

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

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By Daw Hla Myet Chell

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Custard apple in high demand from Yangon and Mawlamyine



Diligent fishery workers operate the processing line at a cold storage facility, handling fishery products efficiently.

## Myanmar bags US\$130+ mln from fish exports in Apr-Aug

Myanmar ships fishery products like fish and shrimp to more than 40 countries, including China, Thailand, Bangladesh and Japan.

**M**yanmar shipped over 124,700 tonnes of various fish worth US\$137.73 million in the past five months of the current financial year 2024-2025 beginning 1 April, comprising

over 65,600 tonnes (\$88.6 million) through maritime trade and over 59,180 tonnes (\$49 million) delivered at the border, the Fisheries Department's statistics showed. The figures rose from over 59,880

tonnes of fish worth \$74.25 million recorded in the corresponding period last FY 2023-2024, indicating an increase of over 64,000 tonnes valued at \$63.478 million.

Myanmar exports fishery products, including fish and shrimp, to more than 40 countries, including China, Thailand, Bangladesh and Japan. Some are directly shipped through Yangon, while some are delivered through land borders.

More than 20 fish species like hilsa, rohu, catfish, and seabass are delivered to foreign markets, according to the Myanmar Fisheries Federation. — NN/KK

## Mandalay to conduct 625 lab tests on small-scale industrial products this FY

IN the 2024-2025 financial year, Mandalay Region will carry out 625 laboratory tests on small-scale industrial products before they are released to the domestic market, according to U Win Bo, head of the Mandalay Region Small Scale Industry Department.

The tests will cover foodstuffs and consumer goods. Food products must pass lab registration



requirements to ensure hygiene and safety before entering the market.

"We are conducting laboratory examinations for foodstuffs and consumer goods that apply for registration with our department before they are

This photo shows testing some food products in the laboratory before releasing them into the market.

released into the market. Registrations are only approved after successful lab tests. This year, we plan to conduct 625 laboratory examinations," U Win Bo explained.

In the 2023-2024 financial year, a total of 1,098 laboratory tests were completed for small industrial products intended for the Mandalay Region market. — ASH/TMT



# NATIONAL



## Eighteen (18) days remain until the National Census.



### Approved parties proceed to registration

THOSE seeking to establish political parties are submitting applications to the Union Election Commission (UEC), specifying the name of the party they intend to form. As of today, a total of 17 groups have applied for permission to establish a political party, with 14 political parties already having been granted permission.

Among the 14 political parties granted permission, the Social and Economic Development

Party, led by U Kyin Wann, has submitted an application to register as a political party within 30 days from the date of permission under Article 7 of the Political Parties Registration Law.

Of the 14 political parties that applied for registration, 11 have already been granted registration approval. UEC continues to scrutinize the remaining applications for approval. — MNA/KZL



Students dip into books eagerly at the public library of Thegon Township Information and Public Relation Department yesterday. PHOTO: MAUNG SHWE WIN (PYAY)

### Anti-trafficking talks and Myanmar spelling contest held in Thegon

THE awareness talks on anti-trafficking in persons and a spelling competition were held at the Community Centre of Information and Public Relations Department in Thegon Township, Natalin District of Bago Region yesterday.

The events aim to raise the knowledge of students regarding the anti-trafficking in persons.

First, township IPRD

department head Daw Wint Nandar Htay highlighted the purpose of an event for the students regarding Anti-trafficking in Persons Day, which falls on 13 September, definition of human trafficking, different types of human trafficking in Myanmar, methods of human traffickers, suspicious persons, physical and mental impacts of being trafficked and legal punishments.

During the middle-school

level Myanmar spelling competition, the officials presented awards to the students who won the multiple-choice section of Myanmar words. Then, the students observed the wall newspaper about anti-trafficking in persons, books and publications. They also visited the Public Library, and the officials clarified library procedures in detail. — Maung Shwe Win (Pyay)/KTZH

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.

**Flood Bulletin**  
(Issued at 15:00 hrs MST on 11-9-2024)

**Flood condition of Bago River**  
According to the (14:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Bago River at Bago has exceeded by about 1 cm above its danger level 28.87 feet (880 centimetres). It may continue to rise about 21/2 feet during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

**Flood condition of Sittoung River**  
According to the (14:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo has exceeded by about one inch (two centimetres) above its danger level 19.69 feet (600 centimetres). It may continue to rise about 11/2 feet during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

**Advisory**  
It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Bago and Toungoo townships, to take precaution measure.

2024 Anti-Trafficking in Person Day, 13 September.

#### 2024 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day's Objectives

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



# 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)*

## Deputy PM MoD Union Minister-led delegation leaves for PRC

THE Myanmar delegation led by State Administration Council Member, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San left Yangon for the People's Republic of China yesterday afternoon by air to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> Beijing Xiangshan Forum at the invitation of Admiral Dong Jun, Minister of National De-

fence of the People's Republic of China.

The Myanmar delegation led by Admiral Tin Aung San was seen off at Yangon International Airport by the Yangon Command commander, officials from the embassy and military attaché's office of the People's Republic of China and senior Tatmadaw officers. — MNA/TS



State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence Admiral Tin Aung San is seen off at Yangon International Airport before departing for China yesterday.

## Farmers to receive weather index insurance benefits

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein, in his capacity as Chairman of the Union Price Stability Committee, presided over the 3/2024 committee meeting yesterday.

In regard to rice prices, the Union minister mentioned the monthly release of rice prices for the people to be able to buy at fair prices, systematic supervision of proper operations of rice mills and average sales of rice shops.

With regard to cooking oil, he said the allocation of palm oil is increased in regions and states, and cooperation is being conducted among the relevant organizations to ensure the sale of palm oil at the correct prices and at specific weights.

For medicine and medical



The third meeting of the Union Price Stability Committee in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

supplies, he also mentioned the collective efforts of relevant ministries, region/state governments and private organizations not to face shortages and price increases.

He also stated the efforts of the government prioritizing the fuel sector, which is essential for manufacturing and transport industries, and the cooperation between the Central Bank of

Myanmar and relevant departments to earn foreign income to purchase fuel.

He continued that about K12.265 billion will be compensated in Yangon, Mandalay,

Ayeyawady, and Bago regions and Mon State for flood-affected paddy fields under the weather index-based crop insurance in the 2024-2025 financial year. A public awareness campaign should be made for the farmers, and all officials, including the Myanmar Rice Federation, should work together to provide paddy species, fertilizers and agrochemicals to prevent the decrease in paddy yield due to heavy rain.

The committee vice-chair and attendees then discussed price stability measures, completed work plans based on the decision of the committee and reviewed price changes.

The Deputy Prime Minister made proper instructions and concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH



# NATIONAL

## MoI Union Minister reviews Sarso Beikman groundbreaking preparations

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspected the preparations for a groundbreaking ceremony of the three-storey RC Sarso Beikman building in Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon yesterday.

First, Project Director Daw Yu Yu Naing from Myanmar Land & Development Ltd reported on the construction site.

Then, the Union minister instructed to grow trees and plants in the Sarso Beikman compound, complete the display, the progress and ongoing stages model of the building structure for the groundbreaking ceremony, meet the international museum standards as the palm-leaf manuscripts and Parabaik will be placed, use quality construction materials, conduct proper negotiation as it is a national-level building as an India-Myanmar friendship symbol, and place



Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspects the preparations for a groundbreaking of the Sarso Beikman building in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon, yesterday.

statues of significant literary scholars of three eras, recipients of the National Lifetime Award for Literary Achievement and poets.

The Union minister also inspected the Sarso Beikman construction site and upgrading works on the former game city building into the Sarpay Beik-

man public library.

Sarso Beikman will be constructed on 2.18 acres of land plot in Mingala Taungnyunt Township as per the directives

of the Head of State to collect books, photo records and statues of great intellectuals, hold educational talks and dialogues and also for public recreation, made on 24 September 2021.

The Printing and Publishing Department of the Ministry of Information led the construction project, and the Urban and Housing Development Department of the Ministry of Construction designed the building and estimated the cost.

Myanmar and India signed a Project Agreement for the Sarso Beikman construction project on 18 March 2024.

It will be a three-storey RC with 160 feet by 140 feet by 57 feet and eight inches and 52,128 square feet.

It is a two-year project, and the construction of Sarso Beikman will begin soon. — MNA/KTZH



This photo shows the Myanmar Tourism Bank (MTB) and Myanmar Customs Brokers Association (MCBA) signing the MoU.

## MTB and MCBA ink MoU

MYANMAR Tourism Bank (MTB) and Myanmar Customs Brokers Association (MCBA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), according to the MTB.

It was signed on 11 September at the MTB headquarters on Sule Road.

MTB's CEO U Win Lwin and MCBA's Chairman U Min Tun Myint signed the MoU, and Daw Theingi Lin, executive director of MTB and Daw Theingi Htay, vice chairman of MCBA, signed

as witnesses.

MTB and MCBA aim to further promote the career of customs service providers in Myanmar, to exchange and cooperate widely with international customs service industry associations for sharing experience and technology, to contribute to all-round development in all economic sectors of Myanmar, especially in the tourism industry, and to cooperate for the development of MCBA by creating financing products. — MT/ZN

## Geotourism thrives in Popa with new soft trekking programme

AS geotourism started to become active in Popa Geopark, a soft trekking package is under the arrangement to study local history and geological events, according to Ko Tin Ko Min from the Mahagiri group.

“Currently, we are starting Geotourism. We are selling soft trekking packages. Geosite No 7 is included. We included some

places that are not included in the geosite in the soft trekking route. For those who don't want to climb the mountain, there is a short trek on the overnight camping trip,” he said.

On the trip, travelling to Nhamataw Yayhtwet and Daw Myat Hla Spring is also included, and people can study the importance of the forest and trees,

which collect rainwater from the plants in Mount Popa and provide essential support for other living creatures, and have a chance to pass through the guardian Min Mahagiri shrine of a traditional belief handed down from ancestors.

In addition, people can study the arrival of sandalwood in Geopark 7 of Mount Popa Park, its rarity and Myanmar's golden deer and natural crystals of volcanic rocks. After that, people can continue to the Mahagiri hill through the road around Mt Popa, where a sunset view in the forest walking tour and a night star gazing programme are added.

He thought that there would be more tourists in the dry season as there are now visitors as well as some inquiries. The Mahagiri group currently provides mountain climbing services, cares for Popa langur conservation, and expands its services into geotourism. — MT/ZN



This image depicts the map showing the mountain climbing trek and Mount Popa.



# NATIONAL

## Flood relief in Nay Pyi Taw; Yangon-Mandalay and Thazi-Shwenyaung trains suspended

PERSISTENT rain has caused rivers to overflow and flood some townships and villages in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, and rescue work is being conducted.

Nay Pyi Taw and eastern hill regions received heavy rainfalls due to the Yagi storm, and the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology released flood warnings for those residing in low-lying areas and villages along the rivers as the water level in Ngaleik and Sinthay creeks and Paunglong river in Pynmana Township are expected to increase.

Due to the persistent rain starting on 10 September, floods occurred in Zeyathiri township, at the Kintha junction of Tatkon



Rescue and relief team members push a vehicle surrounded by floodwaters in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

township, low-lying wards, and villages in Pynmana township.

Therefore, the relevant disaster management departments and organizations evacuated the

flood victims in time and conducted rescue work.

Moreover, the members of Tatmadaw, the Myanmar Police Force, the Fire Brigade and res-



The photo shows the flood-affected rail lines on Thazi-Shwenyaung railway section by heavy rain in Shan State yesterday.

cue organizations provided assistance and healthcare services, and the well-wishers donated foodstuffs.

Some road sections along the old Yangon-Mandalay highway connecting Tatkon from Nay Pyi Taw were also closed due to the flooding.

Similarly, the railway services for Yangon-Mandalay and Thazi-Shwenyaung trips were temporarily suspended

starting from 11 September as Tatkon-Magyeepin, Magyeepin-Nyaunglon, Yamethin-Ingyinkan, Pyawbwe-Shanywa, Thabay Taung-Thaedaw sections on Yangon-Mandalay route, Thazi-Hlinetat Hlinetat-Phaya Ngasu, Pyaya Ngasu-Yinmabin, Myindaik-Kalw, Kalaw-Aungban, Htitheing-Pawmu sections on Thazi-Shwenyaung route, and in Aungban railway station yard were flooded. — MNA/KTZH

## Nangsapi designated as protected public forest to preserve wildlife and ecosystem

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation announced that 14,000 acres in Homalin Township, Homalin District, Sagaing Region, have been designated as the “Nangsapi Protected Public Forest” as of 6 September 2024, under Section 6 (e) of the Forestry Law 2018.

The ministry designates protected and reserved forests to preserve water resources and watersheds, support a stable ecosystem, meet local needs for forest products like timber and bamboo, conserve biodiversity, and maintain favourable weather conditions for agriculture.

The establishment of the Nangsapi Protected Public For-

Nangsapi Protected Public Forest.



est is expected to safeguard valuable timber species in the area, such as teak, ironwood, and gumkino. Additionally, as the forest is connected to the Htamanthi Wildlife Reserve, it will help protect the habitats of rare species, including tigers, elephants, gaurs, pandas, monkeys, sambars, deer, and wild

boars. The protection of watershed areas for Nangsapi Creek, Nangpagun Creek, Nangsale Creek, Nanghlaw Creek, and Nangkwaikmonan Creek will help prevent siltation and erosion, increase forest cover and forest products, balance the climate, and improve the ecosystem. — MNA/TMT

## Applications for 2025 Career Development Scholarship open in Sept

MYANMAR Japan Centre said submission of applications for the Long-term Career Development (FY 2025) will be accepted in September for those who want to apply for the Japan scholarship.

The scholarship will offer an MBA in agriculture/environmental science management and a Master’s Degree in economics, engineering/information technology and tourism.

Candidates must be between 22 and 39 years old (born between 2 April 1985 and 1 April 2003), have graduated from any university, are currently working in the private sector. Those

who joined classes at MJC or company employees who joined MJC’s business courses and activities, as well as those who joined similar business management courses at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), are also eligible.

For more information, including other necessary criteria, visit the MJC website: <https://mjclcdp-2024.com>. [yourwebsitespace.com/?r=1724298574931](https://yourwebsitespace.com/?r=1724298574931). Enquiries can be addressed to [scholarship.mjc@gmail.com](mailto:scholarship.mjc@gmail.com). — MT/ZS

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# NATIONAL

## Myanmar, Russia ink MoC to build foliar spray factory



This photo depicts the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between Russia and Myanmar for establishing a foliar spray production factory.

A Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the Roscongress Foundation of Russia and the Myanmar government to establish a foliar spray production factory in Myanmar was signed during the Myanmar delegation's attendance at the Eastern Economic Forum in Russia, led by SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo.

"Russia has advanced

technology and utilizes natural materials rather than chemicals. Additionally, Russia is successful in agriculture and can transfer technology to us. There are also opportunities to enhance cooperation. If we receive investment and technology transfer for producing organic fertilizers from international sources, including Russia, it would greatly benefit Myanmar's agricultural sector," said President of the Myanmar Rice Federation U

Ye Min Aung.

According to the MoC agreement, the first step involves the production of foliar spray by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, and the Fund RC-Investment. The second step involves an agreement between the governments of Russia and Myanmar to construct a natural fertilizer plant in the Nay Pyi Taw council area. — TWA/TH

## J Nyi Nyi to perform one-man show at Marion rooftop bar

VOCALIST J Nyi Nyi announced that his one-man show will take place at the Marion Rooftop Bar at Hotel Royal Vista in Tamway Township, Yangon, at 7 pm on 14 September.

"We'll be performing with the 'We Love You' music band for my solo show. Let's sing along to the songs that remain close to the audience's hearts,"

J Nyi Nyi said.

In the first week of August, J Nyi Nyi released a new music video titled 'Life'. Regarding the song, he added, "You can watch the music video on the Legacy Music Facebook page. Please forgive any issues on YouTube as I'm not quite very familiar with digital platforms".

— ASH/TKO



## Malaysia to mandate construction skill certification for foreign workers by 2025

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Labour, only individuals holding construction skills certificates issued by the Malaysian government will be permitted to work at construction sites in Malaysia.

From 1 January 2025, work permits will be granted to foreign workers, including those from Myanmar, to work on construction sites in Malaysia. Foreign workers must possess SKKP and SICW certificates recognized by the Malaysian government, as outlined in a letter sent to the Myanmar Embassy to Malaysia.

The construction skills assessment will cost between 750 and 850 Malaysian ringgits,



depending on the type. The notification further states that anyone found working without a valid construction skills certificate and a site safety training completion certificate will face legal action.

Currently, the Malaysian government has temporarily suspended the recruitment of foreign workers, including those from Myanmar, from 1 June. It is expected that recruitment will resume by the end of the year.

— TWA/TKO

This photo depicts a construction site in Malaysia.



## MMFA to offer Credit Analysis Training on Individual Loans (Batch 16) in late Sept

MYANMAR Microfinance Association (MMFA) will open Credit Analysis Training on Individual Loans (Batch 16) on 27-30 September from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

This course is suitable for loan officers and credit officers of microfinance companies and those trying to serve in the microfinance sector.

Modules of Credit Analysis Training include Introduction to Individual Lending, Overview of IL Loan product and its process, Marketing, Promotion, and Custom Service, Loan Assessment, Loan Appraisal, Loan Disbursement, Loan Recovery, Loan Utilization, Loan Monitoring, and Delinquency Management.

The trainer is U Thet Zaw Aung from Microfinance Professional Myanmar (MPM), who is a Certified Trainer-Frankfurt School of Finance & Management and MMFA.

The fee is K50,000, and members can receive a discount of K10,000. Those interested can enrol in the training by 19 September through <https://bit.ly/46ZLFJM>. The trainees will receive an electronic certificate for completion of the training. For further details, individuals are asked to visit the link mentioned above or dial the contact number 09 965209010 during office hours. — NN/KK

## YSX share trading tops K3.35B in August



File photo shows a stock index panel at the Yangon Stock Exchange.

THE grand trading value of the eight listed companies on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) surged to K3.35 billion, with over one million shares traded in August 2024, according to the monthly report released by the exchange.

The equity market registered trading values of K1 billion with 425,102 shares in January 2024, K693 million with 253,178 shares in February, K1.34 billion with 560,687 shares in March, K473 million with 177,812 shares in April and K1.55 billion with 603,906 shares in May respectively. The trading

value hit a record high of K1.7 billion, with 593,392 shares traded in June. Then, the value fell sharply to K974 million, with 321,007 shares traded in July.

The trading value in August is K2.38 billion higher than that of July.

At present, shares of eight listed companies — First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd (TMH), the Ever Flow River Group Public Co Ltd (EFR), Amata Holding Public

Co Ltd (AMATA) and Myanmar Agro Exchange Public Co Ltd (MAEX) are traded in the security market.

MTSH topped the trading with 799,100 shares worth K0 2.76 billion, followed by 148,459 shares of FPB worth over K266.37 million, 12,915 shares of FMI worth K115.398 million, 32,984 shares of MAEX worth K108.93 million, 21,758 shares of EFR worth K37.54 million, 2,969 shares of MCB worth over K25.4 million, 4,733 shares of AMATA worth K21.766 million and 7,471 shares of TMH worth K20.9 million respectively last month. — NN/KK

## Myanmar insurance: 59 types of life and general insurance found

STATE-OWNED Myanma Insurance, wholly foreign-owned companies, joint ventures and domestic companies provide 59 different types of life and general insurance, according to the Insurance Business Regulatory Board.

There are 27 insurance companies, including foreign-owned insurance companies operating in Myanmar. They are offering a full range of insurance policies in harmony.

State-owned Myanma Insurance covers third party liability insurance, inbound travel accident insurance, fire & allied perils insurance, burglary insurance, fidelity insurance, cash-in-safe insurance, cash-in-transit insurance, personal accident



Some insurers are seen providing cash compensation for the insured.

& disease insurance, personal accident insurance, workmen's compensation insurance, general third party/public/commercial general liability insurance, contractor's plant and machinery insurance, deposit insurance, marine cargo insurance, marine hull and machinery insurance, aviation hull insurance, avia-

tion liability insurance, travel insurance, ship owner and ship operator's liability insurance, Kyar Fishing Barge owners' liability insurance, oil and gas insurance, comprehensive motor insurance, credit guarantee insurance, contractors' all risks insurance, erection all risks insurance, electronic

equipment insurance, miners' liability insurance, reinsurance and machinery insurance under general insurance category, and government personnel (short term) endowment life assurance, government personnel life assurance, army personnel life assurance, public life assurance, short term endowment life insurance, education life insurance, student life insurance, shore job life insurance, seamen life insurance, local seamen life insurance, farmers' life insurance, snake bite life insurance, group life insurance, public term life insurance, sportsmen life insurance, health insurance, critical illness insurance, micro health insurance, single premium credit life insurance, short

term single premium credit life insurance, single premium endowment and smart saving 5/2 life insurance under life insurance category. There are more insurance products offered by private companies as well.

The insurance industry is competitive with different life and non-life insurance products. More insurance types will be permitted to enhance the insurance sector; implement an insurance roadmap for Myanmar's insurance development, keep abreast of the course of development in the ASEAN insurance market and provide financial protection to the insured, which might help contribute to the economic development of the State. — ASH/KK



# OPINION

## Beware of non-communicable diseases

**N**ON-COMMUNICABLE diseases (NCDs) are often underestimated, as many believe they do not pose immediate life-threatening risks. However, NCDs are responsible for taking a life every two seconds, primarily among individuals under 70 years old. According to surveys, 70 per cent of global deaths are caused by NCDs, making them a significant health concern worldwide.

NCDs encompass a wide range of conditions, including diabetes, lung cancer, hypertension, mental health disorders, and cardiovascular diseases. To address the growing impact of these diseases, civil society organizations from 11 countries — India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste — have formed the Southeast Asian Region Non-Communicable Disease Alliance (SEAR NCDA). This alliance aims to prevent and control NCDs across the region.

One of the most concerning aspects of NCDs is their effect on the working-age population. These diseases disproportionately affect people in their most productive years, leading to a loss of valuable workforce and hindering economic growth. Therefore, it is crucial for all countries to address the dangers posed by NCDs through timely healthcare services, vaccination programmes, and public health initiatives.

From 21 to 23 August 2024, SEAR NCDA held a virtual conference to discuss strategies for combatting NCDs. The conference focused on various conditions, including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, kidney disorders, cancers, strokes, developmental disorders, preventable eye conditions, and mental health issues. Participants emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts to reduce the burden of NCDs in the region.

Many NCDs can be controlled and prevented through proper healthcare and lifestyle changes. However, medical efforts alone are not enough. People must also adhere to preventive measures recommended by the Ministry of Health. Failure to follow these guidelines can result in individuals falling victim to NCDs, which could ultimately lead to death.

While the average human life expectancy does not typically exceed 100 years, it is crucial for everyone to strive for a life free from debilitating diseases. Unfortunately, many people are more concerned with the risks of infectious diseases, often overlooking the dangers posed by NCDs. By raising awareness and promoting preventive measures, we can reduce the impact of NCDs and ensure healthier, longer lives for all.

Although health experts and specialists try hard to overcome the challenges of communicable and non-communicable diseases to save the lives of patients as much as possible, patients with various kinds of diseases still lose some amounts of human lives one after another. So, everybody wishing to save their lives needs to take care of dangerous non-communicable diseases at any time.

Although health experts and specialists try hard to overcome the challenges of communicable and non-communicable diseases to save the lives of patients as much as possible, patients with various kinds of diseases still lose some amounts of human lives one after another. So, everybody wishing to save their lives needs to take care of dangerous non-communicable diseases at any time.

# Power versus Principles: The Interplay between Geopolitics and International Law

By Daw Hla Myet Chell (International Law)



International law seeks to provide a framework for managing international relations, resolving disputes, and promoting cooperation. **ILLUSTRATION: SHUTTERSTOCK**

**T**HE intricate dance between geopolitics and international law has long shaped the world's political landscape. While international law aims to create a framework for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among states, geopolitics often drives nations to prioritize strategic interests, sometimes at the expense of legal norms. This article explores the relationship between these two forces, emphasizing the dominant role of geopolitics through historical examples and current events.

**Understanding Geopolitics**  
Geopolitics, the study of the effects of geography on international politics and relations, has been a critical factor in statecraft for centuries. Early geopolitical theorists like Halford Mackinder, who proposed the Heartland Theory, emphasized the strategic importance of controlling central landmasses, while Nicholas Spykman's Rimland Theory highlighted the significance of coastal areas. These theories, though developed in the early 20th century, continue to influence modern geopolitical strategies.

In today's world, geopolitics is defined by multipolarity, where

power is dispersed among several nations rather than dominated by a single superpower. The strategic importance of regions like the Arctic, which is becoming increasingly accessible due to climate change and holds vast untapped natural resources, exemplifies the ongoing relevance of geographic considerations in international politics.

**International Law: The Framework**  
International law, designed to govern the relations between states, is built on principles such as sovereignty, non-intervention, and the peaceful resolution of disputes. Institutions like the United Nations (UN) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) were established to enforce these principles and provide a platform for resolving conflicts.

However, the effectiveness of international law often depends on the willingness of states to comply, which their geopolitical interests can heavily influence. This interplay between legal norms and political strategies is where the tension between geopolitics and international law becomes most apparent.

**Intersection of Geopolitics**

**and International Law  
Geopolitics Influencing International Law**

The relationship between geopolitics and international law is not merely theoretical; it has played out in significant historical events. After World War II, the victorious Allied powers shaped the new international order, including the creation of the United Nations. This was not just an act of global benevolence but also a geopolitical strategy to establish a system that would prevent future conflicts and maintain their influence.

During the Cold War, the geopolitical rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union profoundly influenced the application of international law. Conflicts such as the Korean War and the Vietnam War saw international law interpreted through the lens of superpower competition. The principles of sovereignty and non-intervention were frequently bent or disregarded to serve the strategic interests of the opposing blocs.

A more recent and contentious example is the 2003 invasion of Iraq by the United States and its allies. The invasion was justified by claims that Iraq pos-

sessed weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and that the regime of Saddam Hussein posed a significant threat to international security. Despite the lack of a clear mandate from the United Nations and widespread international opposition, the invasion went ahead, leading to the toppling of Hussein's government.

In hindsight, the failure to find WMDs in Iraq and the subsequent chaos and instability in the region has been widely criticized. This action is often seen as a stark example of how geopolitical interests, particularly the strategic goals of the United States and its allies in the Middle East, can override international legal norms. The invasion of Iraq has had long-lasting repercussions, including undermining the credibility of international law and fueling further conflicts in the region.

**International Law as a Tool for Geopolitical Strategy**

Conversely, states have also used international law as a tool to advance their geopolitical objectives. Economic sanctions are a prime example of this. The United States, often invoking international law, has imposed sanctions on countries like Iran and Russia. While these sanctions are justified on legal grounds, they also serve clear geopolitical aims, such as curbing nuclear proliferation or countering regional influence.

Humanitarian interventions, too, often reflect this duality. The NATO intervention in Kosovo in 1999 and the international intervention in Libya in 2011 were justified on the basis of international law, particularly the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) doctrine. However, these interventions also aligned with the geopolitical interests of Western powers, raising questions about the impartiality and consistency of international law.

**Challenges and Criticisms**

The selective application of international law is one of the most significant criticisms of its intersection with geopolitics. Powerful states can often afford

to ignore international legal norms when they conflict with their strategic interests, leading to accusations of hypocrisy and double standards. For instance, while the West condemns Russia's activity in Crimea as a violation of international law, similar legal arguments were used to justify NATO's actions in Kosovo, highlighting the inconsistent application of legal principles.

Moreover, as multilateralism weakens (i.e., countries cooperate less), nationalism and unilateralism arise. That means that the international legal system — which relies on countries working together to enforce laws — is at risk. This trend is concerning because if countries continue to ignore or sidestep international law, the ability of these laws to manage and resolve geopolitical conflicts could diminish, leading to a more chaotic and unpredictable world order.

**The Future of Geopolitics and International Law**

As the world faces new challenges, such as cyber warfare, space militarization, and climate change, the relationship between geopolitics and international law will likely become even more complex. These emerging issues require a rethinking of existing legal frameworks and a renewed commitment to multilateral cooperation.

Reforming international law to address geopolitical realities better is crucial. That could involve strengthening international institutions, ensuring more consistent application of legal norms, and finding new ways to hold powerful states accountable. Only by addressing these challenges can international law hope to manage the tensions that arise from competing geopolitical interests effectively.

**Conclusion**

The relationship between geopolitics and international law is one of constant tension and negotiation. While international law seeks to establish a rules-based order, geopolitics often dictates how these rules are applied or ignored. Understand-

ing this dynamic is essential for anyone seeking to navigate the complexities of global politics. As we move into an increasingly multipolar world, the challenge will be to find ways for international law to function effectively in an environment where geopolitical interests remain paramount.

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Polaris Dawn astronauts (L-R) Anna Menon, Scott Poteet, Jared Isaacman and Sarah Gillis, are seen inside the Dawn Crew Dragon Resilience in August 2024, during a rehearsal of launch day, in a photo courtesy of SpaceX. **PHOTO: SPACEX/AFP/FILE**

## Private astronauts on daring trek ahead of historic spacewalk

The mission includes a historic spacewalk by non-professional astronauts, scheduled to occur around Thursday or Friday. This will be the first spacewalk conducted by civilians.

**A** PRIVATE crew set out on an audacious orbital expedition Tuesday, journeying deeper into the cosmos than any humans in half a century as they prepare for the first ever spacewalk by non-professional astronauts.

The SpaceX Polaris Dawn mission, led by Shift4 Payments CEO Jared Isaacman, launched early morning from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida and attained its peak altitude of 870 miles (1,400 kilometres) later that day.

"Achievement unlocked — apogee 1,400.7 km," SpaceX said on X Tuesday night.

That is more than three times farther from Earth than the International Space Station, as their Crew Dragon spaceship navigates through portions of hazardous, high-radiation Van Allen belt during its roughly five-day trek.

Radiation isn't the only challenge the four-member team faces: their spaceship "will travel repeatedly through the orbital altitudes of over 10 thousand satellites and bits of space debris," said SpaceX founder and CEO Elon Musk. "No room for error in our calculations."

The highlight of the voyage is slated for as early as Thursday: the first ever spacewalk by civilians, outfitted in sleek, newly developed SpaceX extravehicular activity (EVA) suits with heads-up displays, helmet cameras and advanced joint mobility systems — once the orbit is back down to roughly 430 miles.

SpaceX has scheduled the EVA for 0623 GMT on Thursday, with a backup window on Friday at the same time.

Since the Crew Dragon capsule lacks an airlock, the entire crew will be exposed to the vacuum of space for around two hours, as two crewmates venture out, in turn, for 15 to 20 minutes each.

Earlier Tuesday, the capsule blasted off atop a Falcon 9 rocket after weather delays pushed back the launch several times.

SOURCE: AFP



# NATIONAL



This picture captures a thriving sunflower plantation.

## Yangon to expand sunflower cultivations

THE Department of Agriculture targets to expand sunflower cultivation 10,969 acres more than the estimation of 19,872 acres this winter in Yangon.

The edible oil crops such as sunflower, peanut and sesame will be grown mostly in 14 townships of seven districts.

“We expand the edible oil crop cultivation depending on the weather condition and soil. We try to expand year by year to cover the

local consumption. We first planted over 4,083 acres of sunflower under the plan, and we estimate to expand from 8,969 acres in coming winter. The cooking oil coverage in Yangon Region is only 1.54. It means we have to expand the plantation. Therefore, the sunflower cultivation acres will be higher in coming winter,” said Daw Hla Kyi, assistant director of the department.

It is estimated to expand

3,799 acres of peanut plantations, while 5,104 acres of sesame (winter, summer) and 10,969 acres of sunflower in coming winter, totaling 19,872 acres of total edible oil crop cultivation.

The department supply technical assistance to the farmers to expand the sunflower cultivation in regions and states. The sunflower cultivation will be expanded up to 10,969 acres this year.

— Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

## Custard apple in high demand from Yangon and Mawlamyine

A seasonal fruit, the custard apple, freshly harvested from Bago Region’s Pyay, has received loads of orders mainly from Yangon and Mawlamyine, and the trading has been pretty good since the beginning of the fruit season.

Custard apple is harvested during three months, from September to November, and fruit production is largest in October.

“Custard apple is freshly harvested now, and fruit production is the largest in October. We transport to other cities and towns, and the majority of orders are placed from Yangon

and Mawlamyine. The trading is fine. Normally, custard apple price is steady every year,” said Ma Mo Mo Zaw, a custard apple trader from Pyay.

Custard apple is one of the most consumed fruits in Myanmar, and the trading this year is better than last year.

“Custard apple is good for eyes as well as for cardiac disease. Eating custard apples is good for pregnant women. Orders are larger this year compared to last year. Annual fruit production is regular, and there is no decline,” she added. — Thit Taw/ZS



This photo shows custard apples produced from Pyay.

## Objectives of 25<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2024



(a) To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics

(b) To explore, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural characteristics

(c) To explore and preserve the traditional cultural heritage for the young generation and further propagate the national spirit

(d) To serve as a national cultural entity for State development, peace, and stability

## Chayote prices drop amid high production

SURPLUS production in its original market has led chayote wholesale prices to fall recently.

Chayote is consumed

chiefly and cooked in different recipes in Myanmar.

“Increased production and decline in the Yangon market cause the wholesale price to

fall here. Yangon is the main market, but competition is high there, so we have to reduce the price. It is the peak season of chayote in Aungban, followed by Ywangan, Pindaya, and Pinlaung,” said a chayote trader from Aungban.

The chayote market often changes, and the price has recently declined.

“Price varies on a daily basis. It has been about three days, and the chayote price has fallen. We transport it to Yangon’s Thiri Mingala Market and Mandalay, which are our main destinations. Compared to previous years, chayote price seems better for farmers,” he said. — Thit Taw/ZS



This image depicts a growing chayote plantation.



# NATIONAL

## Illegal timber and consumer goods seized nationwide

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action is effectively taken in accordance with the law to prevent and apprehend illegal trade activities.

On 10 September, joint inspection teams led by the Customs Department conducted operations, resulting in the seizure of goods without proper legal documentation. At Yangon International Airport (Import Terminal), equipment without valid documents, valued at K18.19 million, was seized. Meanwhile, at Ywathagyi Dry Port, a vehicle transporting goods from Thamanya to Yangon was found carrying undeclared food items, consumer goods, and business equipment, with an estimated value of K45.32 million. Additionally, a Mitsubishi Fuso tractor and trailer, valued at K70 million, were also seized. The total estimated value of the seizures amounted to K133.51 million, and legal action was conducted in line with Customs regulations.

On the same day, under the management of the Mandalay Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force, inspections at the Myitnge checkpoint led to the seizure of business equipment and consumer goods without proper documentation, valued at K3.33 million. A Man tractor and trailer, worth K110 million, were also confiscated. Additionally, in Tharsi Township, 0.198 tonnes of illegal teak, 0.820 tonnes of other timber, and two motorcycles transporting the goods, valued at K851,547, were seized. The total value of these seizures amounted to K114.17 million, and action was taken under the Forest Law.

On 10 September, another joint inspection team seized equipment valued at K2.26 million without legal documentation from a location on Pitaung Road, Anawrahta Ward, Kawthoung Township, Taninthayi Region, and action was carried out as per Customs procedures.

On 11 September, joint inspection teams seized 0.866 tonnes of illegal teak, 1.203 tonnes of padauk, and 1.168 tonnes of other timber, with an estimated value of K1.33 million in Bago Region. Legal action was taken under the Forest Law.

Also, on the same day, a team managed by the regional task force seized an unregistered Daihatsu Hijet valued at K6 million at the Kantalu checkpoint in Sagaing Township, Sagaing Region. Legal action was taken under the Import and Export Law. On the same day in Rakhine State, a joint inspection team from the regional task force seized 360 gallons of illegal diesel fuel, valued at K252 million, from a motorboat near Makyeeekyun, two miles off the coast of Yanbye Township. Legal action was taken under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law.

As of 10 and 11 September, 11 cases were registered involving seizures worth K509.29 million, according to the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/KZL



## 2<sup>nd</sup> International Buddhist Media Conclave takes place in New Delhi

THE second International Buddhist Media Conclave was held at Vivekananda International Foundation in New Delhi, India, yesterday.

Delegates from 18 countries, including a Myanmar delegation led by Director-General U Aye Kywe of the Information and Public Relations Department, participated in the conclave.

IBC Director-General Mr Abhijit Halder, Chair of VIF Mr S Gurumurthy and delegates delivered opening addresses.

The conclave focused on the role of media in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

and communications, mindful communication for conflict avoidance, environmental conservation and sustainable development, environmental conservation, and the establishment of Buddhist media networks and Buddhist media social networks.

U Ko Ko, Chairman of Myanmar's Yangon Media Group, served as a speaker to join the discussion on the establishment of Buddhist media networks and Buddhist media social networks.

On the evening of 10 September, Director-General U Aye Kywe held a talk with IBC

Director-General Mr Abhijit Halder about cooperation with the International Buddhist Confederation.

The conclave was attended by host India, Bhutan, Cambodia, Czech Republic, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Vietnam and Myanmar.

The conclave was jointly organized by the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) and Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF). — GNLM/TTA



The second International Buddhist Media Conclave 2024 in progress at Vivekananda International Foundation in New Delhi, India, yesterday.

## Counter-argument to false information

### False claims spread of civilian arrests in Mindat

SUBVERSIVE media outlets are deliberately circulating false information, claiming that security forces arrested three civilians in Mindat, Chin State, on 7 September.

However, an official clarified that this is untrue, as the security forces were conducting routine security

measures, inspections, and patrols in Mindat Township alongside the local community. The procedures for military service are carried out lawfully, but the malicious media attempt to deceive the public and spread propaganda to undermine regional stability. — MNA/TMT

### Reports of arson and theft in Launglon Township disputed

REPORTS have emerged alleging that security forces set fire to and destroyed six houses in Thabokseik and Pyingyi villages in Launglon Township, Taninthayi Region, on 10 September and carried away valuable goods.

Malicious news media sources have propagated these claims. According to a security official from Launglon Township, the allegations are inaccurate. The official stated that security forces did not engage

in arson or theft in those villages.

Instead, the forces are actively ensuring the security of the area, responding to the activities of armed insurgents who have reportedly burned down some village homes and unlawfully appropriated public property. The unverified media reports are said to be misleading and intended to create confusion among the public. — MNA/KZL



# ECONOMY WORLD

## Export potential of Russian producers hits whopping \$30 million

*The exposition featured 36 Russian producers of various food and packaging products and took place from 3 to 6 September.*



WorldFood Istanbul is the largest meeting point for the food industry and it continues to grow with the support of various key associations. **PHOTO: WORLDFOOD ISTANBUL**

AGROBUSINESSES grouped under the brand “Made in Russia” held almost 500 meetings with potential trading partners

within this year’s WorldFood Istanbul: International Food Products & Processing Technologies Exhibition, with the

support of the Russian Export Centre (REC, part of VEB.RF). The export potential of Russian agrobusinesses’ negotia-

tions at the WorldFood Istanbul forum amounted to nearly \$30 million, REC noted.

“Thirty-six Russian producers of grain and legume products, ready goods, beverages, confectionery, food ingredients, as well as packaging and equipment for the food industry, took part in the ‘Made in Russia’ national exposition, organized by the REC,” the statement read.

Over four days from 3 to 6 September, the companies held negotiations with Turkish retail chains, major importers of agricultural and industrial products, distributors of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, as well as specialized associations and unions.

On the first day of the exhibition, the “Made in Russia” exposition was visited by the consul-general and staff of the Russian Trade Mission to Turkey.

“Despite the fact that Russian agricultural producers have long been represented on the Turkish market and the existence of established ties, domestic products continue to attract significant interest from Turkish partners. — SPUTNIK

## Nippon Steel exec to meet US officials over US Steel buyout plan

A Nippon Steel Corp executive is set to meet senior US government officials on Wednesday in a last-ditch effort to advance its plan to acquire United States Steel Corp, which Washington is aiming to block, sources familiar with the matter said.

Nippon Steel Vice-President Takahiro Mori is expected to hold talks in Washington with members of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, which investigates potential national security risks associated with inbound investment deals, the sources said.

The move comes as President Joe Biden’s administration

is reportedly in the final stage of blocking the \$14.1 billion takeover of the Pittsburgh-based firm by Japan’s largest steelmaker.

US presidential nominees Kamala Harris and Donald Trump are also opposed to the proposed acquisition by Nippon Steel. US Steel, founded in 1901, and the United Steelworkers Union are both headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, one of the key battleground states of the 5 November presidential election.

The powerful labor union, which has endorsed Harris, is strongly opposed to the deal.

Nippon Steel attempted to

withdraw its filing with CFIUS, intending to refile its application after the presidential race, the

Financial Times reported Tuesday, citing people familiar with the matter. — Kyodo



Japan’s Nippon Steel has agreed to buy US Steel Corp for \$14.1 billion, the company said in a statement. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

## BRIEFS: ECON

### S Korea’s corporate revenue keeps growing in Q2

SOUTH Korea’s corporate revenue kept growing in the second quarter thanks to solid global demand for locally-made semiconductors, central bank data showed Wednesday.

Revenue for 11,651 manufacturers and 11,486 non-manufacturers subject to external audit, excluding financial firms, increased 5.3 per cent in the April-June quarter from a year earlier after growing 1.2 per cent in the previous quarter, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK). Sales by manufacturers gained 7.3 per cent in the second quarter, faster than an expansion of 3.3 per cent in the first quarter. Revenue in the machinery, electrical and electronic sector, including chip-makers, surged 20.7 per cent in the second quarter, with those in the petrochemical and the transport equipment sectors rising in single digits. — Xinhua

### Britain’s winter fuel allowance cut raises alarms over pensioners’ lifelines

BRITAIN’S newly installed Labour government pressed ahead with its plan to cancel the winter fuel allowance, potentially causing hardship for millions of pensioners this winter.

On Tuesday, a Labour-dominated parliament voted down a motion against the cut, with 348 MPs voting against and 228 in favour. Following the revision, only around 1.5 million people will remain eligible for the fuel allowance, down from 11.4 million when it was available to everyone over the age of 66. This change affects nearly 10 million elderly individuals in Britain.

Ahead of the vote, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer defended the decision, stating he made “no apologies” for initiating difficult changes and acknowledging that the government has to take unpopular measures, including cutting winter fuel payments. — Xinhua



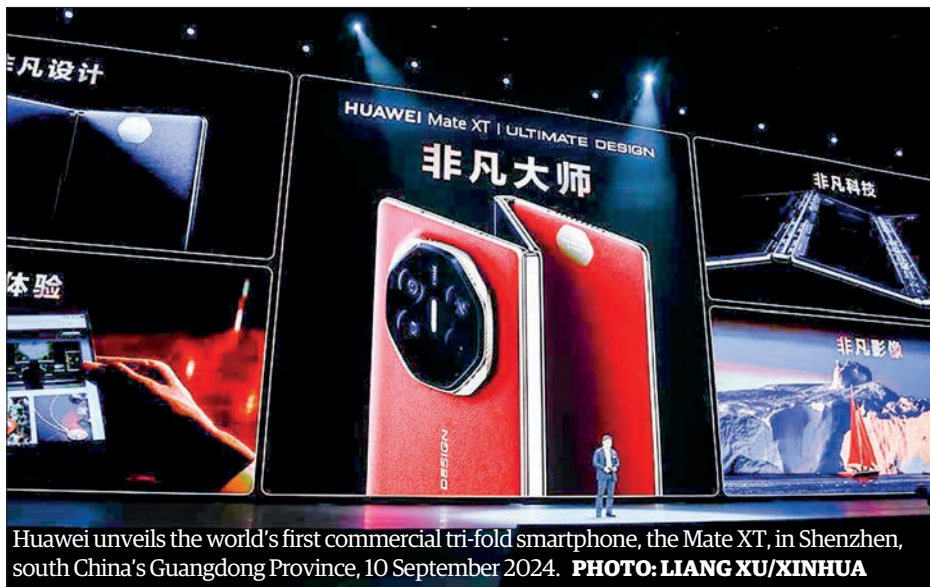
# Huawei launches world's first tri-fold smartphone

The foldable phone market in China experienced significant growth in 2023, with shipments increasing by 114.5% to exceed seven million units, according to IDC.

CHINESE technology giant Huawei on Tuesday launched an industry-first tri-fold smartphone in south China's Shenzhen, with a number of technological breakthroughs such as a dual-hinge system and screen-bending features.

Yu Chengdong, Huawei's executive director, said that constant technological innovation is the primary driving force in the development of folding-screen smartphones, an industry segment with high technology density.

China's foldable mobile phone market saw a growth of 114.5 per cent in shipments in 2023, with the number of shipments surpassing seven million, according to global market research firm International Data Corporation (IDC). — Xinhua



Huawei unveils the world's first commercial tri-fold smartphone, the Mate XT, in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, 10 September 2024. PHOTO: LIANG XU/XINHUA

## S Korean banks' household lending rises for 5<sup>th</sup> month in August



Woori Bank is a Korean multinational bank headquartered in Seoul. It is one of the four largest domestic banks in South Korea. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

SOUTH Korean banks' household lending rose for the fifth straight month due to robust de-

mand for mortgage loan, central bank data showed Wednesday. Debt owed by house-

holds to deposit-taking banks expanded 9.3 trillion won (US\$6.9 billion) from a month earlier to 1,130 trillion won (\$844 billion) at the end of August, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

It continued to increase since April on expectations for policy rate cuts by the end of this year.

The BOK had left its policy rate unchanged at 3.50 per cent since January last year after raising it by 3.0 percentage points for the past one and a half years.

Banks' mortgage loan surged 8.2 trillion won (\$6.1 billion) last month on eased regulations to prop-

up housing prices.

It marked the fastest monthly expansion since relevant data began to be compiled in 2004.

Other loans to households, including credit loan, credit line and commercial real estate-backed loan, grew 1.1 trillion won (\$821.6 million) last month.

Banks' corporate loan came in at 1,311.9 trillion won (\$979.9 billion) at the end of August, up 7.2 trillion won (\$5.4 billion) from a month earlier.

Lending to big companies added 1.9 trillion won (\$1.4 billion), and loan to small firms swelled 5.3 trillion won (\$4 billion) last month. — Xinhua

## Indonesia starts construction of new rapid train line

INDONESIAN President Joko Widodo attended the ground-breaking ceremony Wednesday for the second train line of Jakarta's mass rapid transit system, financed by a loan from Japan of about 140.7 billion yen (\$990 million). The MRT railway — the first phase of which, a 15.7-kilometre stretch on the North-South Line, opened in 2019 — "has changed the face of Jakarta and Indonesia", the president popularly known as Jokowi, said during the ceremony at the site for Thamrin Station of the new East-West Line.

The North-South Line has carried about 120 mil-

lion passengers since its opening, he said.

The construction of the 84.1-kilometre East-West Line project consists of two phases, with the work for the 24.5-km first stage to be completed in 2031, according to the Japanese Embassy in Jakarta.

The new train line will be built with Japanese technology for the vehicle and signaling systems.

"The MRT system has become a symbol of economic cooperation between Indonesia and Japan," said Japanese Ambassador to Indonesia Yasushi Masaki at Wednesday's event. — Kyodo

### Changing Trade Name of Pesticides

Min Ma Haw Company Limited would like to change the trade name of the following pesticide which is registered by Agro Star Pte., Ltd (Singapore).

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Reg. No.
1.	Di Gyi 55	Bomb Super 55 EC	Lufenuron 5 % + Profenofos 50 % EC	P2023-630

And we would like to invite any objection for the above changing trade name within (14)days of the publication of this notice to the Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogon,Insein.

**Distributor : Min Ma Haw Company Limited**  
No.(49/A), Thiri Mingalar (2) Street, Ward No.(8), Kamayut Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

### PESTICIDES TRADE NAME CHANGING

We, **Marga Min Co., Ltd** would like to change the **Trade Name** of the following products, (registered by **Agro Icon Cropscience Pte., Ltd** to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), from former **Old Trade Name (Tri Star)** to **New Trade Name (Shwe Mi Chaung)**, **Marga Min Co., Ltd**. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.

Marga Min Co., Ltd, 09 - 45 555 7861, 09 - 45 555 7862

Sr.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1	Tri Star	Shwe Mi Chaung	Fenoxaprop - P - ethyl 6.9 % EC	P 2023 - 6064



# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## Chinese premier to promote development strategies alignment, enhance ties with Saudi Arabia



Chinese Premier Li Qiang arrives at the King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 10 September 2024. **PHOTO: RAO AIMIN/XINHUA**

*Reflecting on the 34-year diplomatic history between China and Saudi Arabia, Li highlighted the significant progress and successful cooperation achieved.*

CHINESE Premier Li Qiang arrived here Tuesday for the Fourth Meeting of the High-Level Chinese-Saudi Joint Committee and an official visit to Saudi Arabia at the invitation of Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud.

Upon arriving at Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport, Li expressed his hope for both sides to further strengthen the alignment of their development strategies and elevate bilateral ties to a higher level.

Noting the longstanding

traditional friendship between China and Saudi Arabia, Li said that since the establishment of diplomatic relations 34 years ago, bilateral relations have achieved leapfrog development through joint efforts, yielding fruitful results in practical cooperation.

During his stay, Li will engage in in-depth discussions with the Saudi crown prince and prime minister on bilateral relations and other issues of common concern to strengthen friendship and expand cooperation. — Xinhua

## New Zealand responds to confirmed mpox cases



New Zealand has reported two additional cases of mpox, which are probably connected to the Queenstown Winter Pride event in August.

**PHOTO: WINTER PRIDE/FB**

THE New Zealand government has responded quickly to two newly confirmed cases of mpox and approved the use of the vaccine.

The mpox vaccine Jynneos has been given provisional approval by Medsafe, New Zealand's medical safety authority.

New Zealand has confirmed two new cases of mpox, likely to be linked to the Queenstown Winter Pride event in August. These are cases of clade II mpox, the more common variant, rather than the more severe clade I, researchers said.

Jynneos has been used in New Zealand since 2023 to prevent mpox for those at greatest risk, under a specific provision in the Medicines Act, Health Minister Shane Reti said on Wednesday. — Xinhua

## Iranian president visits Iraq on inaugural foreign trip

IRANIAN President Masoud Pezeshkian arrived in Baghdad on Wednesday for his first official foreign visit since taking office in July.

In a statement from his media office, Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani welcomed Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and his delegation at Baghdad airport. The two leaders are set

to discuss regional developments and the ongoing situation in Gaza.

According to the statement, Al-Sudani and Pezeshkian will explore ways to enhance economic and security cooperation and oversee the signing of several memoranda of understanding across various sectors. — AFP

## Bridge partially collapses in Germany's Dresden

A bridge partially collapsed in the eastern German city of Dresden early Wednesday morning, rescue services said, adding that no one was injured.

A roughly 100-metre section of the Carola Bridge, which connects Dresden's historic old town to other parts of the city, plunged into the Elbe river overnight, the Dresden fire brigade said.

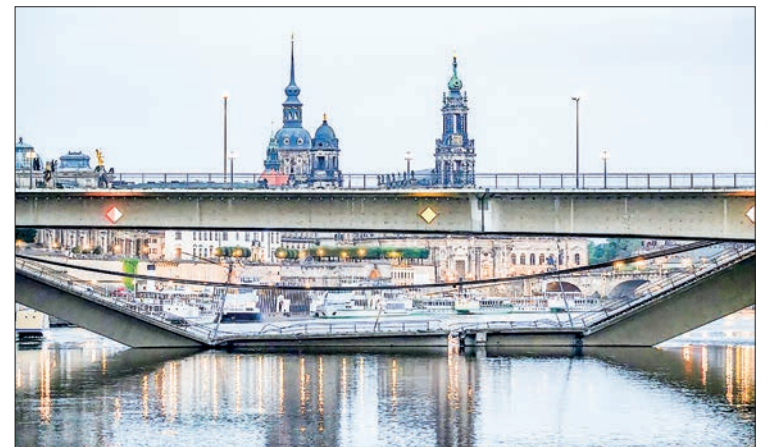
The entire area has been sealed off and no river traffic was

possible, Dresden police said on social media platform X.

Residents have been urged to stay away.

Rescue services were at the scene and were working on damage control to prevent further parts of the bridge from collapsing, fire brigade spokesman Michael Klahre told AFP.

The cause of the collapse was still unknown, he added. — AFP



A roughly 100-metre section of the Carola Bridge, which connects Dresden's historic old town to other parts of the city, plunged into the Elbe river overnight. **PHOTO: AFP**



# SPORTS

## MFF Women Futsal Invitation Cup 2024 kicks off



YRG in action against Phoenix FC in the MFF Women Futsal Invitation Cup 2024 match. **PHOTO: MFF**

MYANMAR Football Federation (MFF) Women Futsal Invitation Cup 2024 commenced on 11 September at the MFF Futsal Arena in Thuwunna, Yangon.

On the opening day, the YRG and Divine teams secured victories. In the first match, YRG defeated Phoenix with a score of 6-1. May Myat Moe scored

YRG's goals at 10 minutes, May Thet Paing at 16 minutes, Ya Min Thant Zin at 19 minutes, Win Win Khaing at 22 minutes, Su Wah Lwin at 25 minutes, and Wutt Yi Lwin at 38 minutes. Thanda Aung netted Phoenix's lone goal in 34 minutes. In the second match, Divine won over Generations with a score of 4-1. Khaing Mar

Lin scored Divine's goals at 10 minutes, Yoon Mi Mi Lwin at 17 minutes, and Nan May Thazin at 30 minutes. Generations' sole goal was scored by Cherry Mar in 18 minutes. The group stage continues on 12 September, with Generations facing Pacific Sunfar and Divine playing against YRG. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## Man Utd post losses for fifth straight year

MANCHESTER United on Wednesday posted net losses of £113.2 million (\$148 million) for 2023/24 despite earning record revenues — their fifth straight year of losses.

In the year to 30 June 2024 the Premier League club recorded record revenues of £661.8 million — up 2.1 per cent — driven by record commercial and matchday revenues.

United incurred costs of £47.8 million in "exceptional items", mostly related to Jim Ratcliffe's purchase of a minority stake in the club, which was completed in February.

United finished eighth in the Premier League in the 2023/24 season — their lowest finish since 1990 — and exited at the group stage of the Champions League.

But Erik Ten Hag's men won the FA Cup — beating Manchester City in the final at Wembley for a



Manchester United posted a net loss of £113.2 million (\$148 million) in their latest accounts. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

second trophy in two years.

United have embarked on a major backroom shake-up in re-

cent months, including bringing in a new chief executive, Omar Berrada, poached from Premier League champions Manchester City.

"As I embark on my new role as chief executive officer of this historic club, we are all extremely focused on working collectively to create a bright future with football success at the heart of it," said Berrada.

"We are working towards greater financial sustainability and making changes to our operations to make them more efficient, to ensure we are directing our resources to enhancing on-pitch performance."

The Premier League's profitability and sustainability rules allow a maximum loss of £105 million over a three-season period, but within that certain losses are deemed "allowable" such as infrastructure, youth team and women's team spending. — AFP

### OBITUARY

Daw Aye Aye (Peggy)

Aged 84

Daw Aye Aye, passed away at 8:08 pm on Sunday, September 8, 2024 at the age of 84. She was born to parents Mr. Jack Mervyn Toledo and Mrs. O.M Toledo and lived at No. 22, Thityarpin Lane-2, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region. She is the Daughter-in-Law of U Ba Thein and Daw Hla Sein, the wife of U Aye Kyin and Brothers and Sisters of Mr. Anthony 'Robin' (Deceased) & Mrs. Bernice Toledo, Mr. Gerald & Mrs. Lauraine Toledo, Mrs. Colleen & Mr. Patrick Johns, Mr. Ronnie & Mrs. Karen Toledo, Mrs. Linda (Deceased) & Mr. Albert Boudville, Mr. Noel (Deceased) Toledo, Mrs. Valerie & Mr. Gavin Adams and Aunty of 12 Nieces and Nephews and their families.

The entombment was completed at Yayway Cemetery on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024,

**Bereaved Brothers and Sisters**

## U Kyi Lwin deserves a role in football: U Ayine

"I have always supported Ko Kyi Lwin. I believe he deserves a significant place when it comes to football. He has a strong spirit and loyalty towards the sport," said comedian and actor U Ayine.

The Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) appointed U Kyi Lwin as the head of youth scouting, responsible for identifying the next generation of male and female national football players, starting from 10 September. U Ayine made the above statement following this appointment.

U Kyi Lwin will oversee scouting activities, including identifying young talents from various league competitions, MFF U-15 and U-17 league matches, and age-group tournaments. He will also lead the selection process for the annual youth and academy players and the outstanding young talents from regional and state youth competitions.

U Kyi Lwin has had significant success in football, having coached Myanmar's U-23 team to a silver medal in the 2015 SEA Games. He also served as the assistant coach for the Myanmar national team when they won the 2006 Merdeka Cup. He has worked with senior coaches in ASEAN youth competitions, contributing to the success of Myanmar's youth teams. Additionally, he served as an assistant coach for the Myanmar national team alongside foreign coaches and led Magway FC in the Myanmar National League.

As a professional player, U Kyi Lwin played for Perak FC, a Malaysian club, winning the Malaysia FA Cup, and also played as a professional in China. — TWA/KZL



U Kyi Lwin signs the contract as head of youth scouting to discover the next generation of players. **PHOTO: MFF**



Chinese premier to promote development strategies alignment, enhance ties with Saudi Arabia  
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# WORLD

## TROPICAL STORM YAGI

### Floods, landslides affect many parts of Laos

MANY parts of Laos' northern region have been affected by flooding and landslides, causing significant damage and leaving many residents stranded and severely affected.

Tropical storm Yagi has brought prolonged heavy rainfall, particularly impacting northern provinces, with Luang Namtha among the worst-affected areas.

In Luang Namtha, homes were damaged, while personal belongings were lost. Many people shared videos and images through social media platforms, showing residents stranded in their homes and taking refuge on roofs to escape the rising waters.

The province is experiencing significant river overflows from major water bodies. The rapid rise in water levels has resulted in widespread flooding, particularly in low-lying areas. Local officials reported that villages, infrastructure, and essential services such as roads, telecommunications, electricity, and water supply have been severely disrupted, Lao National Radio reported on Tuesday.

Housing, agricultural lands, and property of residents have sustained heavy damage, affecting the daily lives of many people.

Emergency relief operations are underway to evacuate the residents, provide immediate shelter, and ensure their safety. — Xinhua



Pope Francis waves to Catholics as he arrives at Changi Jurassic Mile in Singapore on September 11 for the last stop of a four-nation Asia-Pacific trip. PHOTO: AFP

## Pope lands in Singapore, final stop on grand Asia-Pacific tour

*Pope Francis arrived in Singapore for the final leg of his Asia-Pacific tour, aiming to bolster the Catholic Church's presence in the region despite his health challenges.*

**P**OPE Francis touched down in Singapore Wednesday, the last stop of a four-nation Asia-Pacific trip aimed at boosting the Catholic Church's standing in the world's most populous region.

Crowds waved Vatican and Singapore flags as Francis's plane arrived at the city-state's Changi Airport, on the last leg of a 12-day tour to the region.

The 87-year-old pontiff has defied doubts about his health during a journey

that has taken him from a Jakarta grand mosque to a remote jungle of Papua New Guinea.

Recently, the ailing Pope has faced significant health challenges, including hernia surgery and respiratory issues, leading him to rely on a wheelchair or walking aids.

Despite his condition, he has energetically continued his public engagements, enduring long hours in harsh tropical heat. The pope's visit to Singapore, a

diverse city-state with a mix of Buddhists, Catholics, Protestants, Taoists, and Hindus, is seen as a significant opportunity to promote his messages of love, peace, and interfaith dialogue.

Singaporean locals, including health-care worker Marcus Voon and fintech professional Erik Hon, express hope that the visit will foster unity and address global issues such as interreligious harmony, climate change, and equitable development. — AFP

## Trump and Harris clash in Philadelphia debate



Trump claimed inflation is unprecedented, with prices soaring up to 80 per cent, and criticized the administration for allowing illegal immigrants to flood the country. PHOTO: ANI

FORMER US President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris squared up in the first Presidential Debate in Philadelphia on ABC News. Kicking off the debate, Trump took on the Biden-Harris administration saying that inflation in the US is probably the worst in nation's history. Trump said that inflation is at 21 per cent and other things are 50 per cent, 60 per cent, 70 per cent, and 80 per cent higher than they were just a few years ago.

Former President Donald Trump criticized the current administration's handling of inflation and illegal immigration. He claimed the US is experiencing unprecedented inflation, with prices increasing by up to 80 per cent in some areas, which he described as a disaster affecting all social classes.

Trump accused the Biden-Harris administration of allowing illegal immigrants, including those from mental institutions and prisons, to flood the country, supposedly tak-

ing jobs from American citizens and causing violence. He claimed these immigrants are destroying towns and harming the economy. Trump also alleged that immigrants were resorting to extreme measures like eating pets, a claim dismissed by Harris as extreme rhetoric.

Kamala Harris responded by highlighting the defection of 200 Republicans from Trump and criticized his rhetoric and obstruction of a bipartisan immigration bill. — ANI