

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Chair Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round the preparations for the final rite event of Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw yesterday.

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla inspect preparations for final rites of Naga Hnakaung Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw

Presiding Patron of Naga Hnakaung Monastery of Tachilek in Shan State (East) State Ovadacariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dr Bhaddanta Dhammasiri passed away at 00:02 am on 8 February (Thursday) in 2024.

The remains of the Sayadaw are being kept at Naga Hnakaung Monastery.

Yesterday morning, Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and senior military officers inspected preparations for the successful holding of the final rites and fulfilled the requirements.

The Senior General and his wife viewed preparations to convey the re-

mains of the Sayadaw to the place where the final rites will be held, and they visited the gallery of documentary photos of the Sayadaw.

The Senior General and wife paid homage to the remains of the Sayadaw. They paid homage to the Presiding Patron of Thiladhamma Kontha Tawya Monastery (Wasipeik) Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kovida and venerable Sayadaws and

Mongphone Sayadaw Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Kammathanacariya Bhaddanta Nanasamvara who returned Dhamma gifts.

The Senior General and wife offered alms to Sayadaws and supplicated preparations for the successful holding of the final rites, as well as a plan to showcase the utensils of the Sayadaw at a museum.

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NATIONAL

Wahnet Elephant Camp ready for visitors in Thingyan

WAHNET Elephant Camp, on the way to Yeywa Dam between Mandalay and PyinOoLwin, is prepared to offer the best services, especially during the Thingyan period, said an official of the camp.

The number of visitors has more than doubled thanks to the three-month-old elephant called Nyein Chan Oo at the camp, and the site hosted between 50 and 100 visitors per day in the last two months.

"The roads and buildings in the camp are being repaired. The people become more interested in the elephant Nyein Chan Oo. The bamboo bedsteads are being made, and the water is pumped almost the whole day to be able to play with water. The shady places are also created than before, and the visitors can touch the elephant. The preparations are



Visitors delight in elephant rides at Wahnet Elephant Camp.

as good as previous Thingyan," the official said.

Despite the scarcity of wa-

ter at the elephant camp, the earthen jars and barrels are used to play with water, while

the shops that sell coconut juice, drinks, and appetizers are being opened. The visitors can also

enjoy them at the restaurants opened in the camp.

The official continued, "We place the bamboo fans on the trees as the weather is scorching during Thingyan. Although there are stone tables and bamboo bedsteads, we arrange mats, ensuring enough materials when the number of visitors is high. As it is hot, we will make the best arrangements and provide the best services."

There are nine elephants at the camp, and elephant riding and performance shows will be presented with only seven elephants.

The entrance fee to the elephant camp is set at K1,000 per person, K10,000 for foreigner, and K3,000 and K5,000 for short and long journeys for elephant riding service. — Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)/KTZH

Author Shwe Olat donates books worth K9 mln to IPRD libraries

AUTHOR Shwe Olat donated books worth K9 million to the Department of Information and Public Relations.

A book donation event was held at the Production Branch (Yangon) under the Information and Public Relations Department in Yangon Region at 2 pm on 4 April 2024. At the ceremony, the donor U Ko Ko Lat (Shwe Olat) of K K Business Group explained the purpose of donating

600 copies of "The Unfaling Star of Heda Aliyat Azerbaijan," he translated, to the libraries of the Department of Information and Public Relations.

After that, U Myint Swe, director of the Production Branch (Yangon) under the Department of Information and Public Relations, accepted the donated books before returning the certificate of honour to the donor. — TWA/TKO



Author Shwe Olat donating books to the Department of Information and Public Relations.

Six selected to compete in 11th Miss Universe Myanmar 2024



The photo showcases six beauty pageant contestants who will compete in the Miss Universe Myanmar 2024.

THE six beauty pageant contestants are being selected to participate in the 11th Miss Universe Myanmar 2024, according to Miss Universe Yangon North 2024 Thet San Andersen, and she is reportedly one of them.

Those six contestants were reportedly chosen by Miss Universe Yangon 2024 Grand Final, which was held on 4 April at Wyndham Grand Hotel in Mingala Taungnyunt township.

Miss Universe Yangon North 2024 Thet San Andersen said, "I'm so glad to be selected as Miss Universe Yangon North 2024. I'm grateful to my designers who prepared the dress well

and also to the makeup artistes. I practised cat-walking, and I had well-prepared food. I believe I can reach the grand final of the Miss Universe Myanmar".

The report further said that the Miss Universe Yangon 2024 Grand Final competition selected Miss Universe Yangon West 2024 Aye Pyae Wai Aung, Miss Universe Yangon East 2024 Zin Moe Pyae, Miss Universe Yangon South 2024 Han Lay, Miss Universe Yangon North 2024 Thet San Andersen and additionally, Miss Universe Pindaya 2024 Arr Put and Miss Universe Kawthoung 2024 Phyto Thinzar Zaw. — ASH/TRKM

NATIONAL



State Administration Council Chair Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects the preparations for the final rites of Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw.

SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla inspect ...

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The Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air), the Joint Secretary, council members, Union ministers and senior military officers also donated alms to members of the Sangha.

The Senior General and wife paid homage to the remains of the Sayadaw.

The Senior General and wife inspected preparations for the final rite ceremony and the accommodation for monks and nuns who would attend it.

Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw was born of U Haung and Daw Nang Ping in Yangkein Village of Kengtung Township in Shan State (East) on the 9th waning of Nattaw 1290 ME. He was novitiated in Tabaung full moon in 1299 ME. He was ordained on the 13th waxing of Kason 1310 ME. He passed Mula Dhammacariya in Gon Shan language in 1320 ME. He established the Naga Hnakaung Buddhism Learning Centre in 1357 ME with four branches. His centres have been giving lectures on Bud-

dhist literature to Shan monks and novices in the Gon Shan language and have held examinations 50 times. The Sayadaw managed some 2,500 stone plaques bearing Tri Pitakat treatises in the Gon Shan language from 1355 ME and kept them on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda in Tachilek. Moreover, the Sayadaw donated land plots for basic education schools, the district general hospital, and health buildings in Tachilek, and they established a home for the aged and the orphanage

with necessary assistance. Hence, the government offered Agga Maha Pandita title to the Sayadaw in 1992, Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja title in 2001, Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika title to the Sayadaw in 2005 and Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru title in 2021. Thailand also offered religious titles to the Sayadaw. The Sayadaw passed away at age 96 and 77 Vasa. The final rites of the remains of the Sayadaw will take place on 6 April. — MNA/TTA

DPM Union MoTC Minister attends MMMC Cadet Course graduation event

THE Myanmar Mercantile Marine College Cadet Course No 15 graduation ceremony was held yesterday at Myanmar Mercantile Marine College in Kamayut, Yangon.

The ceremony was attended by State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo, Yangon Region Government Chief Minister U Soe Thein, the MoTC deputy minister, Yangon Region government ministers, the Yangon mayor, heads of departments under the ministry, guests and offi-



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Transport & Communications Minister General Mya Tun Oo addresses the graduation ceremony of the Myanmar Mercantile Marine College Cadet Course No 15 yesterday.



cial and parents of graduating cadets.

The Deputy Prime Min-

ister first inspected the graduation company and took the salute of the marching com-

panies. He then presented awards to outstanding cadets.

Afterwards, General Mya

Tun Oo met six outstanding cadets and their parents and took the documentary photos with guests, officials and graduating cadets.

A total of 179 cadet trainees – 90 marine officers, 80 marine engineers, and nine marine electrical engineers – attended the Diploma Course No 15.

From its opening in 1963 to date, MMMC has produced 87,415 marine officers, 29,107 engineer officers and other ranks, with 155,506 trainees being and 277,695 field experts being nurtured. — MNA/TS

NATIONAL

Myanmar attends 11st AFMGM, 28th AFMM in Lao PDR

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein attended the 11th ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Banks Governors Meeting (11th AFMGM) and 28th ASEAN Finance Minister's Meeting (AFMM) in Luang Prabang, Laos, from 3 to 5 April.

On 3 April, the Union minister attended the superior discussion on the expansion of finance related to climate changes in South East Asia. At the meeting, he exchanged views on finding ways to unlock financing needed to help reduce the impact of climate change and losses and further cooperation together with other attendees. In the evening, the Union minister and party joined the dinner hosted by the Governor of Laos Central Bank.

On 4 April, the ASEAN-EU Business Council, ASEAN-US Business Council and ASEAN Business Advisory Council meetings were held separately, and the ASEAN Finance Min-



Deputy Prime Minister Union Planning & Finance Minister U Win Shein participates in the group documentary photo session with attendees at the 11th AFMGM and 28th AFMM meetings in Laos on 3-5 April.

isters and Deputy ASEAN Secretary-General discussed the ASEAN financial integration, plans to achieve the outcomes of ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025, expanded work plans, Strategic Action Plan for financial integration for 2025 and all-inclusive financial integration in ASEAN regions.

At noon, the ASEAN Fi-

nance Ministers' Meeting was held separately, and the Union minister highlighted the economic crisis in the 2019-2020 financial year due to the outbreak of COVID-19, recovery of the economy in 2022-2023FY, efforts of the government to support SME and agricultural sectors by laying down the economic objectives, and active participation of

Myanmar in ASEAN. Moreover, the ASEAN+ Three Finance and Central Banks Deputies Meeting was held on the same day.

On 5 April, the 28th AFMM was organized, and the leaders exchanged views on the submitted Strategic Action Plan for ASEAN regional finance integration and drafted the work plans.

At noon, the 11th AFMGM

was held, and the leaders discussed ASEAN monetary and financial cooperation, ASEAN economic community assessment procedures, implementation of AEC Blueprint 2025, ASEAN Community Vision 2045, ASEAN financial and monetary integration report, progress of ASEAN Treasury Forum and work plans to be carried out in 2024-2025FY.

They then approved the joint statement of the 11th AFMGM.

The ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Banks Governors Meeting is held in April yearly. Laos hosted the meeting this year, and Malaysia will chair it in the coming year.

Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Aung Ko attended the 28th AFMM and its related meetings, while Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win attended the ASEAN Finance Deputy Ministers' Meeting, and the ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting on 2 April. — MNA/KTZH

Counter-argument to false information

Media spread false news: air strikes destroy half of village in Momauk Tsp



The screenshot validates misinformation.

THE malicious media outlets are intentionally spreading false news, claiming that half of the Kyauksakhan village in Momauk Township of Kachin State suffered extreme damage from aerial bombardment of Tatmadaw (Myanmar armed forces) on 3 and 4 April.

These subversive media and insurgents attacked the security forces members, killed the locals who did not support them and torched the villages. In contrast, the Tatmadaw is protecting the country and the lives and property of people, and they obviously discredit Tatmadaw on social media.

The reality is that KIA and PDF terrorists launched attacks against the security outpost in Momauk Township using heavy and small weapons. The artillery shells fell and exploded in that village, and the houses were burnt down, according to a security officer and report. — MNA/KTZH

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ဧပြီလ (၇) ရက်

"လူတိုင်းလူတိုင်း ကျန်းမာဖို့ ကိုယ်ခံစွမ်းစွမ်း ဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့"

"My Health, My Right"

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

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33rd Viet Nam International Trade Fair showcases 4 Myanmar companies

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), four companies from Myanmar displayed booths at the 33rd Viet Nam International Trade Fair held in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

The 33rd Viet Nam International Trade Fair held at the International Centre of Exhibition (ICE) in Hanoi, Viet Nam, on 3 April, was attended by U Soe Ko Ko, Charge d'Affaires ad interim to Viet Nam.

At the 33rd Viet Nam Expo, over 480 businesses from more than 16 countries, including China, India, South Korea, Laos, Cambodia, and the Russian Federation, opened 600 booths featured by 1-2-1 Public

Co Ltd, New A1 Family Co Ltd, Golden Myanmar Honey Co Ltd and Shwe Zee Kwat Food Manufacturing and International Export Co Ltd.

The exhibition was organized by the Viet Nam Trade Promotion Agency (VIETRADE), Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam, Mr Nguyen Hong Dien, along with the Viet Nam government members, ambassadors from various foreign embassies based in Viet Nam, trade advisers, and business people. — ASH/TKO



The 33rd Viet Nam International Trade Fair held at International Centre of Exhibition (ICE) in Hanoi, attended by U Soe Ko Ko, Charge d'affaires ad interim to Viet Nam.

Smuggled goods and vehicles seized following tip-off



Confiscated timbers.

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, the anti-illegal trade eradication is carrying out effectively at the border checkpoints, the border trade offices, permanent inspection checkpoints, along trade routes and warehouses, the international airports and the costal ports in the Regions/States with the organizing of One-Stop Service teams. The availability of information is reportedly very important.

In March 2024, the authorities received 92 times of report of which six are wrong information, while two reports arrived late. The authorities made 84 arrests.

Moreover, in a total of 143 cases, 61 types of goods including the various types of timbers, industrial materials, consumer goods

and foodstuffs with an estimated value of K2,699.383 million were seized from the vehicles.

The responsible citizens who reported the information will also be awarded 20 per cent of the value of the seizure K2,699.383 million as a reward of K539.876 million. Regarding the rewards, the departmental personnel launches the arrangements to reward quickly and they are also issuing monthly reports about the arrests.

Therefore, responsible citizens should contact the mobile phone 09 404339969 regarding illegal trade news. It was reported that individual can send a report to the telephone number 067 409883 and email antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com. — MNA/MKKS

Confiscations of illegal items: Fuel oil, consumer goods, industrial materials, foodstuffs, motorbikes and vehicles

ON 3 April, the combined teams supervised by the Customs Department confiscated four kinds of goods worth K54.13 million, including 7,070 sling bags that were not declared in the Import Declaration (ID) from a container at the Myanmar Industrial Port and 322,000 kilogrammes of plastic resin from China valued at K676.2 million that were not declared in the ID from 14 containers at the Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint. The action was conducted under Customs procedures.

On the same day, a combined team nabbed a Nissan Diesel tractor head with a trailer worth K60 million, travelling from Thamanya to Yangon, carrying 500 gas stoves from Viet Nam valued at K25 million that were not declared in the ID at the Ywathagyi Dry Port. The action was taken under Customs procedures. Additionally, the combined teams captured a Dongfeng tractor head with a trailer (approximately K120 million) carrying illegal diesel weighing 7,808 gallons worth K86.9 million without official documents near the Milepost 385 on Yangon-Mandalay Highway and another Dongfeng tractor head

with a trailer (estimated value of K120 million) carrying 3,700 gallons of diesel worth K41.9 million without official documents at the Hngapauk combined checkpoint of Yadanabon bridge (Mandalay). The action was taken under Customs procedures.

During inspections on 3 April, the combined teams seized a Higer bus (estimated value of K30 million) heading to Nay Pyi Taw from Mawlamyine, carrying four Honda Wave motorbikes worth K2.5 million) without official documents at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray station. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

On 3 April, the combined team confiscated a Toyota HiAce (approximately K30 million), heading to Mongsat to Nakoungmu, carrying 195 kilogrammes of frozen chicken worth K1.95 million without official documents at Milepost 4 in Mongtung township. The action was taken under Customs procedures. The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that 12 arrests were made on 3 April, with an estimated value of K1,248,580,000. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL



The photo shows a temporary chamber where Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw's remains were kept.

6 April set to hold final cremation ceremony of Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw

THE final cremation ceremony of the Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw in Tachilek Township, Shan State, is planned to be held on 6 April, according to the information committee for the cremation ceremony.

The ceremony will be held on the ground beside a circular road, and the event arrangements, as well as the final rites procession, will be released by the committee.

The presiding patron of the Naga Hnakaung Monastery in Tachilek, Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru, Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika, Agga Maha Pandita Naga Hnakaung Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Dham-

masiri passed away on 8 February 2024. He was 97 years old and 77 Vasa.

"The Sayadaw was a member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee; this was a huge loss for the Buddhist community, not only in Tachilek but also for the entire State. It is not quite easy to find Sayadaw like him. He was honoured even by Thailand's royal family. Our country also honours him," a resident of Tachilek said.

Preaching ceremonies dedicated to the cremation will be held every night from 1 to 5 April. — TWA /TKO

Chinese Ambassador leads tribute to WW2 Chinese army heroes

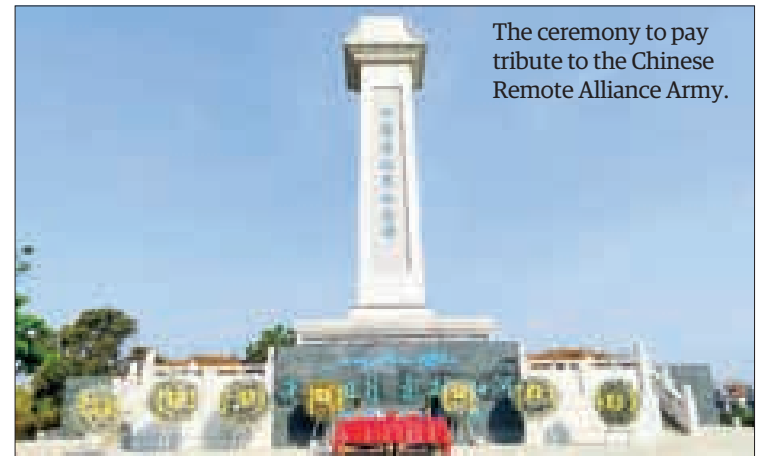
CHINESE Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chen Hai led the officials of the embassy on 4 April to pay tribute to the those from the Chinese Remote Alliance Army (CRAA) who died while reinforcing in Myanmar in the Second World War in Toungoo, Bago Region.

The Myanmar-China Business Association, generations of the Chinese Remote Alliance Army in Myanmar, representatives of Chinese descent and Chinese media based in Myanmar also attended the ceremony. A historic battle between the CRAA and the Japanese army broke out in Toungoo. The Chinese ambassador reflected on the sacrifices of Chinese soldiers

who fought against the fascism 82 years ago, emphasizing the historic bond between Myanmar and China and the ongoing efforts to rekindle the Chinese national spirit.

The attendees paid their respects and laid flowers at the memorial monument of the CRAA, where they observed the museum showcasing the defence against the Japanese army.

Similarly, upon the request of the Chinese Embassy and Consulate in Myanmar, Chinese business people and local Chinese associations placed flowers and wreaths at memorial sites for the CRAA in Yenangyoung and Myitkyina townships. — TWA/NT



The ceremony to pay tribute to the Chinese Remote Alliance Army.

Borders to allow entry and exit only with UID certificate

THE Ministry of Immigration and Population has issued a notification that entry and exit are only granted with TBP or BP certificates issued alongside the UID certificate (Unique Identity Number) at three border checkpoints in China, Thailand, and India.

TBP and BP certificates will be issued and allowed to cross the border only with the UID documents starting from 1 May. Applicants for TBP and



The photo shows 10-digit Unique ID number documents with a QR code issued in Myeik township in 2023.

BP certificates at the border are asked to bring UID documents along with citizenship scrutiny cards.

The scheme aims to collect population statistics regarding entries and exits at the borders, as well as to control activities such as using fake citizenship scrutiny cards and unused cards when applying for permission to enter or exit from border crossings.

The Electronic Registration

system Department under the Ministry of Immigration and Population collects and registers biographic data and biometric data of residents over the age of 10 through an electronic system and issues a 10-digit UID (Unique Identity Number).

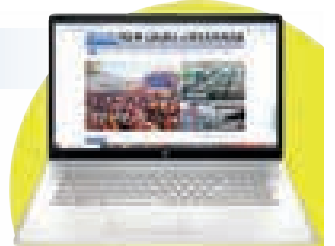
When registering biographic and biometric data, it is necessary to bring a citizenship scrutiny card or any identity cards issued by the government.

— TWA/MKKS

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Indonesia leading importer of Myanmar rice in FY 2023-2024

INDONESIA is registered as the top rice importer of Myanmar, with over 370,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice in the past financial year 2023-2024 (April-March), Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) stated.

China followed it with 259,000 tonnes and Belgium with 200,000 tonnes, the Philippines with over 143,300 tonnes, Spain with over 69,000 tonnes, Poland with over 58,400 tonnes, Viet Nam with over 51,100 tonnes, the Netherlands with 43,600 tonnes, Malaysia with 38,700 tonnes, Cote D'Ivoire with over 32,400 tonnes and Cameroon with 28,600 tonnes.

The MRF is projected to achieve 2.5 million tonnes of rice export in FY 2023-2024, generating earnings of US\$1 billion. However, rice exports fell short of the target, with over 1.68 million tonnes worth over \$845 million.

The Central Bank of Myanmar's monetary policy to control export earnings hindered rice exports, hurting exporters financially. Moreover, the El Nino weather condition also hampered rice export, the chairperson of the Myanmar Rice Federation affirmed.

The export volumes were registered at 87,648 tonnes worth \$36 million in April 2023, 110,706 tonnes worth \$48 million in May, 62,725 tonnes worth \$28 million in June, 58,334 tonnes worth \$26 million in July, 59,971 tonnes worth \$28 million in August, 84,773 tonnes worth \$42 million in September, 119,526 tonnes worth \$63 million in October, 175,990 tonnes worth \$90 million in November, 195,829 tonnes worth \$99 million in December, 213,605 tonnes worth \$111 million in January 2024, 262,116 tonnes worth \$139 million in February and 257,037 tonnes worth \$133 million in March respectively.

Therefore, the rice export volume recorded the highest in February, followed by March and January. The figures showed a drop in June, July and August.

The value of Myanmar's rice and broken rice exports exceeded US\$845 million from over 1.68 million tonnes in the FY 2023-2024, comprising 1.59 million tonnes by seaborne trade and over 89,000 tonnes at border.

Myanmar exported 2,261,203 tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign trade partners in the 2022-2023 FY (April-March), with an estimated value of \$853.472 million. China is the primary importer of Myanmar's rice, with over 775,000 tonnes, followed by Belgium, which has over 323,000 tonnes; Bangladesh, which has over 239,000 tonnes; and the Philippines, which has over 202,000 tonnes. — NN/EM



The Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon branch).

CBM crackdown on gold, currency rate manipulation impacts forex market

AFTER the Central Bank of Myanmar vowed an intensified crackdown on those involved in gold and currency market manipulation, the kyat-US dollar exchange rate slowed down in the forex market.

Kyat depreciated at K3,890 against the US dollar on 30 March, and then, the exchange rate dipped to K3,850 on 5 April.

CBM initiated an online trading market in which exporters and importers and private banks are engaged, with a view to developing the foreign currency exchange market and stopping price manipulation. The market exchange rates are officially announced on the online trading platform of the foreign exchange market. Additionally, CBM lets the authorized money changers sell foreign currency as petty cash to those studying abroad, going on a pilgrimage and working abroad, according to the CBM's notification.

The CBM declared the daily market exchange rates on its official website and the Central Bank of Myanmar Facebook page.

Moreover, the surprise visits are being undertaken at money changers

to ensure they abide by the directive issued by the Foreign Exchange Management Law.

Some unscrupulous individuals are attempting to manipulate the market by spreading misinformation from the verbal deal or sparking public concerns with malicious news about the volatile exchange rate. Some are also engaged in transactions without a valid licence, violating the existing laws.

They will face legal action under the Foreign Exchange Management Law. The CBM also informs the people of true information and data released by the departments concerned and authorized money changers.

CBM always states that it is crucial to dispel false news. Upon tips off, the authorities inspect the price speculators, and legal proceedings against them are officially declared, according to the notification released on 30 March.

CBM has been working together with law enforcement agencies to inspect and prosecute those involved in foreign exchange market manipulation, as per its notification released on 15 March.

Kyat weakened to K4,000 against the

US dollar at the over-the-counter market on 19 August 2023.

Under Section 9 of the Foreign Exchange Management Law, only those entities holding foreign exchange dealer licences are allowed to deal in foreign currency and traveller's cheques. Those holding foreign currencies without valid licences and permits will face legal actions under the law, according to the CBM's notification released on 21 August 2023.

Notification 7/2014 dated 30 September 2014 issued by the Central Bank of Myanmar affirmingly stated that under stanza 15 of the Foreign Exchange Management Law, domestic residents are allowed to keep US\$10,000 in maximum or equivalent amount of foreign currencies for six months. If those foreign currencies that have been unused for over six months have to be exchanged in local currency at the market price through authorized dealers or deposited into bank accounts.

Those illegally holding foreign currencies are to face legal actions under the Foreign Exchange Management Law, the CBM warned again. — NN/EM

Weak foreign demand cuts kidney bean prices

SLUGGISH demand slashed the price of kidney beans to K3.79 million per tonne on 5 April after hitting a record high of K4.593 million per tonne on 7 February, Mandalay's market figures showed.

The figures reflected a drop of K790,000 million per tonne in the past two months.

Myanmar exports kidney beans to China, India, Japan, Singapore, and other foreign countries through border

and maritime trade channels. Myanmar shipped 59,425.711 tonnes of kidney beans worth US\$50.31 million to foreign markets in the previous financial year 2022-2023 (April-March), the Ministry of Commerce's statistics indicated.

Myanmar conveyed over 38,620 tonnes of kidney beans worth \$46.328 million to foreign trade partners between 1 April and 22 March of the FY 2023-2024, comprising over 20,074 tonnes worth \$20.318 million through

maritime trade and over 18,546 tonnes worth \$26 million via border, as per the Ministry of Commerce's statistics.

Kidney bean is cultivated in October-November and harvested in early February. They are grown in the upper Sagaing Region, Bhamo in Kachin State, Kayin State and along banks of the Ayeyawady River. The beans produced from Katha and Bhamo townships are in high demand in the domestic market due to their large size. — NN/EM

OPINION

Utilize strength of athletes for internal peace initiatives

ACROSS the globe, myriad activities unfold in various arenas, each laden with its own purpose, whether noble or nefarious. However, amidst this cacophony, one arena remains a bastion of purity: sports. Here, athletes compete not for political gain but for the sheer love of the game, fostering an environment devoid of discrimination, where genuine intentions reign supreme.

Recognizing the innocence and unifying power of athletes, the United Nations designates 6 April as the International Day of Sport for Development of Peace (IDSDP). This annual event serves as a poignant reminder of the positive impact sports and physical activities wield in communities worldwide.

In 2024, the United Nations has chosen "Sport for the Promotion of Peaceful and Inclusive Societies" as the theme, underscoring

the unique ability of athletes to transcend borders and unite disparate societies. Their talent, coupled with unwavering integrity, not only captivates sports enthusiasts but also positions them as potential catalysts for societal transformation.

Indeed, beloved athletes hold sway over the hearts and minds of their respective societies. Their mere endorsement can galvanize movements and spur unprecedented change. Thus, it becomes imperative to harness their influence to foster peace and prosperity within communities.

These athletes, revered by millions, possess a rare opportunity to champion societal causes. By leveraging their platforms, they can advocate for peacemaking initiatives and drive meaningful dialogue on pressing issues.

Moreover, their involvement in such endeavours not only enriches the fabric of society but also reinforces their commitment to social responsibility.

In Myanmar, where internal conflict persists, the nation must leverage the influence of its cherished athletes to bolster peace efforts. Similarly, renowned sports figures worldwide should willingly engage in peacemaking initiatives as a token of gratitude to the societies that have elevated them.

By harnessing the collective strength of athletes, nations can forge a path towards reconciliation and sustainable peace. Through collaborative endeavours and shared best practices, the international sporting community can contribute significantly to global efforts aimed at fostering inclusive societies and sustainable development.

In essence, athletes possess more than just physical prowess; they embody the spirit of unity and resilience. As champions of peace, they hold the key to unlocking a future where harmony prevails, transcending borders and bridging divides. It is through their unwavering commitment and steadfast resolve that the world may inch closer to realizing the elusive dream of peaceful coexistence.

Teacher as an Efficient Leader

Teacher leaders foster academic achievement and social behaviour by creating inclusive instructional organizations and nurturing a culture of high expectations.

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

IN THE 21st century, the life of a teacher is still beyond the position of an average instructor. Of course, teachers worldwide have always become the leaders in the teaching-learning process. In the modern days, it cannot be expected that all teachers should be proficient in their respective subject teaching. This is because not every teacher will concentrate on their education and practice only. Teacher leaders are now the most important and influential individuals in the educational world of study. They exert a strong influence on student achievement, indirectly in particular, by creating instructional organizations in their schools through participative actions and building school climates as well as cultures characterized by clear goals and high expectations for academic achievement and social behaviour. As people differ in readiness, willingness and task maturity, teacher leaders must adjust their roles and leadership styles not only to the situation but also to those being led.

First of all, teacher leadership can influence their colleagues, principals, and other members of the school community to improve teaching-learning practices with the aim of increased student study and achievement. Successful school leaders have such many qualities as vision, courage, passion, emotional intelligence, judgement, resilience, persuasion, and curiosity. School leaders formulate and shape the future rather than being shaped by events. They show the willingness and patience to see things through and take risks, and they can be steadfast in challenging underperformance or poor behaviour. They are also passionate about the teaching-learning process and show commitment to children, besides taking an active interest in their staff's work. As team builders, they develop empathy between their staff or

pupils and them, get the relationships right – open, trusting, or humorous – and much else follows naturally. The best headteachers make the right calls, get involved in the whole school community and even take people forward together. Any school leader is optimistic and calm in a crisis, as well as energetic and positive at all times. They are adept at describing the story of their school to any audience. Finally, they are outward-looking and always in touch with events.

As a leader, teachers can take on diverse roles like resource providers, instructional specialists, curriculum specialists, classroom supporters, learning facilitators, mentors, school leaders, data coaches, catalysts for change, or even learners. A teacher helps their colleagues share instructional and professional resources such as websites, teaching aids, articles, books, lesson or unit plans, and assessment tools. If he is an instructional specialist, he will be able to help implement ideas for differentiating instruction or planning lessons in partnership with fellow teachers, study research-based classroom strategies, explore instructional methodologies appropriate for the school, and share findings with colleagues. On the other hand, curriculum specialists tend to lead teachers to agree content standards, follow various components of the adopted curriculum, use common pacing



Teacher leaders adapt their roles and leadership styles to suit different situations and individuals, influencing colleagues, principals, and the wider school community to enhance teaching and learning practices. **ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY**

charts and develop shared assessments. Classroom supporters work inside the classroom to help teachers by demonstrating a lesson, co-teaching, or observing and giving feedback, which enhances their own abilities and capacity to tackle teaching and learning problems successfully. When teachers learn with and from one another, they can focus on what most directly improves student learning in this learning.

Besides, mentors serve as role models, acclimate novice teachers to a new school, advise new teachers about instruction, curriculum, procedure, practices,

and politics improvement, posing questions to generate an analysis of student learning. Strangely, teacher leaders like assuming themselves to be perpetual students. As lifelong learners, they model continual development, demonstrate continuous learning and use what they learn to help all students achieve.

There are still many responsibilities for teacher-leaders. Teacher leaders are experts in their craft. That is, they engage in collaborative planning, give feedback, offer perspectives and advocate for changes in that

they understand what is required for excellence in teaching

to take place on a daily basis. They step up and volunteer to serve on district committees as well. By serving on district planning, professional development, professional association, curriculum and other committees, they impact what happens through the school system for all teachers and their students.

Furthermore, they are in the best position to impact the decisions of policymakers now that they have authentic experience and insights to provide practical examples to those making decisions which affect them and their profession. On occasion, teachers take leadership responsibilities for current political events affecting their lives, communities and schools. Only within the school setting do teachers encourage their students and colleagues so as to become involved in their local politics and create positive change in the community at large. Not only that, teachers regularly

sit on advisory boards and get involved in community organizations and nonprofit centres such as the Red Cross, which allows them to help change the lives of students from the outside of the classroom.

A teacher leader's leadership style must vary with the time and circumstances of a situation. A directive or autocratic style is effective when decisions must be made faster, and followers have low task maturity, no profound knowledge, skill, interest in what is going on, or confidence to work on their own. The supportive style comes into use when innovation is introduced, as every innovation brings in new risks, and followers might be willing to work on the task even though they still do not have the skills to do it successfully. A participative or democratic style is made possible if the cooperation of others is helpful in doing the decisive work, time is not a major factor; staff are provided opportunities to develop a high sense of personal growth and job satisfaction, and routine, monotonous but necessary work has to be done for the organization. Finally, the delegating style can be used if followers are extraordinarily competent and mature vis-a-vis the task, and they have got high confidence, commitment, and strong skills. In brief, no one style will be appropriate at all times for every and each individual.

Here are a few things we can do to choose and develop our own effective leadership style: -

- 1) Start with ourselves. Use what we know about our own personality and our exercised leadership in the past. Be clear on our natural tendencies and talents.
- 2) Think about the real needs of the organization or initiative.
- 3) Observe and learn from other leaders in action.
- 4) Use the research on the theory and practice of leadership.
- 5) Believe in what we are doing.
- 6) Get prepared to change. Find for ourselves or hear from others the negative as well as the positive in order to do it carefully and objectively, and then make connections if necessary.

That way, we can all not only become a teacher as an efficient leader but continue to be one.

Not only that, teachers regularly

sit on advisory boards and get involved in community organizations and nonprofit centres such as the Red Cross, which allows them to help change the lives of students from the outside of the classroom.

Gut bacteria can influence obesity in men and women: Study

The composition of the gut microbiota can influence metabolism and energy balance. Imbalances in gut bacteria have been linked to conditions such as obesity and metabolic syndrome.

NEW research has found that gut bacteria can play a key role in the onset and development of obesity, with differences in men and women, which might affect the metabolism of different nutrients and therefore the presence of bioactive molecules in the gut that influence the development of metabolic disease.

The study was published in the journal 'European Association for the Study of Obesity'.

The gut microbiota consists of a complex community of microorganisms (bacteria, viruses, fungi and protozoa) that inhabit the gastrointestinal tract. Disruption in this community (dysbiosis) significantly affects metabolic health and influences the risk of certain diseases, including obesity. However, it is still unclear which species represent a greater or lesser likelihood of developing obesity, as well as the impact of these species on our metabolic health.

To find out more, researchers analysed metagenomic and metabolomic data from a Spanish population to understand the mechanisms by which these microorganisms are involved in the development of obesity.

They examined the faecal metabolome—the diverse collection of metabolites (small molecules) found in the gut and shed in faeces that are produced by gut bacteria as a byproduct of metabolizing food and make their way into the bloodstream impacting health.

Overall, 361 adult volunteers (251 women/110 men, average



Probiotics and other interventions aimed at modulating the gut microbiota are areas of active research for various health conditions. **ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE / PIXABAY**

(median age 44 years old) were included from the Spanish Obekit study—a randomized trial examining the relationship between genetic variants and the response to a hypocaloric diet.

Researchers made sure that participants in the LOW and HIGH groups were matched for sex and age.

Genetic microbiota profiling was done to identify the different types, composition, diversity, and relative abundance of bacteria present in stool samples of the participants. The analysis revealed that individuals with a HIGH OB index were characterized by significantly lower levels of *Christensenella minuta*—a bacterium which has consistently been linked to leanness and health.

SOURCE: ANI

NATIONAL

Myanmar-China trade talks focus on Guangxi Summits



Daw Khaing Su Lin and Ms Yang Yanyan meet in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 3 April 2024.

MYANMAR and Chinese delegates convened a meeting at the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) office in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 3 April, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The meeting discussed Myanmar's involvement in the trade and industry forum and summits that will take place in Guangxi this year.

Consul-General of Myanmar in Nanning Daw Khaing Su

Lin and CCPIT Guangxi Committee Chairperson Ms Yang Yanyan led the meeting.

The consul-general reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to boosting bilateral cooperation across many sectors, including the economy and trade, in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era. She also pledged the Consulate-General Office's efforts to join in the Chinese-ASEAN Business Investment Summit (CABIS) in association with the 21st Chi-

na-ASEAN Expo.

Ms Yang Yanyan encouraged Myanmar to participate in a forum to settle trade disputes, an industrial forum besides CABIS, a round-table dialogue between State leaders of ASEAN countries and CEOs from China, and the China-ASEAN Legal Forum.

They also talked about the status and prospects of boosting Myanmar's broken rice, cotton, traditional medicine and fruit exports to Guangxi. — ASH/NT

16 YBS bus companies to operate during Thingyan Festival

YBS bus lines from 16 companies will run during Thingyan from 13 April to 16 April, and all bus lines will resume on 17 April, the Myanmar New Year Day, according to Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC).

YRTC has planned to make sure to pro-



Some YBS bus lines run in downtown Yangon.

vide bus services during Myanmar Water Festival days in order to make the public more convenient.

The 16 YBS companies will provide passenger transport service by 1,308 buses from 61

bus lines on 13 April and by 938 buses from 57 bus lines on 14, 15, and 16 April. On 17 April, Myanmar New Year Day, all bus lines from 21 bus companies will resume, and ten buses from the No 63 bus line by Thet Yin Aung Company will provide free bus service.

"We always instruct buses that run during Thingyan to drive safely and not to drink," said YRTC joint secretary U Lyan Cing Mang.

Twenty-one YBS companies provide bus services by 131 bus lines with about 3,800 buses to commute about 1.5 million passengers daily on a regular basis. — MT/ZS

Bitter beans thrive in PyinOoLwin, mainly sought after by Yangon

BITTER beans (*Parkia speciosa*) have been sold pretty well in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region, and it has received many orders from Yangon Region.

"Bitter beans sale has been good in PyinOoLwin. We have orders from other towns and foreign countries, such as Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, where this crop is expensive. Most orders are from Yangon. There are bitter bean trees in Yangon's Hmawby township, and there are plantations in other areas," said an owner of a bitter bean shop in PyinOoLwin.

Currently, in PyinOoLwin, the retail price of bitter bean is K2,000 per condensed milk tin, and the cost of bitter bean is K3,000 per condensed milk tin, K16,000 per pyi. Price varies depending on quality, according to bitter bean sellers.

"At present, bitter bean seeds are available in the market, so the sale of seeds has been good. Bitter bean is medicinal, and it can be eaten throughout the year by cooking the dried seeds after soaking them in water. Those who are really into this bean have stocked them at home. Bitter beans are mostly grown in Chin State and Tamu township as well as in PyinOoLwin. Bitter beans produced from



The photo shows bitter beans in the market and a pack of instant bitter beans.

Tamu are previously exported to India," said an owner of the bitter bean shop in PyinOoLwin.

Bitter bean is one of the medicinal crops, and it has health benefits such as preventing constipation and improving the digestive system. It can help reduce body weight and can help sleep well if it is consumed three times a week.

There are bitter bean plantations in Tiddim and Tonzang townships, northern Chin State and fruit dealers from the Indian border annually come to purchase between December and March, but there is almost no trade this year as the border has been closed, according to farmers. — Thit Taw/ZS

Funerals for two Myanmar nationals who died in Malaysia held jointly

TWO Myanmar nationals, one of whom succumbed to a stomach disease while seeking a Certificate of Identity (CI) for repatriation, had their funerals concurrently held in Malaysia, according to the Lovely Heart Philanthropic Myanmar Youth Blood Donor Group based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Maung Phyto Thet Aung, 18, from Maubin Township in Ayeyawady Region, died of stomach disease while he was applying for CI to return to Myanmar due

to illness.

Another deceased person was Ko Thet Tun Naing, 32, from Myingyan Township in Mandalay Region. He died on arrival at the hospital after suffocating at his workplace in Malaysia.

Families and friends of the two deceased persons asked the group for help, which is why they assisted in holding funerals at 1 pm on 3 April at Cheras cemetery.

The group is assisting in tackling Myanmar nationals' difficulties in Malaysia. — MT/ZS

Mongolia receives over 100,000 foreign tourists in Q1

Mongolia has designated 2023-2025 as "Years to Visit Mongolia", with a goal of attracting at least one million foreign tourists annually.

MONGOLIA received 100,170 foreign tourists in the first quarter of this year, the country's Ministry of Environment and Tourism said Thursday.

Currently, Mongolia's economy primarily depends on its export-oriented mining sector. The government has been taking measures to promote tourism, which is seen as a viable way to

diversify its economy.

The Asian country has declared 2023-2025 as "Years to Visit Mongolia," targeting at least one million foreign tourists per year.

Last year, Mongolia received over 650,000 foreign tourists and earned 1.2 billion US dollars from the tourism sector, hitting an all-time high. — Xinhua



People attend the opening ceremony of a cultural festival in the Nalaikh District of Ulan Bator, Mongolia, on 18 August 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

National Aquarium Abu Dhabi houses two African manatees

THE National Aquarium Abu Dhabi welcomed two African manatees to their new home, becoming the first ambassadors of their species in the region.

African manatees are extremely rare and only a few facilities around the world can host them. The National Aquarium, which was designed according to the highest international standards, can offer the manatees an environment like their natural habitat in Africa.

The initiative also reflects a broader commitment to support-

ing marine conservation efforts and an appreciation for the marvels of aquatic life.

The two male manatees were transferred from their previous home in Seoul, South Korea, accompanied by a team of specialists. This reflects the aquarium's commitment to adhering to international safety standards and implementing the required medical and safety protocols. To ensure their welfare at every stage of the journey, the manatees were closely monitored throughout their journey. — ANI



African manatees are extremely rare and only a few facilities around the world can host them. PHOTO: ANI

Israel sees record number of requests for government support for sporting events

ISRAEL'S Ministry of Culture and Sport reported that a record number of requests for government support for activities have been made for 2024, attributing this to a reduction in the bureaucratic burden placed on sports associations.

The ministry said 990 such requests were submitted so far in 2024 to it through Merkava, the government system. Further to the reform carried out in the sports budget during the year 2019, as part of which starting in 2024 and after the transition order, the sports association was required to submit applications through the government system, the Merkava, in order to assist the sports associations, to make additions and corrections to the required documents until

10.4.2024 (the last day for submitting documents). Minister of Culture and Sports Miki Zohar: "The Ministry of Culture and

Sports constantly continues to work thoroughly and faithfully for the sports associations. — ANI



Juniors rowing at the Daniel Rowing Centre. PHOTO: TZNEUNER/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Podcast sued for 'AI George Carlin' settles with comic's estate

PODCASTERS who controversially used AI to emulate the late US comedian George Carlin in a recent comedy episode have reached a settlement with his estate after family members sued.

The legal battle over the "Dudesy" podcast's one-hour special "George Carlin: I'm Glad I'm Dead" highlights the rapidly growing role of AI in entertainment, which is viewed as a threat

by many creatives and was a key issue in last year's Hollywood strikes. The terms of the deal, which was confirmed Thursday by Carlin's estate, were not revealed. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

India at G20 Sherpa meeting expresses support for Brazilian presidency's priority of reducing inequalities

G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant participated virtually in the second Sherpa meeting under the Brazilian presidency, emphasizing India's support for reducing inequalities. He highlighted priorities such as LiFE, women-led development, digital health, creative economy, mobility of talent, and MDB reforms.

G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant virtually participated in the second Sherpa meeting held under the Brazilian presidency on Wednesday. He expressed India's support for the Brazilian presidency's priority of reducing inequalities and emphasized on LiFE, women-led development, digital health, creative economy, mobility of talent and multilateral development bank (MDB) reforms.

In a post on X, the Ministry of External Affairs official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated, "G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant led participation in 2nd Sherpa meeting under Brazilian presidency today. He expressed support for Brazilian presidency's priority of reducing inequalities and emphasized on LiFE, women-led development, digital health, creative economy, mobility of talent & MDB reforms."



G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant participated virtually in the second Sherpa meeting under the Brazilian presidency, emphasizing India's support for reducing inequalities. **PHOTO: ANI**

Earlier in March, Officer on Special Duty (OSD) G20 Abhay Thakur participated in the G20 Development Working Group

Meeting in Brasilia on 18-19 March.

During the meeting, he highlighted India's successful utili-

empowerment, education, and healthcare.

In a post on X, Ministry of External Affairs official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated, "OSD (G20) Abhay Thakur participated in the G20 Development Working Group Meeting in Brasilia on 18-19 March. Supporting the g20org priority of fighting inequalities, he highlighted India's successful DPI-enabled national programmes in areas of rural development, social welfare, women, education and health."

Notably, Brazil holds the G20 presidency from 1 December 2023, to 30 November 2024. The G20 Leaders' Summit is scheduled to be held in Rio de Janeiro from 18-19 November, with the presence of the leaders of the 19 member countries, plus the African Union and the European Union. — ANI

China-Laos Railway handles 1.38 million tonnes of imports, exports in Q1

DURING the first quarter of this year, the China-Laos Railway handled some 1.38 million tonnes of import and export goods, up 33.6 per cent year on year, a quarterly record high, said Kunming Customs on

Thursday.

The import and export goods transported via the China-Laos Railway have expanded from 583 varieties in the first month of its operation to about 3,000 varieties now. Over

the years, the railway's train operations have become more intensive. It began operations with two trains per day, and has since increased to 20 trains per day, according to the customs authorities. — Xinhua

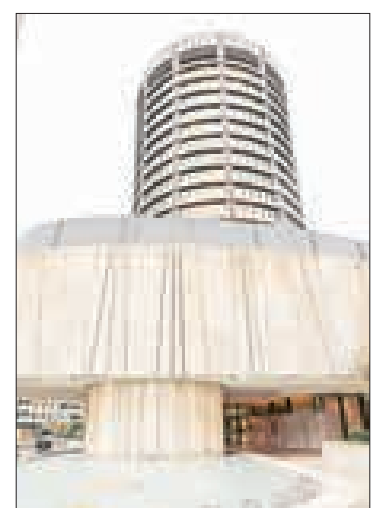


This photo taken on 24 May 2023 shows trucks for cross-border goods transport at Luang Prabang station along the China-Laos Railway in Luang Prabang, Laos. **PHOTO: XU ZHANGWEI/XINHUA**

BIS, 7 major central banks to test new digital currency platform

THE Bank for International Settlements, a group that promotes international financial cooperation, will collaborate with the Bank of Japan and six other major central banks on a trial of a new platform designed to speed up and lower the costs of digital currency transactions, they said Wednesday. The monetary authorities aim to work with commercial banks on the project as China's move to experiment with its digital yuan has prompted them to examine the benefits and challenges of issuing central bank digital currencies, or CBDCs, that could transform how people and businesses settle transactions.

The "Agora" project is aimed at facilitating cross-border, tokenized payments via the new platform. At present, it takes days for international payments to be completed via the SWIFT glob-



This file photo taken in January 2024 shows the Bank for International Settlements' head office in Basel, Switzerland. **PHOTO: KYODO**

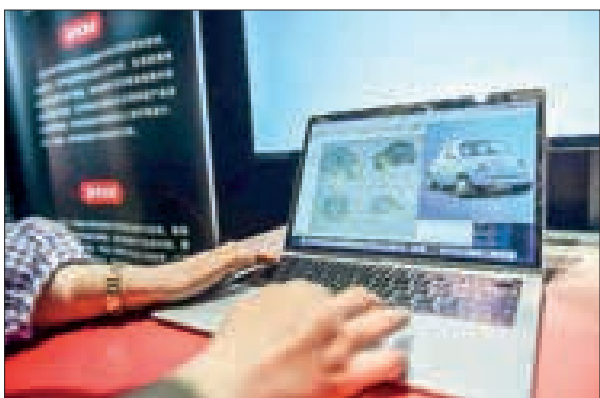
al financial messaging network due to the involvement of corresponding banks that serve as intermediaries in cross-border transactions. — Kyodo

China's software industry expands in first 2 months

Revenue from software products increased 8.4% to 394.4 billion yuan, and industrial software products revenue reached 40.7 billion yuan, up 8.2% year-on-year.

CHINA'S software and information technology service industry got off to a good start this year, with double-digit growth reported in revenue and profits in January and February, data from the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology shows.

Profits in the sector expanded 11.5 per cent year on year to 206.4 billion yuan (about 29.09 billion US dollars) during the period, while revenue grew by 11.9 per



A staff member from a technology company demonstrates an AI software at an exhibition at China Science Fiction Convention (CSFC) 2023 in Beijing, capital of China, 30 May 2023. PHOTO: CHEN ZHONGHAO/XINHUA

cent from the year before to nearly 1.71 trillion yuan, the data shows. Revenue from soft-

ware products increased 8.4 per cent year on year to 394.4 billion yuan during this period, while revenue from industrial software products expanded to 40.7 billion yuan, marking a year-on-year increase of 8.2 per cent.

Cloud computing and big data services revenue jumped 13.8 per cent year on year, and e-commerce platform technical services revenue rose 3.8 per cent, the data shows. — Xinhua

Malaysia natural rubber production down 2% month on month in February

MALAYSIA'S natural rubber production decreased by 2 per cent to 29,691 tonnes in February as compared to 30,287 tonnes in January, official data showed Friday.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia said in a statement that the production of natural rubber increased by 9.1 per cent year on year, from 27,209 tons one year ago. Meanwhile, total stocks of natural rubber in February increased by 11.8 per cent month on month to 229,719 tons. Exports of Malaysia's natural rubber also increased by 27.8 per cent month on month to 55,082 tonnes in February.

China remained as the main destination for natural rubber exports which accounted for 52.3 per cent of total exports in February, followed by Germany (8.9 per cent), the United Arab Emirates (6 per cent), the United States (4.2 per cent) and India (3.3 per cent).

Gloves were the main exports of rubber products with a value of 1.09 billion ringgit (230 million US dollars) in February, an increase of 7 per cent from January. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV6UE1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UV6UE1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-4-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V KOTA RATNA VOY.NO. (KRNA9003W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V KOTA RATNA VOY.NO. (KRNA9003W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-4-2024** 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.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V CONTRIVIA VOY.NO. (070N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CONTRIVIA VOY.NO. (070N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-4-2024** 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.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:
(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MCL 21 VOY.NO. (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 21 VOY.NO. (-)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-4-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AIPT-2** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S UNIVERSE LOGISTICS INTERNATIONAL CO LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ALINEAT VOY.NO. (MK2415)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ALINEAT VOY.NO. (MK2415)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-4-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING PRIVATE LTD

Receptionist cum Telephone Operator
Required for a Diplomatic Mission

The candidate should be Graduate or above, age 22-35, Burmese National, fluent (spoken & written) in Burmese and English, having 2/3 years of experience with good computer skills in MS Office. Attractive salary will be offered.

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within 15 days of the publication of the advertisement or
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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

ICG ship Samudra Paheredar, Vietnam Coast Guard conduct joint training on marine oil pollution response

THE Indian Coast Guard ship Samudra Paheredar, which is on overseas deployment at Ho Chi Minh city, conducted joint training on marine oil pollution response with the Vietnam Coast Guard.

During the training, a demonstration of the ship's pollution response equipment was carried out, showcasing the resolve of the Indian Coast Guard for a shared response of marine pollution in the ASEAN region.

In a post on X, the Indian Coast Guard stated, "India-CoastGuard ship Samudra Paheredar on OSD at HoChiMinh city conducted joint training on Marine oil pollution response with Vietnam Coast Guard."

"During the training, demonstration of ship's pollution response equipment was carried out showcasing resolve of ICG for shared concern of Marine Pollution Response in ASEAN Region. ICG reaffirms

The training included a demonstration of the ship's pollution response equipment, highlighting the Indian Coast Guard's commitment to addressing marine pollution in the ASEAN region.



The Indian Coast Guard reaffirmed its dedication to ensuring safe, secure, and clean seas in a post on X. **PHOTO: ANI**

of its commitment for Safe Secure & Clean Seas," it added.

Indian Coast Guard's Pollution Control Vessel (PCV) Samudra Paheredar with an integral helicopter arrived at the Ho Chi Minh port of Viet Nam on Tuesday as part of its ongoing overseas deployment to ASEAN countries, the Indian Coast Guard said in a statement.

The visit of ICG specialized vessel to ASEAN countries is in pursuance of India ASEAN Initiative for Marine Pollution, as announced by Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh in the year 2022 at Cambodia during ASEAN Defence Minister Plus Meeting.

According to the statement, the visit aims not only to strengthen ties between the Indian Coast Guard and their Vietnamese counterparts but also to showcase India's ship-building capabilities, supporting the concept of "Atamirbhara Bharat" and "Make in India". — ANI

Israel announces 'temporary' opening of aid routes into Gaza

Biden told Netanyahu US support hinges on Gaza civilians' protection, marking potential policy shift.



Around 1.5 million Palestinians are believed to be sheltering in Gaza's southern city Rafah. **PHOTO: AFP**

ISRAEL announced on Friday that it would allow "temporary" aid deliveries into famine-threatened northern Gaza, hours after the United States warned of a sharp shift

in its policy over Israel's war against Hamas militants.

Germany on Friday said Israel had "no more excuses" to delay the entry of aid, after nearly six months of war.

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza reported at least 54 more people killed in Israeli strikes over the previous day.

In a tense, 30-minute phone call on Thursday, US President Joe Biden told Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that United States policy on Israel was dependent on the protection of civilians and aid workers in Gaza, the first hint of possible conditions to Washington's military support.

Just hours later, overnight in Jerusalem, Israel announced it would open more aid routes into the coastal Palestinian territory which Israel placed under siege at the start of the war nearly six months ago. — AFP

Ceremony bids farewell to tilting symbol of Chinese Taipei quake

FRUIT, flowers and incense paper were laid on a table Friday as authorities prepared a ceremony before demolishing a precariously tilting building that has become a symbol of Chinese Taipei's biggest quake in 25 years.

The glass-fronted Uranus building, located in Hualien, the

city nearest the quake's epicentre, is a 10-storey mix of shops and apartments that has stood for nearly 40 years. Wednesday's magnitude-7.4 earthquake caused it to tilt at a 45-degree angle, its twisted exterior quickly becoming one of the most recognizable images to emerge from the disaster. — AFP



Paper money is placed on a table as an offering before demolition work begins on a precariously tilting building in Chinese Taipei's Hualien. **PHOTO: CNA/AFP**

SPORTS



The Maha United team players. PHOTO: MNL

Maha United to build U-20 football club

MAHA United will establish a U-20 football club, as stated by the football club.

Like Products Myanmar, Maha United Football Club will join forces to establish the U-20 team, giving quality young people an opportunity.

Maha United team officials will select talented youths at the M3 training ground in Yangon from 7 am to 9:30 am on 8 and

9 April.

Those who want to be selected can register on Maha United's official messenger page from 6 pm on 2 April to 6 am on 5 April.

When registering, they must write and send information such as name, phone number, address, place they want to play, and date of birth.

As for the terms and con-

ditions, they must be born between 1 January 2005 and 31 December 2007 and must be residents of the training camp. Those who want to implement the Football Life Career Plan must not use tobacco, alcohol, or betel nuts at all.

Maha United is second in the Myanmar National League 2024 Group Stage A with 9 points. — TWA/KZL

Howe confident Newcastle can keep star names

EDDIE Howe is confident the scale of Newcastle's ambition can keep the club's sought-after big names such as Alexander Isak and Bruno Guimaraes at St James' Park.

Record signing Isak has been linked with Arsenal and Tottenham, while Paris Saint-Germain have repeatedly been touted as suitors for Brazil midfielder Guimaraes.

Both have become key figures for Howe and the 46-year-old has little intention of letting either leave in the summer transfer window despite pressures to comply with Premier League spending rules.

Speculation

over potential high-profile exits has increased since chief executive Darren Eales admitted in January that the club may need to sell star players to enable further investment in the squad.

Eighth-placed Newcastle are realistically out of the running to secure a second successive season of Champions League football following an injury-marred campaign.

But manager Howe hopes the direction being taken by the club's Saudi-backed owners will be enough to persuade his star men to stay. — AFP



Alexander Isak has scored 19 goals for Newcastle this season. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Liverpool face Man Utd title test as top four battle heats up

PREMIER League leaders Liverpool head to Manchester United looking to move a step closer to equalling their bitter rivals' record of 20 English titles.

In a gripping title race, Arsenal and Manchester City will hope for a Liverpool stumble, while the top four battle and relegation survival fight are also heating up.

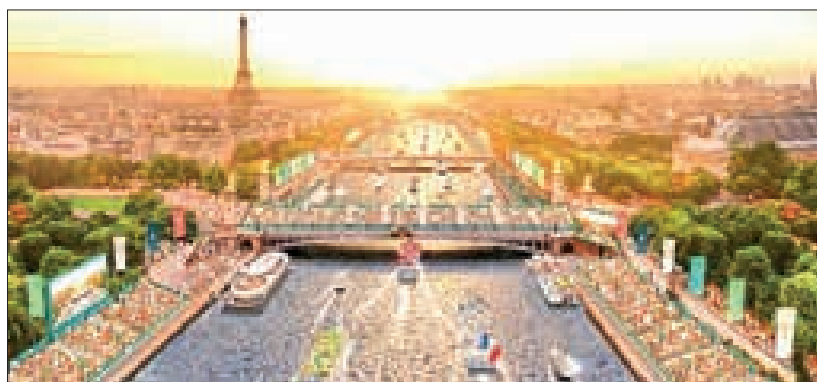
AFP Sport looks at three talking points ahead of this weekend's action:

No 'revenge' mission for Liverpool

With memories of their painful FA Cup quarter-final defeat at Manchester United still fresh for Alex Mac Allister and his Liverpool team-mates, it would have been no surprise if the Argentine midfielder had branded their return to Old Trafford as a revenge mission. Jurgen Klopp's side twice blew the lead in a 4-3 defeat that was clinched by Amad Diallo in the final seconds of extra-time. — AFP

Controversial Olympic visionary to get wax figure in Paris

The wax figure is being created in the museum's workshops in Paris's 13th district.



Paris will host the Olympic Games between 26 July and 11 August.

PHOTO: PARIS 2024/AFP/FILE

PIERRE de Coubertin, the controversial founder of the modern Olympic Games, will have his own wax figure in Paris, the Grevin Museum has announced in the run-up to the sporting extravaganza.

The wax likeness of the French baron, who was born in Paris in 1863,

will be unveiled at the famed museum in July, before the start of the Olympic Games on 26 July.

The figure is being produced in the museum's workshops in the French capital's 13th district.

The French aristocrat was a champion of sport in education and

proposed a revival of the ancient Olympic Games in 1894. The first edition of the modern Games was held in Athens in 1896, with more than 200 male athletes from 14 countries taking part.

Coubertin died in Switzerland in 1937 at the age of 74, a year after the Olympic Games organised by Nazi Germany, which he had not attended.

The baron is now seen as a controversial figure due to his racist and misogynistic views.

Coubertin described himself as a "fanatical colonialist" and believed that women should be excluded from the Olympic Games. Limits on female participation reflected the prejudices of the era, including that sportswomen could lose their femininity or become sterile. He argued that an Olympics with women would be "impractical, uninteresting (and) unaesthetic". — AFP

ICG ship Samudra Paharedar, Vietnam Coast Guard conduct joint training on marine oil pollution response

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Russia to study US draft resolution on non-deployment of nuclear arms in space: Kremlin

RUSSIA will study the US draft resolution on the non-deployment of nuclear weapons in space and then develop a position, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Friday.

“As for the project, we need to wait, study the document, read it and then form a position,” Peskov told reporters.

On Thursday, White House National Security Communications Adviser John Kirby said that the United States early next week will request a vote on a United

Peskov emphasized the need to study the document thoroughly before taking a stance.



A Soyuz-2.1b rocket, carrying the Skif-D satellite, the first of the future Sfera constellation blasts off from at the Vostochny Cosmodrome, 180 kilometres north of Blagoveschensk, Amur region, Russia. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ RAMIL SITDIKOV/SPUTNIK/FILE**

Nations Security Council resolution to ban nuclear weapons in space.

Moscow has not seen statements from the Armenian side about any intention to discuss the transatlantic integration with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken or European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Peskov said.

“We do not yet know the full agenda of this meeting, although there are certain reports on this matter. Let us wait. We have not seen or heard any statements from the Armenian side that they mean to discuss the topic of transatlantic integration. So far, we proceed from this,” Peskov told reporters.

Accusations against Russia of cyber-attacks are never supported by reasoning, they are completely unfounded and unacceptable, Peskov said, commenting on French President Emmanuel Macron’s remark on possible cyberattacks by Russia during the Summer Olympic Games in Paris. On Thursday, the French leader told

reporters that Russia could allegedly carry out information attacks during the Paris Olympics. “These are absolutely unfounded accusations ... How often they are heard, but never supported by any adequate evidence or argumentation. We absolutely do not accept such accusations,” Peskov told reporters. — SPUTNIK

Scientists warn of lethal bird flu pandemic, says could be ‘100 times worse’ than COVID

THE bird flu pandemic with the potential to be “100 times worse than COVID” may be on the horizon after a rare human case was discovered in Texas, experts have warned, the New York Post reported on Thursday.

The H5N1 avian flu has spread rapidly since a new strain was detected in 2020 affecting wild birds in every state, as well as in commercial poultry and backyard flocks.

But the recent cases detected in mammals, with cattle herds across four states becoming infected and on Monday, federal health officials announced that a dairy worker in Texas caught the virus.

“This virus has been on the top of the pandemic list for many, many years and probably decades,” Suresh Kuchipudi, a



Suresh Kuchipudi, a bird flu researcher, emphasized the severity of the situation, stating that the virus has been a top concern for years and poses a significant risk of causing a pandemic. **PHOTO: CDC**

bird flu researcher from Pittsburgh, said at a recent panel discussing the issue, the New York Post reported citing the

Daily Mail.

“And now we’re getting dangerously close to this virus potentially causing a pandemic.”

He noted that the H5N1 virus has already been detected in species throughout the world and “has shown the ability to infect a range of mammalian hosts, including humans”.

“So therefore, in my view, I think this is a virus that has the greatest pandemic threat that is playing out in plain sight and globally present,” Kuchipudi said.

John Fulton, a pharmaceutical industry consultant for vaccines and the founder of Canada-based BioNiagara who organized the meeting, also expressed his concerns, the Mail reports, the New York Post reported. — ANI

DELAYED BUT SPECTACULAR

Tokyo welcomes full bloom of cherry blossoms

CHERRY blossoms in central Tokyo, though running late, have reached full bloom, Japan’s weather agency said on Thursday. The Japan Meteorological Agency confirmed that the Someiyoshino sample cherry tree it has been observing was in full bloom during the day. This came four days later than the average year and 13 days later than last year’s bloom, mostly due to the cold weather this spring. It also marks the first time since 2017 that the tree fully blooms in April.

The tree’s blossoming began last Friday, the latest in the past decade. — Xinhua