

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

UNOCHA Myanmar raises funds for flood response efforts

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Myanmar (UNOCHA-Myanmar) and the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) ai are working on a fundraising process to mobilize additional resources to scale up ongoing flood response efforts, according to the Flood Situation Report released by the organization on 20 September.

The fundraising effort comes as the 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan is currently funded at only 27 per cent, resulting in severe underfunding of the response, even after the Emergency Relief Coordinator ai has approved a Central Emergency Response Fund-CERF allocation of US\$4 million to help kick-start emergency relief efforts.

The report also indicates that an estimated 887,000 people, including those displaced, have been affected in 65 townships across Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine, and eastern and southern Shan states, as well as in the Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, and Sagaing regions, ten days after the extensive flash flooding.



UNOCHA Myanmar's aids are seen delivering to flood victims.

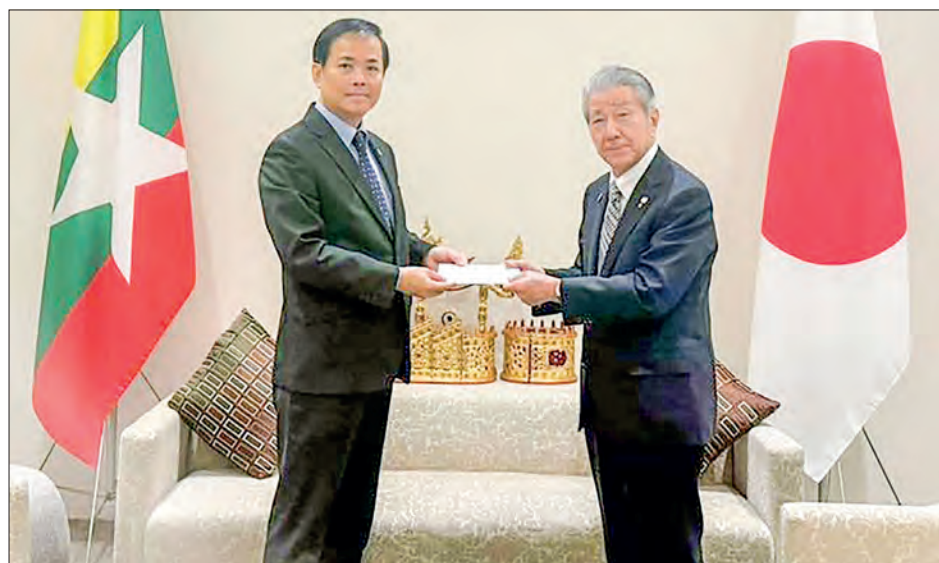
According to the report, there have been more than 300 fatalities and nearly 100 injuries, along with widespread destruction to homes, household assets, water sources, and electricity infrastructure. Additionally, roads, bridges,

communication networks, schools, public service facilities, religious edifices, crops, and farmlands have been severely damaged or completely collapsed.

Drinking water, food, essential medicines, household kits, clothing, shelter,

and lifesaving equipment for emergency preparedness are urgently needed, despite the rapid response efforts continuing in the affected townships, which are delivering support to impacted communities, the report said. — ASH/TH

Myanmar Honorary Consul in Nagoya donates cash for flood affected people



Myanmar Ambassador U Soe Han accepts ¥300,000 from Honorary Consul of Myanmar Mr Toshio Nishimura.

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Toshio Nishimura, the Honorary Consul of Myanmar in Nagoya, contributed ¥300,000 on 19 September at the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo, Japan.

The donation is intended for the re-

habilitation and reconstruction of those affected by flash floods. Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Soe Han accepted the donation. These funds will be distributed through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar. — ASH/TMT

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NATIONAL



Seven (7) days remain until the National Census.



Special Weather News

Issued at (19:00) hours MST on 22-9-2024

ACCORDING to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, the Low-Pressure Cell over Eastcentral Bay of Bengal and adjoining North Andaman Sea still persists. It is likely to move Westwards and may intensify into a Low-Pressure Area over the Central Bay of Bengal around 23 September 2024.

Due to the low-pressure cell and strong monsoon, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states with regionally heavyfalls and scattered to fairly widespread in Mandalay Region and Chin and Kayah states with isolated heavyfalls and strong wind from tonight up to 25 September 2024.

Advisory
People should be aware of the heavy rainfall with strong wind, the natural disasters such as flash flood and landslide in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flight. — DMH

Flood Bulletin

Issued at 18:00 hours MST on 22-9-2024

ACCORDING to the 17:30 hours MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo has exceeded by about three feet above its danger level. It may fall from the present water level by about four inches during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

The water level of Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about 4.5 feet above its danger level. It may fall from the present water level by about four inches during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Toungoo Township and Madauk to stay away from the flood-prone areas. — DMH



Objectives of 25th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2024

(a) To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics	(c) To explore and preserve the traditional cultural heritage for the young generation and further propagate the national spirit
(b) To explore, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural characteristics	(d) To serve as a national cultural entity for State development, peace, and stability




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Medical teams provide healthcare services to locals from the flood-hit areas at a relief camp.

Cleaning up of debris, healthcare services go on

MEMBERS of Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade, Red Cross Society and social welfare organizations actively participate in cleanup measures and rehabilitation processes in flood-hit wards/villages in Nay Pyi Taw, regions and states.

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

Moreover, the medical teams provided healthcare services. They conducted health awareness programmes for the flood-hit victims at the relief camps. Families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, and Air), departmental staff, organizations, and well-wishers donated relief items, clothes, commodities, foodstuffs and cash to the flood-affected people. The relevant officials inspected these working processes.

The damaged roads and bridges are being repaired as quickly as possible to facilitate the transport. — MNA/KZL

Students under training to have correct thinking and outlooks

DUE to taking time to carry out the development of human resources, students must be under training to have education qualifications, learn modern techniques and technology and possess correct thinking and outlooks.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the National Planning Commission Meeting 1/2024 on 21 March 2024)

Collective cleanup activities honour 60th anniversary of Myanmar Police Force

MEMBERS of the Myanmar Police Force performed a collective cleanup activity yesterday at the People's General Hospital (1000-bed) in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, in honour of the upcoming 60th Anniversary of the Myanmar Police Force on 1 October 2024.

Member of the State Administration Council and Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Deputy Minister for

Health Dr Aye Tun, Chief of the Myanmar Police Force Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs U Khine Tun Oo, directors-general from the General Administration Department, Bureau of Special Investigation, Correctional Department, Department of Fire Services, and the Ministry of Health, police officers, medical superintendent of the hospital Professor Dr Ye



Members of the Myanmar Police Force are actively engaged in cleanup efforts yesterday at the People's General Hospital (1000-bed) in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, in honour of the upcoming 60th Anniversary of the Myanmar Police Force.

Myint, and hospital officials attended the event and served the police members with purified drinking water, coffee, steamed glutinous rice, and various fried fritters.

During the collective cleanup activities, a total of 660 MPF members and staff together with health staff cleaned both the interior and exterior of the hospital, removed dried leaves and bro-

ken branches, and shaped the trees to improve their appearance, enhanced ventilation, allow more sunlight, and ensured proper drainage. — MNA/TMT

Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman inspects reconstruction of flood-hit roads and bridges in Pyinmana



Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun Oo looks into the construction of a 80-foot two-layer temporary bailey bridge yesterday at the site of Zeephyupin Village bridge across the Paunglaung River damaged by water erosion.

NAY Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun Oo, accompanied by council member Col Ye Moe and departmental officials, inspected the condition of the asphalt road near Zeephyupin village in Pyinmana Township yesterday afternoon, urging the officials to promptly complete the reconstruction project and take necessary actions to ensure the road's continuity.

Subsequently, he examined the construction of a 80-foot two-layer temporary bailey bridge at the site where the approach road to the Zeephyupin Village bridge across the Paunglaung River had been damaged by water erosion.

In the morning, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee and officials visited

Basic Education Post-Primary School in Ayemyintthaya Village and the village's roads, including the road between Aingsauk Village and Kyaukchet Villages, Peintaw School, and Panmyaing Garden. They also inspected the cleaning process for the silt and mud left behind by the floods, as well as other resettlement operations in the area.

In the afternoon, they checked the readiness of disaster rescue teams at Zabuthiri Hall in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Office. At the event, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member Col Ye Moe gave a speech. They then viewed grouping of staff and readiness of machinery, equipment, necessary materials, and vehicles for responding to natural disasters. — MNA/TRKM

NATIONAL

Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union arrives back from 6th AACC Congress 2024



Attendees, including Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Aung Zaw Thein, of Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions- AACC pose for documentary group photo in Bangkok, Thailand.

AT the invitation of Mr Nakharin Mektrairat, Chairman of the Constitutional Court of Thailand,

a delegation led by Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Aung Zaw Thein,

attended the 6th Congress and meeting of board member countries of the Association of Asian

Constitutional Courts (AACC) and Equivalent Institutions, held from 17 to 21 September in Bangkok. The title of the congress was “The Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions in Strengthening Constitutional Justice for a Sustainable Society”.

The 6th AACC Congress and meeting were attended by chairs of constitutional courts and similar institutions, chief justices, legal experts, and heads of international organizations from 18 countries.

On 18 September, the opening ceremony of the Congress and the meeting of the board member countries took place. The three Permanent Secretariats presented their activity reports and discussed issues related to the development of the AACC, previous processes,

and the Bangkok Declaration to be released at the end of the conference.

On 19 September, the Congress continued, featuring a discussion led by the chairman of the tribunal titled “The Role of the Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions in Strengthening Constitutional Justice for a Sustainable Society,” focusing on the development of the constitutional system, the role of constitutional courts in protecting the constitution, constitutional jurisdiction, and constitutional justice. Chairs, chief justices, and jurists also exchanged views and experiences on constitutional tribunals in their respective countries.

The chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union returned to Yangon by air on 21 September. — MNA/TKO

Historic monastery in Bagan destroyed by fire

A historic two-storey monastery in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Zone has been destroyed by fire, according to a statement from the NyaungU Township Fire Brigade. The fire broke out at around 8:20 pm on 21 September.

The monastery, which was over a century old, was located in Hngetkyee Gaungcha Monastery in Ward 3, Hngetpyittaung Area. Firefighters from both NyaungU District and Township, including auxiliary fire brigade, responded to the fire. In total, 15 firefighters from the district, 18 firefighters from the township, along with five water tankers

from various local associations, worked together to put out the blaze.

Despite their swift arrival within three minutes of receiving the alert, the wooden structure was burned rapidly. “By the time we arrived, the entire building was already engulfed in flames,” said an official from the NyaungU Township Fire Brigade. The fire was brought under control by 8:26 pm and completely extinguished by 8:29 pm.

Fortunately, no human or animal casualties were reported. The fire occurred near popular



Firefighters work together to extinguish a blaze at the historic two-storey monastery in Bagan of NyaungU Township on the evening of 21 September. **PHOTO: NYAUNGU TOWNSHIP FIRE BRIGADE**

tourist sites around Hngetpyittaung Pagoda, close to the iconic statue.

This incident came shortly

after a SAC information team on 13 September noted damages to various ancient stupas in the area due to recent heavy rains,

including collapses at the lower part of Dhammayan Stupa and at the terrace structure of Pagoda No 182.—Htun Htun/KZL

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(+95) (01) 8604532,
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ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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

MyRO to register small, medium rice shops and storage facilities nationwide

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) is working on a process to include small and medium-scale rice shops and storage facilities throughout Myanmar in its online registration platform – Myanmar Rice Online (MyRO).

Small and medium-sized rice shops and storage facilities

having space ranging from 100 to 200 square feet, as well as measurements of 10 feet in length and 20 feet in width, need to register free of charge in Myanmar Rice Online (MyRO), according to the MRF.

For domestic rice sufficiency, systematic export of rice,

stabilization of market price, registration of rice storage conditions and implementation of a financial system based on storage receipts, steps have been taken to register the rice storage facilities via Myanmar Rice Online (www.myro.com.mm) since 3 November 2023. — ASH/TKO



This photo shows small and medium-scale rice shops.

Nationwide crackdown yields K505M in illegal trade seizures



Confiscated illegal composite board at Asia World container inspection centre.

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

On 19 September, a combined team under the management of the Customs Department conducted inspections. It seized two commercial items worth approximately K54.646 million at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint and one consumer product valued at approximately K179.48 million at the Yangon Interna-

tional Airport. The action was taken in line with Customs procedures.

On the same day, a combined team under the management of the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted inspections. It seized a consumer product worth K5.025 million and one Nissan truck worth approximately K30 million at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray machine checkpoint. On 20 September, the team seized 1.95 tonnes of illegal timbers valued at approximately K262,992 in Toungoo District.

The action was taken under the Forest Law and Customs procedures, respectively.

On 20 September, a combined team under the management of the Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force seized 14 commercial items and seven consumer goods worth approximately K45.879 million and one Scania Bus worth approximately K70 million at the Kywetetson checkpoint, and the action was conducted as per Customs procedures. On 20 and 21 September, a combined team under the management of the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted inspections. It seized two unregistered vehicles worth approximately K120 million at the Yadanabon checkpoint in Sagaing Township and the action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that from 29, 20 to 21 September, 11 arrests were made, resulting in the seizure of illegal goods valued at approximately K505.297 million. — MNA/TMT



Confiscated vehicles without registration licence in Sagaing Region.

Actress Academy Khin Wint Wah makes birthday donation

ACTRESS Academy Khin Wint Wah donated rice, cooking oil, food, and cash worth K3 million to five elderly persons at their homes in Yangon on 21 September to commemorate her 30th birthday.

The actress provided K300,000, six pyi of rice, one viss of cooking oil, one carton of eggs, one pack of Ovaltine malted milk, and one pack of cereal, for each elderly people living in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), North Okkalapa, and Shwepyitha townships.

“I’m turning into my 30’s and I decided to donate K3 million as it is my 30th birthday. I personally donated for five elderly people and feel happy as they are happy,” Khin Wint Wah said.

Moreover, it is known that she also donated K3 million for the flood-affected people in Yedashe and Toungoo Townships of Bago Region through Online Donation Group. — ASH/ TRKM



Actress Academy Khin Wint Wah presents her donations to a grandma.

YBS 111 to donate one-day bus fares for flood relief

PYAE San Thu Company, which operates the YBS 111 bus line, said it will donate bus fares received from 54 buses on 19 September for flood victims.

Shareholders and driver families will go to make donations in flood-hit areas on 22 September.

YBS 111 bus line runs from

Dagon Myothit (South) Township to Sule-Maha Bandoola Road.

Another bus company, Power Eleven Public Company, which operates the YBS 41 bus line, said they will donate all receipts from bus fares on 16 September to flood-stricken people. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL



Preparations are underway to build a scaffolding structure. **PHOTO: SHWEDAGON PAGODA BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Shwedagon Pagoda plans gold foil offering this FY

FOLLOWING the directive of the State Administration Council and under the management of the Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture, the authorities are planning to offer gold foils for the entire pagoda in the 2024-2025 financial year, six years after the last offering of gold foil in 2018-2019.

The auspicious ceremony

for building the scaffolding structure and reciting Dhamma was held on the morning of 19 September in preparation for the gold foil offering.

The event was attended by venerable Sayadaws, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Yangon Region Social Affairs Minister U Htay Aung, members of the Shwedagon

Pagoda Board of Trustees, as well as staff and volunteers, according to the board of trustees.

A coordination meeting for the gold foil offerings to the entire Shwedagon Pagoda in 2024-2025 was held on 14 September at the prayer hall of ancient Buddha images at the southern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda. — Htun Htun/TMT

Myanmar film 'Kan Kaung' to screen in Vietnam

A Myanmar movie, 'Kan Kaung', which received three academy awards in 2023 and three best awards in the 2024 Southeast Asia International Film Festival, has been granted permission to show in Vietnam, according to the film's director, Academy Win Lwin Htet.

Based on Kyel Su Thit's novel and scripted by Moe Ni Lwin, the movie Kan Kaung was directed by Academy Win Lwin Htet and produced by Khatthiya Production.

Paing Takhon, Academy Thu Htoo San, Academy Khin Zarchi Kyaw and Nay Htut mainly starred in it.

"Kan Kaung was allowed to show in Thailand's 35 cinemas in July and also granted permission to show at 120 movie theatres in Vietnam as of 18 October," said director Win Lwin Htet.

It is a movie about the affection between humans and animals, beautifully adorned with Myanmar's culture and natural scenery.

The movie won the Best Movie Award, the Best Cinematography Award and the Best Film Music Award in the 2023 Myanmar Academy awarding ceremony.

It also won the Best Movie Producer Award, the Best Director and the Best Actor Award at the Southeast Asia International Film Festival 2024. — ASH/ZS



This image showcases the Myanmar movie, which is allowed to be shown in Vietnam.

Myanmar joins EU New Waste Shipment Regulation Session in Brussels

MYANMAR Ambassador to Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and the EU, U Soe Lynn Han, participated in discussions at the "Information Session on the EU's New Waste Shipment Regulation", held at the EU Commission's office in Brussels on 19 September.

The event was organized by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment (DG Environment) and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

During the meeting, Mr Aurel Ciobanu-Dordea, Director for the Circular Economy at DG Environment, explained that the EU's new Waste Shipment Regulation, which came into effect in May 2024, is not intended to impose stricter trade restrictions between the EU and its trading partners. Instead, it aims to prevent environmental damage caused by the export of plastic, paper, and other hazardous wastes from economic activities to both OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) and non-OECD developing countries. He further elaborated that the



This photo shows the information session on the EU's New Waste Shipment Regulation, which was in progress on 19 September 2024 in Brussels.

regulation aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 11, 12, and 14, as well as the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, to regulate waste shipments within a legal framework.

U Soe Lynn Han stated that Myanmar is a ratified member of the Basel Convention and is implementing the National Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan (NWMSAP) 2018-2030 to ensure the environmentally sound management of hazardous waste. He also mentioned that Myanmar has banned the import of dangerous waste, except in cases where it is necessary to meet specific State requirements. However, data from international monitoring organizations over the past five years indicates that plastic waste has been illegally imported into Myanmar from neighbouring countries, originally exported from the EU and other developed countries. Given that the EU's new regulations aim to scrutinize and regulate such illegal transfers, the Ambassador sought clarification on how the EU would implement these measures.

In response, Mr Aurel Ciobanu-Dordea stated that the EU would collaborate with relevant countries to check, monitor, and regulate these shipments. Under the EU's new Waste Shipment Regulation, exports of hazardous waste to non-OECD third countries will continue to be prohibited. The export of recyclable plastic waste will be restricted from 21 November 2026 to 21 May 2029. However, if relevant countries wish to import recyclable plastic waste (clean plastic scrap) from the EU and have implemented appropriate environmental safeguards, they can notify the EU and apply them in advance. Upon receiving approval from the EU, these countries will be allowed to import such waste after the restriction period. — ASH/TMT

Yangon property rental market thrives; detached houses sell well in Dagon Myothit (North)

THE real estate rental market in Yangon is expanding and detached houses are being sold briskly in Dagon Myothit (North) Township according to the relevant market.

Under the current market conditions, the rental market is good in Yangon region as a whole and in Dagon Myothit (North), sales of separate houses are brisk.

People, especially from other towns, buy the most in the places near Panglong street and in the wards 31/35/36/37/32/30/29.

“There are sales. It is not very dull. According to our experience, it’s only dull for a while. Then it becomes active. Deals we made are mostly located near Panglong street in Dagon Myothit (North) Township and in the wards

31/35/36/37/32/30/29. People from other towns mostly buy them. They buy new buildings where they can move in immediately if they like. They don’t think about the ward. They buy the land with houses where they readily live. There are less sales for expensive housing units,” said an official from Su Labh real estate agency in Dagon Myothit (North) Township. Real estate mar-

ket in this township was good in 2023, and it is still doing well this year as well.

“Last year, the real estate market in North Dagon was good. After the rainy season, it will be better with more purchases. People are only interested in North Dagon in Yangon. Some sell their expensive houses and buy back cheaper ones here to earn money,” he said. — Thit Taw/ZN



House in Dagon Myothit (North) Township for sale online.

Edible frog price drops, trade is fine



Edible frogs which sale is fine at present.

PRICE of edible frog has fallen this month, resulting in a good trade.

Edible frog production has been abundant in September, leading the price to fall, however there is a prospect that the market will be better in November and December when frogs become scarce, according to edible frog breeders.

“At present, the edible frog price is not good, because the supply is large. But the price

will be better when the frog becomes scarce. Now the price also declines so the sale is good this month. It is likely that the price will get a little higher in November and December and frog will become scarce,” said an owner of edible frog farm in Thanlyin Township.

Mandalay Region is the major market which buys frogs from frog farms in Thanlyin.

“For now, majority of orders for frogs are from Man-

dalay. Because, frogs are favourite for Chinese. Price is likely to increase again around Thadingyut,” he said.

The frog market was fine in 2023 as a result of increase in frog farms, but the number of frog farms has declined this year due to some transportation difficulties. However, it is expected that frog market will be healthy again over next years if the business expands again this year. — Thit Taw/ZS

Myeik dried shrimps rise in popularity in Yangon

THE majority of orders for dried shrimps produced from Taninthayi Region’s Myeik Township are placed from Yangon Region, and the trade has increased, according to Myeik’s local product traders.

People visiting Myeik for vacation purposes or other purposes usually buy dried shrimp for giving as a present, and retail or wholesale distributors have placed orders from different regions and states, of which the majority is from Yangon Region.

“Among Myeik’s local products, dried shrimp is a best seller. Most visitors to Myeik buy dried shrimp. The trade is fine. Orders for dried shrimp are placed from different cities such as Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine and Mondon, and the majority goes to

Yangon. The dried shrimp price is getting high now. Other dried fish such as grilled nga-pokechawk and dried Mackerel are attractive local products,” said an official from the ‘Shwepuzun’ Myeik’s local products shop in Myeik Township.

Myeik-produced dried shrimp is big and has a beautiful colour, making it popular among others in the market.

“People from Yangon consume dried shrimp. Prices vary depending on sizes. Medium and small sizes are more popular. Medium-sized is good for giving as a present and eating. Dried shrimp is one item whose sale is increasing,” said Ma Sandar, owner of dried shrimp retail and wholesale shop in Botahtaung Township. — Thit Taw/ZS



This photo shows dried shrimp - a popular Myeik’s local product.

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OPINION

Enhance disaster management role in Myanmar

MYANMAR faces significant challenges from climate change, which exacerbates the risks of floods, extreme heat, strong winds, lightning, and varied rainfall. The recent impact of Typhoon Yagi, originating from Vietnam, has highlighted the severe damage to both the lives and properties of the people in many parts of the country.

The recent flash floods have inundated valuable agricultural land, significantly reducing crop yields and driving up food prices. The destruction of rice paddy and farming cattle has particularly harmed the agricultural sector, exacerbating food shortages and economic stress across the nation.

Disaster management needs to focus on the daily life of disaster-affected people and their property, as well as countering the blows from various dimensions with the intention of not disturbing the adopted ambition of management. It is necessary to take care of those who make mistakes in any work process even though they cannot do it successfully. As such, the management process needs to follow its adopted policy for the sake of disaster-affected people without wasting precious time responding to those unscrupulous persons.

on damages, supplying adequate food and rescue equipment to disaster-affected people and volunteers, supporting the rehabilitation process, rebuilding disaster-resilient infrastructure, and establishing sustainable livelihoods for those affected.

During the resettlement and rehabilitation phases, it is crucial to utilize foreign aid without creating long-term dependencies. Both governmental and non-governmental organizations should enhance their capacity to secure international assistance while ensuring that such aid does not become a burden for future generations. If external support is not available or insufficient, the affected communities must rely on their own resources and collective effort to rebuild and recover.

By strengthening disaster management practices and encouraging widespread community involvement, Myanmar can better prepare for and respond to future calamities, reducing their impact on both people and property. For the time being, authorities need to accommodate disaster-affected people in safe and security situations while taking action against any others who attempt to threaten the affected people by all means.

Disaster management needs to focus on the daily life of disaster-affected people and their property, as well as countering the blows from various dimensions with the intention of not disturbing the adopted ambition of management. It is necessary to take care of those who make mistakes in any work process even though they cannot do it successfully. As such, the management process needs to follow its adopted policy for the sake of disaster-affected people without wasting precious time responding to those unscrupulous persons.

Effective disaster management in Myanmar requires more than just government intervention. Rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts must involve collective participation from all sectors of society, including non-governmental and international non-governmental organizations. A coordinated approach between the government and citizens is essential to minimize disaster impacts and foster a resilient community.

Disaster management encompasses several key components: risk reduction, search and rescue operations, and emergency response. These steps must precede relief and rehabilitation efforts. Essential actions include collecting data

Cybernetic Analysis of Human Existence

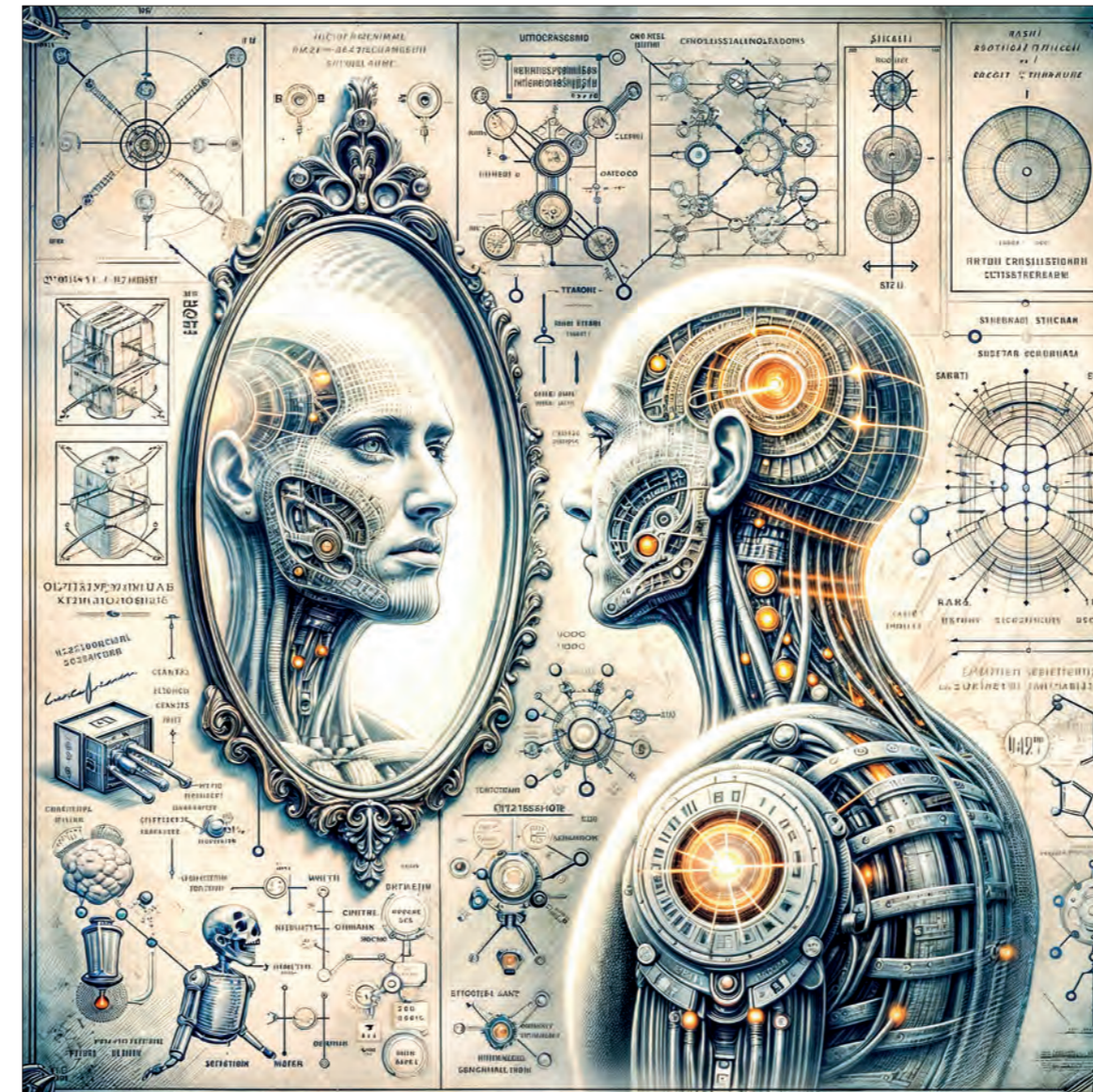
By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

HUMAN beings, whose scientific name is Homo sapiens, belong to the kingdom Animalia. The functioning of this kingdom is determined by instincts and specific action patterns, which are, in turn, prescribed by inherited neurological structures. As great as the development within the animal kingdom is, certain basic elements of its existence remain the same. The animal lives through the biological laws of nature. Animal existence is one of the harmonies between animals and nature, not in the sense that the natural conditions do not often threaten the animals and force them to a bitter survival but in the sense that the animals are equipped by nature to cope with the very conditions they are to meet to the extent which they have become adapted in an evolutionary process. Self-awareness, reason and imagination tend to disrupt the harmony which characterizes animal existence. Human existence makes all the difference in this respect from that of all other organisms; it is in a state of constant and unavoidable disequilibrium. Then, the problem of a man's existence is unique in the whole of nature – he has fallen out of nature, as it were, and is still in it, i.e., he is partly divine, partly animal-like, partly infinite, or partly finite. Whatever is said, the human needs and passions stemming from existence are relatedness versus narcissism, transcendence, rootedness, sense of identity, and a frame of orientation and devotion.

The necessity to unite with other living beings is imperative to the fulfilment of which a man's sanity depends. Even if all his physiological needs were satisfied, he would still experience his state of loneliness and individuality as a prison from which he had to break out in order to retain his sanity. There are, however, several ways by which this union with other living beings can be sought and achieved. Humans can attempt to become one with the world by submission to a person, a group or an institution. Another possibility of overcoming separateness in the opposite di-

rection is that humans can try to unite themselves with the world by having power over it and thus transcending their individual existence by domination. The common element in both submission and domination turns out to be the symbiotic nature of relatedness. But noticeably enough, the realization of sadistic and masochistic passions never leads to life satisfaction. Since the ultimate goal of these passions is defeat, they destroy the sense of integrity. There should be only one passion that satisfies a man's need to acquire a sense of integrity and individuality. This is nothing but love. One fully understands the need to be related only if one considers the outcome of relatedness failure of any kind or one appreciates the meaning of narcissism.

Another aspect of the human situation closely connected with the need for relatedness is a human being as a creature. He is driven by the urge to transcend the role of a creature, the accidentalness and passivity of his existence, by becoming a creator. Of course, humans are able to create life together with all other living beings, but with the difference that he alone becomes aware of being created or being a creator. In the act of creation, humans transcend themselves as lovely creatures and raise themselves beyond the passivity and accidentalness of their existence into the realm of purposefulness and freedom. The need for transcendence lies in one of the roots of love, art, religion, or material production. In the act of destruction, a man sets himself above life. Thus, his ultimate choice, inasmuch as he is driven to transcend himself, is to create or destroy, in other words, to love or hate. Destructiveness is a secondary potentiality rooted in the very existence of human beings and having the same intensity and power as any human passion can. Creation and destruction are not two independent instincts, but they are both answers to the same need for transcendence. The will to destroy must rise when the will to create cannot be satisfied. The satisfaction of the need to develop leads to happiness, but destruc-



Beyond survival, humans strive to create and find meaning in their lives. **IMAGE: NOWADAIS/ ILLUSTRATION FOR VISUAL REPRESENTATION.**

tion leads to suffering, most of all for the destroyer himself.

Humans can sever or dispense with their natural roots only insofar as they find new human roots, and only after they have found those roots can they feel at home again in this world. Not surprisingly, they see a deep craving in man not to stay away from the natural ties, to fight against being torn away from nature, mother, blood and soil. In fact, these pathological phenomena in individual life have their parallel in the evolution of the human race. The most distinctive expression of this lies in the fact of incest taboo universality, which is known even in the most primitive societies. The incest taboo is a necessary condition for all human development, not for its sexual but for its affective aspect. The positive aspect is a sense of affirmation of life, freedom, and equality, which

pervades the matriarchal structure. As long as men are children of nature and children of mothers, they are all equal, have the same rights or claims, and the only value which counts is that of life. On the other hand, the negative aspect of the matriarchal structure is that a man is blocked from developing his individuality and reason; he remains a child incapable of progress. Only when he succeeds in creating his reason and love further than he has done so far, only when he can build a world based on human solidarity and justice and only when he can root in the experience of universal brotherliness will he have found a new human form of rootedness and will he have transformed his world into a genuinely human home.

As with the need for relatedness, transcendence, and rootedness, this need for a sense

of identity is so vital that a man cannot remain sane if he does not find some way of satisfying it. In the development of the human race, the degree to which a man is aware of himself as a separate self relies upon the extent to which he has emerged from the clan and the extent to which the process of individualization has improved. For sure, the member of a primitive clan might express his sense of identity. In the majority, individualism is not much more than a facade behind which the failure to achieve an individual sense of identity is hidden. Many substitutes for a really personal sense of identity are endeavored for and found. Herein, nation, religion, class and occupation all serve to furnish a sense of identity. In actuality, the problem of the sense of identity is not a problem solely concerning the human mind and thought. The need to

feel a sense of identity usually stems from the very condition of human existence, and it is also the source of intense striving. Behind the intense passion for herd status and conformity stands this need, which is sometimes even stronger than the need for physical survival. People all over the world are willing to risk their lives, give up their love, surrender their freedom and sacrifice their own thoughts for the sake of being one of the herds, thus conforming and revealing a sense of identity, even though it is an illusory one.

The fact that a man has reason and imagination leads to the necessity not only for having a sense of his own identity but also for orienting himself in the world intellectually. This need can be compared with the process of physical or psychomotor orientation, which develops in the first years of life and is completed when the child is able to walk by himself, touch and handle things, knowing what they are. The need for a frame of orientation takes place on two levels. On the first level, the more fundamental need is to have some frame of orientation regardless of whether true or false. Unless a man has such a subjectively satisfactory frame of orientation, he cannot live sanely and will suffer psychologically. On the second level, the psychological need is to keep in touch with reality by reason so as to grasp the world objectively. Although the brain capacity of the human race has biologically remained the same for thousands of generations, it takes a long evolutionary process to arrive at objectivity. What is at stake in the latter case is his happiness and serenity, and not his sanity. That will become very clear if one studies the function of rationalization. The answers given to a man's need for a system of orientation and an object of devotion differ widely in both content and form, ranging from (i) animism versus totemism, (ii) atheism, and (iii) purely philosophical beliefs to (iv) monotheism that give a solution to the human quest for life meaning.

Study Reveals Omega-3's Potential to Combat Saturated Fat Risks

Omega-3 fatty acids, particularly eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) from fish oil, may improve cardiovascular health and prevent arrhythmias like atrial fibrillation.

SCIENTISTS have produced an enormous amount of evidence in the last few decades that indicates eating a diet high in saturated fats is sufficient to induce heart disease. Saturated fats have also been connected to potentially fatal arrhythmias, in addition to other issues including diabetes and atherosclerosis.

It's interesting to note that some omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids appear to improve cardiovascular health, according to research on humans and animals. Specifically, the antioxidant and vasodilator eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) in fish oil can even help prevent arrhythmias like atrial fibrillation. Even though EPA is widely accessible as a dietary supplement, little is known about how it affects cardiomyocytes and the underlying mechanisms of action.

In a recent study published online in the International Journal of Molecular Sciences, a research team from Japan set out to bridge this knowledge gap. Led by Associate Professor Masaki Morishima from Kindai University, they investigated the role of EPA in inducing long-term electrical changes in cultured mouse cardiomyocytes using a variety of bioanalytical techniques. Their research article was co-authored by Dr Katsushige Ono from Oita University and Dr Kazuki Horikawa from Tokushima University.

The main focus of this work was on how an oleic acid/palmitic acid mixture (OAPA), two well-studied saturated fats, impact calcium homeostasis in cardiomyocytes by affecting Ca²⁺ ion channels, and whether EPA can rescue these changes and restore normal functioning.

First, using real-time PCR, the researchers found that OAPA markedly reduced the mRNA levels of Cav1.2 L-type Ca²⁺ channels. Live cell imaging systems confirmed that OAPA also lowered the spontaneous beating rate of cardiomyocytes.

Notably, these changes were prevented when even a small amount of EPA was applied together with OAPA, rescuing both mRNA and protein expression levels of Cav1.2. Through electrophysiological measurements, the researchers also confirmed that the reduction in Cav1.2 channel current caused by OAPA was also prevented by EPA.

SOURCE: ANI



Omega-3 fatty acids, particularly eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) from fish oil, may improve cardiovascular health and prevent arrhythmias like atrial fibrillation. **IMAGE: PIXABAY**

NATIONAL



Mizzima Gonyi Sayadaw and charitable missionary official are supervising unloading of basic food bags recently.

Mizzima Gonyi Sayadaw, Mizzima charitable missionary donate basic foodstuffs and clothes for over 6,000 households

MIZZIMA Gonyi Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kovida and the Mizzima charitable missionary recently donated basic food items and clothing worth over K600 million contributed by local and foreign donors, for

more than 6,000 households and monasteries affected by floods in seven townships.

The Sayadaw and the missionary are also donating robes and additional food items for members of the Sangha living

in flood-affected monasteries in Nay Pyi Taw, Toungoo, Lewe, Tatkon, Wundwin, Myittha, and Kyaukse townships as well as foodstuffs and clothes to flood-affected families. — ASH/TKO

WEATHER

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 22 September 2024)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate to strong elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, the Low-Pressure Cell over the East-central Bay of Bengal and adjoining North Andaman Sea still persists. It is likely to move Westwards and may intensify into a Low-Pressure Area over the Central Bay of Bengal around 23 September 2024.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 23 September 2024: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Sagaing Region and Kachin, Northern Shan and Chin states, fairly widespread in Mandalay Region and Eastern Shan and Kayah states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi regions and Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states. The area along the Cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 mph. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 September 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 September 2024: Some rain or thundershowers which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 September 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

IIoT skills upgraded in Mekong-ROK Cooperation Framework

DEPUTY Minister for Science and Technology Dr Aung Zeya attended the closing ceremony of a modern technology training session on Skills Dissemination Training on the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) and Automation Technology on 20 September.

The training was organized by the Mekong-Republic of Korea Cooperation Framework at the School of Industrial Training and Education in Yangon.

At the ceremony, the Deputy Minister emphasized the importance of building trust and understanding among member countries to foster strategic

cooperation. He expressed confidence that the participants, equipped with the knowledge gained from this capacity-building course, would continue to learn and acquire more expertise. He urged them to share their knowledge with colleagues to promote wider dissemination and application.

Following his speech, trainees from the Mekong countries shared their experiences and insights gained from the technology exchange and course. The Deputy Minister concluded the ceremony by presenting certificates and gifts to the participants. — MNA/ TRKM



Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Aung Zeya presents the certificate to a trainee at closing event of Skills Dissemination Training on the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) and Automation Technology training section on 20 September.

HONG Kong ranked ninth in the World Talent Ranking 2024 published Thursday by the International Institute for Management Development, a business school headquartered in Switzerland, up from the 16th spot last year.

Hong Kong improved across all three talent competitiveness factors in the ranking as compared to last year, according to the report. Its position rose from six to four in "readiness," from 15 to 13 in "investment and development," and the "appeal" ranking also moved up from 32 to 28.

In a breakdown by indicators subsumed under the factors, Hong Kong topped the ranking in the percentage of sciences graduates, and was among the global top five in the

Hong Kong climbs to 9th place in world talent ranking



The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge showcases the impressive engineering of this iconic structure. PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE

availability of finance skills, effectiveness of management education and remuneration of management.

Hong Kong's return to the top 10 in the ranking showed that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government's efforts in education and talent admission have paid off, said a spokesperson for the HKSAR government.

By the end of August this year, over 360,000 applications were received under various talent admission schemes, with nearly 230,000 applications approved. During the same period, over 150,000 people of talent arrived in Hong Kong through various talent admission schemes. — Xinhua

Bottega Veneta goes for 'E.T.' chic as Madonna pops into D&G

MILAN Fashion Week came to a close on Saturday with its share of surprises, not least an unlikely source of inspiration for Bottega Veneta's much-anticipated evening show.

"For this show, I took as my starting point the scene from Spielberg's film 'E.T.', when the mother opens the closet to reveal a world of stuffed animals..." Bottega Veneta's artistic director Matthieu Blazy explained backstage.

"The surprise of an imaginary world, the world of childhood, where everything is possible, where everything is a game, a joy, an adventure," he said.

Blazy's recent fashion line captures the whimsical essence of childhood, evoking memories of children donning oversized outfits or mismatched clothing on their first school day.

This playful aesthetic includes designs like a dress embroidered with matches, symbolizing childhood's daring adventures.



Bottega Veneta took inspiration from Stephen Spielberg's film 'E.T.' for its Milan fashion week show. PHOTO: GABRIEL BOUYS / AFP

At the Dolce & Gabbana show, Madonna was a highlight, with models channeling her "Material Girl" persona through blond wigs and corseted outfits. Meanwhile, Bottega Veneta is gaining attention from investors amid Gucci's sales decline.

Known for its exquisite woven leather goods, the brand posted a modest revenue growth of 3 per cent in early 2024. Under Blazy's leadership since late 2021, Bottega Veneta emphasizes exclusivity, eschewing social media to enhance its allure. The brand's signature "intrecciato" style and innovative collaborations, such as those with contemporary artists, further elevate its status.

The recent opening of Palazzo Van Axel in Venice showcases this distinctive approach, inviting clients into the brand's world. — AFP

Australia to ban imports of fake stone linked to deadly lung disease

THE Australian government has announced that imports of fake stone products linked to the lung disease silicosis will be banned from 2025.

Murray Watt, the minister for employment and work-

place relations, and Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke on Wednesday said that engineered stone benchtops, slabs and panels will be stopped at Australia's border from 1 January 2025.

A report published by government agency Safe Work Australia in 2023 found that the risk of silicosis linked to the cutting process of engineered stone poses an unacceptable risk to stonemasons.

Silicosis is a long-term potentially lethal lung disease caused by inhaling large amounts of crystalline silica dust. — Xinhua

Germany's Oktoberfest opens under tight security after attacks

MUNICH'S Oktoberfest, the world's biggest beer festival, opened Saturday under heightened security following a string of attacks in Germany attributed to jihadists.

"We will make the Oktoberfest as safe as possible," Munich mayor Dieter Reiter pledged ahead of the 189th edition of the event, which runs until October 6.

Billed as the world's biggest folk culture festival, the Oktoberfest last year drew more than seven million visitors who consumed a total of 6.5 million litres of beer.

The tighter police security this year comes after a spate of extremist attacks, including a deadly knife rampage in the city of Solingen last month.

Police arrested a Syrian

man who had allegedly claimed allegiance to the Islamic State group ahead of the attack that killed three people and wounded eight more.

And earlier this month, Munich police shot dead a man after he opened fire on them and at the city's Israeli consulate in what was being treated as a suspected terrorist attack.

Munich police director Christian Huber reassured guests making their way to the Bavarian state capital that the Oktoberfest was the "safest festival in Germany, if not worldwide".

The general threat level was heightened but there were no indications that the Munich festival was being targeted, Huber said Wednesday. — AFP



Mayor Dieter Reiter emphasized efforts to ensure safety during the festival, which runs until 6 October. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

ECONOMY WORLD

Cambodia's trade with RCEP countries up 17.2% in first 8 months of 2024



An aerial drone photo taken on 11 September 2024 shows a container terminal at the Sihanoukville Autonomous Port (PAS) in Sihanoukville, Cambodia. **PHOTO: NITOLA/XINHUA**

Cambodia's main trading partners within RCEP included China, Vietnam, Thailand, Japan, and Singapore.

CAMBODIA'S trade with the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) countries reached US\$22.92 billion in the first eight months of 2024, up 17.2 per cent from \$19.55 billion over the same period last year, said the latest report from the General Department of Customs and Excise on Saturday.

The country's trade volume with fellow RCEP members accounted for 62 per cent of its 36.94-billion-dollar total

trade volume during the January-August period this year, the report said.

The kingdom exported products worth 6.05 billion dollars to the RCEP countries, up 15 per cent from 5.26 billion dollars, while it registered the import of goods worth 16.87 billion dollars from the RCEP countries, up 18 per cent from 14.29 billion dollars, the report added.

The Southeast Asian nation's top five trading partners

under the regional mega-trade pact were China, Vietnam, Thailand, Japan, and Singapore, the report showed.

Entering into force in 2022, RCEP comprises 15 Asia-Pacific countries including 10 ASEAN member states — Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam — and their five trading partners, namely China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Greece, Cyprus sign agreement for undersea electrical interconnection project

GREECE and Cyprus signed on Friday an agreement to advance to their electrical interconnection under the Great Sea Interconnector project, the Greek Environment and Energy ministry announced on Saturday

The project to link Cyprus to Greece's Crete Island via an undersea electricity cable is expected to commence in the coming days, according to a joint press release with Cyprus Energy, Commerce, and Industry Ministry. The Great Sea Interconnector is an electric transmission project connecting Europe to Asia with an estimated cost of 2.4 billion euros (US\$2.68 billion)

The European Union (EU) has already allocated 657 million euros in funding and the goal is to be completed in 2029.

The Cyprus-Crete Electrical Interconnection will help eliminate Cyprus's energy isolation by connecting its electricity transmission system to the corresponding trans-European systems, according to the press release.

The project is of strategic importance for Cyprus, Greece, and the entire EU, the two sides said. It will facilitate Cyprus' energy transition and support Greece's goal of becoming a corridor for clean energy transportation, they added. (1 euro= US\$1.12). — Xinhua

ADB approves 500 mln USD loan to support Indonesia's energy transition

THE Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a US\$500 million loan for Indonesia to help the Southeast Asian country accelerate its energy transition agenda, the bank's official said on Saturday.

ADB Country Director for Indonesia Jiro Tominaga said in a statement that the loan would support the development of Indonesia's basic and collaborative policy that would be formulated to identify and address the complex challenges it faces in speeding up the transition into sustainable and clean energy.

"Indonesia is at a very important junction in its energy transition journey. It has rapid growth of power generation capacity that helps it overcome most of its electricity supply constraints. However, it has also made the country heavily dependent on fossil fuel-based power sources such as coal, gas and diesel," Tominaga said. — Xinhua

South Korea, Czech Republic to launch dialogue channel on economic cooperation

THE Republic of Korea and the Czech Republic have agreed to set up a high-level dialogue channel to discuss ways of stronger cooperation on economic and financial issues, Seoul's finance ministry said on Sunday.

According to Yonhap News, the agreement was made during a meeting between South Korea's Finance Minister Choi Sang-mok and his Czech counterpart, Zbynek Stanjura, held on Friday in Prague, as Choi visited the European nation

to accompany President Yoon Suk Yeol on his four-day trip.

The director-level economic dialogue channel will be launched for regular policy talks on macroeconomic, finance and fiscal issues, and the inaugural meeting is expected to take place in the first half of 2025, according to the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

On the sidelines of the meeting, the two nations signed memorandums of understanding (MOUs) among their state financial institu-



The ministries signed an MOU to enhance cooperation on energy and innovation. Solar farm near Sinan-gun, South Korea. **PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK**

tions, which call for sharing information about major infrastructure projects and providing tailored financial support to companies that seek to take part in the projects and make an investment in the European country.

The two ministries also signed the MOU for the Economic Innovation Partnership Programme, where they pledged to deepen policy cooperation on power systems, green energy and various other relevant fields. — ANI

Travellers in China increasingly favour high-speed trains for convenience, reasonable cost

DURING the just-concluded Mid-Autumn Festival holiday, Mr Wang, who lives in Shanghai, had to take extra days off work to visit his family in neighboring Jiangsu Province because train tickets were so difficult to buy.

“I tried all the online platforms to buy train tickets for the day before or first day of the three-day holiday, but to no avail,” he told Xinhua.

Data released by the Ministry of Transport on Wednesday showed some 629.56 million passenger trips were handled by the transportation sector during the holiday that ran from Sunday to Tuesday, of which 42.57 million were made by railway.

Boasting the world’s largest high-speed railway (HSR) network, China is seeing more travellers opting for HSR as their first choice to get around the vast country and navigate its challenging geography from mountains to deserts.

According to the China State Railway Group Co., Ltd., Chinese railways handled a record 887 million passenger trips during this year’s summer travel rush from July to August, up 6.7 per cent from a year earlier. The summer school break usually sees many Chinese parents taking their children on vacation.

Ms Liang, from Zhuhai in southern Guangdong Province, said she



This photo taken on 13 September 2024 shows an experimental high-speed train running along the Longyan-Longchuan High-Speed Railway in south China’s Guangdong Province. **PHOTO: DENG HUA/XINHUA**

was relieved that her summer trip, with two young children to mountainous Guizhou Province in the southwest, was smoother than she had expected thanks to high-speed trains. — Xinhua

US solar industry declines despite financial spurs



Photo taken on 26 June 2017 shows the 16.4 Megawatt (DC) Westmont Solar Energy Project in San Pedro, about 40 km south of Los Angeles, the United States. **PHOTO: ZHAO HANRONG/XINHUA**

THE US solar industry is grappling with a sharp downturn and a wave of business closures, despite the government’s attempt to bolster domestic solar supply chains through financial incentives and other measures. This year has already

seen a series of solar company bankruptcies and massive closures. Home security giant ADT exited the solar business in January, followed by Titan Solar shutting down in June. August witnessed the bankruptcy of SunPower, one of

the nation’s oldest and largest solar installers, while Lumio, another major installer, filed for bankruptcy in September. These business failures reflected a broader decline in residential and utility-scale solar installations, even though U.S.

solar panel production capacity has increased. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), passed in 2022, allocated hundreds of billions of US dollars to strengthen the clean energy economy in the country, including substantial support for solar component manufacturing. However, Michelle Davis, head of global solar at the energy research and consulting firm Wood Mackenzie, warned that “future solar growth is being hindered by broader power sector challenges”.

The obstacles included interconnection backlogs, shortages of electrical equipment, and constraints on labor availability, said Davis, lead author of the US Solar Market Insight Q3 2024 report, released by the Solar Energy Industries Association and Wood Mackenzie this month. — Xinhua

Stellantis chair Elkann, siblings targeted by Italy tax fraud probe

ITALIAN prosecutors on Friday ordered the seizure of nearly 75 million euros from Ferrari and Stellantis chair John Elkann and four others as part of a probe into alleged tax fraud. The move comes as the dynasty behind the Fiat automaker has been divided by

a bitter inheritance dispute. Financial police in Turin said the order for the “preventative seizure of around 74.8 million euros (\$83.5 million)” targeted John, Lapo and Ginevra Elkann, as well as their accountant and a Swiss notary. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V T12 APPLE VOY.NO. (2427E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V T12 APPLE VOY.NO. (2427E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **23-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S T12 LOGISTICS PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES: WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli airstrike in Beirut increases death toll to 45

THE death toll from an Israeli air strike that targeted Hezbollah military commanders in Beirut's southern suburbs this week has risen to 45, Lebanon's health ministry said Sunday.

"The number of dead has risen to 45 people," a ministry statement said, updating an earlier toll of 37 from the Friday attack. It said "work continues to remove the rubble for the third day in a row" and that DNA sampling would be used to determine the identities of some of the bodies. — AFP

Morocco flood sweeps away bus

FLOODS in southern Morocco have swept away a bus, leaving two passengers dead and 14 others missing, local authorities said Saturday.

Torrential rains earlier this month triggered floods that killed at least 18 people in areas of southern Morocco that straddle the Sahara desert. — AFP

G7 ministers warn of AI impact on cultural sector

Ministers from G7 countries recognized the need for collaboration to address the ethical, legal, economic, and social implications of Generative AI and AI-powered tools in these sectors.



Automation of creative tasks may lead to job losses for artists, writers, and other cultural workers, as AI can generate content, music, and art. **ILLUSTRATION: ILLUSTRATION FOR VISUAL REPRESENTATION/CREATIVE COMMONS**

ALONGSIDE the opportunities, significant risks posed by Artificial Intelligence (AI) to the cultural sector were highlighted at the Group of Seven (G7) ministers'

cultural meeting, which concluded on Saturday in Naples, Italy.

AI is "increasingly permeating the value chains in the cultural and creative

sectors and industries, with impacts on the working conditions and the livelihoods of culture professionals and the sustainability of a vibrant and vital cultural ecosystem", said the declaration, which was issued by ministers of culture from the G7 countries during the three-day talks.

The leaders agreed to work together to address the ethical, legal, economic, and social implications of Generative AI and AI-powered tools for the cultural and creative industries.

The leaders also called on "identification and authentication, where technically feasible, of cultural content entirely or partially generated, modified or altered by AI systems".

The focus on the challenges related to artificial intelligence has been one of the main areas of focus during Italy's 2024 presidency of the G7. — Xinhua

Mpox cases in Africa approach 30,000 mark: Africa CDC

THE total number of mpox cases in Africa has risen to 29,152, including 6,105 confirmed cases and 738 deaths, since the start of 2024, according to the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC).

Africa CDC Director-General Jean Kaseya, in addressing a special online media briefing on the multi-country mpox outbreak in Africa

Thursday evening, said that the continent reported 2,912 new cases in the past week alone, including 374 confirmed cases and 14 deaths, bringing the total number of cases reported this year to 29,152.

Kaseya said that the cases were reported from 15 African countries across all five regions of the continent and noted that cross-border movement, malnutrition and

unsafe sexual practices are among the major risk factors for mpox.

In mid-August, the Africa CDC declared the ongoing mpox outbreak in Africa a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security. Soon after, the World Health Organization (WHO) also declared mpox a public health emergency of international concern, activating its highest level of global alert for mpox for the second time in two years.

The Africa CDC also recently announced the launch of a joint continental response plan with the WHO. The six-month plan, running from September 2024 to February 2025, has an estimated budget of nearly US\$600 million. Of this, 55 per cent is allocated to mpox response efforts in affected countries, while the remaining 45 per cent is directed toward operational and technical support through partner organizations. — Xinhua



Cross-border movement is one of the risk factors for mpox transmission. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Death toll from coal mine blast in E Iran rises to 51



A handout picture provided by the Iranian Red Crescent (RCS) shows security forces gathered at the scene of a blast at a coal mine in Tabas in Iran's Khorasan province on 22 September 2024. **PHOTO: RCS/AFP**

THE death toll from a blast at a coal mine in the eastern Iranian province of South Khorasan has risen to 51, the semi-official Tasnim news agency reported Sunday.

The number of those wounded in the explosion has reached 20, Tasnim quoted Mohammad-Ali Akhondi, director general of the provincial crisis management headquarters, as

saying. He added the blast, which occurred at the mine belonging to the Madanjoo Company in Tabas County at about 21:00 local time (1730 GMT) on Saturday, was due to a rise in the amount of methane gas in one of the tunnels, noting that the casualty count could rise.

The injured have been transferred to medical centres, according to Tasnim. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Tun Tun Min defends MLWC Championship with fourth-round knockout

IN a thrilling bout at the 9th Myanmar Lethwei World Championship (MLWC), Tun Tun Min successfully defended his MLWC Openweight Champion title by knocking out Kyaw Swa Win in the fourth round. The event, organized by Myanmar Martial Arts Group, took place yesterday afternoon at Theinbyu Lethwei Ring in Yangon.

Despite the size difference between the fighters, with Tun Tun Min towering over the shorter Kyaw Swa Win, the fight remained competitive in the early rounds. Both fighters exchanged strikes

in the first round, but in the second round, Tun Tun Min's powerful kicks sent Kyaw Swa Win crashing to the ground, forcing him to take a break.

The third round saw a back-and-forth exchange of blows, but Tun Tun Min's decisive kick to Kyaw Swa Win's neck in the fourth round proved too much, leaving Kyaw Swa Win unable to recover. As a result, Tun Tun Min claimed victory, successfully retaining his MLWC Openweight Championship for the second time.

The event also featured several other exciting matchups, including a thrill-



Champion Tun Tun Min (right) throws a punch against Kyaw Swa Win in their fight.

ing 80kg division bout between Ya Mhan and Aung Khaing, a 65kg clash between Sein Lone Chaw and Super Yaychan, a 64kg fight between Saw Bahein and Mya Lone Chaw, and a 60kg division battle

between Salai Thang Kwee Shein and Maung Zaw. These matches resulted in draws and provided plenty of action for the enthusiastic crowd. — Arkar Linn/KZL

Dagon Port, ISPE share points in MNL clash

IN the 2024-2025 Myanmar National League season's fixture 11, Dagon Port and ISPE FC played out a goalless draw yesterday at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre.

The match saw teams from different ends of the standings come head-to-head, with both settling for a point after a hard-fought contest. Dagon Port, newly promoted to the MNL this season, had been involved in high-scoring games throughout their previous matches. However, this fixture marked their first goalless draw of the season.

ISPE FC, last season's fourth-placed team, have struggled this season, in part due to the absence of key players sent to the U-19 squad, weakening their overall performance. Dagon Port's Myo Set Paing was awarded the best player of the match. Following this result, ISPE now sit with 13 points

from 10 matches, while Dagon Port have 12 points from 11 games.

Fixture 11 will conclude today with Thitsar Arman FC taking on Yangon

United at Thuwunna Stadium, while Rakhine United will face Hanthawady United at Yangon United Sports Complex. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Dagon Port and ISPE FC competing during the Myanmar National League match. PHOTO: MNL

Myanmar U-20 Team finalized for AFC U-20 Qualifiers

THE Myanmar U-20 football team has finalized its 23-player squad for the upcoming 2025 AFC U-20 Asian Cup qualifiers, which will be held from 25 to 29 September.

Led by head coach U Aung Naing, the squad features a group of talented young players eager to prove themselves in the qualifiers. Myanmar is a part of Group I, with matches scheduled to take place in Kyrgyzstan. The group includes powerful teams such as Japan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan.

Myanmar will face Kyrgyzstan on 25 September, Japan on 27 September, and Turkmenistan on 29 September in their AFC U-20 Qualifier group stage matches. The Myanmar team departed for Kyrgyzstan on 21 September ahead of the qualifiers. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Anthony Joshua (left) throws a punch against Daniel Dubois during their world title fight at Wembley. PHOTO: AFP

Dubois destroys Joshua to retain IBF world heavyweight crown

DANIEL Dubois retained his IBF world heavyweight title with a brutal fifth-round knockout of Anthony Joshua in an all-British spectacular at Wembley on Saturday.

The 27-year-old dominated the bout from the start in front of 96,000 passionate fans, dropping the former two-time

heavyweight champion multiple times.

Dubois had spoken of his determination to "legitimize" his reign as IBF champion after being handed the belt that Oleksandr Usyk vacated in June.

He produced a destructive display that raises major

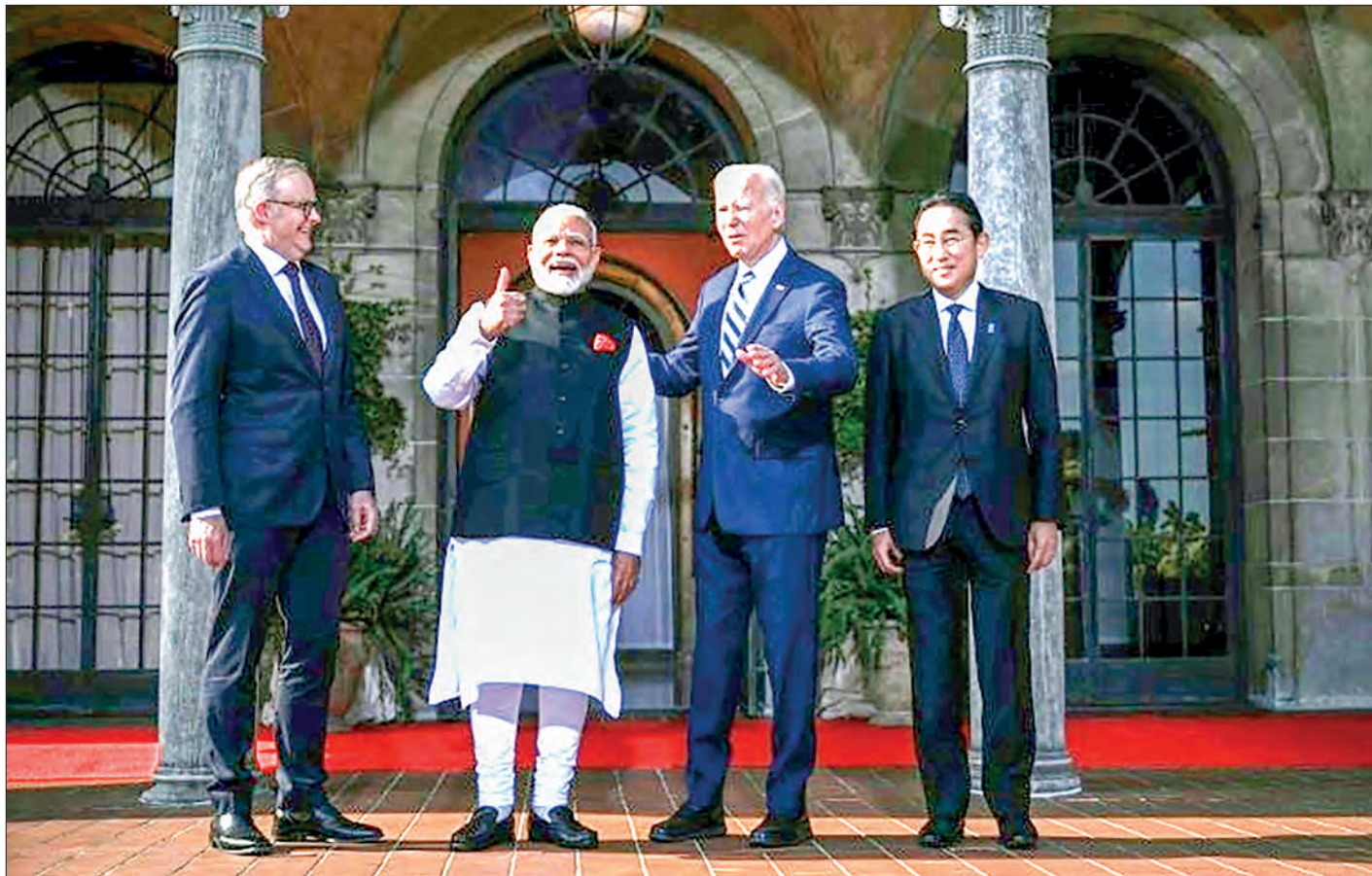
questions over Joshua's future, though Joshua's promoter Eddie Hearn said he expected his fighter would pursue a rematch.

Underdog Dubois went after his celebrated rival from the start and was rewarded as his big shots wobbled the 2012 London Olympic champion time and again. — AFP



Quad leaders announce major initiatives for Indo-Pacific development and collaboration

Key announcements included the “Quad Cancer Moonshot” to combat cervical cancer, the “Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific” (MAITRI) to improve maritime awareness, and commitments to energy efficiency through affordable cooling systems.



PM Modi highlighted India’s commitment to the Quad, which aims to deepen interparliamentary exchanges and invest in health, food security, and clean energy. **PHOTO: AFP**

TERMING the Quad as a “force of Global Good” the Quad leaders made a number of announcements to address the development priorities of the Indo-Pacific region and of the global community as a whole.

On 21 September, US President Joe Biden hosted the fourth Quad Leaders’ Summit in Wilmington, Delaware, with Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The leaders adopted the Quad Wilmington Declaration, emphasizing tangible projects in the Indo-Pacific region. Key initiatives included the “Quad Cancer Moonshot” to combat cervical cancer and the “Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific” (MAITRI) for enhanced maritime domain awareness. They also announced a commitment to energy efficiency through affordable cooling systems and planned the first “Quad-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission” for 2025. Other collaborations involved a semiconductor supply chain network and scholarships for Indo-Pacific students. PM Modi highlighted India’s commitment to the Quad, which aims to deepen interparliamentary exchanges and invest in health, food security, and clean energy. The Quad also intends to support telecommunications advancements, including Open RAN deployment and readiness for 5G in Tuvalu. — ANI

Second Preference Count

Sri Lankan presidential polls: Second round counting ordered

IN a surprising development, Sri Lanka’s Elections Commission Chairman, RLAM Ratnayake, announced a second preference count for the presidential polls after early results indicated Anura Kumara Dissanayake, leader of the National People’s Power, leading with 49.8 per cent of the votes.

Since no candidate secured over 50 per cent, the Presidential Elections Act of 1981 mandates the elimination of the lowest candidate and the counting of second preferences. Sajith Premadasa, leader of Samagi Jana Balawegaya, received 25.8 per cent, while incumbent President Ranil Wickremesinghe garnered 16.4 per cent. The polling took place on Saturday across 22 electoral districts. This election marks the first since Sri Lanka’s severe economic crisis in 2022, which resulted in widespread shortages of food and fuel, leading to former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa fleeing the country. — ANI

Hannover Motor Show highlights Europe’s push for electric trucks

The Hannover Motor Show has highlighted the electrification of Europe’s commercial vehicle fleet, emphasizing the automotive industry’s shift towards zero-emission transportation.

THE electrification of Europe’s commercial vehicle fleet has emerged as a key focus at the ongoing Hannover motor show, underscoring the automotive industry’s accelerating push toward zero-emission transportation. The International Motor Show (IAA) Transportation 2024, one of the world’s leading commercial vehicle events, drew nearly 1,700 exhibitors from more than 40 countries and regions. The event gathered key players in the commercial vehicle industry to discuss sustainable transport solutions and carbon neutrality.

Major European manufacturers showcased their electric trucks, highlighting the sector’s shift towards electrification. Daimler Truck introduced the “eActros 600” with a 500-kilometre range, while MAN Truck & Bus revealed a light-duty electric truck capable of over 230 kilometres and fast charging in 30 minutes. — Xinhua



Visitors learn about a hydrogen fuel cell tractor at booth of the Shaanxi Automobile Holding Group Co., Ltd. (SHACMAN) during the media preview of the International Motor Show (IAA) Transportation 2024 in Hannover, Germany, 16 September 2024. **PHOTO: REN PENGFEI/XINHUA**