taking covers from public houses in towns and villages and using people as human shields in their controlled areas, residents need to avoid them with conscientiousness and awareness in order to combat these terrorists successfully.

In a meeting with members of the Kayah State cabinet, departmental officials and town elders yesterday afternoon at the state government office, Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said so while talking about regional development measures.

In his speech, the Senior General recounted that towns and villages in Kayah State were damaged by KNDF

and PDF terrorists in the recent period. Residents can forge peace and stability as well as undertake development tasks. Likewise, they can make attempts to delay development undertakings as well as jeopardize peace and stability. Terror attacks show lacking political maturity, he added.

He underlined that residents have to collectively bar the existence of armed groups to reduce terror acts, as these armed groups hamper the peace and stability of the region and destroy the security of residents.

The Senior General highlighted that as terrorists commit attacks, taking covers from public houses in towns and villages and using people as human shields in their controlled areas, residents need to avoid them

with conscientiousness and awareness in order to combat those terrorists successfully.

The Senior General urged local authorities to reopen universities and arrange for students to attend the schools of their natives.

He unveiled that as Tatmadaw

started public healthcare services in Loikaw, residents needed to exercise a healthy lifestyle.

He continued that not only the government but also residents need to carry out rehabilitation tasks to enable all the regions to normalcy.

SEE PAGE 4

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General during his inspection tour in Loikaw

1. Residents have to collectively oppose the existence of armed groups to reduce terror acts.
2. Residents need to avoid terrorists with conscientiousness and awareness in order to combat these terrorists successfully.
3. Terrorists commit attacks by taking covers from public houses in towns and villages and using people as human shields in their controlled areas.

NATIONAL

PAGE 5



DPM Union Defence Minister receives UN Interim RC/HC

NATIONAL

PAGE 6



Paung Tsp to host Mon traditional festival of 1,000 offerings

BUSINESS

PAGE 7



Yangon Port handles 400+ container vessels in eight months

NATIONAL



Twenty-five (25) days remain until the National Census.





2024 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day's Objectives

- ❖ To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combatting trafficking in persons as a national duty;
- ❖ To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
- ❖ To protect and care about trafficked victims with empathy; and
- ❖ To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders; government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.

Kyonekapyin-Tapseik records 160 bird species, including rare ones

THE Kyonekapyin-Tapseik Wildlife Conservation area, which is located in Shwe Laung sub-township, Wakema Township, Ayeyawady Region, described that it has recorded 160 bird species, including those which are listed as rare in the world, so people are invited to see and enjoy these birds, according to the Kyonekapyin-Tapseik Wildlife Conservation Group (KTCG).

Local conservation members have regularly conducted a programme to study and record the birds in the area every month. According to the records collected until August

2024, a total of 160 bird species were recorded by the KTCG team.

Bird species found can be divided into three types- indigenous birds or species that breed in Myanmar, birds arriving in the rainy season to lay eggs and hibernating bird species that can only be found in the cold season.

Among them, the world's rare bird species are also found to be arriving, including cormorants, egret species, watercocks, moorhens, sarus cranes, kingfisher species, common ioras, crows, Cinneryis asiaticus and flowerpeckers, weav-

erbirds, scaly-breasted munia, sparrow species, magpie robin, red-whiskered bulbul, jerdon's babbler and wabler species, whose arrival can be seen the whole year to build nests and lay eggs, cuckoo species which come in the rainy season to lay eggs, and black-winged stilt, green sandpiper species, kites and eagles, white-faced wagtail and yellow-breasted bunting, that migrate in the cold season, according to the KTCG.

Therefore, people are invited to visit this bird conservation area to see and record these birds in detail with the help of local tour guides. — MT/ZN



A local guiding the Kyonekapyin-Tapseik wildlife conservation team. PHOTO: KTCG

Nat-Test certificates and score reports released



Nat-Test Exam Centre, Yangon.

NATTEST Exam Centre, Yangon, announced the schedule for taking out the certificate and score report of Nat-Test, which candidates sat for on 11 August 2024.

Certificate and score reports will be available from 31 August to 1 September for the N2 and N4 levels, from 2 September to 3 September for the N3 level and from 4 September to 5 September for the N5 level, from 10 am to 4:30 pm.

Certificates for all levels can be taken out in six months after 6 September. For coming in person, a copy of the candidate's ID card is required, or through a represented person, a copy

of the candidate's ID card and a copy of the represented person's ID card are required, and it is ineligible to represent for more than two, and it needs to ensure accuracy of the registration number.

Training schools are required to submit the list of students on letterhead, along with accurate registration numbers, a day in advance.

Certificates are available at B-11, ground floor, Anawrahta Housing, Hledan (Insein Road, near Hledan bus stop) in Kamayut Township, Yangon. If required data are incomplete, the certificate and score report won't be given at all, it said. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects rehabilitation of Hsihseng region damaged by terrorists in Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, provides aid to residents

PA-O national races from villages around Hsihseng gathered their strengths, and they joined hands with Tatmadaw and the people's militia (local) to take the Hsihseng region back from the hands of terrorists as quickly as possible.

Hopong and Hsihseng townships in Pa-O Self-Administered Zone of Shan State (South) have suffered from impacts of loss and damage in terror acts perpetrated by PNLO, KNDF and PDF terrorists, which steadfastly commit subversive acts with attacks in towns and villages where local, national races reside, dropping bombs on religious buildings and schools and firing on these areas with heavy weapons. Still, they chant doing good deeds for the development of the regions.

Yesterday morning, Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by his entourage, the Shan State chief minister and the Eastern Command commander, inspected the rehabilitation process in Hsihseng region.

The Senior General headed to Hsihseng along the Taunggyi-Hopong-Hsihseng road and viewed the peaceful daily



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets officials and town elders of Hopong and Hsihseng townships in Pa-O Self Administered Zone, Shan State (South), yesterday.

routine of the majority of Shan and Pa-O ethnic people and the progress of agriculture and livestock farming tasks.

In Hsihseng, the Shan State chief minister, Chairman of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Administration Body U Khun Ye Htwe and officials reported on a plan to rebuild Hsihseng Myoma market damaged by terrorists.

The Senior General gave guidance on designing the new market as a modern facility with a proper area of shops and considered construction tasks with water and power supply and car

parks.

On arrival at the staff rental housing of the Department of Urban and Housing Development in Hsihseng, the Senior General heard reports on damage to the housing by terrorists and repairing process by officials and gave necessary instructions.

The Senior General paid homage to the assistant abbot of Zawanarama Monastery Buaddanta Pannasila and members of the Sangha and donated offerings.

In a meeting with departmental officials, local Tatmadaw members and families, members of the Myanmar Police Force, local people's militia members, and town elders in Hsihseng, the Senior General said that Hsihseng region where innocent Pa-O national races have been residing peacefully in successive eras faced loss and damage because of rebellious terror acts of opportunist PNLO terrorists.

Nobody should stop development tasks for a region or a country, and they have to march forward and work steadfastly. If they stop, they will lag in development. He emphasized that rehabilitation for damaged structures causes a delay in carrying out development tasks.

Only residents can undertake peaceful and stable measures as well as the development of the region. Likewise, residents also commit attempts to cause instability and delay the development tasks of the area. As such, residents have to cooperate with departmental staff, administrative bodies, and security forces to ensure peace and stability, rule of law, and development undertakings for the sake of their region.

He continued to say that departmental staff members have to emphasize the development of education, health, and socioeconomic improvement for the regions they serve in order to shape a better future for the area. The government and Tatmadaw will rehabilitate Hsihseng and its surrounding villages damaged by terrorists as much as possible, and residents have to participate in the rehabilitation process. Stopping development tasks is a loss for the region and the State, so all residents have to carry out development and peace and stability measures.

The Senior General presented foodstuffs and aid to local Tatmadaw members and families, residents and local people's militia.

Hsihseng of Pa-O Self-Ad-

ministered Zone is located at an altitude of 3,310 feet, sharing borders with Hopong Township in the north, Maukmai Township in the east, Kayah State in the south and Pekhon, Nyaungshwe and Taunggyi townships in the west. The majority of Pa-O national races peacefully reside in the township. Due to the persuasion and instigation of KNDF and PDF terrorists, the PNLO terrorist group committed terror acts against their ethnic Pa-O with intimidation for terrorism administration and building their power in the region without sympathy. As a result, the region lost peace and stability, whereas locals suffered a loss of socioeconomic life. Hence, as residents did not totally accept the terror acts of unfaithful PNLO terrorists, Pa-O national races from villages around Hsihseng gathered their strengths and joined hands with Tatmadaw and people's militia (local) in reclaim Hsihseng region from the combined terrorists as quickly as possible. The government and Tatmadaw are carrying out rehabilitation tasks in the Hsihseng area, and national races who temporarily left their regions for terror acts reentered there to earn their livelihood peacefully. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General hears the rehabilitation report in Loikaw.

NATIONAL

Tatmadaw always safeguards sovereignty perpetuation, three leading national causes



SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds the meeting during his inspection tour in the Regional Control Command (Loikaw) area yesterday.

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects Loikaw Regional Control Command

TATMADAW always safeguards the perpetuation of sovereignty and the three leading national causes and executes security measures successively to ensure the safety of life and property of the people

together with members of the Myanmar Police force.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Htein Win, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung, union-level dignitaries, yesterday morning said so in his inspection tour of peace and stability measures in the

Regional Control Command (Loikaw) area.

Commander of Regional Control Command (Loikaw) Colonel Aung Kyaw Khine reported on the security measures jointly conducted by Tatmadaw and MPF in the Loikaw area, Loikaw airport, destructive actions of KNPP, KNDF and PDF terrorists, arrest of PDF terrorists and seizures of arms and ammunition.

In his response, the Sen-

ior General said that the fights occurred in Shan State (north) and Loikaw at the same time starting in 2021, and the senior military officials, other ranks and families fought back proper resistance operations. The security measures must be undertaken to bring normalcy to Kayah State.

He then instructed all to participate in solid security measures to enumerate the population and household census successfully. — MNA/KTZH

Terror attacks expose political immaturity

FROM PAGE 1

The Senior General underscored that the government is making preparations to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election. As such, the population and household census will be enumerated in the region in October. It is necessary to carry out enumeration of census in Kayah State successfully. Canvassing of candidates needs peace and stability in the area, he noted.

The Senior General presented foodstuffs and aid to members of the Kayah State cabinet, departmental officials, security forces, and IDPs through the chief minister and officials.

At the meeting, the chief minister of the state reported on the resettlement of IDPs in Loikaw, agriculture and livestock breeding tasks, reoperation of the Loikaw industrial zone, enhancement of health-

care services, preparations to reopen basic education schools, universities and colleges, progress of rehabilitation tasks, repairing of power stations and cables, repairing of Loikaw Airport, aid for IDPs and departmental staff, and security measures.

The Union Minister for Health discussed the supply of machinery needed for the state general hospital in Loikaw, attacked by terrorists.

Also present at the meeting were SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, council members Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Porel Aung Thein, Khun San Lwin and union ministers.

The Senior General viewed the rehabilitation of houses, buildings, roads and bridges damaged by terrorists in their attacks and the peaceful working of residents in Loikaw.

The Senior General inspected the rebuilding of the

Thiri Mingala Market in Loikaw to modernize the market and gave guidance that a systematic design must be created for the modernity of the market with facilities for water supply and a systematic disposal system.

He paid homage to Myonam Pagoda in Loikaw and made cash donations to the overall renovation fund of the pagoda. He tolled the bell of the pagoda after going round the pagoda. — MNA/TTA

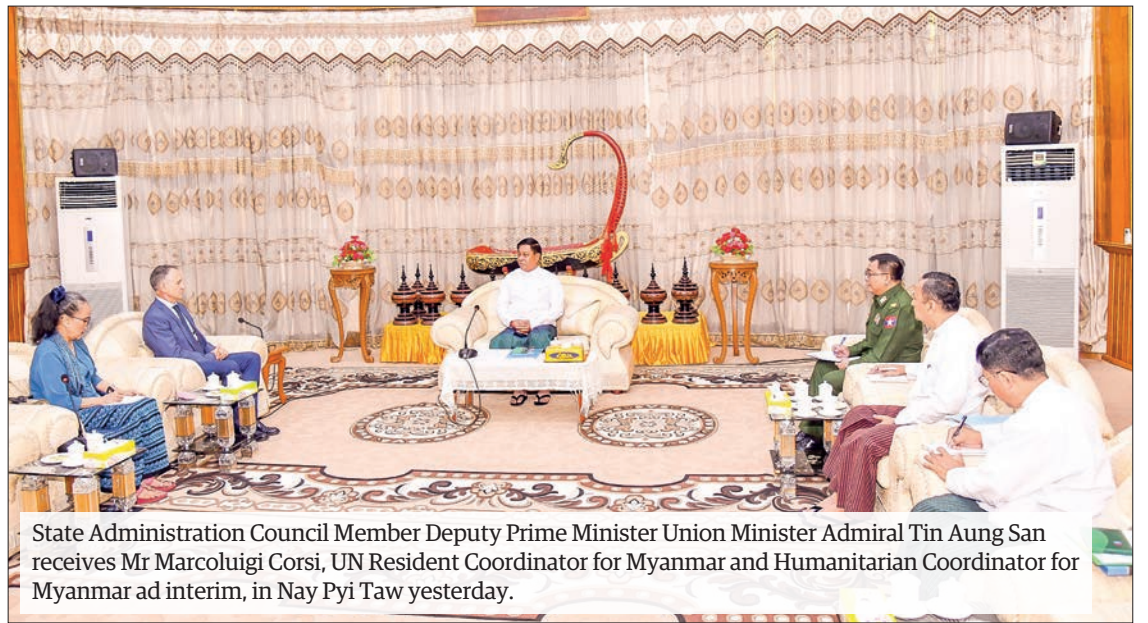
NATIONAL

DPM Union Defence Minister receives UN Interim RC/HC

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San received Mr Marcoluigi Corsi, UN Resident Coordinator for Myanmar and Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar ad interim, at the Union Minister's office yesterday

morning.

During the meeting, they exchanged friendly and open views on matters related to the United Nations cooperation processes, the prevention of minors from serving in the military and the conditions of military service conscription. — MNA/TS



State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San receives Mr Marcoluigi Corsi, UN Resident Coordinator for Myanmar and Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar ad interim, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Ministries meet to develop ASEAN Community Vision 2045 strategic plans



A coordination meeting on the development of the Strategic Plans of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 among relevant ministries of the three ASEAN Community Pillars in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

A coordination meeting on the development of the Strategic Plans of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 among relevant ministries of the three ASEAN Community Pillars was held on 4 September 2024 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting was led by Dr Wah Wah Maung, Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and the Eminent Person (EP) of Myanmar for the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision (HLTF-ACV) and attended by directors-general and high-ranking officials from respective ministries.

During the meeting, the deputy minister briefed on the

progress and way forward on the development of strategic plans for the ASEAN Community Vision (2045), including the finalization of the second reading of the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC) Strategic Plan at the 16th meeting of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision (HLTF-ACV). Deputy Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung encouraged the relevant sectoral bodies under three ASEAN pillars and connectivity to closely coordinate with each other on the development of respective strategic plans. On strengthening ASEAN's capacity and institutional effectiveness, the deputy minister highlighted the need

for institutional strengthening, including the ASEAN Secretariat and respective national secretariats, so as to bridge the existing gap between human resources and resource mobilization.

At the meeting, representatives from three ASEAN pillars also briefed on the ongoing process of negotiation on the respective strategic plans of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045. Then, the proposed action lines under the strategic goals of the ASEAN Political and Security Community Strategic Plan were thoroughly discussed among participants, and their views were openly and candidly exchanged. — MIFER

Myanmar attends 19th Asia Media Summit

THE Myanmar delegation led by Director-General U Ye Naing of Myanmar Radio and Television attended the opening ceremony of the 19th Asia Media Summit (AMS) in Malaysia on 3 September.

It was attended by more than 50 representatives from media organizations in Asia, the Pacific Region, Africa, and Europe.

During the high-level session for media, delegates discussed different topics, such as shifting global dynamics, opportunities and challenges in the creative content industry, and strengthening media resilience.

The 19th Asia Media Summit and associated meetings were held from 1 to 5 September in Malaysia by AIBD under the theme of "Media: The New Odyssey", focusing on the role of me-

dia, opportunities and challenges in the creative content industry, strengthening media resilience, using AI to produce engaging, accurate content that reaches all audiences and elevation of the creative media industry.

In the evening, a gala dinner was hosted, and awards were presented to the winners of the AIBD International Media Awards.

On 4 September, the second day of the 19th AMS discussed different topics such as Inclusive Broadcasting-Empowering Diverse Voices, Capitalizing on Emerging Broadcasting Technologies and AI: Technology Trust and Transformation.

Summit attendees will visit Batus Caves and TRX-The Exchange on 5 September.

Cambodia will host the upcoming summit. — MNA/KTZH



The 19th Asia Media Summit (AMS) taking part in Myanmar delegation in progress in Malaysia.

NATIONAL

PhaungdawU Pagoda's sacred Buddha images to visit 21 places

IN line with the age-old tradition, the revered Buddha images of the Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda, located in Nyaungshwe Township, Southern Shan State, will visit 21 places from 3 to 30 October.

The ceremonial procession will commence on the morning of 3 October at 4:00 am with an auspicious opening ceremony at the PhaungdawU Pagoda, where offerings will be made. At 7 am, the Buddha images will be relayed to the Intein Kyay Pawkhon Monastery, where they will stay overnight for worship.

Starting on 4 October, the images will continue their journey, visiting the Kyay Pawkhon Monastery, Intein San Monastery, and Heya Ywama San Monastery, where they will stay for two nights.

On the morning of 6 October, the images will move from Heya Ywama San Monastery to Ngar Phae Chaung Monastery, where they will stay overnight. On 7



This photo captures the revered Buddha images of the Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda being worshipped during their traditional procession on the Inlay waterway in 2023.

October, the procession will continue from Ngar Phae Chaung Monastery to Kya Sa Monastery for another overnight stay. The Buddha images will proceed from Kya Sa Monastery to Pwe-sa Kun Monastery and Lin Khin

Monastery on 8 October.

Likewise, on 9 October, they will be carried from Lin Khin Monastery to Nyaungshwe Town Monastery, where they will reside for three nights. On 12 October, the images will travel from

Nyaungshwe Town Monastery to Nan The Monastery and Mai Thauk Monastery. The next day, 13 October, they will move from Mai Thauk Monastery to Thale Oo Monastery, where they will stay overnight. On 14 October,

the sacred images will visit Thale Oo Monastery, Kalaw Monastery, and Zarap Gyi Monastery for another overnight stay.

The procession on the Inlay waterway will continue on 15 October, moving from Zarap Gyi Monastery to the Alotawpauk Taung Monastery and Nam Pan Monastery. On 16 October, the images will travel from Nam Pan Monastery to Ma Kye Sae Monastery and Kyaikan Monastery. On 17 October, they will move from Kyaik Kan Monastery to Maipyaw Monastery for overnight worship.

On 18 October, the Buddha images will be conveyed from Maipyaw Monastery to Nauk Taw Monastery, followed by a journey from Nauk Taw Monastery to Inpaw Khun Monastery and Yaytha Monastery on 19 October. Finally, on 20 October, the sacred images will return from Yaytha Monastery to their home at PhaungdawU Pagoda. — TWA/KZL

Khant Sithu donates K300,000 to 104th Myanmar Film Day and 47th film elders' honour ceremony



This photo shows officials receiving Academy awardee Khant Sithu's donations.

ACCORDING to U Aye Kyu Lay, Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO), Academy Award winner Khant Sithu donated K300,000 on 3 September towards the 104th Myanmar Film Day ceremony and the 47th film elders' honour ceremony, both of which are scheduled for 13 October.

The ceremonies will take place on 13 October 2024 at the Myanmar Film Association (Central) in Bahan Township, Yangon Region.

"The obeisance-paying to film el-

ders' event is approaching, and several artistes and film makers are participating and making donations. In addition to the contributions from film artists, movie lovers are also volunteering and donating. We have received traditional medicines and food items for the donations," said U Aye Kyu Lay.

At the 103rd Myanmar Film Day ceremony and the 46th obeisance-paying to film elders' ceremony, held on 13 October 2023, around 140 veteran actors and actresses were honoured with cash and foodstuffs. — ASH/TKO

Paung Tsp to host Mon traditional festival of 1,000 offerings

THE festival of 1,000 offerings, along with the Buddha Pujaniya Festival, will be held on 17 September at Kyaikpaung Pagoda in Paung Ward, Paung Township, Mon State, according to U Tin Pe, a member of the Kyaikpaung Pagoda board of trustees.

The donation of 1,000 types of alms is part of the Mon traditional Buddha Pujaniya Festival, celebrated annually on the full moon day of Tawthalin. The offerings, which include alms food, banners, flowers, incense, fruits, betel, and lights, are placed on a small ship made of wood and bamboo, following the Mon ethnic tradition.

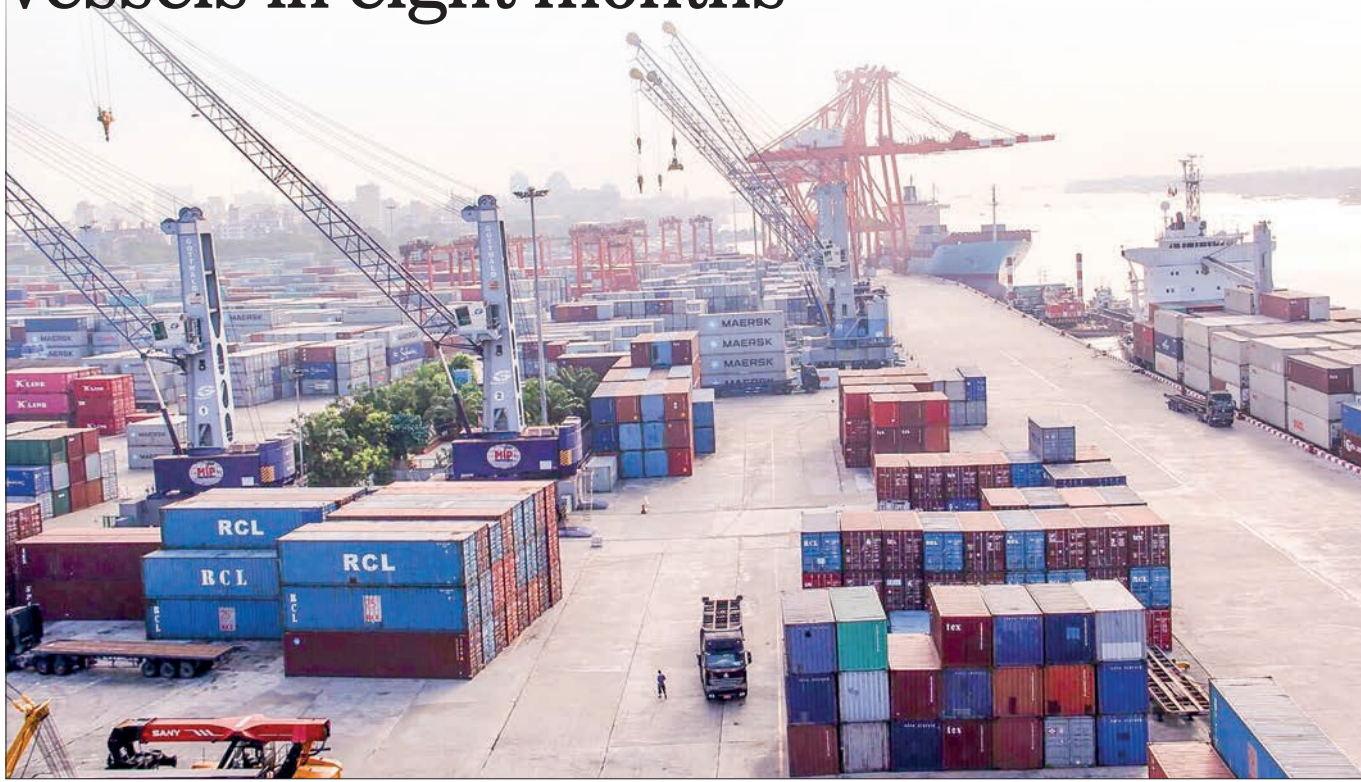
"Each year on the full moon day of Tawthalin, the local community constructs the ship and loads it with nearly 1,000 different offerings, such as alms food, banners, flowers, incense, fruits, and lights, which are then offered to the Lord Buddha," said U Tin Pe.

As a cherished traditional festival of the Mon ethnic people, the alms festival, also known as the "1,000 Alms Food Offering Festival," and the offering of Satumadu (a type of medicine made from butter, sesame oil, honey, and molasses) are held annually in Mon State. — ASH/MKKS



This photo depicts the Mon traditional Buddha Pujaniya festival offering 1,000 alms at the Kyaikpaung Pagoda in the previous year.

Yangon Port handles 400+ container vessels in eight months



(File) A port scene captures the container yard amidst the bustling activity of working cranes at Yangon Port along the Yangon River.

A total of 409 container vessels arrived at the Yangon Port in the past eight months (Jan-Aug) 2024, Myanmar Port Authority announced.

Myanmar Port Authority stated that 49 vessels in January, 53 in February, 55 in March, 50 in April, 52 in May, and 50 each in June, July and August called in the Yangon Port.

Yangon Port handled 629 container vessels in 2023. Thanks to the draft extension, the international ocean liners can access the inner port for now,

according to Myanmar Port Authority's statement on 22 June 2022.

After the new navigation channel (Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yangon River had been found, the draft extension work was accelerated. After that, the port can now handle larger ships. The container vessel MV SITC Zhaoming (185.99 metres LOA, 35.25 metres Beam, 29,232 GRT and 2,698 TEU) of Hong-Kong based SITC Shipping Line docked at Asia World Port Terminal for the first time on 22 June,

which is the largest ship that AWPT Port handled.

Since May 2021, the arrival of ships at terminals in Yangon has increased again. Three new container vessels by Maersk Line Myanmar (SeaLand Maersk) started to run to fulfil the seaborne trade requirements in 2021. Earlier, the larger ships had draft problems preventing sailing on the Yangon River. With the draft being extended up to 10 metres, more giant ocean liners can enter the Thilawa Port. — NN/KK

MGMA to open Basic Sewing Machine Operator Training Course Batch 243

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) will conduct a Basic Sewing Machine Operator Training Course (Batch 243) from 16 September to 4 October 2024 at the Myanmar Garment Human Resources Development Training Centre (MGHRDC).

The course will provide practical and technical approaches to sewing machines, different sewing methods, labour laws and practices.

This training will also help those hunting jobs from regions outside Yangon connect with the garment factories with a view to creating job opportunities.

Those who wish to attend the training can enrol through the contact numbers of MGHRDC: 09 940858350, 09 450723262, 09 9403912570, 09 784085794 and 09952802635.

— NN/KK

MoPF regulates Myanmar-Thai international banking activities

THE Ministry of Planning and Finance has been systematically governing international banking activities between Myanmar and Thai banks to have sustainable development and maintain good relations with global financial institutions, the ministry announced on 2 September.

The statement revealed that global transfer through Myanmar Economic Bank is to import the essential goods and intermediate goods that are requisite for Myanmar nationals.

Furthermore, Myanmar nationals opened bank accounts in Thailand for medical treatment, education, and inward remittance, which allowed migrant workers to legally transfer money back to their family members in the country, in line with the rules and regulations of the related banks.

State-owned banks conduct Due Diligence Procedures in line with the Central Bank of Myanmar's rules. Also, they comprehensively analyze Customer Due Diligence to assess customer risk and enhance due diligence (EDD) measures to minimize risks and maintain effective compliance. — NN/KK

Townships issue cooperative handbooks for palm oil purchases



SOME townships in Yangon Region have started giving cooperative handbooks in which all transactions of palm oil will be recorded.

"The ward administrator's office announced this over loudspeaker last night. Household registration is needed to be presented when buying palm oil with a handbook," Daw Thu Zar from Ward 14 of South Okkalapa Township told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

This cooperative handbook will allow residents to buy palm oil as

per the set reference price starting in September.

Books are handed over to every household in some townships without asking for the household registration or citizenship scrutiny card, while administrators of some townships issue books after collecting lists, census and visitor registrations.

Those books are not allowed to be resold or used as a mortgage. Each household is entitled to hold one book. Palm oil can be purchased on the specified dates. Individuals need to report a lost book to the respective ward administrator. Those below ten years old are not eligible to buy them. — TWA/KK

This picture shows a cooperative handbook.

OPINION

Sustain Myanmar's fine traditions and society based on a charitable spirit

MYANMAR society highly values charitable acts and honours those who selflessly serve others, prioritizing social welfare over personal gain. Many charity organizations in the country operate independently of government support, with volunteers motivated by a genuine desire to help those in need. These organizations take various forms, often based on religious activities or social movements. Regardless of their foundation, both types of organizations come together during emergencies to provide assistance.

Internationally, charity is linked with volunteerism and philanthropy, fostering social cohesion and creating more resilient

societies. Charitable actions focus on mitigating the impacts of humanitarian crises, supplementing public services in healthcare, education, housing, and child protection while also advocating for the rights of marginalized communities. Charity organizations also play a crucial role in spreading humanity in conflict zones.

Each year, on 5 September, the International Day of Charity is observed, as designated by the United Nations. On this day, the UN encourages member states, international and regional organizations, NGOs, and individuals to promote charitable acts within their communities to raise public awareness of these efforts.

The 2024 theme for the International Day of Charity aims to enhance awareness and provide a global platform for charity-related activities, aligning with the 17 Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs). These goals are grouped into six critical areas: people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnership, with the aim of transforming lives and improving the planet.

Myanmar society views those who engage in charity work during natural disasters, armed conflicts, fires, and health emergencies as noble individuals performing extraordinary acts of kindness. These volunteers set aside personal and family concerns to help others, demonstrating the country's deep-rooted charitable spirit.

The collective actions of these organizations and individuals highlight Myanmar's commitment to humanitarian efforts and the importance of sustaining these traditions in the face of ongoing challenges. Through their dedication, they contribute significantly to the betterment of society and reinforce the nation's longstanding tradition of compassion and generosity.

Regardless of religion, most of the Myanmar people are keen to help each other if they face emergency issues. In fact, the charitable spirit takes a position in the hearts of Myanmar people. As such, all Myanmar people sustain their noble spirit of charity and fine traditions of the society so as to overcome current difficulties and challenges of the society through mutual reliance and interest.

INITIAALLY began my academic journey with a strong focus on engineering because I found great satisfaction in seeing how my work could be applied to solve real-world problems. The tangible impact of engineering was gratifying, but I sought a way to leverage this knowledge to contribute to health improvements. My interest gradually shifted towards the biological applications of engineering, specifically in the study of otoacoustic emissions – the sounds our ears generate. This fascinating phenomenon is used to understand the functionality of the hearing system, which is particularly crucial for assessing hearing in infants or individuals with cognitive impairments who cannot effectively communicate their hearing issues. This objective method of evaluating hearing health intrigued me and motivated me to explore more objective tools and techniques for assessing human health overall.

This interest eventually led me to the field of voice science and voice disorders, areas closely related to the hearing system. Our hearing system is integral to voice perception, as it processes the sounds we hear when someone speaks. My research now encompasses both voice production and perception, utilizing my engineering background to develop the methodologies and tools essential for this work. By studying how we produce and perceive voice, I aim to enhance our understanding of these processes and contribute to the development of better diagnostic and therapeutic tools.

The connection between vocal production and perception is deeply rooted in the brain, which controls both systems. For instance, infants need to hear sounds to learn to produce them, highlighting the interplay between these systems during a speech development. Despite this connection, the high-level processing of voice production and perception occurs in separate systems. Voice production primarily involves the phonatory system located in the larynx, controlled by over 20 muscles, along with additional muscles linked to the jaw, sternum, and other parts of the body. The respiratory system also plays a critical role, as we need to exhale to speak, while the articulatory system, including the mouth, shapes the sound.

On the other hand, the hear-

Advancing Voice Disorder Diagnosis and Treatment with AI and Mechanical Models

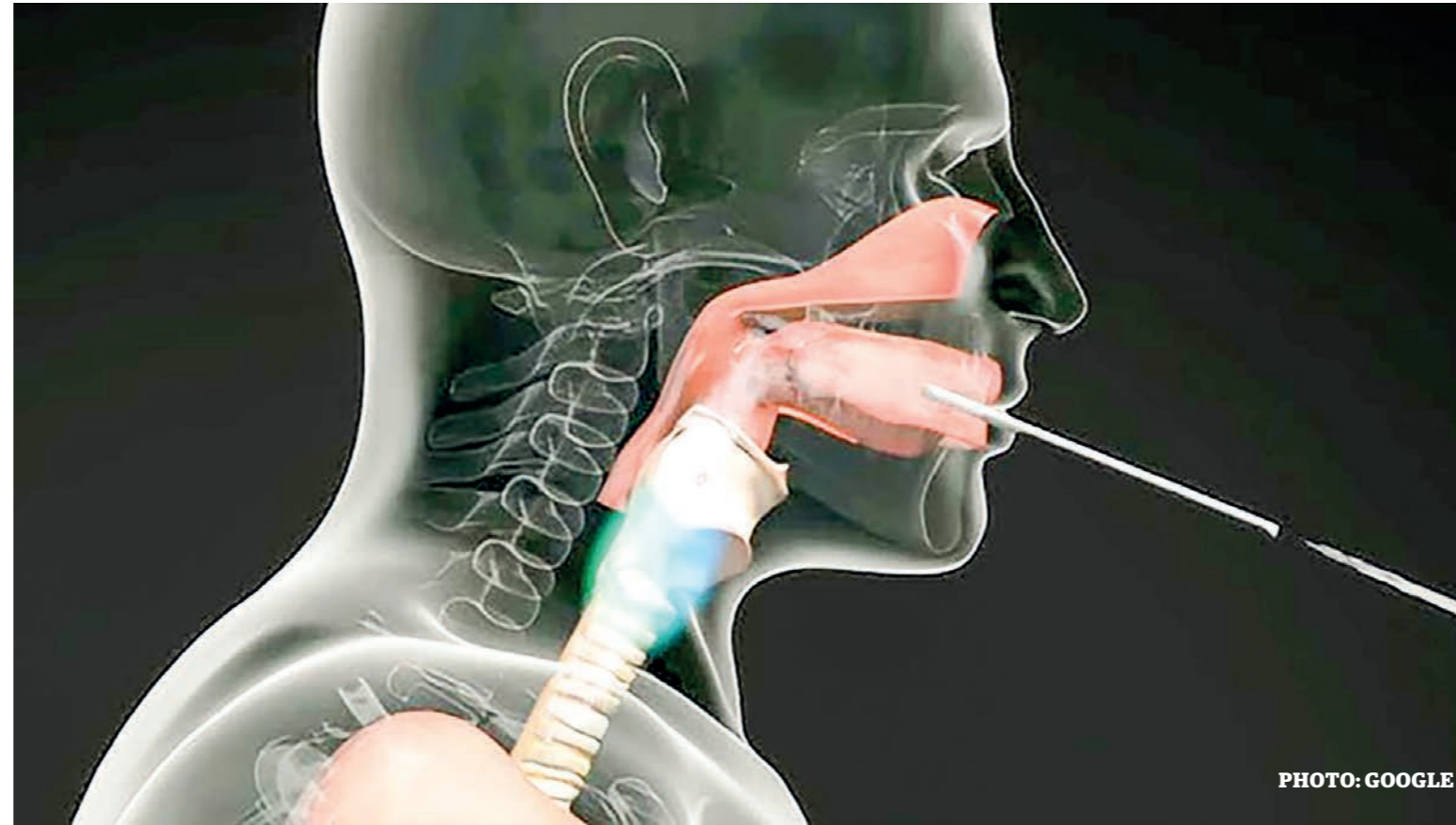


PHOTO: GOOGLE

ing system comprises distinct structures, such as the peripheral and central auditory systems. These systems process sound signals at various stages, with the brain handling the high-level processing. In my research, I am exploring how artificial intelligence can replicate this complex processing. By simulating the brain's approach to sound processing, we aim to develop AI systems that can mimic human voice perception, enhancing our understanding and capabilities in this field.

When we talk about dysphonia, we refer to an abnormal quality of voice. For instance, a person with dysphonia might have a breathy voice that's difficult to hear or a voice that's frequently interrupted. This condition indicates a problem with the biomechanics or physics of voice production in the larynx or voice box. My research focuses on neurogenic voice disorders, which are particularly challenging to diagnose because their symptoms often resemble those of other disorders. Although the underlying mechanisms affecting the vocal folds or the larynx differ, these distinctions are hard to identify

in a clinical setting. That is where our research and artificial intelligence (AI) come into play.

To diagnose these disorders more effectively, we utilize high-speed video technology to capture thousands of images of the vocal folds' vibrations during speech. This method provides a wealth of data critical for understanding and differentiating these disorders. We then employ AI to analyze these images and extract significant features. AI's capability to process vast datasets quickly allows us to identify subtle patterns and hidden features that are not discernible through manual inspection. This speed and precision are particularly valuable in clinical environments, where time is often limited.

Beyond diagnostics, AI has other significant applications in our research. Similar to facial recognition technology, which identifies facial features and emotions, AI can analyze high-speed videos of vocal folds to classify various tissue structures automatically. This process eliminates the need for manual image examination, making it feasible to analyze extensive datasets rapidly. We design AI tools to identify and track

specific features within these videos, enabling us to study the movement and behaviour of different tissues comprehensively.

AI operates in two primary ways in our research. First, it captures and processes information that is visible but difficult to analyze manually due to the volume of data. Second, AI uncovers hidden information that aids in the differential diagnosis of voice disorders. For instance, AI can detect subtle variations in voice quality, such as breathiness or strain, which are challenging to identify otherwise.

One remarkable capability of AI is its ability to analyze temporal data – information spread across time. In just one minute of recording, we might have around 300,000 images. Instead of teaching AI-specific features to look for, we can provide it with raw data and let it perform a complex, trial-and-error analysis. Although we guide the AI in this process, it largely operates independently, extracting features and creating a comprehensive information map. This map highlights critical time intervals and specific voice qualities, such as breathiness or strain, enabling us to make more accurate diagnoses and under-

stand the underlying issues more thoroughly.

To record high-speed videos of vocal fold vibrations while someone is talking, we use two primary methods. The first method involves a rigid endoscope, which is a cylindrical device inserted through the mouth and

the person can produce.

The second method employs a flexible scope connected to the high-speed camera, which is inserted through the nose to a position just above the vocal folds. This approach allows for a broader range of speech, enabling the person to speak various words, vowels, and consonants. We recently utilized this technique for data collection at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona. This method is particularly beneficial for studying task-specific voice disorders, where symptoms vary significantly based on what the person is saying. For instance, someone might be able to say "Aaaaah" without issue, but problems arise when they start speaking in sentences. This disorder, known as laryngeal dystonia, is rare and particularly interesting because it can affect specific activities like singing while leaving normal speech unaffected. We are currently studying a subject with this condition to gain a deeper understanding of the disorder.

Our ongoing research into laryngeal dystonia has yielded intriguing results. We are exam-

“ We utilize high-speed video technology and AI to capture and analyze vocal fold vibrations, aiming to diagnose voice disorders more effectively and explore how voice analysis can be used as a biomarker for various health issues. ”

positioned towards the back of the tongue. This endoscope is connected to a high-speed camera located outside the mouth. When the endoscope is in place, the person can produce vowels or perform a pitch glide, moving up and down in pitch. However, this method limits the range of speech

and receive the same treatment, typically Botox injections, based on the collective experience of laryngologists. However, we aim to understand these individual differences better to develop more personalized treatment approaches. By analyzing the variability in laryngeal behaviour during speech, we hope to determine if a uniform treatment approach is effective for all patients or if individualized treatments are necessary.

Our ultimate goal is to design tailored treatment plans that account for the unique characteristics of each patient's condition. We are working to model voice production to answer critical questions about the effectiveness of treatments across different individuals. For example, we want to know if the same treatment will work for patients with overlapping symptoms. By addressing these questions, we aim to enhance the effectiveness of treatments for laryngeal dystonia and improve the overall quality of life for those affected by this disorder.

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We are designing mechanical models to investigate how airflow from the lungs interacts with the vocal folds and how tissue movements generate sound. These models help us understand what happens if there is a disruption in these systems, how it manifests in a person's voice, and how we might develop treatment strategies for such anomalies.

Regarding the singer's dystonia, which affects only the singing voice, one hypothesis is that it could be an early indicator of a neurological disease. Voice production involves the precise coordination of the respiratory system and vocal fold vibrations.

Any disorder affecting these systems, such as a neurological or mental health issue, will reflect in the voice. For instance, many research groups are exploring voice evaluation for diagnosing conditions like Parkinson's disease.

In our lab, we aim to use

voice analysis to assess depression and anxiety in patients. We are developing a tool that can evaluate an individual's voice as a biomarker for various health issues. Voice production involves complex physiological processes, and any weakness in the muscles can affect the voice, although these changes may not be easily perceivable. Therefore, having objective tools to evaluate voice can reveal information that is not evident through simple listening or acoustic signals.

Artificial intelligence (AI) holds great potential for creating personalized models of a person's voice by summarizing various measurements and information. For example, surgeons dealing with laryngeal cancer currently use extensive questionnaires to decide on treatment approaches. AI could streamline this process by providing summarized, relevant information based on the disorder's pathophysiology. However, AI will likely not replace the nuanced decision-making of doctors, who rely on real experience to make informed choices.

Our research goal is to develop protocols that can be used clinically. We aim to understand the fundamentals of voice production and how various factors, such as mental health status or treatments like radiation therapy for laryngeal cancer, might affect it. Laryngeal cancer is of particular interest because it has one of the highest suicide rates among cancers, possibly due to its impact on the ability to communicate.

We strive to use our understanding of voice to improve clinical diagnoses and create accurate, individualized treatment approaches. Additionally, we are exploring the use of voice as a biomarker for other health issues. We have started data collection at Henry Ford Health and anticipate obtaining intriguing results from these projects soon. Our ultimate aim is to enhance the diagnostic and treatment capabilities for voice-related disorders and other health conditions reflected in the voice.

Reference:

The excerpt of the interview with Maryam Naghibolhosseini, the director of the Analysis of Voice and Hearing Laboratory at Michigan State University, and the editor-in-chief from American Scientist Magazine (July-August 2024 issue)

ARTICLE

By Yin Nwe Ko

NATIONAL

Military delegation departs for Laos to attend 21st ASEAN Chiefs of Defence Forces Meeting

THE Myanmar delegation led by Lt-Gen Soe Min Oo from the office of the Commander-in-Chief yesterday morning left for Laos People's Democratic Republic to attend the 21st ASEAN Chiefs of Defence Forces Meeting (ACD-FM-21) on behalf of the State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

On arrival at Vientiane, the delegation met Lt-Gen Khamlieng Outhakaisone, Deputy Min-

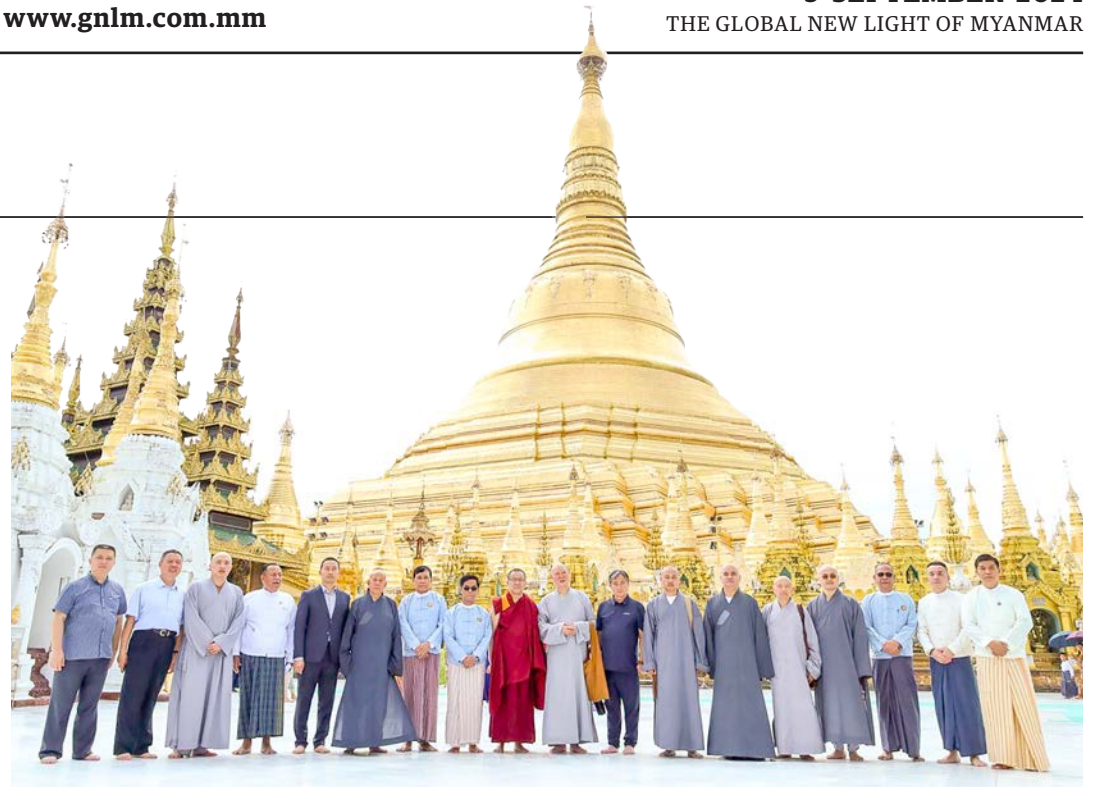
ister of National Defence of Laos, and discussed the enhancement of military ties and cooperation between the two defence forces.

Lt-Gen Soe Min Oo attended the dinner event hosted by Lt-Gen Khamlieng Outhakaisone at Latsavong Wanda Vista Hotel in the evening.

Myanmar Tatmadaw representatives, chiefs of ASEAN defence forces and their spouses, and representatives also attended the dinner event. — MNA/KTZH



The Myanmar delegation led by Lt-Gen Soe Min Oo from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief is pictured before departing for Laos People's Democratic Republic yesterday.



Chairman of the Beijing Buddhist Association of the People's Republic of China Venerable Hu Xuefeng and members of the Buddhist Bureau pose for documentary group photo at Shwedagon Pagoda, Yangon yesterday.

Beijing Buddhist Association Chair visits Shwedagon Pagoda

WITH the aim of maintaining Myanmar-China Pauk-Phaw friendship and exchanging friendship between Buddhists, a religious association led by Chairman of the Beijing Buddhist Association of the People's Republic of China Venerable Hu Xuefeng and members of the Buddhist Bureau, visited the Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday morning. Alternate Chairman U Nyunt Thin of the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees and members, and Director U Zaw Oo of the Yangon Region Religious Affairs Department welcomed the guests.

The group led by Venerable Hu Xuefeng, the Chairman of the Yangon Region Sangha Patron, Aggamahapandita Aggamahagandhawasapandita Mahagandhawasapandita Aggamahasadhammajotikadajha

Dr Bhaddanta Aggasami, and the Venerable of Shwepyitha Pariyatti, Dwi Pitaka Thera Aggamahagandhawasapandita Aggamahasadhammajotikadajha Bhaddanta Gita, visited the ancient Buddha statue south of the square of the Shwe Dagon Pagoda. They paid homage and had a friendly discussion with members of the Board of Trustees, Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) and the long-term strengthening of bilateral friendship and Buddhism.

The Chairman of the Beijing Buddhist Association presented a donation of K1 million to the Shwe Dagon Pagoda, which Alternate Chairman U Nyunt Thin received.

The Venerable of the Beijing Buddhist Association presented Buddha statues to

the Venerable of the Yangon Region Sangha Nayaka Committee and the Venerable of Shwepyitha Pariyatti Seminary. Souvenirs were given to the board of trustees and the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Centre).

The Venerable of the Buddhist Association of Beijing and the religious association toured the Shwedagon Pagoda, the Jade Pagoda, and the Buddha tooth relic and explored the photo museum.

Afterwards, the Venerable of the Buddhist Association of Beijing and the religious association rang the bell at the Thayawady King's bell at Sunday corner to pay homage to the long-term stability of Myanmar-China "Pauk Phaw" friendship and the propagation of Buddhism. — MNA/TKO

Embassies announce Myanmar passport fee changes this month

THROUGH their social media pages, Myanmar embassies in some countries have made announcements on changes of Myanmar passport fees as of this month.

Myanmar Embassy in the Republic of South Korea will raise the passport extension charge to 55,000 Korean won from 48,000 Korean won as of 1 September.

In Japan, the passport extension fee will change to 6,000 yen from 5,000 yen on 1 Sep-



The Myanmar Embassy to Japan.

tember, and the fine for expired passports and lost passports will remain unchanged.

Similarly, the Myanmar Embassy in Singapore will change the passport extension fee to SGD65 from SGD60, taking effect from 1 September. However, an SGD125 fine for

a lost passport, an SGD35 fine for an expired or damaged passport, and an SGD45 fine for a passport that has been valid for more than a year will remain unchanged.

In the Philippines, the Myanmar passport extension fee will change to US\$40 from \$35 as of 1 September, and the embassy has set a \$105 fine for a lost passport.

Embassies in other countries have also made similar announcements. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL

ME in South Korea to assist nationals returning home

MYANMAR Embassy in the Republic of Korea says it will help Myanmar nationals who are in need of help in that country for returning to the motherland and provide necessary assistance for their convenience before going back home.

After receiving contact from the Seobu police station in Busan, the embassy provided necessary assistance to a Myanmar national, Nan Lin, and tried to connect with his family in Myanmar at the same time.

In a post on its social media page, the embassy requested Myanmar nationals in South Korea to help in confirming more detailed personal information about Nan Lin.

With the help of comments from Myanmar nationals who

know him, he could get a connection with Nan Lin's family and also could take him to the embassy in Seoul from Busan on the morning of 2 September. Ambassador U Thant Sin received Nan Lin at his office, asked about his job, health and personal issues and advised him how he should have lived in South Korea as a Myanmar national.

The ambassador instructed the consular officer and labour attaché on how the embassy would help him to be able to return home of his own accord, and he also provided him with clothes and financial support. Before returning home, Nan Lin was provided accommodation by the embassy for a temporary stay in Seoul. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS



Ambassador U Thant Sin receives Nan Lin and gives aid.

Myanmar repatriates two citizens from Saudi Arabia



Ma Sabai Phyu and Ma Ni Ni Win.

THE government has been making efforts to bring back Myanmar nationals who are encountering difficulties abroad by coordinating with the Myanmar Consulate-General and relevant embassies to ensure their safe return to Myanmar.

The Myanmar Embassy in Saudi Arabia communicated with the authorities of Riyadh to repatriate two Myanmar female citizens, Ma Sabai Phyu and Ma Ni Ni Win, who faced hardships in Mecca and Howtat Bani Tamin by flight on 3 September, and they arrived in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

On arrival in Myanmar, the returnees shared their experiences they encountered in other countries and thanked the government, Myanmar Embassy and Consulate-General for helping them. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

YBS accidents in 8 months: 30 dead, 89 hurt

OVER eight months this year, there were 30 deaths and 89 injured persons from YBS accidents, according to Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRCT).

In January, there were seven YBS accidents that left four fatalities and seven hurt. Five YBS accidents in February left four deaths and three injuries, eight YBS accidents and two other cases in March caused four fatalities and 22 injuries, and three YBS accidents and one case in April caused two deaths and two injuries.

Seven road accidents in May left four deaths and five injured, five road accidents in June left three deaths and three injuries, eight road accidents and another one case in July left seven fatalities and 32 wounded, and there were five road accidents and another one case in August, left two deaths and 15 injured, according to YR-

TC's statistics.

Under casualty data collected until 29 August, 12 pedestrians and nine cyclists were killed in YBS accidents. Two people died from falling from a bus, two people were killed in a collision with a motorcycle, and a further two people were dead from a collision with a private car; one person was dead from a collision with a taxi, one person was dead from a collision with a truck, and another one died from other case happened aboard.

From January until August, YRTC organizes seminars monthly to educate undisciplined YBS drivers about road safety, and so far, 1,296 drivers have been included. There are 21 YBS companies under the management of YRTC, and 131 bus lines commute about 1.4 million passengers daily by 3,800 buses. — MT/ZS

Illegal goods worth K814.6M seized across multiple townships

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat illicit trade are being effectively made to take effective action in accordance with the law.

On 3 September, combined duty teams under the management of the Customs Department made inspections. Two kinds of industrial materials worth K108.721 million that were different from the Import Declaration (ID) were captured from three containers at the Asia World Port container checkpoint, and two kinds of industrial materials valued at K86.549 million that were different from the ID were also impounded from two

containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port. The action was taken in accordance with Customs procedures.

Additionally, the combined teams captured two Nissan Diesel trucks (approximately worth K100 million) carrying ten kinds of industrial materials worth K98.231 million without official documents at the Kywetatsone checkpoint, two trucks (approximately worth K110 million), heading to Taunggyi from Hopong, carrying nine kinds of industrial materials and two kinds of consumer goods worth K69.785 million without official documents beyond the Aungthapyae tollgate in Ayeth-

aya township and three buses (estimated value of K85 million), travelling from Hpa-an to Mandalay, carrying ten kinds of foodstuffs, two sorts of consumer goods and industrial materials valued at K84.059 million without official documents at the Thanlwin Bridge (Tayothla side) combined checkpoint. The action was conducted in line with Customs procedures.

On the same day, the combined on-duty teams captured industrial materials worth K11.491 million without official documents in Kawthoung township, an unregistered Toyota Probox (estimated value of K3.5 million) in Mingaladon township

and a total of 1.394 tonnes of illegal teak and 9.345 tonnes of other timbers worth K442,051 in Lewe and Ottarathiri districts. The action was carried out under Customs procedures, the Export and Import Law and the Forest Law.

On the same day, the combined teams conducted inspections, resulting in the seizure of illegal teak weighing 1.07 tonnes and illegal other timbers weighing 1.108 tonnes worth K1.093 million in Bago and Toungoo districts and an unregistered motorbike (estimated value of K1.5 million) in Natmouk township. The action was executed under the Export and Import

Law.

Moreover, on 4 September, the combined teams conducted inspections resulting in the seizure of three unregistered vehicles and seven unregistered motorbikes (estimated value of K54.2 million) in Patheingyi, Pyawon, Hinthada, Myaungmya and Maubin districts. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

In total, from 3 and 4 September, a total of 46 cases were logged, resulting in the seizure of illegal commodities valued at approximately K814.573 million, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/MKKS

ECONOMY WORLD

Japan eyes new business support measures to improve food security

JAPAN'S agriculture ministry is mulling a new support system for food technology and agricultural businesses to improve the country's food security, sources familiar with the matter said Tuesday.

The plans come as the government seeks to ensure a stable supply of food at fair prices, addressing concerns over availability due to rising import costs related to the war in Ukraine, as well as production challenges arising from climate change and fewer domestic producers.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is considering steps to support partnerships between farming businesses and food makers, as well as tax incentives and low-interest loans for firms developing technology for food production and to minimize the environmental impact.

The proposed support includes facilitating partnerships between farming and food businesses, offering tax incentives, and providing low-interest loans for food technology advancements.



A farmer checks his rice field in Anjo, Aichi Prefecture in central Japan on 16 June 2022. PHOTO: KYODO/FILE

The provisions are expected to be included in the government and ruling parties' year-end outline on reforms to the tax system, with related legislation expected to be submitted to the 2025 ordinary Diet session.

Revisions to the law on food, agriculture and rural areas passed in May have made food security one of its basic principles, with the amended law including provisions to promote businesses that contribute to sustainable food supplies.

As medium- to small-sized firms make up the majority of Japan's food producers, strengthening their business foundations is an issue for the government. It plans to encourage small businesses to grow larger through business successions and mergers and acquisitions. — Kyodo

Report highlights New Zealand's weak grocery competition

Prices at the checkout are increasing faster than wholesale costs, with supermarket profit margins remaining high. This suggests a lack of genuine competition in the \$25 billion grocery sector.



Supermarket profit margins are high suggests that competition is insufficient, allowing supermarkets to charge higher prices and retain more profit than might be expected in a more competitive environment. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE PHOTO/WISEMOVE.CO.NZ

NEW Zealand's first annual grocery report published on Wednesday highlighted the weak grocery competition, and broader, structural problems with the country's trad-

ing, planning and regulatory systems.

The report underscored the need for reforms to cut red tape and promote competition, said Commerce and Consumer Affairs Minister Andrew Bayly.

Checkout prices have been rising more than wholesale costs, with supermarket margins increasing, and profit levels remaining higher than expected in a genuinely competitive market, said the report which painted a concerning picture of New Zealand's 25 billion-New Zealand dollar (US\$15.4 billion) grocery sector. — Xinhua

BRIEF: ECON

EU auditors warn of bloc's pandemic recovery fund delays

BILLIONS of euros available for EU states to boost their economies hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic are not reaching citizens and businesses fast enough, the bloc's spending watchdog warned Monday.

The European Union established the 800-billion-euro (\$900 billion) fund, known as the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), during the pandemic, financed in large part through common EU borrowing.

"The first three years of the EU's... RRF have seen delays in funds being disbursed and projects being implemented," the European Court of Auditors (ECA) said.

EU countries had drawn down less than a third of the planned recovery funds at the end of 2023, the auditors said.

"This put at risk the achievement of goals for helping EU countries recover from the Covid-19 pandemic and making them more resilient," it added in a statement.

The bloc agreed on the unprecedented mechanism in July 2020 after bitter negotiations in the face of opposition from frugal countries led by The Netherlands.

The countries, mainly in northern Europe, feared having to foot the bill for higher spending in their southern neighbours.

Italy and Spain are some of the main beneficiaries of the funds. To get the money, the 27 member states had to submit national investment plans linked to structural reforms. Money would then be disbursed by the commission if the countries achieved certain objectives. — AFP

TotalEnergies to invest \$444 million in solar venture with Adani

INDIA'S Adani Group will set up a joint venture with TotalEnergies to manage a 1,150-megawatt portfolio of solar projects in the western state of Gujarat, the company said Tuesday.

The deal, which will expand business ties between Indian billionaire Gautam Adani's conglomerate and the French firm, will see Adani Green Energy (AGEL) contribute its "current assets" to the new joint venture.

TotalEnergies will invest \$444 million to "accelerate the development of these projects".

A separate exchange filing said that AGEL and TotalEnergies will hold an equal stake in the tie-up.

AGEL is 19.75 per cent owned by TotalEnergies.

"The projects are located at the world's largest renewable energy plant in Khavda, Gujarat," AGEL said in a statement.

The Khavda site will extend over 538 square kilometres (207 square miles) — five times the size of Paris — and is aimed to produce solar and wind capacity of 30 GW, with 2GW already being produced by AGEL, TotalEnergies said in a statement. The electricity generated from the projects will be sold through purchase agreements with the Solar Energy Corporation of India and through sales on the

wholesale market.

"This new transaction will allow TotalEnergies to capitalize on the ongoing liberalization of the Indian electricity market," TotalEnergies said.

TotalEnergies has also been rapidly developing renewable electricity production, with 22 GW of installed gross production capacity at the end of 2023.

It aims to expand this to 35 GW by 2025.

The Adani Group, a sprawling ports-to-power conglomerate, saw \$150 billion wiped from its market value in early 2023 after a bombshell report by US-based short seller Hindenburg Research accused it of "brazen" corporate fraud. — AFP



The projects will be located at the Khavda site in Gujarat, which is part of the world's largest renewable energy plant. **PHOTO: PIXABAY**



File photo taken from a Kyodo News helicopter in April 2024 shows the Sharp Corp headquarters (front) and Sakai Display Products Corp in Sakai, Osaka Prefecture. **PHOTO: KYODO/FILE**

Sekisui mulls turning Sharp Osaka plant into next-gen solar cell hub

The aim is to transform the site into a production facility for next-generation perovskite solar cells.

SEKISUI Chemical Co is considering acquiring part of Sharp Corp's plant in Osaka Prefecture in a bid to make the obsolete factory a production hub of next-generation solar batteries, sources familiar with the matter said Wednesday.

The Japanese chemical firm plans to produce perovskite solar cells at the site, the sources said. The thin, light, flexible so-

lar batteries are designed to be installed in places where existing solar cells cannot be attached such as curved surfaces and the exterior walls of buildings.

The technology has been drawing attention in recent years as a way to significantly increase solar power generation. Japan's industry ministry is likely to subsidize the project as it is expected

to contribute to decarbonization, according to the sources.

Perovskite solar cells are made mainly from iodine and Japan is the second largest producer of the element in the world. The relative ease in building domestic supply chains is another reason the technology is being backed by Japan as it seeks to strengthen its economic security. — Kyodo



Commerzbank operates not only in Germany but also has branches and subsidiaries around the world, serving both international and domestic clients. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

German govt to reduce stake in Commerzbank

THE German government will gradually reduce its stake in Commerzbank which it built up when the country's second-biggest lender ran into trouble during the global financial crisis, authorities said Tuesday.

"The bank's economic situation has been steadily improving since 2021," said Eva Grunwald, head of the federal finance agency, in a statement.

The bank was pushed to the brink of bankruptcy during the financial crisis, prompting Berlin to commit huge sums to prop it up in 2008 and 2009.

The state still holds a 16.5 per cent stake in the lender. The finance agency did not give a timetable for the withdrawal.

The bank has gone through several rounds of cost-cutting and restructuring over the years.

But in recent times, like other banks, its results have been boosted by higher eurozone interest rates. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 9 VOY.NO. (03N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 9 VOY. NO. (03N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS
COMPANY LIMITED**

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD



Pope Francis (C) and Indonesia's President Joko Widodo (2nd L) are greeted by well-wishers following a meeting with Indonesian authorities, civil society and the diplomatic corps at the Presidential Palace in Jakarta. **PHOTO: POOL/AFP**

Pope makes appeal on extremism as he launches Asia tour

Pope Francis highlighted self-interest as a barrier to religious unity and a cause of global conflicts.

POPE Francis began his historic Asia-Pacific tour with a visit to Indonesia, meeting President Joko Widodo and promoting interfaith harmony in the world's largest Muslim-majority nation, as he embarked on the longest trip of his papacy at age 87.

Pope Francis appealed Wednesday for religious unity to counter extremism and intolerance, as the longest tour of the 87-year-old's papacy got into

full swing in Muslim-majority Indonesia.

On the first full day of his four-nation trip to the Asia-Pacific, the pontiff zeroed in on the role all faiths can play on flashpoint security issues.

"In order to foster a peaceful and fruitful harmony that ensures peace... the Church desires to strengthen inter-religious dialogue," the pope said in a speech after meeting

President Joko Widodo.

"(Extremists) through the distortion of religion attempt to impose their views by using deception and violence".

The pope criticized self-interest as a barrier to religious unity and a cause of global conflicts. He and Indonesian President Widodo called for greater freedom and tolerance in a world marked by unrest. — AFP

BRIEF : WORLD

Indian Coast Guard helicopter crash in Arabian Sea

TWO bodies have been recovered after three crew members went missing as an Indian Coast Guard (ICG) helicopter crashed into the Arabian Sea, while search for the third one is underway, officials said Wednesday.

The bodies of the helicopter pilot and its diver were recovered on Tuesday night.

According to the ICG, the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) crashed into the Arabian Sea off Gujarat's Porbandar coast on Monday night.

"On Monday ICG ALH was launched at 11 pm to evacuate an injured crew member from the Motor Tanker Hari Leela off Porbandar, Gujarat. The helicopter had to make an emergency hard landing and ditched into sea. One crew member recovered, search for the remaining three crew members is in progress," the ICG in an initial statement said. — Xinhua

Egypt's 1st intl airshow kicks off with global performances

THE first edition of the Egypt International Airshow kicked off on Tuesday at a northern airport in the country, with flight performances by air forces from Egypt, China, and other countries.

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi inaugurated the airshow, which is scheduled to run from Tuesday to Thursday at El Alamein International Airport in El Dabaa, Matrouh Governorate, the Egyptian state TV reported. The event has attracted more than 300 aviation and aerospace companies and agencies, as well as relevant authorities representing about 100 countries and regions, according to the

report. Among the participants are several Chinese companies, which have brought with them scale models of different types of aircraft, including China's self-developed large passenger aircraft, the C919. The first day of the airshow began with a flight performance by the Egyptian Air Force's Silver Stars. Air forces from China, the United States, France, Italy, the Czech Republic, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Türkiye, and India also presented their flight performances, including a notable solo display of the Y-20, China's domestically developed large transport aircraft. — Xinhua

Switzerland reopens embassy in Baghdad, Iraq after 33-year hiatus

SWITZERLAND has reopened the embassy in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad after it was closed in 1991 due to the Gulf War, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs said on Tuesday.

"As of today, Switzerland once again has a diplomatic presence in Iraq. The previous embassy was closed in 1991 due

to the 1991 Gulf War.

"The Federal Council aims to strengthen bilateral relations with Iraq and deepen cooperation in economic, security and migration matters," the statement read.

The Swiss government has long recognized Iraq's importance in the region, the depart-

ment said. The reopening of the diplomatic mission is part of the European nation's 2021-2024 strategy for the Middle East and North Africa adopted in 2020.

Since 2012, the Swiss embassy in the Jordanian capital of Amman has been responsible for relations with Iraq. — SPUTNIK



The Tigris River gracefully flows through Baghdad, serving as a lifeline to the city. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

SPORTS

Myanmar secure silver, bronze at 37th King's Cup Sepak Takraw Championship

AT the 37th King's Cup Sepak Takraw Championship in Thailand, the Myanmar Sepak Takraw team won one silver and one bronze medals as of the morning matches on 4 September.

In the women's hoop takraw event, the Myanmar team secured the silver medal, while in the mixed quadrant events, they clinched the bronze.

In the women's hoop takraw final, Team Myanmar faced off against the host nation, Thailand.

Despite a valiant effort, Myanmar lost with a score of 860-700, settling for the silver medal. Thailand won the gold, while Vietnam and Cambodia shared the bronze in this category.

In the mixed quadrant events, Myanmar was placed in Group B alongside Thailand, Japan, and Cambodia. The team achieved two wins and one loss, finishing second in their group and advancing to the semifinals. Myanmar defeated Japan and



Myanmar's women's hoop takraw team, who won the silver medal. PHOTO: MSTAF

Cambodia in straight sets but lost to Thailand in two sets. In the

semifinals, Myanmar faced Laos and suffered a defeat, resulting

in a shared bronze medal with Malaysia. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Zou Lijuan of China celebrates after the women's shot put F34 final of para athletics at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games in Paris, France, 3 September 2024. PHOTO: CAI YANG/XINHUA

Zou Lijuan of China won the women's shot put F34 final at Stade de France, earning her second gold medal.

China bags home 200th para athletics gold since 1984

ZOU Lijuan won the women's shot put F34 final at Stade de France on Tuesday, securing her second gold medal and marking China's 200th para-athletics gold since their first victory at the Paralympics in 1984. "It makes me happier than just winning a gold medal for myself," Zou said. "This remarkable achievement attributes to the government's concern for people with disabilities and athletes' spirit of persistence".

Also in para-athletics, Lamiya Valiyeva's world record time of 11.76 seconds secured her the T13 100-metre Paralympic title

for Azerbaijan.

Kimberly Alkmade of the Netherlands set a new record in the women's 200-metre T64 with a time of 25.42 seconds, and American Ezra French raised the Paralympic record to 1.94 metres in the men's high jump T63. The Chinese swimming team shone at La Defence Arena, winning four golds, four silvers, and three bronzes in just six races. They impressively swept the medals in the men's 50-metre backstroke S5 final before achieving the same feat in the women's event.

Men's 50-metre backstroke S5 gold medalist Yuan Weiyi was

not surprised by their success.

"Before the competition, we said to each other, 'We will take all the medals. All the medals need to go to China,'" Yuan said. "We are very proud we made it happen".

The United States claimed two gold medals and one silver on the first day of para-equestrian at the Chateau de Versailles.

Rebecca Hart won her first gold in the individual event grade III at her fifth Paralympic Games, while her teammate and Paralympic debutant Fiona Howard took the title in grade II. — Xinhua

Quarterfinals of 2024 MFF Futsal Championship set for today

THE quarterfinal matches of the 2024 MFF Futsal Championship will run today at the MFF Futsal Arena in Thuwunna Stadium, Yangon.

Today's matches will see Pyay Sone FC taking on TG United at 9:30 am, followed by Winner Soccer versus MH Dream Team at 11:15 am. Defending champions VUC will face Futsal-19 at 1 pm, and the final quarterfinal match will feature Seven FC against MIU at 2:45 pm.

These teams advanced to the quarterfinals after winning their knockout round matches on 2 and 3 September: Pyaesone FC edged out Power HBI 3-2, TG United narrowly defeated YCDC Marga 1-0, Winner Soccer shut out M-Million 3-0, and MH Dream Team dominated UPK with a 6-0 victory. VUC, the reigning champions, continued their strong form with a 5-1 win over Generations, Futsal-19 blanked M2K 3-0, Seven FC won a close 3-2 battle against 7 Brother, and MIU secured a 3-1 victory over YRG. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Myanmar U-20 to face Bahrain U-20 today

IN preparation for the 2025 AFC U-20 Asian Cup, the Myanmar U-20 team, currently training in Thailand, will compete against the Bahrain U-20 team in their first friendly match today.

Team Myanmar has been in training from 1 to 14 September and was initially scheduled to play five friendly matches. However, due to changes in opponent teams, they will now compete in only three friendlies. The remaining fixtures include a match against the Thailand League 3 club, Kamphaeng Phet University, on 9 September and against the Cambodia U-20 team on 13 September. Under the guidance of head coach U Aung Naing, the Myanmar U-20 squad, featuring promising young players, will be aiming to showcase their skills in these preparatory games. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Indian diaspora gives grand welcome to PM Modi in Singapore

The discussions will focus on enhancing strategic cooperation in various areas such as digitization, skills development, sustainability, health, advanced manufacturing, and connectivity.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Singapore on Wednesday to a rousing welcome, as he was greeted by the members of the Indian community in a rousing welcome.

PM Modi said he is looking forward to the various meetings aimed at boosting the India-Singapore friendship and closer cultural ties.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Singapore on 4 September 2024, to strengthen India-Singapore relations. Announcing his arrival on social media platform X, PM Modi expressed eagerness for meetings aimed at enhancing bilateral ties, promoting India as a prime investment destination due to its reforms and youthful



Upon his arrival, PM Modi received a warm and enthusiastic welcome from the Indian community, who celebrated the occasion with traditional gifts like the 'rakhi'. **PHOTO: ANI**

talent, and fostering cultural connections.

Upon landing, he was warmly welcomed by the Indian community, who greeted him enthusiastically and presented him with a traditional 'rakhi' and gifts, marking the occasion as a "dream come true" for many.

During his visit, PM Modi will meet Singapore's President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, Senior Minister Lee Hsien Loong, and Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong.

The agenda includes signing multiple Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and engaging with Singapore's business leaders. The trip follows a recent India-Singapore ministerial roundtable that focused on digitization, skills development, sustainability, health, advanced manufacturing, and connectivity.

PM Modi aims to deepen strategic cooperation in these areas, highlighting the visit's significance for both nations' future collaboration. — ANI



Photo shows a mock-up of ispace Inc's lunar micro rover Tenacious at Japan Airlines Co's facility at Haneda airport in Tokyo on 4 September 2024. **PHOTO: KYODO**

ispace's lunar rover arrives in Japan to prepare for space probe

Takeshi Hakamada, CEO, emphasized resilience and learning from past failures: "The rover's name, Tenacious, embodies our resolve never to give up and keep making efforts."

LEADING Japanese space startup ispace Inc said Wednesday its lunar micro rover has arrived in Japan from Luxembourg for a series of inspections ahead of its second lunar exploration mission this winter.

The rover, named Tenacious, will be integrated into its lunar lander Resilience, and is expected to be launched

from Cape Canaveral in Florida on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, the company said. The latest plan comes after the company's failed attempt in April 2023 to become the world's first private firm to land a spacecraft on the lunar surface. Its lander is thought to have crashed on the Moon's surface during its final

approach, it said at the time.

"The rover's name, Tenacious, embodies our resolve never to give up and keep making efforts," Takeshi Hakamada, founder and CEO of ispace, said at a press conference at Haneda airport in Tokyo. "We will learn from our experience and keep trying." — Kyodo

Thai King endorses new cabinet under PM Paetongtarn

THAILAND'S King Maha Vajiralongkorn has endorsed members of a new cabinet under the leadership of Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra, a royal command said on Wednesday.

According to the official Royal Gazette, the king appointed 35 cabinet ministers as selected by Paetongtarn, including six deputy prime ministers and other ministers, after her endorsement as the new prime minister of the Southeast Asian country last month.

The ruling Pheu Thai Party holds the largest share of 17 seats in the cabinet, with most of the appointees being existing ministers and deputy ministers who served under the previous Srettha Thavisin administration. — Xinhua