

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing speaks on the occasion of World Tourism Day 2024 yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the ceremony to mark World Tourism Day 2024

1. It is necessary to prioritize lessening riots and violence and peace and stability of regions so people can enjoy the fruits of peace by restoring peace for the establishment of socioeconomic life of national races.
2. All tourism entrepreneurs were urged to cooperate with the government in initiating a peace process to ensure the long-term development of Myanmar's tourism industry.
3. Ministries and tourism organizations have to enhance tourism services and disseminate true information about safe and sound travel to destinations in Myanmar to travellers in a short time.

Ministries and tour agencies urged to promote traveller safety

Myanmar, strategically located in the Southeast Asian region, is blessed with virgin beaches, high mountain ranges, archipelagos and fertile plains.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing recounted that as arrivals of travellers in the first five months of 2024 amounted to more than 500,000, it is expected to increase number of international travellers this year more than in previous years.

Chairman of the State Administration

Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the ceremony to mark World Tourism Day 2024 at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Speaking on occasion, the Senior General unveiled that Myanmar, stra-

telegically located in the Southeast Asian region, is blessed with virgin beaches, high mountain ranges, archipelagos and fertile plains.

He continued that wonderfully natural beauties, ancient cultural heritage and traditions and lifestyles of national races are attractive to international tourists.

He noted that more than one million international travellers visited Myanmar in 2023. As the number of travellers in the first five months of 2024 amounted to more than 500,000, it is expected to increase the number of international travellers this year more than the previous year's, he added.

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By **THAN HTUN**

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Popa custard apple sellers report brisk trade

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Health services and donations provided in flood-hit areas

NATIONAL



Two (2) days remain until the National Census.



National Prosperity: Building a Peaceful and Stable Future for All

NATIONAL prosperity involves creating a peaceful and stable country where citizens can live, learn, and work with confidence under the rule of law.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the Union government meeting 4/2024 on 22 April 2024)

Myanmar marionettes appeal to buyers for decor and gifts

MYANMAR marionettes have received attention from those who love Myanmar culture. The art of the Myanmar marionette has remained prestigious in the worldwide marionette industry.

“Even the market is no longer good compared to the period before the COVID-19 pandemic. They are bought for giving as presents and for home decoration. Those who love the

art of Myanmar’s traditional craft buy them. Marionettes are used for giving as presents or decorating at hotels and offices. They can still attract customers,” said an official from BB Queen Handicraft in Mandalay.

In the years before 2021, there were about 15 kinds of marionette figures in the market, but they couldn’t fetch good prices, and due to inadequate



Photos showcase Myanmar marionettes marketable in the marionette industry.

wood and rising wood prices, just a few figurines, such as human, horse and elephant, were sold the most.

Making marionettes in different sizes and in various figures, such as elephants, horses, parrots, tigers, crocodiles, and

owls, is a beautiful art of handicraft. However, it is not very interesting among young people today. — Thit Taw/ZS

Inwa's Loka Waithetbu Htaunt Pagoda awaits restoration donations

THE researcher author Bo Shake (Yadanapura), who is leading the cleaning work, said that the cleaning work of the ancient Loka Waithetbu Htaunt Pagoda of Nyaungyan era of Inwa is being carried out, and if more donors appear, it is intended to restore the original structure.

The pagoda is one of the ancient famous pagodas of Inwa, which was built and worshipped by King Kyathapaday, the last ruler of the Nyaungyan dynasty.

It is about 270 years old and was shrouded among the bushes and trees. The cleaning started on 25 September.

“Loka Waithetbu Htaunt pagoda was built in the reign of the last king of 10 Nyaungyan kings, King Kyathapaday. It is located on the big external wall. As its name was not known, people called it Htaunt (corner) pagoda. After looking for the records of the founding of Inwa City, we came to know that this stupa is called Loka Waithetbu



Cleaning of the pagoda buried under banyan trees and bushes underway.

Htaunt. I volunteered to clean it up as the pagoda was buried in the bushes," he said.

Currently, they are clearing the banyan trees and bushes growing on the pagoda, and it will continue killing banyan trees using chemical solutions.

In addition, when the pagoda's cleaning work is completed and more donors appear, it is intended to restore the original structure of the pagoda, he added. — MT/ZN

WEATHER

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Friday 27 September 2024)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 28 September 2024: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Eastern Shan State, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Magway Region and Northern Shan, Kayah, Kayin, Mon States, fairly widespread in Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, and Yangon and, Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Southern Shan, and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is 100%.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and (northern and southern) Shan, Chin, Rakhine, 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: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-7 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Weak monsoon. — DMH

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)

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Hence, the Senior General explained that the government emphasizes boosting the tourism industry with efforts to surge the State economy.

He disclosed that the State Administration Council is giving priority to initiating the peace process. If leaders of national races keenly participate in regional development by joining hands with the government, regions of national races will develop speedily, he continued.

He noted that it is necessary to prioritize lessening riots and violence and peace and stability of regions as people can enjoy the fruits of peace by restoring peace for the establishment of socioeconomic life of national races.

The Senior General urged ministries and tourism organizations to enhance tourism services and disseminate trustworthy information about safe and sound travel to Myanmar destinations to travellers in a short time.

He called on all tourism entrepreneurs to cooperate with the government in initiating a peace process to ensure the long-term development of Myanmar's tourism industry in line with the 2024 theme: Tourism and Peace.

Ministries and tour agencies urged to promote traveller safety



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks round the display at yesterday's event.

The Senior General watched a video clip of a message from the secretary-general of the World Tourism Organization about Myanmar's endeavours

for the development of the tourism industry.

The Senior General awarded winners in the short video contest and coloured photo con-

test to mark World Tourism Day.

SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo and Council Member General Mya Tun Oo presented prizes to winners in

the article, as well as impromptu talk contests and essay contest.

The Senior General visited the exhibitions to mark the 2024 World Tourism Day. — MNA/TTA

DPM MoFA Union Minister receives Sri Lankan Ambassador

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs

Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe shakes hands with the Sri Lankan ambassador yesterday.

of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received Mrs Ponnampereuma Arachchige Prabashini Ponnampereuma, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Sri Lanka to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of For-

eign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They cordially exchanged views on the promotion of friendly bilateral ties and enhancement of cooperation between the two countries in economic, consular, information technology, agricultural and religious sectors. — MNA



NATIONAL



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers the speech at the third monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2024 yesterday.

Future generations to reap benefits of today's trees

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing criticized that recent heavy rain was the worst loss and damage among natural disasters in Myanmar.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing planted a teak sapling at the third monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2024 of families of Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) near Yezin Dam in Zeyathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that although nobody can evade natural disasters, they can make preparations for minimizing loss and damage in the incidents by growing trees and systematically conserving forests.

The Senior General recounted that he has given

Growing trees and systematically conserving forests can help reduce rapid water flow and prevent logs from floating in waterways.

guidance to conduct necessary rehabilitation measures in Rakhine State and Bagan ancient cultural zone that faced flooding in the aftermath of cyclonic storm Mocha in 2023.

He continued that ancient religious monuments in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone are invaluable cultural heritages, and these cannot be substituted with others.

He retold that he had given guidance to dredge ancient lakes to ensure a better drainage system and proper flow of water in the zone and improve the water drainage system, adding recent heavy rains caused

lesser loss and damage in the zone thanks to systematic preparations.

The Senior General noted that gold panning, mining, and extreme cutting of trees upstream of rivers and creeks in the country cause silting along the waterway, and then it occurs in sandbanks and raised bed levels.

He spotted that recent heavy rain was the worst loss and damage among natural disasters in Myanmar. Growing trees and systematically conserving forests can help reduce rapid water flow and prevent logs from floating in waterways,

he added.

He underlined that new generations can enjoy the fruits of growing trees at present. Perennial trees cannot benefit all immediately but can bring good results to new generations, he continued.

The Senior General and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe planted a sapling together with the Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air)

and his wife, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, and attendees who also grew saplings at the designated places.

The Senior General, his wife and the party viewed round the activities of officers, other ranks and families in growing saplings.

At today's ceremony, they planted 900 teak saplings, 600 Mahogany saplings, 300 ironwood saplings and 600 gum-kino saplings, totalling 2,400. Families of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) held tree-growing ceremonies 41 times from 2011 to the third ceremony in 2024 in growing 201,225 saplings of precious trees, perennial trees and windbreaks for the conservation of the natural environment and ecosystem around Yezin Dam.

Yesterday, Tatmadaw, including families of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air), those from military command headquarters and regiments and units, planted 221,573 saplings. — MNA/TTA

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NATIONAL

Vice-Senior General Soe Win stresses full efforts for rehabilitation tasks

State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, in the capacity of the chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, presided over the coordination meeting of the committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Speaking at the event, the Vice-Senior General underscored that the SAC Chairman Prime Minister gave guidance and policies during the national disaster management meeting held on 17 September, and the drafted directives and policies were also communicated to the relevant committees. All should consider carrying out these duties with proper momentum. He continued that the Prime Minister stressed the completion of the rebuilding operations by 15 March 2025, so the work plans need to be implemented as per priority within the fixed timeframe.

He continued that the Prime Minister also spotted the reopening of the high schools, which were closed due to the floods, in October, so all should make efforts to reopen the schools as quickly as possible.

He added that the people from relief camps should be arranged for their safe return to their respective regions, and all should work together to repair the destroyed materials. Similarly, efforts must be made to facilitate the transportation sector by conducting maintenance work on destroyed roads and bridges in accordance with the prioritized main roads and streets or by constructing temporary bridges.

He also stressed that the Working Committee on the Initial Survey for Needs, Approval of Damage and Assessment should collect the data systematically to



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win presides over the coordination meeting of the National Disaster Management Committee yesterday.

be able to conduct rehabilitation activities effectively. Recuse works are being undertaken to date, and all the relevant officials should provide the recuse works, especially in remote areas, in various ways. The Disaster Management Centre (DMC) also ran the rehabilitation processes starting from 12 September and released directives in a timely manner by collecting data. Therefore, the work plans should be carried out depending on the completed prioritized plans. The DMC should encourage the regions/state DMC to emphasize rehabilitation activities.

He said that all should carry out other matters in addition to the guidance of the Prime Minister. The arrangements

should be made for the safe return of all the flood-hit people from relief camps to their regions of origin before the nationwide census enumeration process that begins on 1 October. Therefore, assistance must be provided as quickly as possible. Moreover, the officials should clarify to flood victims that they can start safe and prosperous lives after returning to their regions.

He then mentioned the need for clean-up activities by the members of Tatmadaw, the police force, fire brigade, people's military servants, civil society organizations, and the locals in flood-hit regions.

Participants then coordinated the discussion, and the Vice-Senior General

concluded the meeting.

Due to Typhoon Yagi, flash floods and landslides occurred in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, regions and states. The damages and death rate from 110 townships until 27 September were 115,002 houses, 129 office buildings, 333 schools, 228 religious schools, 1,358 roads and bridges, 5,622 lamp posts, and 114 telecom towers, while 433 deaths and 79 missing. A total of 176,246 animals perished, and more than 780,000 acres of monsoon paddy were destroyed in the floods. The Disaster Management Centre operates 24 hours a day to facilitate standby arrangements for disaster relief and rehabilitation processes. — MNA/KTZH

Nationwide well-wishers donate cash, relief items for flood-hit regions

MYANMAR faced severe flooding in the different areas and states, including Nay Pyi Taw, after Typhoon Yagi, which carved a path of destruction.

The well-wishers and social welfare organizations donated cash and recuse items on their own plans to conduct recuse work and rehabilitation processes in 12 flood-damaged regions and states, including Nay Pyi Taw Council, from 11 to 25 September.

A total of 289 organizations and 298 donors provided K86.363 million and K668.519 million worth of materials, totalling K754.883 million in Tatkon, Zeyathiri, Pobbathiri, Lewe and Pyinmana townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

In Kayah State, five groups and six well-wishers donated K15.742 million and K99.470 million worth of commodities, totalling K115.212 million for Loikaw township.

Meanwhile, 50 groups and 45 donors donated K46.864 million and K376.200 million worth of materials, totalling K423.064 million in Hpa-an, Hlaingbwe, Myawady, and Papun townships of Kayin State.

Eight groups and one donor from Sagaing Region donated K7.500 million and K161.900 million worth of materials, totalling K169.400 million, in TadaU, Kyaukse, Myittha, Kume, Pyawbwe and Yamethin townships.

Four donors from Taninthayi Region donated

K50.500 million and K198.900 million worth of materials, totalling K249.400 million in Kalaw, Nyaunglebin, Yamethin, Tatkon, Lewe, Pyinmana and Toungoo townships.

Similarly, 231 groups and 279 donors donated K764.846 million and K1,186.582 million worth of materials, totalling K1,951.428 million for Toungoo (Khabaung Hall), Yedashe, Htantabin, Ottwin, Phyu, Toungoo (district supervisory office) and Nyaunglebin townships in Bago Region.

A total of 27 groups and six donors donated K634.605 million and K93.249 million worth of materials, totalling K727.854 million, to the outside areas of Magway Region, such as Nay Pyi Taw, Toungoo, Myittha, Yamethin, Tatkon, Zeyathiri, Wundwin, Inlay and Kyaukse regions.

Moreover, 280 groups and 92 donors donated K882.390 million and K1,749.940 million worth of materials, totalling K2,632.331 million to Shwegu, Thazi, Yamethin, Myittha, TadaU, Kyaukse, Singaing, Wundwin, Myitnge, Pyawbwe and outside areas of Mandalay region such as Sataung, Thagara, Tatkon, Kalaw and Nay Pyi Taw.

Similarly, 19 groups and 25 donors donated K1,026.010 million and K847.539 million worth of materials to outside areas of Mon State, Nay Pyi Taw, Tatkon, Myittha, Yamethin, Kyaukse, Toungoo, Pyawbwe, Inlay, Nyaungshwe,

Loilem, Wundwin, Bago, Yeni, Madaya, NyaungU, Hopang, Hpa-an, Kayin, Mandalay, Swa, Penwagon, Phyu and Yedashe townships.

A total of 246 groups and 75 donors from Yangon Region donated K1,632.854 million and K4,078.335 million worth of materials, totalling K5,711.190 million to Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Toungoo, Kalaw, Tatkon and Phyu regions.

Moreover, 378 groups and 473 donors from Shan State donated K794.224 million, \$50, 3.411 million Thai baht, K1,408.409 and 0.462 million worth of materials, totalling K2,202.633 million, \$50, 3.873 million baht to Hopong, Pinlaung, Hsihseng, Taunggyi, Kalaw, Nyaungshwe, Loilem, Langkho and Tachilek townships.

Similarly, 23 groups and 37 donors from Ayeyawady Region donated K636.234 million and K467.103 million worth of materials, totalling K1,103.337 million to Yamethin, Tatkon, Toungoo, Pyinmana, Wundwin, Inlay, Kalaw, Hopong, Kyaukse, Shwenyaung, Nyaungshwe and Lewe townships.

A total of 1,341 well-wishers and 1,556 groups donated K6,578.132 million, \$50 and 3.411 million baht and relief supplies worth K11,336.146 million and 0.462 million baht, totalling K17,914.278 million, \$50 and 3.873 million baht to the flood-stricken areas across the country. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

75th Anniversary PRC Foundation celebrated in Yangon

THE 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China was celebrated yesterday at the Wyndham Grand Yangon Hotel. The Secretary of the State Administration Council, General Aung Lin Dwe, and his wife attended the event.

Upon arrival, General Aung Lin Dwe and members were warmly welcomed by Ms Ma Jia, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, and Chinese Military Attaché Senior Colonel Qu Zhe.

They toured a photo exhibition commemorating the 75th

anniversary of the founding of China.

The event began with the national anthems of both Myanmar and China. Following this, Ambassador Ms Ma Jia delivered a welcoming speech.

In a symbolic gesture, General Aung Lin Dwe and Ambassador Ms Ma Jia jointly cut the anniversary cake to mark the occasion.

The ceremony concluded with a formal dinner hosted by the Chinese Ambassador and Military Attaché for attendees.

— MNA/KZL



State Administration Council Secretary General Aung Lin Dwe views the photo documentary display at yesterday's event.

Invitation to solve political issues in political means clarified by State Administration Council Information Team Leader

TODAY, I will clarify all questions of the media on the invitation to solve political problems in political ways announced on 26 September. Taking political duties by the Tatmadaw are primarily based on voting frauds in the 2020 election. It was a politically unfair act. It can be said that it is a politically dishonest act. It is a political problem. In this regard, the Tatmadaw had requested to solve it in a political way that was in accordance with the law. Tatmadaw tried to solve it through the processes of Hlut-taw, the Constitutional Tribunal, the Supreme Court of the Union, the government, and the main officials, but missions failed. Those who committed unfair political acts did not solve it in a political way, but they chose the armed struggle line against democracy and then set up NUG and PDF terrorists to commit terror acts. They posed threats to the people. Due to terror acts and attacks on PDFs, more than 6,700 innocent people, including 75 educational staff and teachers, 17 health staff, and 84 members of the Sangha. They exploded more than 9,000 bombs. They set fire to more than 1,300 infrastructures, including schools, monasteries, factories, banks and public residences. These were losses of the State and the people. These terror acts hampered the stability of the State and socioeconomic development of the people. Hence, the statement was released. It



State Administration Council Information Team Leader Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

depends on today's conditions in Myanmar, changes in the international landscape, and the aspirations of organizations and persons wishing to restore peace. Nowadays, our country has initiated the electoral process in order to implement the multiparty democratic system that the people aspire to. All citizens from any area have the right to enjoy democracy. People have the right to select their government freely. To do so, they have the right to cast votes freely. In this regard, security, peace and stability are of great importance. This statement came out to implement such processes. Moreover, our country has experienced the impacts of flash flooding and natural disasters during the late monsoon season in many parts of the nation. It was the worst event in 50/100 years. As such, we have to strive vigorously for rehabili-

tation measures. It is necessary to restore peace and stability and carry out rehabilitation measures as soon as possible. We do not want to see more burdens for the people. So, we made this request to implement the peace process with consideration of the interests of the people. For the second point, if we analyze international landscapes, everybody will see the competition among the world's powerful countries and regional powerhouses for their own interests is becoming increasingly intense. The Russia-Ukraine issue, Middle East issue, and South China Sea issue are significant, among others. Hence, small countries like our country need to cement internal strength and unity. It is hazardous because if internal unity is weak, our country may vanish amid intense international competition. Hence, releasing

this statement aims to ensure internal unity. The third point is the aspirations of international organizations, local organizations, including some EAOs, and individuals. Organizations that support the socioeconomic security of the people, organizations that favour progress, and the relevant individuals submitted advice to promote the peace process to the government and the Head of State. The government thanks those organizations and persons and their aspirations for peace. Since the assumption of State duties, the Tatmadaw has been serving the duty of restoring peace. On 22 April 2022, the Chairman of the State Administration Council, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, issued a statement for peace. The statement enabled EAO leaders to hold direct talks with the Head of State. Talks were

held with leaders of seven NCA signatories and three non-signatories, totalling ten meetings three times from May 2022 to January 2023. The discussions led to the signing of agreements for the adoption of multiparty democracy, the establishment of a Union system based on democracy and federalism, and peace and regional development. The National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee held talks with signatory EAOs 56 times and non-signatories 24 times, political leaders 15 times, religious leaders, peace negotiators and stakeholders three times, totalling 98. The nation had lost a large array of human resources, public infrastructures, public lives and property due to the current armed terrorism and armed conflicts. EAOs, terrorist groups and PDF terrorists that are opposing the State are invited to relinquish their armed terrorist line and to solve the political problem with political means through the political path that is in accord with democratic and practice aligned with the political route and electoral process. If they have true goodwill for the people, they must head to the path to peace with consideration for the people. They must pay attention to the people's wishes and stay away from committing terrorist acts. They must emphasize the public's desire to come to the peace negotiation table. Thank you all.

Popa custard apple sellers report brisk trade

CUSTARD apple sellers near Mount Popa, Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Region, do a roaring business. Brisk trade with good prices entices locals to engage this business.

Villages surrounding Mount Popa primarily produce custard apples. Earlier, they were traditionally grown on farms. The ever-increasing domestic consumption prompted the locals to cultivate them. The custard apple is in abundant season in September and October. They are primarily supplied to Yangon

and Mandalay cities. High prices during harvest make growers earn well, said U Win Aung, a grower.

The custard apple is a perennial plant. It is common in the tropical regions. A tree can produce about 100 custard apples. The prices vary depending on size.

Custard apples lower blood pressure, support immunity, reduce inflammation, promote eye, heart and liver health, improve digestion and have anticancer properties. — Dipalin/KK



Vendors await shoppers to purchase their Popa custard apples.



CBM sells US\$40,000 on 26 Sept

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$40,000 on 26 September and over \$12.8 million and 700,000 yuan on 25 September, following its sale of \$22.6 million on 23 September.

CBM also announced on 20 September that it would inject \$30 million into the fuel oil sector. Then, it sold over \$1.2 million and 800,000 yuan on 20 September.

CBM pumped over \$8.5 million and two million Thai baht on 19 September and over 3.2 million baht on 18 September into the financial market. According to CBM's notification dated 17 September, it would

sell 10 million baht to importers on 18 September.

It also injected \$30,000 on 17 September, \$5 million on 16 September, \$230,000, over 1.5 million yuan and over 956,000 baht on 13 September into the financial market.

CBM announced on 12 September that it would pump \$10 million into the fuel oil sector and \$7 million into the edible oil sector through the foreign exchange trading platform. It sold \$12.4 million and 80 million baht on 4 September, \$90,000 on 5 September and \$100,000 on 6 September, respectively.

Moreover, CBM sold over

\$190 million, 19 million yuan and 79 million baht in August.

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

Pigeon pea cultivation spans 180,000+ acres in Magway Region

COST-EFFECTIVE pigeon pea crops expanded 182,000 acres across Magway, Minbu, Thayet, Pakokku and Gangaw districts in Magway Region in 2024, according to the District's Settlement and Land Records Department.

Pigeon peas are sent to Yangon and Mandalay markets, and then they are delivered to India, Nepal, and Bangladesh. It is a lucrative crop with foreign solid demand. There is a roaring trade of pigeon peas in Magway depots during the third week of September with high prices.

Pigeon pea is generally cultivated from June to July and harvested in January. Pigeon pea (red gram) is primarily grown. The growers use intercropping practices for pigeon peas.

The cultivation cost is estimated at K400,000 per acre, including seeds, inputs and labour wages, producing 12-15 baskets. The growers can make a significant profit of up to over one million per acre, according to a report from the Consumer Affairs Department (Magway).

Magway Region is the leading supplier of sesame seeds, peanuts and other pulses. It has gained a reputation as the oil pot of Myanmar.

Myanmar produces just about 400,000 tonnes of cooking oil, including sesame, groundnut, sunflower and palm oil per year. To meet self-sufficiency in the domestic market, businesspersons import about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil abroad on a yearly basis, especially from the world's leading palm oil exporters, Malaysia and Indonesia.

India has growing consumption requirements for black grams and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2021, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY. This G-to-G pact will not affect the pulses' annual quota set by India. Myanmar's exporters are also entitled to deliver the pulses to India under that yearly quota. — KK

CBM makes further relaxation for forex rules

THE Central Bank of Myanmar eased the mandatory foreign currency conversion rule again that only 25 per cent of export earnings must be converted into kyat at the rate as per its Notification 12/2022, according to its amendment unveiled in Notification 37/2024 dated 7 August 2024.

CBM allows exporters to repatriate export earnings until 30 November 2024 with a 25 per cent ratio (in which they can keep 75 per cent of foreign income) from export declarations made between 3 April 2022 and

7 August 2024.

Unless they fail to do so within the given time, they will face licence revocation or legal action under Myanmar Companies Law or Foreign Exchange Management Law, according to the CBM's notification dated 8 August 2024.

CBM encouraged exporters to deposit the set amount of foreign currency earnings within the specified period in line with the CBM directives, CBM warned once again. — NN/KK

Magway Region investment committee nods two domestic projects

THE Magway Region Investment Committee endorsed two domestic businesses in the manufacturing sector in September, according to the MRIC meeting 8/2024, with an estimated capital of K2.83 billion.

Those businesses would create 33 job opportunities for locals. The committee also gave the green light to one domestic enterprise to invest K1.28 billion into the hotel and tourism sector in May, creating 33 jobs for locals, according to the MRIC meeting 5/2024.

The committee gave the go-ahead to the business only after the committee discussed investment-related matters. Magway Region Investment Monitoring Team also conducted field inspections.

The regional investment committee has been endorsing investment projects in accordance with rules and regulations under Myanmar Investment Law to spur investments and create more job opportunities. — KK

OPINION

Mark World Tourism Day in accord with the theme: Tourism and Peace

TOURISM, known for driving economic development, also plays a key role in promoting peace. As nations become increasingly interconnected, tourism—an industry built by and for people—serves as a powerful force to defy stereotypes and challenge prejudices.

This sector epitomizes intercultural dialogue, offering opportunities to encounter others, learn new cultures, hear different languages, taste exotic flavours, foster human connections, and build tolerance. Ultimately, it provides a broadening educational and spiritual experience. World Tourism Day 2024, themed 'Tourism and Peace,' aims to highlight the sector's vital role in fostering peace and understanding between nations and cultures and supporting reconciliation processes.

In Myanmar, the development of the tourism industry is linked to improved accommodation and hospitality services, as well as various sectors such as education, health, transport, energy, infrastructure, urban and rural development, MSMEs, and investments.

Moreover, it is essential to create a tourism environment that includes participation from people with disabilities, residents, and youth from ethnic regions. Some surveys show that women lead 54 per cent of the tourism sector. In fact, the industry offers opportunities for entrepreneurs and MSMEs, significantly contributing to poverty alleviation, regional development, and the socioeconomic improvement of residents.

In this regard, without peace, the development of the tourism sector cannot begin. Only when all regions achieve peace and stability will travellers visit destinations with ancient cultural heritage and invaluable sites. An increase in local and foreign visitors will contribute to regional development. Additionally, booming tourism services will create

job opportunities for residents, and smart, model villages will emerge to provide services and accommodation to travellers.

Myanmar, possessing natural wonders, diverse ethnicities, rich customs, and a unique way of life, offers a wealth of attractions. Like other countries, these tangible and intangible cultural treasures, such as traditional cuisine, ancient religious sites, and cultural heritage, form the backbone of its tourism industry, distinguishing it from other nations and captivating both domestic and international tourists. Now, Myanmar is ready to welcome travellers to explore new, attractive destinations across the country.

As such, peace must be restored to boost the tourism industry across the nation. Tourism and peace are inseparable. Therefore, the government and the people must work together to achieve peace for the benefit of all. Once peace is secured, tourists can be welcomed to explore the country's diverse regions with their rich tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Revenue from tourism can support the state's budget, while residents can earn income through their efforts in serving travellers.

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

EPISODE: 45

The Tertiary Succession and its Classification

This is a continuation of the previous Episode 44, entitled "The Tertiary Succession and its Classification", contributed by Prof LD Stamp in 1922.

Post-Eocene (Pegu-Irrawadian)

As the main petroliferous horizon, the Pegu has been studied in great detail, but it is only very recently that anything like a clear conception of the deposits as a whole has been obtained, and much remains to be done. In this respect, Mr E Vredenburg's recent work is extremely important in removing misconceptions caused by previous writers.

The Post-Eocene beds may be treated as a whole; they are entirely continental in the extreme north, except for the very highest beds, which are completely marine in the south. For the present, the term "Pegu System" may be taken to correspond essentially with the marine facies of the post-Eocene Tertiary. It ranges in age from the lowest Oligocene to Pontian or lower part of the Pliocene. The corresponding continental facies may be termed the Irrawadian. However, until recently, the Pegu and Irrawadian were believed to be superimposed systems of different ages, and when it was found that the Pegu beds passed northwards into freshwater deposits, the latter were termed "Freshwater Pegus". For the present, this term may conveniently be retained for those freshwater beds that are shown by their vertebrate remains to be earlier than the well-known Irrawadian of the Oilfield region of Yenangyaung, Minbu, etc.

1. The Marine Post-Eocene or Pegu System (sensu lato)

Several horizons can now be distinguished on a palaeontological basis ("Standard Faunas"), and at least some of the stages based on a study of these faunas can be traced through the changes of facies from Lower to Upper Burma. The relationship of the lithological divisions to the stages is far more easily expressed in diagrammatic form, and a mass of detail has been incorporated, which is not repeated in the text below: -

Lithological Divisions (Lower Burma).	Stages.	Lithological Divisions (Upper Burma).
Akakaung Series. Pyalo Sandstones. Kama Clays.	Akakaung/Pyalo. Kama Stage.	Represented by Freshwater beds (base of Irrawadian). The brackish upper part of Pegu.
Prome Beds ("A"). Sitsayan shales with Lepidocyclus Limestones. Kyet-u-bok Bed.	Singu Stage. Sitsayan Stage. Shwezetaw Stage. Kyet-u-bok Horizon.	Exposed Pegu Beds of the Oil Fields of Minbu, etc. Shwezetaw Sandstones, etc. Velates Bed (Dudaw Taung, etc.

The total thickness of the Pegu System in Lower Burma may be roughly 10,000 feet.

Basal or Kyet-u-bok Bed: This bed, which the writer regards as the base of the Pegu System, is a well-marked calcareous band, conglomeratic in places with small quartz pebbles. It is characterized by four species of foraminifera, always present but in very variable proportions. They are *Nummulites yawensis* Cotter (formerly described as *N cf beaumonti* and *N beaumonti*), *Orthophragmina omphalus* Fritsch, *Operculina cf canalifera* D'Arch., and *Gypsina globulus* Reuss. The associated mollusca include species common to the underlying Yaw Stage, notably *Velates orientalis*. Whilst the



species of foraminifera mentioned occur in enormous numbers in the bed itself, they do not appear to range higher. It will be noticed that at least two of the foraminifera are Eocene forms. Taking a narrow palaeontological view, one would be tempted to regard the Kyet-u-bok Bed as Eocene. It is, however, distinctly a basal bed stratigraphically, and its characteristics are very similar to those of other typical basal beds. As a general rule, one may say that the fauna of a basal bed of a formation comprises: -

(a) *Survivors from the preceding stage occur in enormous numbers before their final extinction. Their number is frequently increased by the presence of numerous rolled specimens.*

(b) *Forerunners of the succeeding faunas. It is the presence of these new elements in the fauna that decides its age.*

Shwezetaw Stage: In Lower Burma, the lowest Pegu Beds are

shales, which form the lower part of the Sitsayan Shales of the Henzada and Prome districts. Passing northwards to the neighboured of Yananma and Ngape', one finds a series of shales that succeed the Basal bed and then by a group of sandstones – the Shwezetaw Sandstones. The shales are usually fossiliferous, but the writer found an interesting fauna a few hundred feet above the base in Magyisan Chaung (latitude 19° 57'). The fossils have not yet been examined in detail, but they include forms closely allied to, but specifically distinct from, species described from higher horizons of the Pegu. Further north, the sandstone facies invade the whole of the Shwezetaw Stage and become of shallow-water type. About latitude 21° the sandstone

By THAN HTUN
(GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

resting on the fossiliferous Basal Bed contains coal seams, and the principal fossil is the brackish-water *Batissa* (*Cyrena*). The more marine type of Shwezetaw Sandstone (about latitude 20° 5'), seems to be characterized by *Ampullina birmanica* Vred, and this fossil is also found in the lowest Pegu (Shinmadaung Sandstones) where they rest on pre-Cambrian in the Shinmadaung area. Interbedded igneous rocks also occur in this district.

Padaung or Sitsayan Stage: This stage seems to mark the period of greatest extension of marine conditions during Pegu times, being still definitely marine as far north as latitude 21° 6' (Dudaw Taung) or even to 21° 40' (West of Myaing). The stage is characterized by *Tritonidea martiniana*, and, towards the higher part, calcareous bands with *Lepidocyclus theobaldi*. In the south, this division is represented by the upper part of the Sitsayan Shales, which has thick bands of *Lepidocyclus* Limestone. The latter were sometimes mistaken by Theobald (1874) for Nummulitic Limestones – as in Henzada and at "Lime Hill" near Thayetmyo. Vredenburg believes that the lower part of the exposed Pegu in the oilfields of Minbu and Yenangyat belongs to this stage.

Singu Stage: Vredenburg has adduced evidence to show that the exposed Pegu rocks in the Oilfields of Yenangyaung and Singu and the higher beds in the fields of Minbu and Yenangyat are the equivalent of the Prome Beds (Division A of Theobald) of Lower Burma. The latter are a sandy group about 1,500 feet thick. The faunas of all the Pegu stages discussed up to the present are of distinctly Oligocene character.

Kama Stage: A predominantly shaly group found in Lower Burma which has recently yielded a magnificent series of fossils. The most fossiliferous beds occur about 700 to 1,000 feet above the top of the Prome Beds "A". The fauna is distinctly Miocene and corresponds to the Gaj of Western India. This stage is probably represented by the highest Pegu Beds with brackish-water fossils (*Batissa*) in the oilfields of Upper Burma. The presence of the Miocene mammal *Docatherium* in the higher part of the Pegu of Yenangyaung supports this correlation. The "Freshwater Pegu" above the beds with *Tritonidea martiniana* in the Myaing region have yielded the lower Miocene mammal *Cadurcotherium*.

Pyalo Stage: A sandy group restricted to Lower Burma, which has yielded numerous examples of *Ostrea latimarginata*, a fossil characteristic of the Upper Gaj of India.

Akakaung Stage: Formerly called "Marine Irrawadian" by Stuart, and corresponding to Theobald's Mogaung Sands. Yields *Ostrea vireti*, *O. digitata*, and *O. gingsensis*. It is doubtful whether this stage is separable from the Pyalo Stage.

Summarizing, it may be said that, independently of their exact age, the higher beds of the Pegu (as at Minbu, Yenangyaung, and Yenangyat) are characterized by the presence of large *Cyrenae* – *C (Batissa) crawfurdi*, *C (B) noettingi*, *C (B) petrolei*, etc. These fossils also occur in the basal Irrawadian, which is probably derived. Throughout the Pegu, there is a marked increase in shallow-water characters northwards. The more homogeneous clays and shales of the south give place to the alternating shales and sandstones of the great oilfields. At Singu, conglomeratic bands and "Bone Beds" are frequent, whilst further north, remains of crocodiles and land vertebrates are found, and lateritic "Red Beds" appear.

2. *The Continental Post-Eocene or Irrawadian System and "Freshwater Pegu"*.

The "Freshwater Pegu" is naturally restricted to the more north-

ern parts of Upper Burma. North of latitude 21° 30', the Eocene Yaw Stage passes up gradually into a mass of somewhat coarse sandstone. At the base, logs of wood bored by molluscs and afterwards silicified are frequent, whilst in the higher part, and especially further north, silicified wood is abundant. North of latitude 22° 45', the Freshwater Pegu rests directly on the Padaung Sandstone, and bands of quartz-pebble conglomerate and lateritic "Red Beds" become frequent. Vertebrate remains – especially crocodilians – are occasionally found, and the occurrence of *Cadurcotherium* in the higher beds near Myaing has already been mentioned.

The Irrawadian of Upper Burma comprises a thick series – certainly more than 5,000 feet in the neighbourhood of Yenangyaung – consisting mainly of coarse, current-bedded sands. At the base, there is usually a well-marked "Red Bed" or old lateritic land surface. Associated with this band, either above it or below, there is frequently a bed of white sand rich in kaolin. Interbedded bands or even beds of some thickness of clay, which approach pipeclay in general characters, are frequent in the lower beds and again in the higher part of the Irrawadian. The Irrawadian is famous for the enormous quantity of silicified fossil wood that it contains – hence the old name, "Fossil Wood Group" (Theobald). The series has also yielded several interesting vertebrate remains, notably near Yenangyaung. Specimens from this locality come from two distinct horizons: -

(a) Lowest beds containing *Hipparion punjabiense* Lyd. (*Hippotherium antilopinum* of Noetling and earlier writers), *Aceratherium lydekkeri* Pilg. (*A. perimense* of Noetling), crocodilian and chelonian remains. At this lower horizon, *Mastodon* and *Hippopotamus* seem to be rare or absent; no undoubted occurrence is known to the writer.

(b) A conglomeratic band some 4,500 feet higher in the series and exposed along the banks of the Irrawaddy between Yenangyaung and Nyaungghla yielding numerous *Mastodon latidens*, *Stegodon clifti*, and *Hippopotamus irravaticus*.

A rough correlation of the Burmese and North-Western European Tertiaries is as follows: -

Epoch	Burmese Gulf	N W Europe	N W India
PLIOCENE	Higher Irrawadian.	Pliocene	Gwadar
MIOCENE	Akakaung Stage and Basal Irrawadian. Pyalo Stage. Kama Stage.	Helvetio-Pontian. Burdigalian Aquitanian	Talar. Upper Gaj. Lower Gaj.
OLIGOCENE	Singu Stage. Sitsayan Stage. Shwezetaw Stage. Basal Bed.	Chattian Stampian Sannoisian.	Upper Nari. Lower Nari.
EOCENE	Yaw Stage. Padaung Sandstone. Tabyin Clays. Tilin Sandstone. Laungshe Shales and Paung-gyi Conglomerate.	Bartonian. Ledian. Lutetian. Ypresian. Landenian.	Kirthar. Laki. Ranikot.

This is the end of "An Outline of the Tertiary Geology of Burma."

References:

Stamp, L Dudley. 1922: An Outline of the Tertiary Geology of Burma, the Geological Magazine, Vol LIX.

NATIONAL



MNHRC Chairman attends 29th APF annual meeting

MYANMAR National Human Rights Commission Chairman U Paw Lwin Sein attended the 29th annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forum (APF), held on 24 and 25 September in Bangkok, Thailand.

The meeting was attended by representatives from human rights organizations in 26 member countries of the Asia-Pacific Forum (APF) of National Human Rights Institutions, as well as representatives from the Human Rights Commissions of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Chinese Taipei, and Pakistan. Observers

MNHRC Chairman U Paw Lwin Sein speaks at the 29th APF annual meeting in Thailand.

included representatives from the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the United Nations Development Programme.

On the first day of the meeting, participants discussed the forum's annual reporting activities, ongoing issues for the forum, and cooperation between the forum and civil society organizations.

On the second day, representatives and observers from member countries continued their discussions on human rights topics such as gender equality, environmental conservation, climate change and related rights issues, and the rights of human rights defenders.

During the programme, the

chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission spoke about the commission's activities related to gender equality and the country's participation in women's affairs.

Following this, Commission Office Director U Zeyar Lin attended the "Asia-Pacific Senior Officials Network Meeting," which was held concurrently with the forum's annual meeting. He discussed capacity-building issues for the staff of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and answered questions from attendees. The annual meeting concluded on the evening of 25 September.

On 26 September, the chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and the delegation returned to Yangon by flight. — MNA/TKO

Myanmar attends 42nd AMEM in Laos

THE 42nd ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) and associated events were held on 26-27 September, hosted by Laos as the alternate chair. U Aung Ko, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos, attended on behalf of the Union Minister for Energy alongside a delegation from the Ministry of Energy.

Energy Ministers from ASEAN countries, dialogue partners, the ASEAN Secre-

tariat, ASEAN Energy Centre and international energy organizations discussed progress on the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation APAEC Phase II (2021-2025). Topics included upgrading regional power networks, including underwater power lines, expanding natural gas pipelines and LNG terminals, clean coal technologies, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and advancements

in nuclear energy technology.

The meetings also covered initiatives to reduce carbon emissions and promote clean energy. Joint Ministerial Statements from the 42nd AMEM and the 21st AMEM+3 were issued. The 24th ASEAN Energy Business Forum and ASEAN Energy Medal Awards were held alongside the meeting, where the eighth ASEAN Energy Outlook was released. — MNA/TS



The commemorative group picture taken at the 42nd ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting in Laos.

Awards presented to top seafarer employment companies



MoTC Deputy Minister U Aung Kyaw Tun awards the seafarer recruitment company on the occasion of World Maritime Day 2024.

AN event of World Maritime Day 2024 was celebrated on the morning of 26 September at the Wyndham Grand Yangon Hotel. The event commenced with an opening speech by Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Aung Kyaw Tun.

Following this, a video message from the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) was screened. Dr Ko Ko Naing, Acting Director-General of the Department of Marine Administration, then delivered a pres-

entation on the significance of World Maritime Day 2024.

As part of the programme, awards were presented to three Seafarer Recruitment and Placement Services (SRPS) companies that provided the most employment opportunities to Myanmar seafarers in 2023. Additionally, a special award was given to one SRPS company that had successfully found the most seafarer employment opportunities within a short period. — Arkar Linn/KZL

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NATIONAL

Health services and donations provided in flood-hit areas

HEALTH services and donations have been swiftly organized for affected communities in response to the recent floods across nations, including Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Joint efforts from Tatmadaw, police, firefighters, Red Cross, and social welfare associations have mobilized to aid recovery efforts in various towns and villages, such as Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw, Shwenyaung in southern Shan State, Loikaw in Kayah State, Tachilek in eastern Shan State, and Toungoo in Bago Region. These teams have provided crucial assistance, such as relocating people, cleaning public facilities like schools, monasteries, and hospitals, and clearing debris on roads and bridges, including fallen trees.

Additionally, temporary shelters have been established

for displaced families, where medical teams have been providing essential healthcare and educational talks on hygiene. The Tatmadaw, various organizations, and donors have also contributed supplies, clothing, food, and financial assistance to the affected communities and monks.

Chief ministers and officials have visited these areas to provide support, ensuring that necessary resources like food, supplies, and funds are distributed. Efforts to restore damaged infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, are also underway, with temporary Bailey bridges being installed to restore connectivity quickly. Further repairs are being expedited to ensure the complete restoration of transportation routes in the flood-impacted regions. — MNA/KZL



S&R measures are ongoing in the flood-impacted areas.

PHOTO NEWS

MYANMAR Ambassador to ROK U Thant Sin is receiving US\$500 donated by Ms Hwang Sun Kum, head of Enjoy Works Company Ltd, to carry out relief and rehabilitation efforts for flood-impacted people in Myanmar. Donations will be delivered to flood victims through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — ASH/TKO



KBZ bank, donors provide 18 boats and supplies to Myanmar Red Cross Society

DONORS, including KBZ Bank, contributed 18 boats and supplies to the Myanmar Red Cross Society on 26 September, according to the Society.

This donation included 18 boats, 3,000 bags of non-food items from KBZ Bank, and 3,000 packs of water purified tablets (Aquatabs - 67 milligrammes) from KBZMS General Insurance.

Similarly, the Myanmar Industrial Port family also donated 260 bags of rice, 260 blankets, 260 plastic boxes, 520 items of men's and women's clothing, 260 pairs of rubber slippers, and 130 sanitary pads for women to assist those affected by the floods. — ASH/TKO



This image showcases the Myanmar Red Cross Society receiving donated items.

MPTA donates over K475M for flood relief efforts

MEMBER companies of the Myanmar Petroleum Trade Association (MPTA) contributed over K475 million in the first batch for flood rescue and relief activities.

MPTA expressed appreciation to donors, and well-wishers are invited to make contributions through the contact numbers of MPTA (09 421006794 and 09 421175692).

Torrential rain triggered by Typhoon Yagi caused flooding in 54 townships in regions and states, impacting 16 per cent of townships across the country.

As per the flood damage report on the morning of 21 September, 2,149 buildings were totally destroyed, while 3,455 were partially damaged. A total of 141,627 buildings were submerged, along with 546 schools and 435

religious buildings. Floods claimed 384 lives: 164 in Nay Pyi Taw, five in Kayah State, 2 in Bago Region, 134 in Mandalay Region, 78 in Shan State and 1 in Ayeyawady Region. Over 148,600 flood victims suffered in devastating flooding. Next, 533 roads and bridges were destroyed, with 2,489 lamp posts and 99 communication towers. The flood left 144,998 animals dead. Over 735,400 acres of paddy fields were devastated, said Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

A donation ceremony for flood rescue and relief measures was held at City Hall in Nay Pyi Taw on 21 September. The Prime Minister attended the event, received donations and expressed appreciation. That event raised a total of K32.2 billion. — NN/KK

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NATIONAL

Over K557M in illegal goods seized in two-day crackdown



Confiscated vehicle and illegal goods in regions and states.

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, action is being taken under the law against illicit trading across the nation.

During inspections on 26 September, the combined on-duty teams nabbed a Mitsubishi Fuso truck (estimated value of K30 million), travelling from Thamanya to Yangon, carrying a kind of industrial materials valued at K15.5 million that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) at the Ywathagyi Dry Port, two types of foodstuffs and a kind of consumer goods valued at K10.15 million without official documents that were piled up at the 3rd-Milepost express station compound in Kawthoung township and two tractor heads with two trailers (approximately K157

million) carrying illegal 297 barrels of fuel and 75 barrels of diesel worth K268,442,558 at the Kywetatson checkpoint. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 27 September, the combined teams managed by the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force seized Toyota Dyna (estimated value of K30 million), travelling from Theinzayet to Bago, carrying a kind of foodstuff worth K12.375 million without official documents near Phayagyi junction, a Toyota HiAce (estimated value of K30 million), heading to Yangon from Hpa-an, carrying a kind of consumer goods worth K3 million at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray station, illegal timbers weighing 1.317 tonnes worth K316,128 in Nyaunglebin district. The action was taken under Cus-



toms procedures and the Forest Law.

Additionally, the combined teams captured two unregistered motorbikes (estimated valued at K800,000 in Magway and Thayet districts and illegal timbers weighing 2.854 tonnes in Minbu district. The action was taken under Customs procedures, the Forest Law and the Export and Import Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that 15 arrests were made from 26 to 27 September, with an estimated value of K557 million. — MNA/MKKS

Over K2.2B worth of stimulant tablets seized in Kyaukpyu

A total of 1.478 million stimulant tablets, valued at over K2.2 billion, were seized in Kyaukpyu Township on the Rakhine coast, as reported by the Myanmar Police Force.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team, including the Tatmadaw (Navy), searched a motorboat in Kyaukpyu Township off the coast of Rakhine and confiscated 1,478,000 stimulant tablets valued at over K2.2 billion. The operation took place at 4 am on 23 September and involved individuals identified as Mya Lwin, Min Min Soe, Thant Sin Naing, and Naing Lin Htun.

After investigating, the po-

lice force arrested Zaw Min Oo (aka) Ko Zaw and Pyae Phy Maung, who asked them to transport the drugs from Yangon to Pauktaw in Rakhine State at Seikkyi-Khanaungto port in Yangon Region at 10 am on 24 September.

Perpetrators confessed that seized drugs would be transported to Rakhine State by sea after carrying from Shan State to Yangon Region.

Legal proceedings have been conducted against offenders, and an ongoing investigation is underway to apprehend others involved in the case. — MNA/MKKS



Offenders are seen alongside seized drugs and a boat.

Counter-argument to false information

False claims of Tatmadaw arresting youths for flood relief in Toungoo

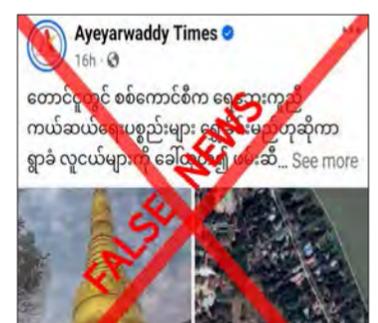
CERTAIN malicious media outlets are reportedly spreading false news claiming that Tatmadaw arrested local youths from Ward 20 (Myogyi village) in Toungoo Township,

Bago Region, to compel them to move and carry flood relief supplies.

Regarding the news, an official from the relevant region dismissed it as false. Security

forces are actively working alongside the Myanmar Police Force, the Red Cross Society, firefighters, charity teams, and residents to provide relief and assistance to those inflicted by

the floods. The false news is a deliberate fabrication aimed at misleading the public and undermining the unity and cooperation between Tatmadaw and the people. — MNA/TRKM



This screenshot validates a false event in Toungoo.

Consumption vouchers issued to boost spending

The vouchers will be distributed in three rounds from Thursday through October, offering discounts ranging from 600 to 4,000 yuan based on total purchases.

LOCAL authorities in China have issued consumption vouchers to boost spending ahead of the country's National Day holiday, a major occasion for consumption.

On Thursday, the Sichuan provincial department of commerce announced that the province will pour more than 400 million yuan (about US\$57 million) from its fiscal budget to issue the vouchers.

Among them, 300 million yuan will be earmarked in the home improvement sector, such as housing renovations, kitchen and bathroom products, smart home products and those for elderly-oriented modifications.

The vouchers will be distributed in three rounds starting from Thursday till the end of October, and consumers can use them online or offline, enjoying

a discount of 600 yuan to 4,000 yuan based on the total amount spent.

Meanwhile, the third plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in July vowed reform measures to expand consumption. — Xinhua

Local authorities in China are issuing consumption vouchers to stimulate spending ahead of the National Day holiday. **PHOTO: LIANG ZHIQIANG/XINHUA**



SpaceX plans \$15 bln investment in Vietnam: state media



A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with the Crew Dragon Resilience capsule sits on Launch Complex 39A at Kennedy Space Centre ahead of the Polaris Dawn Mission in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 9 September 2024. **PHOTO: CHANDAN KHANNA**

ELON Musk's SpaceX plans to invest \$15 billion in Vietnam, the country's official news agency said, as the country looks to boost its attractiveness

as an investment destination for the world's biggest companies.

On a visit to New York this week, the country's top leader To Lam met

SpaceX's Tim Hughes, who said he "highly values" Vietnam's potential for the company's "satellite internet plan", VNA said Wednesday.

The government was "weighing the investment proposal", VNA reported Lam as saying. Hughes — senior vice-president for global business and government affairs at SpaceX — reportedly said the firm aimed to inject \$15 billion into the country in the near future. Hanoi has asked SpaceX to "closely coordinate with relevant Vietnamese agencies and partners to complete investment procedures", VNA said.— AFP

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(24/2024-2025)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective service in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-192(2024-2025)	Shot Hole Drilling and Cable/ Geophone Layout/Pick-up Service of 2D Seismic Acquisition for onshore Block MOGE-6, Sabegyisan-Natsingone Area.	Kyats
(b)	DMP/L-193(2024-2025)	Rent, Maintenance and Operational Training on Sercel 428XL Recording Unit with B Box-3 of 2D Seismic Acquisition for onshore Block MOGE-6, Sabegyisan-Natsingone Area.	Kyats

2. The open tender form including description of materials/Qtty with details specifications and Tender Terms and Conditions can be available during office hours commencing from 27 September, 2024 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No.(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No.(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar and should reach in tender box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than 01:00 pm, 11-10-2024.

4. Tender closing date and time 11-10-2024, 01:00 pm.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph; 067-3411214

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHANA BHUM VOY.NO. (884N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CHANA BHUM VOY.NO. (884N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V TC SYMPHONY VOY.NO. (009E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TC SYMPHONY VOY.NO. (009E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-9-2024** 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.

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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 20 VOY.NO. (05)

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Israel defies ceasefire calls ahead of Netanyahu UN address

Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu dismissed the truce, directing the military to maintain its offensive.



People fleeing from Lebanon arrive on the Syrian side of the border with Lebanon in Jdeidat Yabus in southwestern Syria on 25 September 2024. **PHOTO: LOUAI BESHARA / AFP**

ISRAEL rejected a push by allies for a 21-day ceasefire in Lebanon and vowed to keep fighting Hezbollah militants “until victory”, ahead of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s expected address to the UN General Assembly on Friday.

Israeli bombing of Iran-backed Hezbollah strongholds around Lebanon has killed hundreds of people this week, while the militant group has retaliated with rocket barrages.

The United States, France and other allies unveiled the 21-

day truce on Wednesday, after President Joe Biden and his French counterpart, Emmanuel Macron, met on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York. But Israeli leader Netanyahu flatly rejected the ceasefire proposal on Thursday, ordering the military to continue “fighting with full force”.

The White House expressed frustration at the rejection, saying the truce proposal had taken “a lot of care and effort”.

National Security spokes-

man John Kirby emphasized that discussions with Israel aimed to support a ceasefire.

French President Macron criticized Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu’s refusal to agree to a ceasefire, stating he must take responsibility for potential regional escalation. While in Canada, Macron highlighted that the ceasefire plan had been developed with Netanyahu’s involvement. The joint statement called the situation in Lebanon “intolerable” for both Israeli and Lebanese people. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Australia sees surge in Mpox cases

AUSTRALIA has seen a rapid rise in Mpox cases in the past three months, with one health expert concerned that low vaccination rates could be driving a spike outside cities.

So far this year, 737 cases have been recorded, with the vast majority of cases occurring in the last few months.

In comparison, there were 26 cases last year and 144 cases in 2022. The majority of this year’s new cases occurred in the south-eastern states and all but two cases were reported in women.

A spokesperson for the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care told AFP that cases have been increasing since May this year. Australia has responded by lifting restrictions on who can be vaccinated, allowing for “people of all ages who are at risk of exposure to Mpox” to be eligible. — AFP

Pope Francis begins trip to ‘the heart of Europe’

POPE Francis is to pay a rare visit to Luxembourg before heading to Brussels on Thursday, a trip to “the heart of Europe” he will use to discuss the continent’s role in the world.

Recovering from a mild flu after a gruelling Asia-Pacific trip, the 87-year-old pontiff took off from Rome aboard the papal plane and was due to land at Luxembourg Airport at around 10:00 am (0800 GMT). He will be welcomed by Grand Duke Henri, his wife Grand Duchess Maria-Teresa, Prime Minister Luc Frieden and Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich, a close friend of Francis’s.

Together, Luxembourg and Belgium host multiple major European institutions, making them a part of the world that others look to, said Matteo Bruni, director of the Holy See press office. — AFP

Indonesia sentences drug dealer to death

THE Medan District Court in Indonesia sentenced a drug dealer, identified as FRL, to death on Thursday for possessing 28 kilogrammes of crystal methamphetamine and 14,431 ecstasy pills.

Chief Judge Lenny Megawaty Napitupulu stated that the death sentence was in line with the prosecutor’s demands and in accordance with the Narcotics Law.

FRL was arrested on 29 January after police received a tip-off about drug transactions in Medan. An undercover officer, posing as a buyer, arranged a meeting with the dealer on Jalan Flamboyan Raya in Medan. FRL was apprehended during the transaction, and a subsequent search of his residence led to the discovery of the meth and ecstasy pills. — Xinhua

Marshall Islands demands UN apology for nuclear tests

MARSHALL Islands President Hilda Heine has called for an apology from the United Nations for the organization’s indirect involvement in nuclear tests on its territory in the wake of the Second World War.

The United States detonated 67 nuclear bombs in Marshall Islands between 1946 and 1958, and the health and environmental impacts are still felt today in the Pacific Ocean country, which is home to 42,000 people.

At the time of some of the tests, Washington was the UN’s administering authority for Marshall Islands, with Heine charging it was “the only time in which any UN organ has ever explicitly authorized the detonation of nuclear weapons”.

In a UN speech, a representative urged for a resolution formally apologizing to the Marshallese people for the failure to address their petitions regarding the Trusteeship Resolutions that placed

their territories under US control.

The US State Department notes that in 1947, the UN designated the US as the administering authority for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including the Marshall Islands. — AFP

Aerial view of the Runit Dome. The dome is placed in the crater created by the “Cactus” nuclear weapons test in 1958.
PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



SPORTS

Man City's Rodri to miss rest of season with ACL injury

MANCHESTER City midfielder Rodri will miss the rest of the season due to an anterior cruciate ligament injury, manager Pep Guardiola said on Friday.

"He had surgery this morning, ACL and some meniscus" said Guardiola. "So, next season he will be here. This season is over". The Spain international suffered the injury during the first half of last Sunday's 2-2 draw with Arsenal in the Premier League.

Rodri's loss is a

Rodri has been one of Manchester City's standout players in recent seasons. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



huge blow to City's hopes of winning a fifth consecutive Premier League title, as well as their ambitions of reclaiming the Champions League crown. Guardiola, speaking on the eve of his team's Premier League match against Newcastle, underlined the importance of the defensive midfielder.

"It's a lot of months without an important player for us, everybody knows it," he said, though he added that he remained upbeat. — AFP



Opponent fighter lands a decisive blow against Myanmar's fighter.

Two Myanmar boxers suffer defeats at ONE Lumpini Event

AT the ONE Lumpini event held in Bangkok on 27 September, Myanmar's Thant Zin faced a tough challenge against Japan's Takeru, and he was ultimately knocked out in the second round.

Thant Zin started the match with impressive energy, successfully landing a powerful strike in the first round that sent Takeru to the canvas, prompting the referee to begin the count. However, Takeru managed to recover and regain his composure, turning the tide in his favour and delivering a decisive blow that ended the fight.

In another match of the evening, Myanmar's Soe Lin Oo stepped into the ring against Thai-Algerian kickboxer Nabil, who

had a noticeable height advantage of two head lengths. Despite his best efforts, Soe Lin Oo lost the bout by unanimous decision. Nabil's superior reach and strategic fighting style allowed him to control the match, preventing Soe Lin Oo from finding his rhythm.

Both Myanmar fighters, Thant Zin and Soe Lin Oo, showed great determination and skill, but unfortunately, it was not their night. Their performances contributed to an exciting event that showcased the competitive spirit of the ONE Championship. As they reflect on their experiences, the two Myanmar warriors remain committed to improving and are eager to make their mark in future competitions. — KZL

Workers remove Olympic rings from Eiffel Tower — for now

WORKERS removed the Olympics logo from the Eiffel Tower in the early hours of Friday, returning the beloved monument to its familiar form — but perhaps only temporarily.

Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo has promised to build new Olympic rings and return them to the landmark as a tribute to the hugely successful Olympic Games held in the capital during July and August.

The proposal to keep Olympic rings on the Eiffel Tower has sparked debate in Paris, facing criticism from descendants of designer Gustave Eiffel and

conservation groups. Initially intended to be permanent, Mayor Hidalgo now suggests the rings stay until the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Recently, the 30-tonnes steel rings, installed just four months ago, were removed for recycling.

Plans for lighter, less obtrusive replacements funded by the IOC are

in discussion.

While some locals support smaller rings as symbolic souvenirs, others argue the Eiffel Tower should not serve as an advertising medium. Additionally, conservation groups urge prioritizing the tower's maintenance over new installations, highlighting ongoing repair issues. — AFP



A proposal by the Paris mayor to keep the rings on the tower has sparked a row. **PHOTO: THIBAUD MORITZ/AFP**

Bayern hopes to take revenge in upcoming clash against Leverkusen

ON 10 February, 2024, Bayern Munich seemed to have hit rock bottom as title rival Leverkusen was riding the wave beating the Bavarians 3-0.

The one-sided duel might have been the starting point for Leverkusen's unprecedented journey to win the 2024 national title.

A few months later in the 2024/25 season, things have changed for the better for the Bavarians.

Ahead of Saturday evening's encounter in the Munich arena, the momentum favours the struggling 2020 treble winner.

Six victories in six games with 29 scored goals aside from only three conceded seem to give the newly-formed Bayern an advantage in a game triggering attention in over 200 countries and regions. — Xinhua



Xi to award national medals, honorary titles ahead of National Day

Chinese President Xi Jinping will deliver a significant speech during the event, where three types of awards – Medal of the Republic, Friendship Medal, and national honorary titles – will be presented.

CHINESE President Xi Jinping will award national medals and honorary titles at a ceremony to be held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing at 10 am Sunday ahead of the 75th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, will deliver an important speech at the ceremony.

Three types of awards — the Medal of the Republic, the Friendship Medal and medals of national honorary titles — will be granted at the ceremony.

The event will be broadcast live by China Media Group and Xinhuanet. It will also be relayed simultaneously on leading central news websites including people.cn, cctv.com and china.com.cn, as well as on new media platforms such as mobile apps run by the People's Daily, Xinhua News Agency and China Central Television.

China celebrates its National Day on 1 October. — Xinhua



(L-R) The Medal of National Honorary Titles, the Medal of the Republic, and the Friendship Medal are on display at the Museum of the Communist Party of China in Beijing, China, 14 October 2023. **PHOTO: CGTN**

Ex-defence chief Ishiba set to become new Japan PM

ISHIBA will be named prime minister in parliament next Tuesday, replacing Fumio Kishida.

Former Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba is set to become Japan's next prime minister after winning

the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's presidential election on Friday in a runoff vote, defeating economic security minister Sanae Takaichi.

In his fifth presidential bid, Ishiba won 215 of the 409 valid votes cast by LDP lawmakers and rank-and-file members, while Takaichi secured 194. He is a policy expert well-versed in defense, agriculture and regional revitalization.

Ishiba, 67, will be named prime minister in parliament next Tuesday, replacing Fumio Kishida. Attention will then shift to when he will call a general election by dissolving the powerful House of Representatives.

Emerging victorious at the party headquarters, where the voting took place, Ishiba called on LDP members to unite after the presidential election that saw a record nine contenders. He said he will devote himself to making Japan a "safer" country. — Kyodo



Former Japanese Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba waves to fellow Liberal Democratic Party lawmakers at the ruling party's headquarters in Tokyo on 27 September 2024, after winning the party's presidential election in a runoff. **PHOTO: KYODO**

STRENGTHENING BILATERAL RELATIONS

Vietnam president reiterates support for Cuba

CUBAN President Miguel Diaz-Canel held talks with his Vietnamese counterpart To Lam in Havana on Thursday, with the two countries signing several bilateral agreements during the visit.

"The world has seen many changes, but the friendship and solidarity between Vietnam and Cuba will never change," said To Lam, 67, quoted by the Cuban presidency on X.

The two presidents visited the commercial port of Mariel, a free trade zone about 37 miles (60 kilometres) from the capital, where several Vietnamese companies operate, the official press reported. Cuba and Vietnam are among five countries worldwide that are still governed by a single Communist Party. They differ, however, in that Hanoi has liberalized its economy while Havana has not. — AFP