

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win chairs the meeting to submit the additional budget of the Union for the 2024-2025 financial year yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

**A** meeting on the submission of the additional budget of the Union for the 2024-25 financial year took place at the office of the State Administration Council Chairman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon, with an address by Financial Commission Vice-Chairman SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General said that the Head of State has given guidance to raise expenditures for defence and security measures, development of socioeconomic life of the people, State economy, development of agriculture and livestock sectors, smooth transport, development of standardised infrastructure, transport, electric power and energy sectors, education and health sectors for the development of human resources, domestic product production, operation of industries for foodstuffs and consumer goods, employment opportunities, and arrangements for holding the national level MSME expo and contest to turn out skilled workers

## Union Budget boosts prioritized sectors for 2024-25 FY

Vice-Senior General Soe Win underlined that the relevant ministries have to earn increased incomes in the coming financial years.

in 2024-25 financial year.

He continued to say that estimated income amounted to more than K31,000 billion in 2024-25 FY and expenses were more than K39,000 billion. The approved budget totalled more than K35,000 billion but expenses, more than K41,000 billion. As the approved GDP was K155,543.534 billion, the ratio of the estimated budget to the deficit was 5.17 per cent and the approved budget to deficit was 3.91 per cent.

Concerning incomes, the Vice-Senior General explained that the income was earmarked to increase K4,070.364 billion in the estimated budget. Hence, the relevant ministries have to earn increased incomes in the coming financial years.

In spending measures, he noted that the estimated budget allowed more than K39,000 billion in past eight months of the financial year and more than K41,000 billion for the remaining four months. The meeting needs to scrutinize expenditures

to be reduced and the surplus from it will be spent on related measures after Typhoon Yagi as quickly as possible, and these tasks must be done before 15 March following the guidance of the Prime Minister.

The Vice-Senior General invited all to discuss if they want to increase or reduce incomes and expenditures on the situations scrutinized by the Budget Scrutiny Committee.

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According to Order 188/2024 of the State Administration Council, the Myanmar Press Council was restructured on the 5<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tazaungmone 1386 ME (20 November 2024). **PAGE 4**

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2024 Mid-Year Gems Emporium continues for third day

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Over 100,000 visit Taungthaman Lake and Bridge during Tazaungdine Festival

**BUSINESS** PAGE 7



MGMA to open Advanced Sewing Machine Operator Training (Batch 9) on 26 Nov

# NATIONAL

## Cooperative System: Key to Economic Development in Myanmar

- The cooperative system is the most suitable approach for Myanmar to develop its economic sector under current conditions.
- This system fosters collaboration among entrepreneurs and farmers who share common goals and ideas.

*(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the Union government meeting 6/2024 on 29 July 2024.)*



Gem traders evaluate jade stones on the third day of the 2024 Mid-Year Gems Emporium being held at Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: PHOE PYAE SONE**

## 2024 Mid-Year Gems Emporium continues for third day

THE third day of the 2024 Mid-Year Gems Emporium was held at Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Local and foreign merchants looked around and viewed the displays of pearl lots from No 141 to 280 in the hall, and put the proposed prices in the tender box.

The officials inspected the prices for pearl lots from No 141 to 280 and announced that a total of 100 pearl lots

were sold.

Patron of the Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi observed the tender processes in the evening.

The emporium will sell 160 gem lots on its fourth day. The foreign gem merchants can make the payment for their procurements in the US dollar, euro, yuan, baht and foreign

currencies allowed by the Central Bank of Myanmar, and the local merchants can pay in foreign currency or in kyat.

Similarly, among the 4,800 jade lots divided into three groups (A, B, and C), the sales of Group A and B will be on 22-24 November, and Group C will be on 25-27 November.

The emporium is being held at the Maniyadana Jade Hall from 18 to 27 November. — Aye Aye Thant/KTZH

### Myanmar Gazette

## Appointment of Head of Service Organization

THE State Administration Council has appointed U Min Zaw Win, Deputy Director-General of the Pension Department under the Ministry of Planning and Finance, as Director-General of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar of the same ministry on probation he assumes charge of his duties.



## Theme for 104<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Victory Day 2024

**Let's unite all nationalities for Union peace**

10<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tazaungmone 1386 ME  
25 November 2024



### 23<sup>rd</sup> Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners' Conference and

### Myanmar Traditional Medicine Seminar

20, 21, 22 November 2024

Nay Pyi Taw

## Objectives for 104<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Victory Day 2024

- To foster mutual respect and trust among all nationalities, ensuring durable peace
- To cultivate a well-educated populace with the knowledge and skills necessary for the State's development
- To encourage nationwide support for the education sector; contributing towards the all-round development of the State
- To enhance domestic production, ensuring the prosperity and food security of the State

# NATIONAL

## Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

*(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)*

### FROM PAGE 1

Chairman of the Budget Scrutiny Committee for the Union and Regions and States SAC Member General Nyo Saw explained scrutiny over additional budgets of the Union and regions and states for the 2024-25 financial year in advance, process of scrutiny measures aligned with the policies adopted by the State, and increased expenditure for prioritized sectors.

## Union Budget boosts prioritized sectors for 2024-25 FY

Secretary of the Financial Commission Union Minister U Win Shein, Deputy Minister U Min Htut and Union Auditor-General Dr Khin Naing Oo reported on the progress of scrutinizing the additional budget of the Union for 2024-25

FY, estimated budget and approved budget, State-owned foreign currencies and estimated expense and approved budget, an allowed additional budget, and auditing over incomes and expense accounts.

Those from Union-level

organizations and Union ministries participated in sectoral discussions with a supplementary discussion of the commission secretary.

The meeting ended with a remark by the Vice-Senior General who coordinated necessary

measures.

The meeting was also attended by Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw and officials together with Union-level dignitaries, Union ministers, deputy ministers and officials through videoconferencing. — MNA/TTA



Deputy Prime Minister Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Than Swe accepts the credentials from the WFP Representative to Myanmar yesterday.

## WFP Representative to Myanmar presents credentials to DPM MoFA Union Minister

MR MICHAEL JOHN DUNFORD, Representative of the United Nations World Food Programme to Myanmar, presented his Credentials to U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the presentation

of credentials, they exchanged views on matters relating to the existing cooperation between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and WFP and the future programme of WFP in Myanmar.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were also present at the meeting. — MNA

## Myanmar delegation visits Shanghai International Terminal

THE Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing left for China on 17 November at the invitation of the Chinese government to deepen collaboration in census collection and immigration processes between the two countries.

The delegation arrived at Bai Yan International Airport, in Guangzhou, and proceeded to Shanghai International Airport in the evening.

On 19 November morning, the Union minister visited the Shanghai International Terminal and heard the presentation made by an official of SIPG Haitong Logistics company regarding the storage system of vehicles to be exported to international countries at the terminal, recent work to maintain the vehicles that will be exported abroad in layers in the warehouse, ongoing plans, orderly placement of vehicles in the work sites and their working processes.

They also observed the

loading processes of the vehicles to be exported internationally, including Southeast Asian countries, onto the international sea-going ship at the Shanghai terminal.

They proceeded to observe the loading of containers loaded with goods to be exported to international countries, onto the sea-going vessels, and heard the explanations of officials on immi-

gration processes and maritime trade-related matters.

On arrival at the Terminal Control Centre, they observed the technology to oversee the loading and unloading operations at the terminal.

Afterwards, Chief Station Director Mr Gong Yao of the Shanghai Entry-Exit Frontier Inspection Station hosted lunch for the delegation. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Myint Kyaing tours the control centre of the Shanghai International Terminal, China, on 19 November.

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# NATIONAL

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Order 188/2024

5<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tazaungmone 1386 ME  
20 November 2024

### Myanmar Press Council Reconstituted

UNDER Section 13 of the News Media Law, the Myanmar Press Council has been reorganized with the following members: -

1. Dr Tin Htun Oo	Chairperson	16. U Okka Aye	Member
2. U Khin Maung Zaw	Vice-Chairperson 1	17. U Win Naing (Min Set Paing)	Member
3. U Khin Maung Kyaw Din	Vice-Chairperson 2	18. U San Lwin	Member
4. U Tin Ko Ko	Treasurer	19. U Pyay Soe Han	Member
5. U Sein Toe (Sann Lin)	Auditor	20. U Tin Win (Tin Win Lay - Kyimyindine)	Member
6. Dr Zaw Than	Member	21. Daw Nila Myo Oo	Member
7. Professor Dr Mya Thein Han	Member	22. Daw Hnin Aye Khaing	Member
8. Dr Khin Maung Lwin	Member	23. U Aye Chan	Secretary
9. Dr Tin Aung Khaing	Member	24. U Hla Htut Oo (Cartoon Hla Htut)	Joint Secretary 1
10. U Aung Kyi (Aung Kyi Nyunt - Tetkatho)	Member	25. U Ye Min Soe (Maung Mawk Wutlon)	Joint Secretary 2
11. U Myint Thein (Maung Maung Myint Thein)	Member		
12. U Kyi Nyunt	Member		
13. Dr Sann Oo	Member		
14. U Myat Soe (Myat Soe - Hlaing)	Member		
15. U Thaik Htun	Member		

By order,

Aung Lin Dwe  
General  
Secretary

## DPM MoFA Union Minister receives Senior Fund Portfolio Manager of Global Fund in Geneva, Switzerland



Deputy Prime Minister Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Than Swe and Senior Fund Portfolio Manager from Global Fund Ms Maria Iazskun Gaviria Ayucar discuss Global Fund's ongoing activities in Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs received Ms Maria Iazskun Gaviria Ayucar, Senior Fund Portfolio Manager of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis

and Malaria, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They exchanged views on matters related to the Global Fund's ongoing activities in Myanmar. They discussed en-

hancing cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and the Global Fund.

Senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present on the occasion. — MNA

## Union Health Minister discusses collaboration with Global Fund delegation

UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win met a delegation led by Senior Fund Portfolio Manager Ms Maria Iazskun Gaviria Ayucar from the Geneva-based Global Fund headquarters yesterday at the ministry.

They discussed ongoing collaborative efforts for 2024–2026 between the Ministry of Health and the Global Fund, focusing on the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis (TB),

HIV/AIDS, and malaria.

Topics included enhancing cooperation in these health initiatives, the government's funding for HIV/AIDS and TB medications, ensuring the availability of essential medicines, and the ministry's oversight of fund utilization and programme implementation. Both sides expressed a commitment to continuing cooperation frankly and cordially.

— MNA/KZL



Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win and Senior Fund Portfolio Manager from Global Fund Ms Maria Iazskun Gaviria Ayucar discuss cooperation in the health sector in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

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

# NATIONAL

## Read findings on 2020 election fraud and unlawful acts on website and mobile app

Individuals at home and abroad can read the findings in the investigation of “voting fraud and unlawful acts”, which occurred in the 2020 multiparty democratic general election on the website and mobile application, starting from 22 November.

Website and mobile application showcase the conspiracy in advance in the pre-electoral period, actions in the electoral period and events in the post-electoral period, verification over voter lists of 315 townships included in the election in the entire Myanmar, investigation on the ground and findings in investigation over the whole event of the election, revocation of the electoral results of the 2020 multiparty democratic general election, reviews on the 2020 multiparty democratic general election, and documentary photos. Individuals can read all sectors, including the findings in the investigation of voting fraud and unlawful acts, which happened in the 2020 multiparty democratic general election in a single platform.

Moreover, these presentations are expressed in five languages: Myanmar, English, Chinese, Russian and Japanese. Readers can visit the website <https://2020election.uec.gov.mm> and on mobile application downloaded from the website. — MNA/TTA

Findings on voting fraud and unlawful acts in the 2020 multiparty democratic general election are available on the website and mobile app at <https://2020election.uec.gov.mm>.

## Myanmar marks 35<sup>th</sup> World Children's Day

THE Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement marked the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (World Children's Day) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister Dr Soe Win, who is also Chairman of the National Committee on the Rights of the Child, said Myanmar became a member of UNCRC on 15 August 1991 and celebrated World Children's Day annually. Moreover, the country focuses on inclusive access to children in child protection activities such as promoting the investment in education sector, a free health-care system and promotion of

children's rights. The mental and physical support teams for

Typhoon Yagi-affected children were sent to the sites to distrib-

ute the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Kits

and create a warm atmosphere for the children.

He then added that the theme for 2024 is "Listen to the Future" encouraging to listen to children's hopes, dreams and visions for the future and to promote children's rights to participation.

Afterwards, the Union minister and party watched the performance of the children and trainees of Nay Pyi Taw Childcare Centre, Youths Training School temporarily opened in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay School for the Deaf, Yangon Girls' Training School (Malikha) and Kyaikwyne Boys' Training School, and awarded the performers. — MNA/KTZH



The commemorative group photo of the 35<sup>th</sup> World Children's Day in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

# NATIONAL

## Over 1.8M travellers visit Shwedagon in July-Oct



Photos showcase the Mathoe Thingan (robe) Offering Ceremony being held at the Shwedagon Pagoda.

FROM July to October 2024, more than 1.8 million domestic and international travellers visited the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon Region, according to U Bo Thin, a member of the pagoda board of trustees.

approximately 10,000 pilgrims, while religiously significant days see over 100,000 visitors,” he stated.

In 2024, over 500,000 in January and February, more than 800,000 in March, over 600,000 in April, more than 500,000 each in May and June, over 400,000 in July, more than 300,000 in August, over 500,000 in September, and more than 600,000 in October, visited the pagoda, respectively.

The Shwedagon Pagoda has been open from 4 am to 10 pm daily since 21 July 2024 to accommodate the increasing number of pilgrims. — ASH/MKKS

“On regular days, there are

## New Myanmar TV series to premiere on Fortune TV in late Nov

A new Myanmar television series titled ‘Swaltaw Ywat Ponpyin’ is set to air in late November, according to director Thar Nyi, who created the series for the Mawlamyine film production company.

Nway Oo Kyaw wrote the story and screenplay.

“The plot is a simple love triangle set in a rural village. It revolves around Min Khant, a young man cherished by the entire village, who works alongside his best friends, Nyo Chaw and Thurein, for the betterment of their community. Min Khant occasionally writes his aspirations on a Swaltaw leaf. The series explores how



This image depicts a poster of the new movie series.

the dynamics among the three friends evolve,” explained Director Thar Nyi.

The series features a cast that includes Htoo Aung, Shane, Su Htet, A Nyint, and Aye Than-

dar Bo, along with other supporting actors and actresses. Starting from 23 November, it will air every Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 pm on Fortune TV Channel. — ASH/TKO

## Over 100,000 visit Taungthaman Lake and Bridge during Tazaungdine Festival

DURING the Tazaungdine Festival, over 100,000 visitors came to the Taungthaman Bridge and Taungthaman Lake in Mandalay Region, according to Secretary U Soe Win of the Taungthaman Bridge Maintenance Committee.

“This year saw even larger crowds compared to previous years. A plain called Taungthaman Meze has developed into a small resort area, attracting many visitors seeking relaxation. During the festival, daily visitor numbers exceeded 50,000, and

on the full moon day of Tazaungmone, over 100,000 people came,” said U Soe Win.

Taungthaman Bridge and Taungthaman Lake are among the most popular tourist attractions in Mandalay Region, drawing both local and international travellers. Domestic tourists primarily come from cities such as Mandalay, PyinOoLwin, Taunggyi, and Yangon, while international visitors mainly include tourists from Thailand, Vietnam, and South Korea. — ASH/TMT

## Production begins on Miss Grand Myanmar 2024’s movie debut

MISS Grand Myanmar 2024, Thae Su Nyein, is set to make her artistic debut in a major Myanmar film. The film’s production launch ceremony was held on 19 November at Kyaikakan Pagoda, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region, as confirmed by director Academy Ko Zaw (Aryone Oo).

The film, titled ‘Pwal’ (Event), is based on a story by Didi Htet Aung, with a screenplay co-written by Didi Htet Maung and Min Ko Soe (Nat Thangwin). Academy Ko Zaw (Aryone Oo) will direct this romantic comedy under Bo Bo Film Production.

“This marks the beginning of the “Pwal”

film production. The cast was selected by the production team. Myint Myat is perfect for his role – no doubt about it. This film is a fun and lighthearted story meant to bring joy to audiences. It’s an adaptation of an existing narrative but adjusted slightly to suit Thae Su Nyein’s character. The role aligns beautifully with her personality,” said Academy Ko Zaw (Aryone Oo).

The star-studded cast includes Academy Myint Myat, Academy Kyaw Kyaw Bo, Nyi Htut Khaung, Academy Soe Myat Thuzar, Naw Phaw El Htar, Miss Grand Myanmar 2024 Thae Su Nyein, Khin Hlaing, Zaw Win Naing (Mann), Thwet Latt, and many others. — ASH/KZL



This image showcases visitors at the Taungthaman Bridge.

## MGMA to open Advanced Sewing Machine Operator Training (Batch 9) on 26 Nov

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) will offer the Advanced Sewing Machine Operator Training (Batch 9) from 26 November to 6 December 2024 at Myanmar Garment Human Resources Development Training Centre (MGHRDC).

The trainer will share sewing methods of parts of fabric such as pocket covers, spiral, shoulder corner seams, pockets, different types of pocket, different ways of inserting zippers, long sleeve shirts and "A" skirts with belts. Additionally, six

special sewing methods including buttonhole sewing machine, button attached machine, Bartack Machine, Overlock 4 threads, Overlock 5 thread and 2 Needle will be provided to trainees.

MGMA also conducted a Basic Sewing Machine Operator Training Course (Batch 245) from 28 October to 15 November 2024 at the training centre.

Those who wish to attend the training can enrol through the contact numbers of MGHRDC 09 940858350, 09 450723262, 09 9403912570, 09 784085794 and 09 952802635. — NN/KK



An instructor demonstrates sewing methods to trainees during a sewing machine operator training course at MGHRDC.

## MRF establishes organic fertilizer model farms in Nay Pyi Taw, 4 regions



This photo shows a model paddy field with utilization of organic compound fertilizer in Thanatpin Township, Bago Region.

MYANMAR Rice Federation (MRF) stated that model farming with utilization of organic compound fertilizer reached 39 plots in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Mandalay and Ayeyawady regions in the 2024-2025 monsoon paddy season.

Department of Agriculture, MRF and organic fertilizer manufacturing companies joined hands to do research on model farming with the use of organic compound fertilizer to ramp up paddy yield, save some agricultural input, create sustainable agriculture and improve good

agricultural practices.

Demonstration, farmers awareness campaigns and harvesting were conducted in those research farms.

MRF has been carrying out repatriation activities in flood-stricken areas affected by Typhoon Yagi in early September. They are joining hands with related institutions and departments for agricultural post-flood recovery programmes. MRF contributed towards vulnerable farmers who suffered due to unprecedented flooding, along with affiliated associa-

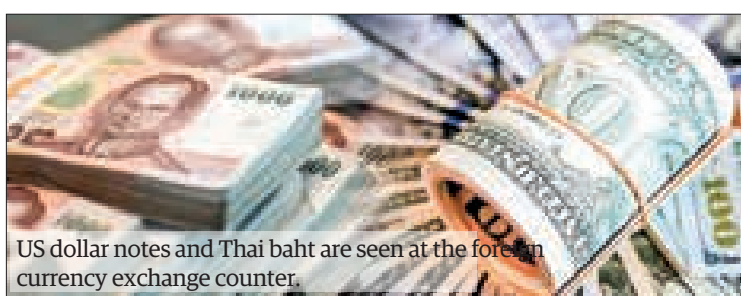
tions (Myanmar Rice Millers Association, Myanmar Paddy Producers Association, Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association, member companies). MRF put K500 million for the donation of rice bags, paddy seed and fertilizer and K1.25 billion of capital revolving fund to offer zero-interest loans for farmers through a Leading Group for the Protection of Farmer Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation under those programmes. — NN/KK

## CBM sells US\$20M, 100 Thai baht to fuel oil importers on 19 Nov

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) pumped US\$20 million and 100 million Thai baht on 19 November and over \$12,000 on 18 November.

CBM announced on 16 November the sale of \$35 million to fuel oil importers on 16 November.

CBM injected \$400,000 into the financial market on 14 November. It sold 14.5 million baht on 12 November, after announcing to sell 15 million baht to importers on 11 November.



US dollar notes and Thai baht are seen at the foreign currency exchange counter.

It sold over 800,000 yuan on 11 November, over 2.17 million yuan and \$3,000 again on 8 November after sales of over 2.1 million baht, two million yuan and over \$3,300 on 7 November and

about \$9,000, 490,000 yuan and 1.2 million baht on 6 November.

It announced on 5 November the sale of seven million yuan and 20 million baht to importers on foreign exchange trading plat-

forms. CBM sold \$15 million, 1.5 million yuan and 100.8 million baht on 4 November.

CBM injected over \$91 million, over 9.8 million yuan and over 610 million baht into the financial market in October 2024. CBM also sold over \$76 million, 86 million baht and 4.8 million yuan in September. Moreover, CBM sold over \$190 million, 19 million yuan and 79 million baht in August.

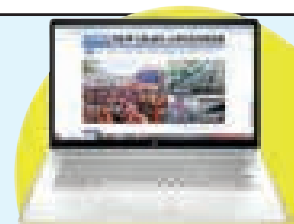
CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange

market and the currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been joining hands with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



# OPINION

## Crackdown on the production and import of low-quality drugs

**L**OW-QUALITY drugs cannot benefit users; instead, they can worsen diseases and exacerbate both physical and mental suffering. Therefore, government authorities work to combat the production and distribution of substandard traditional medicines, as well as the import of poor-quality pharmaceuticals, to protect patients' well-being.

Although some traditional medicines are used in society, it is often unclear whether these products are of good quality. In fact, producers of low-quality traditional medicines commit crimes by distributing these drugs to the public without proper guarantees.

Regardless of the circumstances, unscrupulous individuals will face legal action. Law enforcement agencies in various countries are exposing low-quality traditional medicines and substandard imported Western drugs on the market. On one hand, government departments must raise public awareness to help people choose quality medications for both physical and mental health, while also conducting regular inspections of chemist shops to protect the socioeconomic well-being of the population.

public health. These individuals fail to consider the long-term consequences, such as how their substandard products might undermine the country's healthcare system. As a result of their malpractice, low-quality drugs spread throughout society, leading to detrimental effects on the nation's health sector.

All human beings rely on modern medical technology and drugs to alleviate their ailments. However, many still turn to traditional medicines passed down by their ancestors. This is particularly common in certain countries in Asia and Southeast Asia, where traditional medicine is widely practised. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 75-80 per cent of the global population uses traditional medicines, many of which are derived from herbal plants.

However, some unscrupulous businesspersons mix traditional medicines with Western medicine powders and sell them in the market. They lure patients with limited health awareness into using their low-quality drugs, ultimately making these patients victims of exploitation.

Regardless of the circumstances, unscrupulous individuals will face legal action. Law enforcement agencies in various countries are exposing low-quality traditional medicines and substandard imported Western drugs on the market. On one hand, government departments must raise public awareness to help people choose quality medications for both physical and mental health, while also conducting regular inspections of chemist shops to protect the socioeconomic well-being of the population.

These substandard medicines fail to heal patients and may cause harmful side effects. As a result, patients experience both physical and mental harm from using these drugs.

Unscrupulous traditional medicine producers use inappropriate ingredients in their drugs. Although they initially obtain clearance for their products by presenting high-quality drugs to the relevant authorities, they gradually substitute these with a mix of Western medicines and substandard traditional ingredients. As a result, some drugs are overly potent, while others lack effectiveness.

On the other hand, some businesspeople prioritize their own interests over ethical practices. They import low-quality drugs that are unsuitable for patient consumption, disregarding the potential harm to

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

By THAN HTUN (GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

## EPISODE:50

### Mount Popa Region

This article describes the igneous activity in the Mount Popa region, as extracted from Chapter XXX of *The Geology of Burma*, written by HL Chhibber in 1934.

Mount Popa forms the largest and southernmost of the group of Lower Chindwin volcanoes. Most of the lavas resemble the types already described by Chindwin, and the same type names were used in the original description.

The area occupies about 500 square miles and lies between 20° 40' and 21° 3'N lat. and 95° 6' and 95° 22' E long. It is represented on the one-inch Burma Survey map sheets: 84O/4, O/8, P/1, P/2/P/5, and P/6.

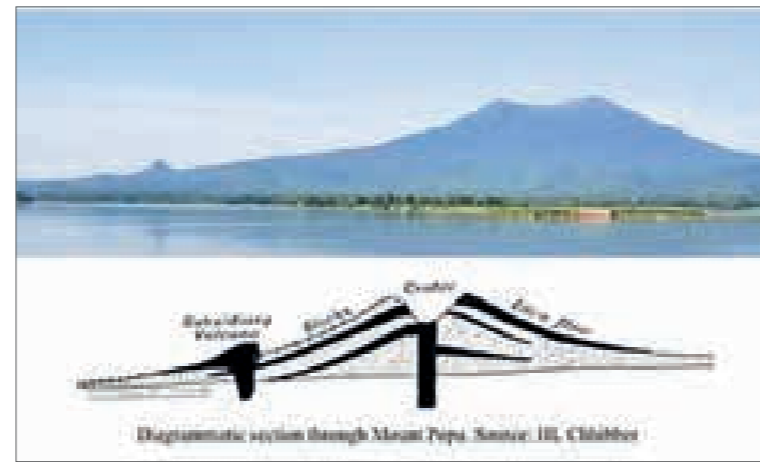
### Physical Geography

Mount Popa forms a conspicuous landmark in the heart of the dry belt of central Burma. It is an ideal example of a recently extinct volcano, and it would be difficult to find a volcano more suitable than Mount Popa for textbook illustration. The main mountain originally had a circular crater. Still, the whole of the north-western side was blown away, probably by the final paroxysmal outburst, which suggests that the last eruption must have projected its discharge inclined to the volcano's sides in that direction. The present mountain is, therefore, shaped like a horseshoe, and it is possible to walk into the crater through the breach in the northern wall. Indeed, cultivation has been carried from the west, the breach is hidden, and the mountain presents the conical silhouette characteristic of an ordinary volcano, with concave slopes steepest near the crater rim. The highest points on the rim are situated on lava flows, marking the points where successive flows, welling out of the crater, escaped over it. The highest points are 4,981, 4,801, and 4,501 feet at sea level, according to the survey maps, and the volcano rises about 3000 feet from its base. The crater wall on the inside is still precipitous in most places - often a sheer cliff with vertical drops up to 1,000 feet.

On the south-western slopes in the extremely precipitous isolated peak known locally as Taunggala (Taungkalat), representing the infilled neck or plug of a subsidiary volcano. The main mass of Mount Popa rests on a level plateau, roughly 1,000 feet above the surrounding plains and about 1,800 feet above sea level. This platform represents the surface level of the land before the building up of the cone and has been preserved by the resistant capping of lava and tuff.

The main mass of Mount Popa should not be confused with the subsidiary ranges of hills to the south and southwest. These hills mark the occurrence of masses of igneous rock of a date earlier than the lavas of the main mountain.

Running southeastwards from Popa is a range of low, wooded hills extending for some 15 miles, as far as the village of Mogan. The higher points are capped by an older lava and the whole seems to have formed originally a continuous flow. On the south-western side is the Taungni massif of acid tuffs and lavas reaching 1,886 feet above sea level. Quite separated from the Popa hills are the Kyaukpadaung hills, running in an NW-SE direction for about four miles, with two isolated ridges near Kywelu. These hills were found by Hallows to be composed of acid tuffs and lavas lying to the southwest of Popa and south of the town of Kyaukpadaung. The small isolated vent of Taungnauk, which is an auxiliary of the Kyaukpadaung hills, is seen about two miles northeast of the town of Kyaukpadaung.



### General Geology of the Region

It is rather difficult to diagnose the age of two bands of igneous rock unless they are seen in contact. The following table indicates, however, the sequence of the strata in order as far as can be established by field observations.

Formation	Age
IX. Stream Alluvium.	Recent.
VIII. Volcanic detrital Alluvium.	Recent.
VII. The younger Andesites and Basalts with associated Tuffs and Conglomerates.	Largely post-Pliocene.
VI. The interbedded black Tuffs and Ashes.	Pliocene.
V. The Taungni and other partially silicified white Tuffs and Lavas.	Pliocene.
IV. The Kyaukpadaung silicified Tuffs and Lavas.	Pliocene.
III. The Older Andesites and associated Tuffs.	Pliocene.
II. The Irrawaddy Series.	Mio-Pliocene
I. The Pegu Series.	Oligo-Miocene

Towards the east of Mount Popa, the Pegu Series is exposed, while on the west Irrawaddian sands are seen. The lavas of Mount Popa and other volcanic rocks seem to have been erupted along the Pegu-Irrawaddian junction.

### The Older Andesites and the Associated Tuffs

The older andesites lying southwards of lat. 20° 53'N are much older than the rocks of the present Mount Popa, described as "the younger series". The former exhibit bedding in places and have taken part in the folding movements that characterised the close of the Tertiary period. It is quite probable that the older andesites and the Kyaukpadaung tuffs and lavas are roughly of the same age, though the andesites, as usual, were the first to form, since xenoliths of andesite have been found in the tuffs and rhyolites of Kyaukpadaung and Taungni.

The lower slopes of the hills are often composed of volcanic tuff (conglomeratic in places) overlain by the andesite. Sometimes fragments of Pegu sandstones are enclosed in this clastic rock and the cement is either calcareous or ferruginous.

This lava, as remarked in the section on geotectonics, has participated in the movement which folded the associated Peguan and Irrawaddian rocks. In places, these andesites are characterised by the presence of amygdules filled with pale yellow nail-headed spars which on fracture show radiating structure. These are very common, especially one mile northeast of Okshikton village, occurring

as veins in the andesite and filling the interspaces.

The older andesites as described below comprise the following types:

- (1) Pyroxene-andesite.
- (2) Augite-hornblende-andesite.
- (3) Biotite-pyroxene-andesite.
- (4) Pyroxene-andesite with hauyne.
- (5) Acid spherulitic andesite.

### Gwelon Andesites

Similar, but highly silicified older andesites exist south of the village of Gwelon and west of Konde. There are three isolated outcrops of this rock surrounded by partially silicified white tuffs, one near the Pagoda "1145", the second marked "1159", and the third immediately to the south of it. The strike of the rocks coincides with the strike of the main mass of the older andesites and the two may have been contemporaneous in eruption, but it seems likely that this area marks a separate focus of volcanic disturbance and the height of the vents has been lowered by denudation. These rocks consist mainly of pyroxene-biotite-andesites and biotite-andesites, but their striking character is their silicification, a condition brought about by gases and vapours, which also silicified the neighbouring tuffs and so on.

It appears that the Gwelon andesites are intermediate between the basic andesites towards the east and the acidic andesites on the west, and hence afford an admirable illustration of differentiation of magma in the case of extrusive lavas.

### The Kyaukpadaung Silicified Tuffs and Lavas

The Kyaukpadaung hills extend roughly in an NW-SE direction and are composed of silicified tuffs with interbedded lava sheets. The latter include rhyolites and andesites. The main hills are continuous for four miles and end about one mile northwest of Sanzu. The other two occurrences, however, in the same line, start about one mile south of where the main hills end and terminate about half a mile south of Kywelu village. About two miles northwest of the twin hills of Kyaukpadaung is the isolated vent of Taungnauk, which has roughly an E-W strike. These pyroclastic rocks are wholly silicified and are very hard, compact, and fine-textured. In places, they show bedding and jointing, as seen near the Pagoda, "1886". The shade of the rocks is variable, and the specimens are cream-coloured, light pink, yellowish, greyish, reddish, or whitish. Some of the specimens of fine-grained siliceous rocks belonging to this series have all the physical and mineralogical characteristics of chert.

The rhyolite consists of felspar and quartz, sometimes with augite. The felspar is largely altered and pale grey in colour. The growth of quartz seems to be secondary, as its colourless patches exhibit irregular bands of a pale yellow colour similar to those seen in onyx. This is probably due to the diffusion of iron salts, which can also be seen megascopically lining the cavities.

The rhyolite tuffs consist of irregular fragments of quartz and felspar. Both minerals are quite clear and colourless and, in places, traversed by cracks. In some cases, the outline is triangular, and some of the patches of quartz, when observed under crossed Nicols, resolve themselves into microcrystalline aggregates.

### The Taungnauk Rhyolite and Tuffs

The isolated Taungnauk hill also, as remarked above, is composed of rhyolites and silicified tuffs. It shows that contemporaneous volcanic eruptions took place at different places, and the two vents

near Kywelu afford another striking instance of this fact. Some of the specimens of rhyolites show flow structure and vesicular texture. Disseminated through some of the vesicles are haematite, psilomelane, and carbonates.

Biotite-Andesites: The biotite-andesites described below occur either close to the Kyaukpadaung Hills or interbedded in them. They appear to represent acidic segregations of the magma from which the older andesites described above were formed, but as they are very close to the Kyaukpadaung lavas they are described with them. The four well-marked occurrences of these lavas are on or close to the Kyaukpadaung-Magvigon road. The first one is near the fourth milestone marked on the map. The second is near the fifth milestone, "1145", near the Pagoda of the village of Wetkyikan. The third is WSW of the village of Thabyeayo at the Pagoda "1007". The last is interbedded with tuffs about ¾ mile SW of Inbin village. In the second occurrence, easterly dips of 68° are observed. Biotite appears to be almost a constant constituent of these andesites. The following types are found among these rocks: (1) biotite-augite-andesite, (2) biotite-augite-hornblende-andesite, (3) hornblende-andesite, and (4) biotite-andesite.

Age: As regards the age of these silicified tuffs and interbedded sheets of acid lava it appears certain that they are older than the younger lavas of Mount Popa. At the same time, these acidic extrusions were formed subsequently to the older andesites. In places, the two are intermixed, for example, towards the east of Mongan and Okshikton villages. It may, therefore, be said that the older andesites and the acid lavas of the Kyaukpadaung hills, etc., were formed as a result of the differentiation of the same magma, the latter having been erupted through the former in places, but belonging to the same period of igneous activity. The Kyaukpadaung volcanoes are indeed older than that of Mount Popa, which marks the latest flow that erupted most probably after the deposition of the Irrawaddian. The Kyaukpadaung lavas erupted while the deposition of the Irrawaddian was still in progress, as some of the tuffs were interbedded with Irrawaddian rocks.

### The Taungni, Gwelon and Sebauk Tuffs

The main rock is a coarse whitish tuff, partially, or in places, completely silicified. Hard and compact specimens resembling the tuffs of the previous section are associated with these rocks. The rock is so white to resemble a deposit of chalk or calcareous tuff. It is bedded and in places has been thrown into anticlinal folds, which are seen towards the north-east and north of Sebauk Village. In Taungni Hill there is a suggestion of anticlinal structure; the direction of the anticlinal axes is NNW-SSE.

The typical occurrences of the rock are those of the Taungni massif, which appears to be a tuff cone. Its northerly extensions are seen near the villages of Kyaukton, west of Konde, and east and south of Gwelon. Other similar occurrences are seen towards the north and northeast of Sebauk village extending as far north as the west of Taunggala, "2417". It will be seen that it accompanies andesite up to the limit of the outcrop; the two are intermixed in places. The siliceous tuffs become agglomerates elsewhere.

(To be continued)

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# NATIONAL

## MoFA Deputy Minister receives Russia's International Organizations Dept DG



U LWIN OO, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar receives Mr Pyotr Ilyichev, Director-General of the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Lwin Oo meets Director-General of the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr Pyotr Ilyichev in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed strengthening the existing relations between Myanmar and Russia and exploring the potential for cooperation in fields of mutual interest. Afterwards, the director-general level consultation between two foreign ministries was held on closer collaboration and potential areas of cooperation at the UN and international fora.

Senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr Iskander Azizov, Russian Ambassador to Myanmar from the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Yangon, were also present at the meeting and consultation. — MNA

## Myanmar delegation attends 21<sup>st</sup> SOMRI



Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information U Win Kyaw Aung (L) attends the 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting Responsible for Information (SOMRI) in Ha Long City, Vietnam, on 19–22 November 2024.

THE 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting Responsible for Information (SOMRI) and related meetings are being held from 19 to 22 November in Ha Long City, Quang Ninh Province, Vietnam. A Myanmar delegation, led by Permanent Secretary U Win Kyaw Aung from the Ministry of Information, attended the event.

On the morning of 18 November, a ministerial dialogue on technology development, artificial intelligence, and virtual assistants was held at Vinpearl Resort & Spa Ha Long. The event was attended by Mr Nguyen Manh Hung, Minister of Information and Communications of Vietnam, ASEAN officials, members from ASEAN Information and Commu-

nication sectors, ASEAN Deputy Secretary-General U San Lwin, officials from the ASEAN Secretary-General office, and representatives from ASEAN partner associations including ITU, AIBD, and UNESCO.

During the meeting, Permanent Secretary U Win Kyaw Aung discussed the Ministry of Information's initiatives to develop artificial intelligence and programmes aimed at enhancing technical know-how, promoting discussions, and offering training to uplift community capabilities.

The 21<sup>st</sup> SOMRI continues under the theme "Media: From Information to Knowledge for a Resilient and Responsive ASEAN". — MNA/TS

## Illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K745M on 19 Nov

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade were continued effectively by the law.

On 19 November, combined teams impounded industrial materials (worth K131.47 million) from two containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint, a Toyota Landcruiser (worth approximately K25 million) carrying six barrels of illegal fuel (worth K7.812 million) in Moekaung, a Hino truck (worth approximately K25 million) carrying consumer goods and industrial materials (worth K12 million) without official documents at the Tadakyoe combined checkpoint. The action was conducted under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law and Customs procedures.

Similarly, combined teams conducted inspections and seized a Nissan Vanette truck (worth approximately K12 million) carrying consumer goods (valued at K5.22 million) without official document at the Hintha roundabout combined checkpoint in Mawlamyine township, industrial materials (worth K17.67 million) from a warehouse in Zaygyo ward

in Mawlamyine, three trucks (estimated value of K150 million) carrying industrial materials and foodstuffs (valued at K137.1 million) without official documents in Taunggyi township and four unregistered vehicles (estimated value of K49 million) at the Yadanabon bridge combined checkpoint in Sagaing. The action was carried out under the Export-Import Law and Customs procedures.

Additionally, combined on-duty teams nabbed a Nissan Caravan (worth approximately K20 million), carrying foodstuffs (worth K3.03 million) without official document at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray station, three unregistered vehicles (worth approximately K11 million) in Myeik, Bokpyin and Kawthoung districts, and industrial materials (worth K40.25 million) that were piled up by the side of the river in Kawthoung. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law and Customs procedures.

Similarly, a combined team seized a Dongfeng tractor head with a trailer (estimated value of K76 million) carrying foodstuffs (valued at K20.16 million) without of-

ficial documents in Kyaukse township, illegal teak weighing 1.056 tonnes (worth K185,000) in Phaunggyi in Hlegu township, four unregistered motorbikes (worth K2.2 million) in Myaungmya and Maubin districts, and illegal teak weighing 0.292 tonne and illegal timbers 0.796 tonne (worth K153,364) in Ottara and Lewe districts. The action was taken under the Export-Import Law and the Forest Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 31 arrests on 19 November, confiscating illegal goods worth approximately K745 million. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal vehicle tyres in Shan State.

# NATIONAL

## Popa guava supplied mainly to Yangon Thirimingala Market



This image shows guavas from Popa at a fruit wholesale trading centre.

YANGON'S Thirimingala Market has placed loads of orders for guavas grown in the Popa area.

Popa-produced guavas are sweeter than other varieties and juicy, making the trade increase, even if the supply has been inadequate. They are also supplied to Mawlamyine, Kyaikhto, Thaton and Myeik.

"The guava has been selling well recently, even though the supply has been inadequate. Guava fruit is available throughout the year but it is scarce sometimes. Now the season restarts and the trade is pretty good. Popa-produced guava is different from other guavas, it is sweet and juicy and good for giving as a present. It has been about 4 months the price has been high" said Ma Hayman Khin Zaw from Shwe Thon Eain Popa-produced fruits wholesale trading centre in Popa.

The increased guava trade has helped farmers in villages of Madaya Township enjoy regular income, and the guava price was also good the last dry season and farmers were happy.

In July this year, a plantation project for vegetables and seasonal fruits was introduced on farmlands and crop fields in Kyaukse Township and people who grew small-scale plantation of guava could make income. — Thit Taw/ZS

## Rising interest among garment workers in working in Laos

ACCORDING to a labour activist, there is a rising number of garment workers going to work in Laos.

Some of them are recruited by factory owners while some are employed through brokers.

"Some garment workers are going to Laos. Some are directly recruited by the factory, and some are employed by the brokers such as managers. We encourage the workers to obtain accurate information from Safe Migration for safety before they are going abroad," she said.

Labour ministries of Laos and Myanmar signed an MoU on labour cooperation in Vientiane, Laos, on 21 October in order to establish bilateral basic labour principles and practices.

Currently, domestic workers are going abroad to work in foreign countries including China, Dubai and Qatar; and many young people were employed through TikTok communications, she added.



Laotian Minister of Labour and Social Welfare Madame Baykham Khattiya and Myanmar Union Minister for Labour U Myint Naung are pictured signing a memorandum of understanding on labour cooperation on 21 October 2024.

"Some were called by the factory owners. Some were employed after TikTok communications. TikTok is said to be very dangerous. Some victims are people who were invited via TikTok. Despite restrictions, people are still going to Dubai and Qatar. Some are convenient, but some aren't," she said. — MT/ZN

## Remote area, self-administered zone students invited to medical universities



This image shows the University of Medicine, Mandalay.

APPLICATIONS for admission to medical universities are open to students who passed the matriculation in 2024 in remote areas and six self-administered zones, the Ministry of Health announced.

Of those who passed the 2024 matriculation exam in science in combination with 450 marks and above in six subjects, oral examination will be called to eligible candidates based on their total scores in English, Biology and Chemistry.

Eligible candidates can contact the Department of Human Resources for Health in Nay Pyi Taw, at 067 3411239 and dhrhundergraduate@gmail.com, during office hours. — MT/ZS

## Grape prices surge despite short supply

THE supply of grapes has been short, leading to the price getting high and the trade is also fine.

Grape season will begin in January and the supply will be plentiful till May.

"Grape produces sparsely for now so the supply is not abundant, and the price is pretty good now. Despite the shortage, brokers are buying rampantly. Grape production peaks from Janu-

ary to May and prices will fall slightly during that period. Yamethin Township is the biggest grape producer. Grape is also grown in Meiktila but not successful," said a grape farmer in Yamethin.

Grape grown in Yamethin is mainly transported to Yangon and Mandalay.

"Yangon is the major buyer, and Taunggyi and Aungban also buy a lot," he added. — Thit Taw/ZS



Photos showcase grapes from the grape farm in Yamethin to be transported to markets.



# ECONOMY WORLD

## G20 summit ends with internal rifts showing ahead of Trump's return



THE Group of 20 leaders on Tuesday wrapped up their two-day meeting, underscoring the need for collective action to combat climate change, poverty and other global challenges.

While the leaders managed to issue a joint statement covering a wide range of topics, they mostly stuck to generalities ahead of the expected return of Donald Trump as US president.

Under the presidency of Brazil, the diverse group noted geopolitical risks in the Middle East.

It also took the sting out by removing a pledge to resist protectionism that appeared in the leaders' statement last year.

The group highlighted the importance of multilateralism in the fight against climate change, though the outlook for any move-

ment on the issue remains uncertain after Trump returns to the White House.

The two-day summit in Brazil's Rio de Janeiro was a forum for leaders from both advanced and emerging economies to explore ways to jointly tackle global challenges.

Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba, making his G20 summit debut, told his fellow leaders the role of the G20 is expanding.

"I stressed that a free and open international order based on the rule of law is important," Ishiba told a press conference at the end of his South American trip.

He visited Peru for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit before the G20 leaders' meeting. — Kyodo

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Cambodia's textile and garment exports rose significantly in 2024

CAMBODIA has seen a two-digit rise in the exports of textiles, garments, footwear, and travel goods during the first 10 months of 2024, said a General Department of Customs and Excise's report on Tuesday.

Textiles worth US\$ 406 million were exported during the January-October period this year, a year-on-year increase of 14.5 per cent, the report said, adding that garments worth \$8 billion were shipped to international markets, up 23.6 per cent.

Also, \$1.33 billion worth of footwear was exported, up 22 per cent, while travel goods equivalent to \$1.69 billion were sold to international market, up 20.6 per cent, the report added. Hoe Ee Khor, chief economist of the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO), said the garments, footwear, and travel goods (GFT) sector remained one of the major drivers for Cambodia's economic growth. — Xinhua

#### Blanket manufacturing plant inaugurated in Kabul

A blanket manufacturing plant, costing 930 million afghani (about US\$13.62 million), was formally inaugurated in Pul-e-Charkhi industrial park, a suburb of Kabul, on Sunday.

In the opening remarks, the acting deputy prime minister for economic affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, said the government supports the private sector to create job opportunities and reduce dependence on imported goods. The Afghan official also called upon traders and businessmen to invest and contribute to the rebuilding process of the war-ravaged Afghanistan, the National Radio and Television of Afghanistan (RTA) reported. — Xinhua

## Japan sees foreign visitors top 30 mln in Jan-Oct at fastest pace



Photo taken on 17 April 2024 shows the area around Kiyomizu temple in Kyoto bustling with foreign tourists. PHOTO: KYODO

THE number of foreign visitors to Japan surpassed 30 million in the period between January and October, marking the fastest pace ever, and is poised to break the annual record amid a boom in inbound tourism, government data showed Thursday.

The total stood at 30,192,600

during the 10-month period, crossing the 30 million threshold for the first time since 2019, before the coronavirus pandemic began in early 2020, the Japan National Tourism Organization said.

In October alone, foreign visitors totaled 3,312,000, up

31.6 per cent from a year earlier and the highest ever for a single month. The surge has been driven by a weak yen and increased airline routes to Japan, making it almost certain that the annual record of around 31.88 million marked in 2019 will be topped. — Kyodo

## Walmart's low-price policy powerful draw in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter: report



Walmart is among the first major US retailers to report quarterly results and provides a peek into how Americans are feeling as they head into the holiday season. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

WALMART ratcheted up sales and profits again in the third quarter with its comparatively low prices proving a powerful draw

for shoppers seeking to cut spending where they could, reported The Associated Press on Tuesday.

"The nation's largest retailer raised its outlook for the year as well, underscoring its confidence in a strong holiday shopping season," said the report. "The company's shares rose nearly four per cent in premarket trading Tuesday."

Walmart is among the first major US retailers to report quarterly results and provides a peek into how Americans are feeling as they head into the holiday season. — Xinhua

## Yamaha revolutionizes riding with new Y-AMT transmission system

YAMAHA Motor, a leader in the motorcycle industry, is advancing its innovation to provide riders with more convenience, comfort, and safety.

Recently, the company introduced the Yamaha Automated Manual Transmission (Y-AMT) system, a breakthrough that combines the functions of a clutch lever, shift pedal, and automated/manual transmission control into a single handlebar lever.

An official from Yamaha Motor stated, "The purpose of the Y-AMT system is to expand the range of enjoyment for motorcycle riders. Even experienced



Yamaha Motor, a leader in the motorcycle industry, is advancing its innovation to provide riders with more convenience, comfort, and safety. **PHOTO: ANI**

sports riders can now experience a new level of comfort beyond what was previously possible. We've designed the sys-

tem to merge the excitement of sports riding with enhanced rider-machine communication. Our goal is to elevate the fun of mo-

torcycling while providing riders with more options". He also noted, "With the Y-AMT system, riders can shift gears with a simple finger movement. The switch between automated and manual driving modes can also be controlled effortlessly with the same hand. This revolutionary system offers an unprecedented level of convenience and comfort for riders. By simplifying the riding experience, Y-AMT allows riders to better appreciate their surroundings and focus on road safety. As a result, the system promotes safer and more enjoyable rides". — ANI

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M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVAMS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVAMS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **21-11-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:  
M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

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Agent For:  
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### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (24018)

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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.

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Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:  
M/S CONNEXT SHIPPING PTE LTD

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We would like to change distributor of the following products, (registered by **GRADE LAOJUN CHEMICAL CO.,LTD** from Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), from former distributor **MT INTERNATIONAL CO.,LTD** to **SPP CO.,LTD** if any object or enquiry, please contact to joint secretary Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.

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# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

### NEWS In BRIEF

#### PM Modi visits Guyana, marking first Indian PM visit

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday was received by President of Guyana Irfaan Ali, Prime Minister of Grenada Dickon Mitchell, the Prime Minister of Barbados Mia Mottley along with four ministers from Guyana at a hotel in Georgetown.

Earlier in an unprecedented gesture, PM Modi was received at the airport by President Irfaan Ali, PM Mark Anthony Phillips and over a dozen Cabinet ministers. He has become the first Indian PM to visit the South American country in 56 years. — ANI

#### Indonesia's Mt Lewotobi erupts again

MOUNT Lewotobi, located in Indonesia's East Nusa Tenggara province, erupted again on Wednesday, spewing ash and volcanic materials that significantly worsened air quality in the region.

The eruption sent a thick, gray column of ash soaring up to three kilometres high, dispersing to the west and southwest of the crater, according to the Volcanology and Geological Disaster Mitigation Centre. Although the agency downgraded the Volcano Observatory Notice for Aviation to an orange level, the second-highest alert, planes were still prohibited from flying at altitudes below five kilometres around the volcano. — Xinhua

#### Croatia to hold presidential vote on 29 December: PM

CROATIA will hold presidential elections on 29 December, Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic said on Tuesday, with the largely ceremonial post probably not being decided until a run-off two weeks later. The government will officially call the election on Thursday, he told reporters. Incumbent populist Zoran Milanovic, whose term expires in February and will be seeking his second term, has a comfortable lead in surveys, enjoying the support of around one third of the electorate. — AFP

## Xi stresses dialogue in China-EU trade disputes in meetings with Scholz, Macron

*Xi Jinping called on German Chancellor Scholz to tackle EU tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles during a sideline meeting at the G20 Leaders' Summit in Brazil.*

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Tuesday asked German Chancellor Olaf Scholz to help resolve the issue of the EU's tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles on the sidelines of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The EU's tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles are drawing attention around the world, and China always insists on resolving differences through dialogue and consultation, Xi said.

It is hoped that Germany will continue to play an important role in this regard, Xi said, noting China regards Europe as an important pole in a multi-polar world.

The two leaders' meeting took place on the second day of the G20 summit, where Xi had called for building a world economy characterized by cooperation, stability, openness, innovation and eco-friendliness.

During a separate meeting with his French counterpart



A view of Chinese carmaker BYD's assembly line of new energy vehicles in Zhengzhou, Henan province.

PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE

Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday, Xi said that China and France, as major countries, share common responsibilities to lead the international community to unite in efforts to address global challenges at a

time when many new changes are unfolding in the international landscape.

Macron said that France upholds strategic autonomy and is willing to engage in dialogue and cooperation with

China in the spirit of mutual respect, properly handle economic and trade disputes, and maintain a sound and steady development of bilateral economic and trade relations. — Xinhua

## Lithuania investigates damage to undersea cable linking Sweden



Two separate undersea cables connecting Lithuania to Sweden and Helsinki to Germany were recently severed, raising suspicions of sabotage. C-Lion1 connects Helsinki and Rostock since 2016.

PHOTO: LEHTIKUVA/AFP

VILMANTAS Vitkauskas, head of Lithuania's National Crisis Management Centre, said on Tuesday that all possible causes,

including sabotage, are being investigated following Sunday's damage to the undersea cable connecting Lithuania and Swe-

den, the Baltic News Service (BNS) reported.

"We are collecting all the data from the authorities and

from our allies who are in the region and who are monitoring what actually happened at sea that morning or that night," Vitkauskas said.

According to him, it is too early to determine the nature of the damage, but experts suggest it was not related to a natural disaster or phenomenon. Telia Lietuva, the Swedish telecom company in Lithuania, confirmed on Monday that the cable was cut at around 10 am local time on Sunday. "These failures are mostly related to shipping. When a ship hooks the cable, it breaks it off somewhere in a shallow place, close to the shore, by dropping anchor incorrectly," said Andrius Semeskevicius, the company's chief technology officer. — Xinhua

# SPORTS

## Nadal retires from tennis at Davis Cup

22-TIME Grand Slam champion Rafael Nadal ended his professional tennis career after the 38-year-old's 6-4, 6-4 loss to Botić van de Zandschulp, as Spain was eliminated by the Netherlands at the Davis Cup on Tuesday.

The crowd yelled "Rafa, Rafa, Rafa" and Nadal cried while a video featuring his career highlights was shown.

"The titles, the numbers are there, so people probably know that, but the way



Rafael Nadal of Spain serves to Botić van de Zandschulp of the Netherlands during the quarterfinal between Spain and the Netherlands at Davis Cup Finals tennis tournament in Malaga, Spain, 19 November 2024. **PHOTO: MENG DINGBO/XINHUA**

that I would like to be remembered more is like a good person, from a small village in Mallorca. Just a kid that followed their dreams, worked as hard as possible. ... I have been very lucky," Nadal said in an on-court, post-match ceremony to honour his retirement.

Nadal dominated the French Open with a record 14 titles. He also claimed four US Open titles and won both the Australian Open and Wimbledon twice.

Nadal has been a leading figure in men's tennis for over a decade, known as one of the sport's "big three" along with Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic. The Spaniard spent a total of 209 weeks as the ATP world No 1 singles player, and finished as the year-end No 1 five times. — Xinhua



## Tun Min Aung to fight at ONE Friday Fights 88

THE ONE Championship organization will host the ONE Friday Fights 88 event on 22 November in Thailand, with Myanmar fighter Tun Min Aung set to participate.

Tun Min Aung will face Moroccan fighter Zahidi in the fourth match of the event. This year marks Tun Min Aung's

debut in the ONE Championship, during which he has had two fights — one win and one loss. In his first match on 31 May, he was defeated by a Russian fighter, but on 12 July, he secured a victory over a Vietnamese opponent via a referee stoppage in the third round. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

## Myanmar secures 3<sup>rd</sup>-place playoff in 2024 ASEAN Women's Futsal Championship

THE final group stage of the 2024 ASEAN Women's Futsal Championship took place on 20 November in the Philippines, with Myanmar securing a spot in the third-place playoff.

On the last day of the group stage, Thailand defeated Vietnam 3-0, while Indonesia triumphed over host Philippines 2-1. Indonesia's victory over the Philippines allowed Myanmar to advance to the third-place playoff. Although the Philippines also earned one point, they were eliminated due to a goal difference.

At the end of the group stage, Thailand finished first with 12 points, Vietnam secured second place with nine points, and Indonesia came third with 6 points. Myanmar placed fourth with one point, also earning the right to compete in the third-place playoff. The Philippines, despite earning one point, finished last due to their goal difference.

The tournament follows a round-robin format, with the top two teams advancing to the final and the third and fourth-place teams playing for third. The third-place and final matches will continue on 21 November, with Myanmar facing Indonesia for third place, and Thailand playing Vietnam in the final. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar women's futsal players proudly display their determined faces after scoring a goal in the previous game. **PHOTO: MFF**

## Argentina moves closer to World Cup spot as Chile stays alive

ARGENTINA edged towards a place at the 2026 FIFA World Cup while Chile kept its faint hopes alive in South American qualifiers on Tuesday.

In Buenos Aires, a stunning second-half volley from Inter Milan striker Lautaro Martinez handed Argentina a 1-0 home victory over Peru.

Martinez broke the deadlock in the 55th minute when he latched onto Lionel Messi's cross with a spectacular bicycle kick that flew into the top-right corner.



Lautaro Martinez's spectacular volley earned Argentina a 1-0 win over Peru on Tuesday. **PHOTO: AFP**

The reigning world champions controlled the match thereafter to ease to their eighth win of the qualifying campaign.

Argentina leads the 10-team South American group with 25 points from 12 outings while Peru is last with seven points so far.

"It makes me happy to know that we've finished the year on a positive note and as leaders," Martinez said after the match.

"It's been a great year personally but I want to keep working hard to improve every day," the 27-year-old added.

Meanwhile, Lucas Cepeda scored two goals and set up another as Chile clinched just its second win of these qualifiers by recovering from a goal down to beat Venezuela 4-2 in Santiago.

Jefferson Savarino opened the scoring for the visitors before Eduardo Vargas struck his 43<sup>rd</sup> international goal with a low finish after Cepeda's cross. — Xinhua

Xi stresses dialogue in China-EU trade disputes in meetings with Scholz, Macron

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# WORLD

## BRICS Corridor: China eyes Pacific-Atlantic rail project via Bolivia and Brazil

China is considering a railway project connecting the Pacific and Atlantic oceans through Bolivia and Brazil, as discussed by Bolivian President Luis Arce and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Additionally, they explored cooperation in sectors such as finance, mining, and lithium production.



China has built the world's largest high-speed railway network to address the people's growing demand for convenient and comfortable travel. **PHOTO: JIAO HONGTAO/XINHUA/FILE**

**C**HINA will assess the possibility of building a railway between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, which will pass through Bolivia and Brazil, Bolivian President Luis Arce said.

On Tuesday, Arce met Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

"He also expressed interest in studying the construction of an interoceanic train that will connect the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, starting from the Peruvian megaport of Chancay and passing through the territory of BRICS partners — Bolivia and Brazil," Arce said on Telegram on Wednesday.

Xi also expressed interest in cooperation in the financial sector; mining, lithium production and expanding a joint aerospace programme, Arce added.

Last week, Peru opened a major port connecting Latin America and China, which creates major trade opportunities for Bolivia. — SPUTNIK

### ACCURATE DATA

#### Iraq conducts nationwide population census after 27-yr hiatus

IRAQ launched a general population and housing census nationwide on Wednesday for the first time after a 27-year hiatus.

The Iraqi Minister of Planning Mohammed Tamim urged Iraqis to "cooperate with census teams by providing accurate data, as this is vital for shaping Iraq's future," according to a statement issued by the ministry.

"The census is of exceptional importance because it will contribute to ensuring social and economic justice and improving the level of services in all areas," Tamim added.

The Iraqi authorities put security forces on high alert and imposed a curfew during the two-day census in all Iraqi provinces, including those of the semi-autonomous region of Kurdistan.

Iraq traditionally holds a population census every 10 years, with the last one conducted in 1997. No census has been carried out since the 2003 US invasion. — Xinhua

## Rising gas prices to curb Europe's economic growth in 2025: Energy Expert

Experts predict a 3%-5% price increase in 2025 due to tighter gas markets, rising global demand, and concerns over winter supplies amid Ukraine's potential cessation of Russian gas transit.



Gas prices in Europe have surpassed \$500 per thousand cubic metres, with futures around €46 (\$48.6) per MWh, following Russia's suspension of fuel deliveries. **PHOTO: LEX VAN LIESHOUT/AFP/FILE**

GAS prices have exceeded \$500 per thousand cubic metres in Europe, with European gas futures reaching around €46 (\$48.6) per MWh as Russia suspended fuel deliveries to Austria's OMV.

"The gas dynamics in 2025 will be influenced by a tighter gas market as a result of rising global demand, particularly from China and the Asia-Pacific region, Trump's tariffs and EU boycotting Russian gas and also a cold winter," Dr Mamdouh G Salameh, an international oil economist and a global energy expert, tells Sputnik.

Salameh projects that European consumers will see a price rise of three per cent-five per cent from €37-€38 (\$39-\$40) per megawatt-hour (MWh) in 2025.

Gas prices have been on the rise since July, according to Bloomberg. The upward trend was facilitated by chilly weather and plummeting wind generation this year. — SPUTNIK