

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## The speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on security conditions of the State

### Esteemed people,

I would like to clarify the situations happening in the country at present. I have explained some situations at the National Defence and Security Council meeting.

More than 11 million voting frauds committed by the NLD party in the 2020 election caused instability in the country. Hence, the Pro Tem President of the State called the meeting of the National Defence and Security Council with a decision to order Tatmadaw to assume responsibility for the State in accord with the Constitution. Tatmadaw formed the State Administration Council with military and civilian participants. Since its assumption, the State Administration Council has clearly declared its ultimate aim to hold the election of the nation. At a time when State politics changed, ordinary protests gradually changed to riots and unrest. Under the leadership of some extreme members of the NLD party, armed riots were staged.

Moreover, some youths were indoctrinated to take terrorism military training courses from some ethnic armed organizations which do not have a correct stance on the State with no will to forge peace. Then, they became so-called PDF terrorists. Both NCA non-signatory ethnic armed organizations and



State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses State security conditions.

some NCA signatory EAOs encouraged and provided training to PDF terrorist groups. After undergoing terrorism courses from some EAOs, those PDF terrorists have been committing murders, planting bombs, blow-

ing up bombs and firing without reason across the nation in order to cause panic among the people till today. Some armed groups taking advantage of instabilities nationwide attempted to expand their land of control.

MNDAA, TNLA and AA insurgents refused the offer of peace given by the government in April 2022 and launched attacks on security posts of Tatmadaw at border regions and Chinshwehaw in Shan State

(North) with excessive strengths on 27 October 2023. To do so, they have been gathering manpower and arms since 2022 and completing training in attacks with drones. They committed the impacts of war on the whole peaceful and stable region. Insurgents started the destruction of economic and social infrastructures, including roads and bridges, which are vital for regional development. With the aim of restoring the stability of the border region and regional peace and stability, the government agreed on a bilateral ceasefire in January. But, MNDAA and TNLA groups showing various reasons, launched attacks on Hsipaw, Nawngkhio, Kyaukme and Momeik in Shan State (North) and Mogok in Mandalay Region. On 3 July, they attacked Lashio. Everybody knows that these groups fired the upgraded rockets and bomb drops on public residences, hospitals, schools and religious buildings in towns and villages as targets many times. On 2 August, they dropped bombs on the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio and raided it. They shot at patients and health staff and abducted some patients, including women, families and children. Tatmadaw hospitals are providing healthcare services not only to Tatmadaw members but to their families, **SEE PAGE 3**

### NATIONAL PAGE 5



People's military servants Training No 4 begins across various commands

### NATIONAL PAGE 10



MoALI to farm 40.51M fish, prawn larvae in 2024-25 to boost freshwater stocks

### BUSINESS PAGE 11



US\$197.11M, 1.59B baht, 45.7M yuan sold to exporters, importers in 7 months



# NATIONAL

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Statement

5 August 2024

ACCORDING to the review of the ministries concerned regarding the applications of the New Society Party (NSP) and Zomi Congress for Democracy Party for the right to continue as political parties and registration under Section 25 of the Political Parties Registration Law, the Election Commission found that the parties are contrary to the stipulations in Section 6 of the Political Parties Registration Law. UEC cancelled the applications of the parties in accordance with the decision of the Union Election Commission Plenary Meeting 16/2024 under Form G of the Political Parties Registration Rules on 5 August.

Union Election Commission



အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာလူငယ်များနေ့  
International Youth Day

“စဉ်ဆက်မပြတ် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေး  
လူငယ်များရဲ့ ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်ကွမ်းကျင်မှုဖြင့် ဖော်ဆောင်ပေး”  
“From Clicks To Progress: Youth Digital Pathways  
For Sustainable Development”

၁၂ - ၈ - ၂၀၂၄ ရက်နေ့ (တနင်္လာနေ့) ဝတ္ထုသိဒ္ဓိအားကစားရုံ (A)

# Cleaning underway at ancient buildings, including Manaung Gate in Inwa City



Volunteers and officials clear up bushes at ancient buildings in Inwa City. PHOTO: BO SHAKE

RESPECTIVE officials have cleaned the ancient buildings of the old city of Inwa, including a historic Manaung Gate, said archaeologist and writer Bo Shake (Yadanapura).

“The city of Inwa was founded by King Thadominbya in 726 ME on Tuesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> waxing of Tabaung. He entered the town through the location which was slated to build Manaung Gate when he came to tour the town. That is why the gate is called Manaung and Tagaung Market Gate. At present, the archaeological department has cleaned Manaung Gate by the Ayeyawady River. It is also called Tagaung Market Gate. It is a royal pas-

sage that King Thadominbya used for the first time. Cleaning is done in rotation around the city,” he said.

In addition to gates, cleaning has also been carried out in city walls and pagodas. “Inwa deserves much more conservation work. But it has been forgotten for ages. Inwa is the central sovereignty of Myanmar after the Bagan era ended. As a researcher, I want monuments to be built at the gates of Inwa. There are about 23 gates in Inwa. Direction signs should be provided at places such as the parliamentary building. Cleaning and necessary conservation works should be provided, too,” he said. — MT/ZS

# Variety show held to support social welfare

STARTING from 3 August, the variety show is being held to benefit Yangon Region Theatrical Social Welfare at Myo Shwe Mann Thar Phoe Chit Theatrical Compound, according to comedian Chatt Gyi who participates in the show himself.

It is known that the ‘Zaw’ dance, puppet dance, magician Ko Khine, Kyaukse Yadanar Min elephant dance, Nats dance, traditional duet dance, comedians, and traditional dancers will perform at the show.

“We held this show with the directive of the Myanmar Theat-

rical Association (Central). Film, theatre and music collaborated for the show as we’re like siblings. We entertained all aspects of the artist. With the support of Ko Phoe Chit, the show was broadcast from the channels. We’ll support the benefit of the show for the senior artistes,” he added.

Theatrical dancers Thura Win Htut, Chit Swam Tha, Nyein Chan Khine and other dancers participated in the traditional duet dance on 3 and 4 August. The live variety show was on the air by Channel K and Phoe Chit Thabin YouTube Channel. — ASH/TRKM



This photo shows the variety show for Theatrical Social Welfare.

COVID-19 report, 5 August 2024	
NEW TESTS	25,963
NEW CASES	26
CASUALTIES	Nil



# NATIONAL

## The speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council ...

### FROM PAGE 1

members of the Sangha, and ordinary civilians, and the mobile healthcare teams of these hospitals are providing healthcare services to residents in relevant regions. With regard to their terror attacks, some per cent of their ethnic people reside in these regions. For example, some 20 per cent of Kokang people reside in Lashio Township, and most of them live in villages, not in urban areas of Lashio. The urban area of Lashio is the residences of Shan, Bamar, and Kachin ethnics. Likewise, some 15 per cent of Palaung ethnic reside in Kyaukme and Hsipaw townships. Nawngkhio Township does not have even one per cent of the Palaung ethnic population, but most of the people are Shan, Bamar, and Danu ethnics. People can see that due to unreasonable terror attacks, residents left their residences to take shelter in other regions. Those insurgents looted precious gold, silver and property of displaced people and committed burglaries at the houses of displaced people to take precious objects.

Moreover, they intimidated displaced people and residents, as well as children, to serve in military service and forcibly ordered them to participate in the fighting. They destroyed government infrastructures and racial and religious landmarks with the use of heavy machinery in their controlled regions. They know that if these regions were peaceful with the entire rule of law, they would miss a chance to manipulate residents with threats, show arms and seek their interests. As such, they are committing wicked acts. MNDAA insurgents at present abduct Bamar ethnic in Laukkai and expel them from the town. However, statements of these insurgents accuse Myanmar Tatmadaw of attacking and destroying the town with racial discrimination. Laukkai is a town in Kokang Self-Administered Zone according to the 2008 Constitution. It is a region where entry and the existence of foreigners must be done under official procedures and permission from the government. Those who illegally reside and their related persons committed online scams and gambling. The government has clearly taken action against illegal residents and their associated persons, handing over and oppressing them. At present, I want to say that no foreigner, under the official procedures, is allowed to reside there. Currently, insurgents are launching violent attacks on security outposts of Tatmadaw in Kyaukme and Nawngkhio regions with excessive strength. Hence, it is essential to analyze their acts and statements correctly and totally oppose them.

AA insurgents raided the Donpaik police outpost, which is one of the outposts

of border guard police in Rakhine State, on 13 November 2023 to cause instabilities in Rakhine State. Then, they continued attacks on security camps and Tatmadaw posts, which are taking regional security measures in northern Rakhine State and destroying the socioeconomic life of residents, education and health sectors. So, residents fled to Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and other cities as displaced people. At present, AA is violently attacking towns in both northern and southern parts of Rakhine State, where residents wish to live with peace and stability. As 90 per cent of



Some foreign countries wish for the existence of armed conflicts and shaping the form of Myanmar as they like providing money, food, medicines, arms and ammunition, technologies and logistic opportunities to armed insurgents and terrorist groups from various political backgrounds, aiding malicious media outlets in conducting psychological warfare.



Rakhine ethnics reside in Rakhine State, the actions of AA leaders themselves are designed to destroy their ethnics. Tatmadaw will continue measures of peace and stability in these regions in cooperation with residents.

Likewise, the KIA group has been equipping PDF terrorists with arms in the upper Sagaing Region and providing military training on terror acts since 2021 in order to destabilize the region. It was found that the destruction of life and property of people, towns and villages in Sagaing Region and related areas by PDF terrorists was due to the KIA group. Since March 2024, they have been deploying excessive strength in attacking security posts and towns and villages in Kachin State. Moreover, the CNF group cooperates with PDF terrorists and launches attacks in Chin State. So, ethnic people who are stably and peacefully residing in Chin State for their livelihoods lost socioeconomic lives. It can be seen that towns and villages, including Falam, Matupi, Lailinpi, Mindat and Thantlang, faced loss and damage.

Similarly, some leaders from the KNU group violate the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA despite signing it. They

provided terrorism training courses and equipped arms to PDF terrorists. They attack security posts, towns and villages in Kayin State with excessive strength. They attacked Kawkaik on 1 December 2023, Thingan Nyinaung on 5 April 2024, and Myawady on 10 April. Due to the terror attacks by KNU, residents suffered many losses and damage in their socioeconomic lives. Moreover, the border trade routes on which the Myanmar people rely were blocked, causing losses to the State. So, security forces and partner organizations are striving to ensure peace and stability

a large number of people and destroying towns and villages.

Some foreign countries wish for the existence of armed conflicts and shaping the form of Myanmar as they like providing money, food, medicines, arms and ammunition, technologies and logistic opportunities to armed insurgents and terrorist groups from politically diverse persons, helping malicious media outlets to wage psychological warfare.

In some EAO regions at the China-Myanmar border, arms and ammunition factories have been established to produce arms, ammunition and explosive devices. It can be seen that arms and ammunition produced from these factories are sold and provided to PDF terrorists and other EAOs. The majority of arms and ammunition seized by security forces are products from these factories. It is not an ordinary situation to establish these factories. It needs to spend monetary and technological power. So, it is necessary to analyze the sources of monetary and technological power. The arms being used by armed groups in the southern part of Myanmar were smuggled from the Thai-Myanmar border. Communication devices, drones and arms and ammunition being used by EAOs and PDF terrorists were obtained from these sources.

It was seen that technologically upgraded bombs from drones and rockets are being used by MNDAA and TNLA terrorists. Their drones can be purchased in foreign markets, but they cooperate with foreign mercenary technologists to develop these drones and improve them to be helpful in the fighting.

Security forces follow the Rules of Engagement and rules for combatting terrorists as much as possible in attacking terrorists without harming civilians.

Myanmar is a country where all national races reside in unison, and they are inseparable in the natural environment as well as businesses. All Myanmar citizens have the right to freedom of travel and trade without any restrictions in the country. As insurgents control the regions, those people lose their rights and liberties automatically. Without considering familiar racial characters and languages in addition to shared histories, traditions and cultures, their wrong racism and narrow-minded attitude, which had never occurred in history, will not be acceptable. Shan State (North), which shares a border with China, is a hub of border trade for the entire nation. The region, which is located on the trade route to other countries, brought development opportunities to residents. But, as terrorists launch attacks, socioeconomic life,

SEE PAGE 4

# NATIONAL

## The speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council ...

### FROM PAGE 3

education of children, and the future of youths will be extinct. As the warlordism of insurgent leaders resurges, residents will face unlawful bullying and killing like past incidents in the areas of warlords. Narcotic drugs and gambling acts can dominate legal businesses, whereas maize and sugarcane will be substituted with poppy cultivation. Youths will see their lives with holding arms instead of books and ball-pens. They all will return to the darkness from the legal fold. I firmly believe that people will not reach such situations. Myanmar Tatmadaw will not allow these situations for the people.

In this regard, I would like to talk about the economic sector. Only when a country has economic power will the remaining powers be strong. Hence, economic sanctions and spreading rumours were committed against Myanmar in various ways and means in order to disrupt the State economy and defence capabilities. The government solved these problems to improve the State economy. As it is necessary to manufacture a large volume of products to boost the state economy, efforts must be made to increase production and export volume continuously. Hence, I would like to point out how to leverage productivity based on the agriculture and livestock sectors.

With regard to the situation of Shan State (North), security forces withdrew their positions by considering the security of current areas and the safety of people. MNDAA and TNLA insurgents and their stooges at home and abroad carry out propagation to the tune of their

masterminded countries in order to cause downheartedness among the people. We, as a polite society, cannot totally accept the act of solving the armed conflicts in terror attacks but not using political ways. So, those insurgents must be designated a common enemy, and the government will continue to strive to ensure peace and

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Only when a country has economic power will the remaining powers be strong. Hence, economic sanctions and spreading rumours were committed against Myanmar in various ways and means in order to undermine the State economy and defence capabilities.

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stability not only in Shan State (North) but in the entire nation. Members of Myanmar Tatmadaw, members of the Myanmar Police Force, people's militia and patriotic people will always be heroes of Myanmar in successive eras for their sacrifice of life, blood and sweat to forge peace and stability in Myanmar. They must consistently be recognized with respect. Correct spirit, perseverance and diligence of members of Myanmar Tatmadaw will be a drive to cease armed terrorism in the country and to develop education, health and socioeconomic life of the people with peace and stability under the rule of law.

Our Myanmar Tatmadaw was born of the people to fight for the independence of Myanmar, and it is a Tatmadaw established with patriotic youths with national spirit and sacrifice. Such Tatmadaw took the independence of the whole nation with the support of the entire people amid various difficulties. At present, it can be

seen that patriotic public organizations and ministries provide foodstuffs, supplies and letters of encouragement to members of Tatmadaw discharging defence duties of the State with bravery and sacrifice on the frontlines. Likewise, political parties and public organizations wishing peace and stability object to and condemn terror acts, whereas volunteers and organizations support Tatmadaw and the State based on patriotic spirit and national spirit. I want to say that the government and Tatmadaw especially thank them for their encouragement, which boosts their strengths. Tatmadaw has been safeguarding inde-

pendence and defending the Union and people for their existence in successive eras till today. Currently, it is regrettable that members of Tatmadaw and MPF, people's militia members, wives of Tatmadaw members and family members were dead and wounded in addition to missing while discharging defence duties of the State to ensure the existence, peace and stability of the State. Their sacrifices will never be forgotten. The government and Tatmadaw will honour them and provide deserved opportunities and aid. So, I want to say that all members of Myanmar Tatmadaw are valuable people's sons, like soldiers who sacrificed lives and limbs in independence struggles. Our people have been fighting against external invaders and various internal insurgents by joining hands with Tatmadaw in successive eras. Tatmadaw and the people cooperate with each other to overcome internal and external dangers, and they are capable of overcoming these dangers. Our people have to notice that as global affairs are deeply complicated, we have to unite among all to ensure the existence of Myanmar as long as the world. Only then will the united strength overcome these challenges. Hence, all our people have to support and contribute to Myanmar Tatmadaw with sacrifice of life, blood, and sweat in successive eras, as well as patriotic people with trust to have victories in their righteous fighting. Whenever Tatmadaw and patriotic people exist, the entire country must be distinct and strengthened. We will perform the existence and strengthening of the nation. Let's safeguard the motherland through united strength. Thank you all.

## MIC greenlights five new investment projects, including EV assembly and production

THE 7/2024 meeting of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) was held yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, attended by Deputy Prime Minister and MIC Chairman General Mya Tun Oo and members.

Five new investments in the industrial sector, the service sector and the construction sector, including the capital increase of ongoing investment activities and the manufacturing and sale of various electric vehicles, were approved, totalling US\$44.4 million and K57,351.976 million, which will bring out 2,002 job opportunities.

Among 53 countries and



The seventh meeting of the Myanmar Investment Commission in progress yesterday.

territories that have invested in Myanmar until the end of June 2024, Singapore, China and Thailand are the leading investors in 12 economic sectors, with 28.45 per cent of the total investment in the energy sector; with 24.41 per cent in the oil and natural gas sector and 14.45 per cent in the manufacturing sector.

The Myanmar Investment Commission is responsible for verifying and approving investment proposals submitted by domestic and foreign investors. Investment services for current investors are being provided under the Myanmar Investment Law. — MNA/TS



# NATIONAL

## People's military servants Training No 4 begins across various commands

ELIGIBLE citizens for Training No 4 for people military servants arrived at the respective Tatmadaw training depots, and the opening ceremonies were organized yesterday.

The commandants of respective military training depots made opening speeches, and the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, regional and state chief ministers, commanders and relevant officials attended the opening ceremonies and cordially met with the trainees. They also provided cash assistance to the trainees.

As every citizen is under a duty to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes: Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of sovereignty, the People's Military Service Law came into force on 10 February 2024. Training No 1 was successfully conducted in regions and states on 8 April 2024, and Training No 4 is in progress. Those who completed the training are serving duties in their respective regiments and units. — MNA/KTH/KTZH



The opening of Training No 4 in progress yesterday.

## Myanmar delegation attends 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision (HLTF-ACV) in Malaysia

THE Myanmar delegation led by Dr Wah Wah Maung, Eminent Person (EP) of Myanmar and Deputy Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations attended the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision (HLTF-ACV), which was held in Melaka, Malaysia, on 31 July-3 August 2024, accompanied by Deputy Director-General U Mang Hau Thang and an official from the Department of ASEAN Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A high-level representative drafting session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision (HLTF-ACV) was held prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of HLTF-ACV.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr Sitsangkhom, Alternate Eminent Person (EP) of Lao PDR as the ASEAN Chair and Mr Dato' Zainuddin Yahya, Eminent Person (EP) of Malaysia and former Malaysian ambassador, as the permanent shepherd Member State and it was attended by eminent persons, high-level representatives and officials from ASEAN Member States and Timor Leste as an observer, as well as officials from the ASEAN Secretariat.

At the meeting, the HLTF-



The group commemorative picture of the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision in Malaysia on 31 July - 3 August 2024.

ACV had an interface with the ASEAN Mayors Forum and the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, and the respective stakeholders updated their works and contributions to the ASEAN Community Vision and shared the priorities and challenges to be addressed in the future ahead and provide their recommendations. The meeting exchanged views on the emerging challenges and recommendations made by the respective stakeholders on the development of the APSC Strategic Plan in a friendly, cordial and candid manner.

In addition, HLTF-ACV also had an Interface meeting with the Chair of the High-Level Task

Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI), Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Development of ASCC Post-2025 Strategic Plan and Chair of the ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) and the respective pillars have updated their progress in developing their respective ASEAN Vision 2045 strategic action plans. The meeting exchanged views on the development of the respective strategic plans, placement of the elements of institutional strengthening-related strategic measures and cross-cutting issues.

At the meeting, the deputy minister commended comprehensive and informative pres-

entations made by the respective stakeholders' community pillars, including connectivity and acknowledged the significant role of stakeholders, including the ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF), who are present today in the tangible implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045. She underscored the importance of promoting not only horizontal cooperation but also vertical cooperation so as to ensure the inclusive ASEAN Community and support to enhance the capacity building of CMLV, especially MSME development. During the interface meeting with ASEAN Community Pillars, including connectivity, the deputy minister also highlight-

ed the urgent need to promote cross-pillar coordination and explained the different natures of the APSC and AEC pillars.

The meeting noted with satisfaction the completion of the second reading of the APSC Strategic Plan of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045. It tasked the ASEAN Secretariat to develop the progress report on the development of ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and its Strategic Plans. The meeting underscored the importance of consistency among the Strategic Plans of ASEAN Community Pillars and Connectivity and expected the possibility of the completion of the respective Strategic Plans in the end of this year. The meeting adopted the Summary Decisions and Summary Reports of the 15<sup>th</sup> HLTF-ACV.

HLTF-ACV was established in 2022 to develop the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and attendant document(s) in close consultation with the three ASEAN Community Pillars and ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee in accordance with the Ha Noi Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision and the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community's Post-2025 Vision. — MNA



# NATIONAL

## Organizations strongly condemn MNDAA's attacks

MNDAA terrorists fired at the non-military target Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township of northern Shan State with the use of rockets, heavy weapons and drones, causing deaths and injuries to residents, departmental personnel and families of se-

curity forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital. They abducted some patients by force. Moreover, locals fled to safer areas temporarily.

MNDAA committed war crimes, and the Federation of All Myanmar Theravada Buddhists

Organization and the Sasana Nuggaha Association for Border and Hilly Regions (Central), Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Women and Children Development Foundation, Myanmar Federation of People with Disabilities, Federation of

Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Federation of Mining Association, Myanmar Dental Council, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Myanmar Acad-

emy of Medical Science issued statements strongly condemning MNDAA's attacks that left residents, departmental personnel and families of security forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital dead and hurt. — MNA/KTZH



### Statement of Federation of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association (FMGEA)

5 August 2024

MNDAA launched attacks on the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township, Shan State (North), using rockets, heavy weapons, and drones. The assault resulted in the deaths and injuries of local people, departmental staff, and family members of security personnel who were being treated at the hospital. Reports added that some patients were also forcefully abducted.

Additionally, MNDAA targeted residential areas with rockets, heavy weapons, and drones, leading to further casualties among local people and forcing many to flee their homes.

The Federation of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association (FMGEA) strongly condemned these acts of terror, calling them unacceptable.

*Federation of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association (FMGEA)*



### Statement of Myanmar Federation of Mining Association

5 August 2024

MNDAA launched attacks on the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township, Shan State (North), using rockets, heavy weapons, and drones. This assault resulted in the deaths and injuries of locals, departmental staff, and family members of security personnel receiving treatment at the hospital. Reports also indicate that MNDAA abducted some patients by force.

In addition, MNDAA targeted residential areas with rockets, heavy weapons, and drones, leading to further casualties among civilians and displacing local people.

The Myanmar Federation of Mining Association has totally opposed to and strongly condemned these terror acts of MNDAA.

*Myanmar Federation of Mining Association*



### Statement of Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association

5 August 2024

MNDAA launched attacks on the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township, Shan State (North), using rockets, heavy weapons, and drones. This assault resulted in the deaths and injuries of locals, departmental staff, and family members of security personnel receiving treatment at the hospital. Reports also indicate that MNDAA forcefully abducted some patients.

The attack targeted non-military facilities, causing casualties to local people and forcing some to flee their homes. This has disrupted the lives of many people.

The Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association strongly condemned these terror acts committed by MNDAA.

*Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association*



### Statement of All-Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Organization, Border and Hilly Region Sasana Nuggaha Association (Central)

5 August 2024

MNDAA launched attacks on the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township, Shan State (North), using rockets, heavy weapons, and drones. This assault resulted in the deaths and injuries of residents, departmental staff, and family members of security personnel receiving treatment at the hospital. Reports also indicate that MNDAA abducted some patients by force.

In addition, MNDAA targeted residential areas with rockets, heavy weapons, and drones, leading to the displacement of residents and severely disrupting civilian lives.

All-Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Organization, the Border and Hilly Region Sasana Nuggaha Association (Central) strongly condemned these war crimes committed by MNDAA.

*All-Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Organization, Border and Hilly Region Sasana Nuggaha Association (Central)*



### Statement of Myanmar Federation for People with Disabilities

5 August 2024

MNDAA terrorists fired at the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township of northern Shan State with the use of rockets, heavy weapons and drones, leaving residents, departmental personnel and families of security forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital dead and hurt. They forcibly abducted some local people. Moreover, locals flee to safer areas temporarily.

In its statement, the Myanmar Federation for People with Disabilities objected to and condemned MNDAA's attacks on the hospital, saying that attacks brought about losses of lives and property of innocent people, severe impacts on human resources such as the education of youths and the future of country, injuries and disabilities as a result of fighting, and massive impacts on people with disabilities than ordinary people.

*Executive Committee  
Myanmar Federation for People with Disabilities*



### Statement of Myanmar Women and Children Development Foundation

5 August 2024

1. Terrorists fired at the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township of northern Shan State with the use of rockets, heavy weapons and drones.
2. Their in humane attack left innocent civilians, including women, children and patients receiving medical treatments at the hospital, dead and hurt. Some patients were forcibly abducted.
3. In its statement, the Myanmar Women and Children Development Foundation objected to and condemned the attacks of terrorists on non-military target buildings, wards and religious buildings.

*Myanmar Women and Children Development Foundation*

# NATIONAL



## Statement of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation 5 August 2024

MNDAA terrorists attacked the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township, northern Shan State, using rockets, heavy weapons, and drones. This assault resulted in deaths and injuries among residents, departmental staff, and family members of security forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital. Additionally, MNDAA abducted some patients by force.

The Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation strongly condemned these acts of terrorism by MNDAA, which caused significant harm to local people, departmental employees, and families of security personnel, severely disrupting social life.

*Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation*



## Statement of Myanmar Academy of Medical Science 5 August 2024

MNDAA terrorists fired at the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township of northern Shan State with the use of rockets, heavy weapons and drones, causing deaths and injuries to residents, departmental personnel and families of security forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital. They forcibly abducted some patients. Moreover, locals temporarily fled to safer areas.

In its statement, the Myanmar Academy of Medical Science objected to and strongly condemned the terrorist acts that led to the deaths and injuries of locals, departmental personnel and families of security forces who were receiving medical treatments at the hospital in rockets, heavy weapons and drone attacks of MNDAA on non-military target hospital buildings.

*Myanmar Academy of Medical Science*



## Statement of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association 5 August 2024

MNDAA terrorists fired at the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township of northern Shan State with the use of rockets, heavy weapons and drones, leaving residents, departmental personnel and families of security forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital dead and hurt. They forcibly abducted some patients. Moreover, locals had to flee to safer areas.

In its statement, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association objected to and condemned MNDAA's attacks on the hospital, saying the public should receive safe medical services in any region or any situation and urging MNDAA terrorists to avoid hurting patients and healthcare workers, including mothers and children.

*Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association*



## Statement of Myanmar Dental Council 5 August 2024

MNDAA terrorists fired at the Tatmadaw hospital in Lashio Township of northern Shan State with the use of rockets, heavy weapons and drones, leaving residents, departmental personnel and families of security forces receiving medical treatment at the hospital dead and hurt. They forcibly abducted some patients. Moreover, locals were forced to flee to safer areas temporarily.

In its statement, the Myanmar Dental Council objected to and strongly condemned the terrorist acts that resulted in the deaths and injuries of residents, departmental personnel and families of security forces who were receiving medical treatments at the hospital in rockets, heavy weapons and drone attacks of MNDAA on non-military target hospital buildings.

*Myanmar Dental Council*

## MoC Deputy Minister departs for BIMSTEC business summit in India



Myanmar delegates are seen before leaving for India yesterday.

THE Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Commerce U Min Min left Yangon yesterday for India by air to attend the Technology and Economic Cooperation Programme (BIMSTEC) business summit, which will be held in New Delhi from 6 to 8 August.

The business summit aims to create a transparent and smooth flow of business oper-

ations and to discuss strategic cooperation for better trade and economic prospects. International high-level officials, private businesspeople, advisory groups and experts from research associations, and production companies will discuss trading, logistics companies, energy services, and the implementation of the BIMSTEC Free Trade Agreement. — MNA/TS

## Counter-argument to false information

### Subversive media misrepresent incident in Yesakyo

SUBVERSIVE media outlets are deliberately fabricating reports, claiming that one civilian was killed and three others, including two children, were injured in an explosion caused by heavy weapons used by Tatmadaw in Yesakyo, Magway Region.

In reality, it was PDF terrorists who fired heavy

weapons and used bomb drops to attack security forces conducting operations in the area. Bombs dropped by PDF terrorists landed and exploded in civilian homes, resulting in fatalities. Malicious media networks are intentionally spreading false information to mislead the public about Tatmadaw. — MNA/TMT



This screenshot shows damaged building.

### False media claims about Tatmadaw airstrike in Singu Township

MALICIOUS media networks are intentionally spreading false reports that Tatmadaw carried out an airstrike on 4 August in Singu Township, Mandalay Region, resulting in the deaths of 13 civilians, including two children.

Investigations confirmed that no Tatmadaw aircraft were present in Singu Township on the reported date.

Instead, it was PDF terrorists who fired heavy weapons and dropped bombs to attack security forces conducting operations in the area. Bombs landed in villages and exploded, causing civilian casualties. Subversive media outlets are incorrectly portraying these events to obscure the actions of PDF terrorists. — MNA/TMT



This screenshot validates false claims.



# OPINION

## Combat illegal trade to avoid a decline in State revenue

MYANMAR has been managing its internal and external trade, which occurs via maritime and land routes, from April to June 2024. While progress has been made, illegal trade continues to be a significant issue in the border regions, threatening the country's economic growth. Effective control of border trade is essential, and local authorities must address the challenges that traders face daily, such as unacceptable costs along trade routes that can drive up commodity prices.

Under the leadership of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, significant efforts have been made to combat illegal trade. By June 2024, authorities had seized illegal and smuggled goods worth K275.12 billion across 13,550 cases. Additionally, drug trafficking, often linked to unscrupulous

businesspersons and terrorist organizations, remains a critical concern. Narcotic drugs worth K303.81 billion were seized between January and December 2023, with an additional K127.97 billion seized in the first half of 2024. Regional and state governments, alongside Nay Pyi Taw Council Area authorities, special task forces, and the Myanmar Police Force, are urged to intensify their investigations and enforce strict legal action against offenders.

Illegal trade not only reduces the volume of legal exports and foreign exchange income but also fosters black markets, complicating the calculation of State income and expenses. This undermines financial and monetary policy-making, erodes the rule of law, and encourages corruption among public officials, ultimately harming the country's administrative mechanisms. Therefore, it is crucial for all citizens to participate in nationwide efforts to combat illegal trade actively.

Between May and June 2024, authorities received 122 tips about illicit trade activities. Of these, 104 were accurate, leading to the seizure of unlawful commodities worth

K5.376 billion in 168 cases. The confiscated items included various types of timber, personal goods, industrial goods, foodstuffs, and unregistered vehicles. As a reward for their assistance, informants were allocated K1.168 billion in the 2023-24 financial year, with plans to distribute an additional K596.132 million.

Efforts to combat illegal trade and the seizures of illicit goods are regularly reported by MRTV and State-owned newspapers, helping to raise public awareness about the negative impacts of the illicit trade on the country's economic development as illegal trade becomes hurdles in boosting the economic development for government sector and private one in the country.

Illegal trade not only reduces the volume of legal exports and foreign exchange income but also fosters black markets, complicating the calculation of State income and expenses. This undermines financial and monetary policy-making, erodes the rule of law, and encourages corruption among public officials, ultimately harming the country's administrative mechanisms. Therefore, it is crucial for all citizens to participate in nationwide efforts to combat illegal trade actively.

■

SCIENCE and the modern technology world often go hand in hand. The developed and developing technologies are founded on science, as we all know. Thus, in what way can science be separated from this world? The nature of science is accurate, critical, and logical, and it is not far away from practices with valid and reliable research. In this technological age, science plays a must role in further advances.

Like science itself, the teaching of science takes an essential place in 21<sup>st</sup>-century education, especially teaching science with practicals. Science and practicals often go together. Teaching science must rely upon practicals. Without any practical science teaching, such teaching would look like telling a tall story, especially about chemistry. Without theory, practice is blind. Also, without practice, a theory is blind. This means that teaching science without any practicality is blind walking. Scientists not coming from countries where science instruction is mainly based not on practicals but on exams is no strange. Of course, the teaching of science must be able to give birth to great scientists in the future. Seeing is believing, as the saying goes.

Among the subjects that I have ever studied, chemistry involves the most scientific facts. Honest to say I have no interest in chemistry, but this subject is absolutely interesting. Oxygen gas (O<sub>2</sub>) does not burn itself, but it

supports combustion. Hydrogen gas (H<sub>2</sub>) burns itself and supports combustion. However, these oxygen and hydrogen gases chemically combine with each other to form water (H<sub>2</sub>O), which extinguishes fire, strange as it may seem. The combination of two oxygen atoms produces one oxygen molecule, i.e. oxygen gas, whereas that of three oxygen atoms makes ozone gas (O<sub>3</sub>). Despite this, the chemical properties of oxygen and ozone are not quite the same. Since the above-mentioned facts themselves are of interest, they can only be easily taught orally. Nonetheless, the preparation of oxygen gas should be practically conducted in the laboratory. Even though there may be chemical explosives while performing the laboratory experiment, curious students will be able to learn the nature of chemistry from mistakes. Relatively speaking, chemistry teaching with no practicals is fairly silly.

Like chemistry, physics calls for a certain number of practicals. However, physics practicals may be carried out not only in the laboratory but also in the classroom. This is because students seem to have been familiar with the theory of physics in down-to-earth situations, such as inertia, a natural tendency of matter by which it stays still when it stops or remains

in motion when it continues moving until an external force acts on it. An excellent example of inertia is people riding in the car. This theme can be discussed by word of mouth. Also, Hooke's Law is really quite simple. This law states that as long as the elastic limit of a body is not exceeded, the strain produced is directly proportional to the stress causing it. In brief, the ratio of stress to strain is constant. This law may be applied only in the classroom by stretching the rubber band or showing the use of springs in the shock absorber in a motorcycle. Nevertheless, the experiment of resonance has to be done in the laboratory in order to know at what length the resonant sound begins to be heard. So are longitudinal waves and transverse waves. In fact, scientific concepts of note in physics are inexhaustible, particularly if they are seen in connection with the real world.

Most students are already acquainted with the common knowledge of biology, whether consciously or unconsciously. In spite of this, the habitats of plants and animals differ from region to region. Hence, the biology content prescribed in the curriculum is probably new to students. In such a context, biology teachers should have grown some species of living plants like pitcher plant (yey-ta-gaung) or Venus flytrap

## Teaching of Science without Practical

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)



Effective science education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century must include practical experiments to complement theoretical knowledge, as practical experience is essential for understanding complex concepts. PHOTO: ILLUSTRATION: ADOBE

and dipped some specimens of dead animals like frogs or squid into ethanol in advance. Unless such real things can be used to hand, teaching aids like projectors, models, drawings, charts, and books on biology should be arranged ahead instead of those things. On the other hand, unlike chemistry and physics, biology practicals should not always be expected to do well in the laboratory only; sometimes, teachers and students need to go on a biology field trip to the study site. Many tests, like an osmosis test, are able to be done in the laboratory. Still, before taxonomy lessons are given, different varieties of leaves and flowers must be discovered and collected like the devil. In biological studies, both teachers and students should use lenses and light microscopes very well.

Only when science subjects are learnt with the help of practicals will they become more meaningful and marvellous. In scientific studies, theory-based learning and practical-oriented teaching are resoundingly different from one another. Some subjects in science books are rather easy to read but are totally difficult to show through observation and experimentation. Some science matters look complicated by subject, yet its practical is not as hard as most students thought. As regards practical teaching of science, there is still one more important point left. That is nothing but the fact that students from developing countries tend to have inadequate resources for science

materials such as microscopes and spectrometers. Not only that, some science materials like vernier calliper, micrometre, ammeter, voltmeter and project board are out of order; that is, it is a so-called 'error'. At that time, practical science teaching is not efficient or effective at all. Consequently, students, teaching staff, the community, and the government are all responsible for science practicals.

Science is a sort of materialism. So, every field of science is based upon the proof of physical evidence. Before supporting this evidence, scientists are given to formulate just a hypothesis for any science-related matter. Therefore, students had better study science subjects with practicals. Learning by doing also offers the maximum achievement of students' studies. If students themselves have ever conducted an experiment or a test, they will get to know the personality and effort of scientists inside out, most notably their endurance. In schools, an enjoyable science environment can be created by doing school gardening and planting trees with dialectical names, common names and scientific names along the school path.

What is more, science labs are well kept in working conditions, and there are rules and regulations suitable for students. Little or no knowledge is dangerous. Similarly, teaching science without practicals will be more harmful to the younger generation in the long run.

## Plastic pollution, seawater flooding can amplify threats to coastal plant species: Study

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- New research highlights how coastal plants face serious threats from saltwater floods and microplastic contamination.
- The study, led by the University of Plymouth, found that these stressors impact plant reproduction and cause tissue death.
- Combined exposure to both stressors leads to more severe effects, affecting plant growth and photosynthesis.
- The findings emphasize the need to understand the combined impact of multiple environmental stressors on plant and ecosystem health.

TWO of the planet's most urgent environmental stressors have the potential to affect the development and reproductive production of

plants found along the world's coasts, according to new research.

The study was led by experts in plastic pollution and plant

biology from the University of Plymouth's School of Biological and Marine Sciences and the International Marine Litter Research Unit.

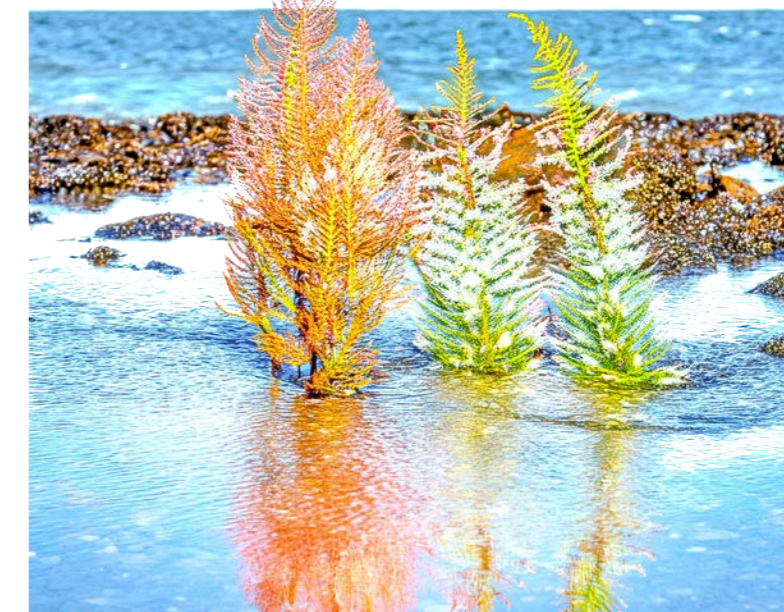
The study, published in Environmental Contamination, is one of the first to investigate the impact of saltwater floods and microplastic contamination on coastal plants. It showed that both stressors had some effects on the species tested, with microplastics impacting the plants' reproduction while flooding caused greater tissue death.

However, being exposed to both microplastics and flooding together — a threat likely to increase as a result of climate

change and plastic use — had a more pronounced impact on their resource allocation.

This, in turn, led to the plants exhibiting altered growth and experiencing a short-term suppression in their photosynthetic efficiency, responses affect the plant's ability to capture water, nutrients and sunlight, and contribute to ecosystem wellbeing.

They say it signposts the potential for microplastics to present an elevated risk when in combination with additional stressors like seawater flooding



Plants were grown in soil containing conventional or biodegradable plastics for 35 days before being flooded with seawater for 72 hours, replicating the kinds of flooding event increasingly associated with storms and coastal storm surges. PHOTO: ILLUSTRATION: IMAGE USED FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE/ADOBE

and that, as a result, establishing the threats presented by multiple co-occurring stressors on ecosystem resilience is a priority.

Dr Winnie Courtene-Jones, the study's lead author, said, "This research highlights the potential for microplastics, composed of conventional and biodegradable plastic, to detrimentally affect plant functioning. Moreover, it indicates that the effect of microplastics can be magnified by other environmental factors such as rising sea levels and coastal flooding. Studies such as this help us appreciate the potential harm posed by microplastics to a range of organisms, and ecosystem resilience generally."

SOURCE: ANI



# NATIONAL

## MoALI to farm 40.51M fish, prawn larvae in 2024-25 to boost freshwater stocks

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation (MoALI) has announced plans to farm a total of 40.51 million fingerlings and prawn larvae during the Financial Year 2024-25.

Union Minister U Min Naung noted that over 50 million acres of freshwater areas support fish populations. Still, these resources have been declining due to overfishing, natural deaths, water pollution, diseases, disruptions in the food chain, and weather-related issues. To counter this decline, the Ministry is working to replenish fish stocks.

The Union minister made this statement during the release of 100,000 larvae of Rohu, Barbus, and golden carp into



Paunglaung Creek in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, on 3 August. As of July 2024, 21 million fingerlings and prawn larvae have been successfully hatched.

Each year, fish and prawn larvae are released into rivers, creeks, lakes, and streams to maintain fish stocks, improve species quality, ensure food security, and sustain fish populations. In the 2023-24 financial year, a total of 100 million larvae were hatched across the country. — TWA/TMT

The fingerlings releasing ceremony is in progress at Paunglaung Creek on 3 August 2024.

## South Dagon palm oil mill boosts production to meet domestic demand

TO meet domestic palm oil demand, the South Dagon Palm Oil mill is producing 1,200 tonnes of refined palm oil per month. This oil will be distributed



Officials inspecting South Dagon Palm Oil Refinery.

and sold at a reasonable price.

Located on Bago River Road in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Yangon Region, the mill operates with 85 employees. The mill currently produces 2,000 tonnes of crude palm oil each month, which has been increased to 1,200 tonnes of refined palm oil to satisfy local consumption better.

The South Dagon Palm Oil Refinery processes oil from 14,600 acres of oil palm plantations in Bokpyin Township, Taninthayi Region. The crude palm oil is transported to the Yangon refinery, where it is refined into final products.

The mill aims to operate at full capacity to reduce the need for imported palm oil. — ASH/TKO



This picture captures MCDC employees collecting rubbish in Mandalay.

## Mandalay to launch waste-to-energy project with S Korean company

THE Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC) will launch a project to generate electricity from daily rubbish in the Mandalay municipal area, according to U Than Zaw Tun, head of the Water and Sanitation Department.

Approximately 1.7 million people reside in the townships of Pyigyidagun, Chanayethazan, Chanmyathazi, Aungmyaythazan, Maha Aungmyay, and Amrapura, disposing nearly 1,300 tonnes of waste daily. MCDC will collaborate with a South Korean company to produce electricity from this waste.

“The Mandalay City Development Committee is going to implement a project that will produce electricity by burning rubbish. Therefore, we are working with a South Korean company. The company has conducted a survey and will return in December for further survey work,” said U Than Zaw Tun. — ASH/MKKS

## Shooting begins for new soap opera ‘Tan Hlyat Myar’ (Mirages) on MRTV-4

IT was announced that the shooting of the soap opera titled ‘Tan Hlyat Myar’ (Mirages), produced by Forever Series Production, commenced and will be broadcast on the MRTV-4 channel.

The TV series is based on a novel by Han Sai (Say/Mann) with the script written by Thet Zun, Khine Zun Wint, and San Yu Maung and directed by Kyaw Soe Thu.

The cast includes numer-

ous actors and actresses such as Thar Htet Nyan Zaw, Wai Yan Kyaw, Kyaw Soe Paing, Alinn Thit, Wai Hlyan Aung, Wathone, Su Pan Htwar, Wine Shwe Yee, Than Zin See Sar, Eaint Kyi Phyu, Shwe Keinnayi, Academy Aung Khine, Phone Shan, and Min Thu. — ASH/TRKM

The photo shows film crews for the ‘Tan Hlyat Myar’ MRTV-4 series.







A teller counting greenbacks at the money exchange counter.

## US\$197.11M, 1.59B baht, 45.7M yuan sold to exporters, importers in 7 months

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$197.11 million, 1.59 billion Thai baht and 45.7 million yuan for exporters and importers on online trading platforms in the past seven months.

CBM injected \$15.4 million and five million yuan in July, \$5 million and 40 million baht in June and \$10 million, 30 million baht and 22.5 million yuan into markets in May through online trading platforms.

CBM injected \$3 million, two million yuan and 54 million baht into the financial market in April. It also sold \$18 million, 12 million yuan and 312 million baht in

March, \$77.38 million and 850 million baht in February and \$68.33 million, 313.5 million baht and 4.2 million yuan in January 2024, with a view to curbing the instability in the foreign exchange market and stopping 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

## Green Global Trade Fair 2024 invites Myanmar businesses

THE Green Global Trade Fair 2024, which will be organized by the Chambers of Tourism and Industry Sri Lanka and Ras Al Khaimah Chambers of Commerce and Industry and will take place in Ras Al Khaimah, the UAE, from 3 to 13 October 2024, cordially invited Myanmar businesspeople.

The fair aims to promote sustainable practices and businesses related to greenery and bring together gardening, manufacturing, landscape architecture, healthcare, FinTech, Blockchain, tourism, science and technological sectors to a unique trade platform. More than 230 businesses and over 10,000 participants are expected to join the trade fair.

This synergy will serve as an ideal place to foster global economic relations and mark a presence in international markets.

Individuals can enquire about information about the Green Global Trade Fair 2024 through [info@chambertourism.lk](mailto:info@chambertourism.lk), register through the contact number of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization 067 408622, and email [event.td.myantrade@gmail.com](mailto:event.td.myantrade@gmail.com). — NN/KK

## YGN palm oil wholesale reference rate hits 5<sup>th</sup>-week high

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market reached a fifth-week high to K5,780 per viss this week ending 11 August, which rose from K5,485 recorded last week ending 28 July, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The rate started to climb from K5,390 per viss during the week ending 14 July.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil on a weekly basis.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control overcharging, the Con-



Cooking oil is arranged well for sales in the market.

sumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed the consumers of lodging the complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices. The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing

companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over Hot Line: 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook Page of the Department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

## Myanmar exports one million tonnes of maize in Q1

MYANMAR shipped more than one million tonnes of maize worth over US\$265 million in the first quarter of the current financial year (2024-2025) beginning 1 April, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's maize export volume is estimated at over 390,000 tonnes in April, over 370,000 in May, and over 390,000 in June.

As the primary importer of Myanmar's corn, Thailand grants maize imports

under zero tariff with Form D between 1 February and 31 August. Therefore, Myanmar exported maize to Thailand with duty-free benefits. Myanmar's maize traders are making efforts to deliver the maize by August, the Myanmar Corn Industrial Association stated.

Moreover, India's demand for Myanmar maize has become intense.

China and Thailand are the top countries that import Myanmar's maize. Maize

is exported to foreign markets through maritime trade and border channels. Robust foreign demand elevates domestic maize prices.

Maize is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah, and Kayin states as well as Mandalay, Sagaing, and Magway regions. Myanmar has three maize seasons: winter, summer and monsoon. Myanmar's annual maize output is estimated at 2.5-3 million tonnes. — TWA/KK



# ECONOMY WORLD

## Nikkei closes with largest point drop in history, down 12%

THE Nikkei stock index closed with its largest single-day point drop in history on Monday, tumbling over 4,400 points and 12 per cent, in a global market crash amid a firming yen and escalating fears of a US recession triggered by disappointing economic data.

The US dollar plunged briefly by nearly 5 yen from late last week to a fresh seven-month low of 141.69 amid growing speculation that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates significantly in September. It later returned to the mid-143 yen level on buy-backs.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ended down 4,451.28 points, or 12.40 per cent, from Friday at 31,458.42. The broader



Pedestrians look at a financial monitor in Tokyo's Marunouchi business district on 5 August 2024, showing the Nikkei Stock Average ending over 4,400 points lower from the previous day's close for its largest single-day point drop. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Topix index fell 310.45 points, or 12.23 per cent, to 2,227.15. The figures marked the lowest closes for both indexes since October last year.

Every industry category on the top-tier Prime Market lost ground, led by insurance, bank and securities house shares.

At 5 pm, the dollar fetched 143.47-52 yen compared with 146.43-53 yen in New York and 149.20-23 yen in Tokyo at 5 pm Friday.

The euro was quoted at \$1.0948-0950 and 157.10-14 yen against \$1.0905-0915 and 159.82-92 yen in New York, and \$1.0804-0805 and 161.21-25 yen in Tokyo late Friday afternoon.

The yield on the benchmark

10-year Japanese government bond briefly fell 0.205 percentage point from Friday's close to around a four-month low of 0.750 per cent, as investors bought the safe-haven asset amid tumbling Tokyo stocks and US long-term Treasury yields. It ended at 0.755 per cent.

Stocks plunged from the outset and continued to deepen their losses in the afternoon, with the Nikkei's decline eclipsing the 3,836-point drop registered on 20 October 1987, the day after the Black Monday stock market crash. The benchmark marked the second-largest percentage drop on record since the 14.9 per cent plunge on the day after the Black Monday sell-offs. — Kyodo

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Vietnam's July fishery export records highest revenue since early this year

VIETNAM exported over US\$885 million worth of fishery products in July, the highest revenue since early this year, Vietnam News Agency cited the Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers on Monday.

The total export revenue in the first seven months hit \$5.28 billion, up seven per cent year on year, said the report.

In July alone, shrimp export reported an 11 per cent increase, the highest growth since early this year, while tra fish export rose by 23 per cent.

Meanwhile, tuna export has slowed down with a nine per cent year-on-year increase.

Fishery products' shipment to four major buyers recovered in July, with that to China increasing 30 per cent, the US 14 per cent, the EU 14 per cent and Japan 11 per cent, said the association. — Xinhua

#### Mongolia welcomes over 436,000 foreign tourists in 7 months

MONGOLIA attracted a total of 436,617 foreign tourists in the first seven months of this year, the country's Ministry of Culture, Sport, Tourism and Youth reported on Monday.

During the period, Russia, China and South Korea were Mongolia's top sources of tourist arrivals, the ministry noted in a statement. Around 30 per cent of the total tourists visited the country in the past month alone.

To diversify its economy, which is heavily reliant on the export-oriented mining sector, Mongolia has been implementing measures to promote tourism.

As part of the efforts to promote the tourism sector, the Asian country has declared 2023-2025 as "Years to Visit Mongolia", with a target of attracting at least one million foreign tourists per year.

Last year, Mongolia attracted over 650,000 foreign tourists and earned US\$1.2 billion from the tourism sector, marking an all-time high. — Xinhua

## S Korean stocks close 8.8% lower on US recession fears

SOUTH Korean stocks closed 8.8 per cent lower on Monday as investors panicked on rising fears of the US economic recession.

The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) dived 234.64 points, or 8.77 per cent, to close at 2,441.55.

The KOSPI started 2.42 per cent lower and extended losses as US stocks closed lower for the second straight session on Friday last week.

The disappointing announcement of the US jobs

data triggered fears of the US economic recession among local investors, market watchers said.

The bourse operator issued a circuit breaker on the KOSPI at 2:14 pm local time (0514 GMT) to halt trading for 20 minutes as the main index dropped over eight per cent for more than a minute.

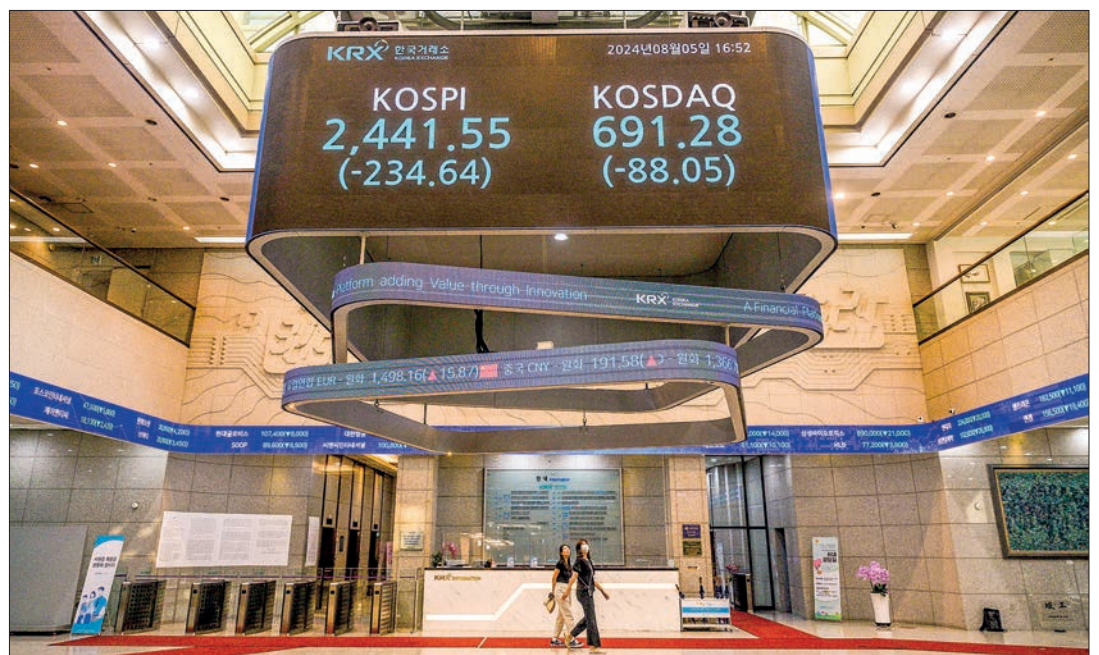
About 20 minutes earlier, a separate circuit breaker was issued for the small-cap KOSDAQ index that tumbled 88.05 points, or 11.30 per cent, to fin-

ish at 691.28.

It marked the first time since March 2020 that the circuit breaker was activated both in the KOSPI and the KOSDAQ in a single day.

A sidecar order on the KOSPI was issued at 11 am local time to suspend programme trading for five minutes after the KOSPI 200 futures index dropped over five per cent for more than a minute.

The sidecar order was also issued on the KOSDAQ at 1:05 pm local time. — Xinhua



People walk under a monitor displaying the benchmark KOSPI index and the Korean Securities Dealers Automated Quotations (KOSDAQ) after the close of trading in Seoul on 5 August 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**



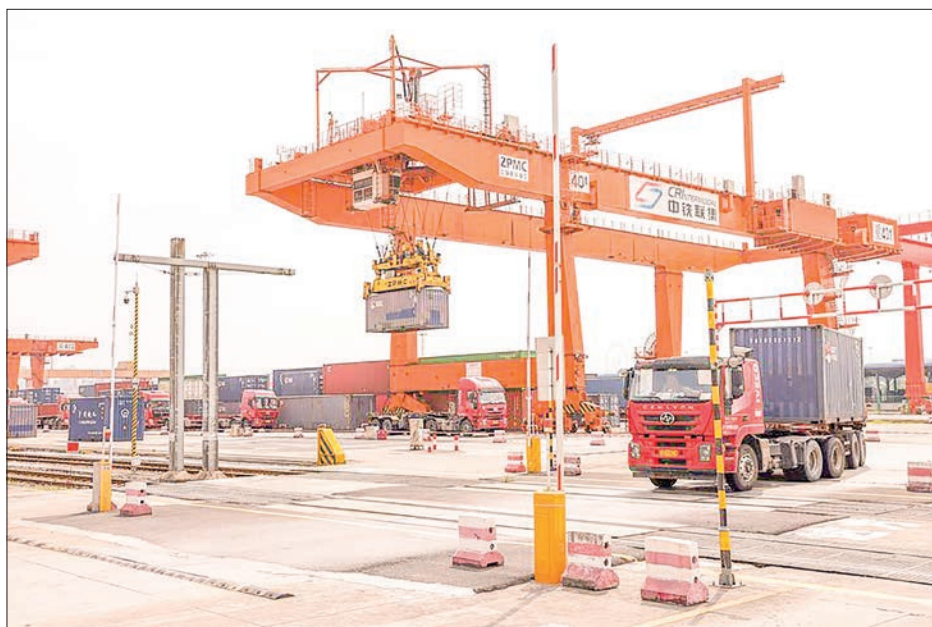
## New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor connects 523 ports worldwide

OVER the past five years, the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor has expanded its reach to 523 ports in 124 countries and regions.

With its operational hub based in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, this trade corridor connects global ports via railways, sea routes and highways through southern Chinese provincial regions such as Guangxi and Yunnan.

According to the data released on Monday by the coordination centre for logistics and operation of the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor, more than 30,000 China-Europe freight trains have operated via the trade corridor.

From 2019 to 2023, the annual freight volume through the trade corridor from Chongqing increased by 50 per cent, 45 per cent, 54 per cent, 32 per cent and 21 per cent year-on-year, respectively.



A vehicle transfers a container at the dry port of the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor in the Chongqing International Logistics Hub Park in Shapingba District of Chongqing, southwest China, 30 July 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Over the past five years, the variety of goods transported through the trade corridor has expanded from over 80 types to more than 1,150 types, covering a wide range of categories, including electronic products, vehicles and components, machinery, small household appli-

ances and food. The trade corridor has now achieved a near balance between inbound and outbound shipments.

Relying on the fast and efficient corridor, specialty products from western China, such as goji berry juice and red wine from Ningxia, oranges from

Chongqing and tea from Guizhou, have become new growth drivers for local foreign trade. Additionally, the export of new energy vehicles from these western regions has accelerated, with local auto enterprises establishing factories in Southeast Asian countries. — Xinhua

## UK beekeepers and scientists tackle sticky problem of honey fraud



Beekeeper Lynne prepares the smoker at Westley Cottage in East Huntspill, Somerset, western England on 16 July 2024. PHOTO: AFP

LYNNE Ingram cuts a peaceful figure as she tends to a row of humming beehives in a leafy corner of Somerset, southwest England.

But the master beekeeper, who has been keeping hives for more than 40 years, has found herself in a fight against a tricky and evolving foe —

honey fraudsters.

The practice of adulterating honey is well known, and historically adulterants such as ash and potato flour have been used.

Now, advancements in technology and science have made it much easier, with “bespoke, designer or bioengineered” syrups used as diluting agents capable of fooling authenticity tests, Ingram said.

She founded the UK Honey Authenticity Network (HAN UK) in 2021 to raise awareness about natural honey and warn of the threat posed by fraud.

“One of the impacts

we’re seeing all over the world is beekeepers going out of business,” she said.

Adulterated honey can be sold to retailers for a price several times lower than genuine producers can afford.

As well as producing their own honey, many larger-scale beekeepers have crop pollination contracts with farmers, delivering thousands of colonies to growers across the country.

If they go out of business due to unfair competition, this vital natural method of pollinating crops is reduced and food production suffers. — AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### German chip maker Infineon to cut 1,400 jobs

GERMAN chip maker Infineon said Monday it will slash 1,400 jobs and relocate 1,400 more due to a tough market environment, as it announced falling profits and downgraded its outlook.

The job cuts, from a workforce of about 58,600 worldwide, are part of a company-wide restructuring that was launched in May.

The programme is aimed at “strengthening our competitiveness”, said CEO Jochen Hanebeck in a statement, alongside the release of results for the third quarter of the group’s financial year. — AFP

#### Singapore’s private economy expands for 17 consecutive months

THE seasonally adjusted S&P Global Singapore Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI) posted 57.2 in July, up from 55.2 in June, marking a continued improvement in private business conditions for 17 straight months, the S&P Global said Monday.

Supported by new business growth, private business activity expanded at the fastest pace in 21 months. Meanwhile, the acceleration in new orders led to an accumulation of backlogged work in July. — Xinhua

#### Indonesian growth slows in second quarter

INDONESIA’S economy grew more slowly in the second quarter of 2024 despite being supported by spending on religious holidays and increased household consumption, the country’s statistics agency said on Monday.

Growth in Southeast Asia’s largest economy was 5.05 per cent in the second quarter, slightly lower than the previous quarter’s 5.11 per cent, Statistics Indonesia said.

“The economic growth is also lower compared to the second quarter of 2023,” Statistics Indonesia deputy head, Mohamad Edy Mahmud told a press conference. — AFP

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SSI PRUDENT VOY.NO. (013)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SSI PRUDENT VOY.NO. (013)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-8-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIPL** 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  
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# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

JAPAN'S space agency on Monday unveiled to the media part of its basic training for astronaut candidates with the help of ANA Holdings Inc in a bid to better prepare future space travellers.

At the training facility of ANA, the parent company of All Nippon Airways Co, Ayu Yoneda and Makoto Suwa were tested for their ability to cope with emergencies inside the Japanese airline's Boeing 777 flight simulator.

The two were selected last year by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency as astronaut candidates after it opened recruitment for the first time in 13 years in 2021.

ANA was commissioned to conduct part of the training that deals with preparing astronauts mentally for their space missions, looking into their skills such as leadership, teamwork and decision-making.

The training started in April last year and is expected to last through October

## Japan space agency unveils ANA's training of astronaut candidates



Video footage shows Ayu Yoneda (R) and Makoto Suwa conducting flight training on 31 July 2024. The two performed the same training on 5 August 2024. (PHOTO COURTESY OF JAXA, ALL NIPPON AIRWAYS CO) PHOTO: KYODO

this year. It helps candidates acquire the necessary knowledge and skills required of as-

tronauts.

It is the first time a private company has taken part in the

agency's training for an extensive period of time and JAXA said it is ramping up collabo-

ration with private companies to sustainably offer training for future astronauts.

After the training, the agency's review committee will formally decide as to whether they are fit to be astronauts, JAXA said.

In Monday's training exercise, the two candidates experienced virtual flights between Tokyo and Osaka, with an instructor watching how they responded to sudden emergencies such as an engine failure and bad weather.

"While we are in the air, we need to share our views rather than make decisions by ourselves," Yoneda, a former surgeon, said after the training. "I think the same thing can be said of the International Space Station. We have to respond to dangers as a team."

Suwa, a former World Bank official, said, "The training focused on flying a plane safely under time pressure. I think it will be very helpful in space too." — Kyodo

## Pope, plugging for books, reveals his love for tragedies

POPE Francis's bookish side emerged Sunday, after the Vatican published a letter in which the pontiff encouraged young priests to read — while revealing that he himself likes the great tragedies.

"How can we speak to the hearts of men and women if we ignore, set aside or fail to appreciate the 'stories' by which they sought to express and lay

bare the drama of their lived experience in novels and poems," asked the pontiff in his 17 July letter to priests-to-be, published by the Vatican on Sunday in eight languages.

In the lengthy text — peppered with references to literary greats like CS Lewis, Marcel Proust, T S Eliot and fellow Argentinian Jorge Luis Borges — Francis argued that reading

was "part of one's path to personal maturity" and therefore crucial not just for those joining the priesthood but all Christians in general. Noting that Paul the Apostle was a reader, Francis plugged for time spent reading, noting that a good book can "(keep) us from other choices that are less wholesome" and open up minds "trapped by a few obsessive thoughts". — AFP

## Vietnam President To Lam becomes communist party chief, top leader

VIETNAMESE President To Lam has been elected as the chief of the Communist Party, the country's highest position, to succeed Nguyen Phu Trong who died last month.

The party's central committee held a meeting Saturday and voted for Lam, 67, a former public security minister who reportedly contributed significantly to a sweeping anti-corruption campaign led by Trong.

Lam wrote in a translated article released Sunday by the state-run media that he will fight "degradation in ideology, ethics and lifestyle" as well as "corruption and negative phenomena" in the party.

The party said Saturday that Deputy Prime Minister Le Minh Khai and environment minister Dang Quoc Khanh, among others, had resigned from their positions in the party after being found to have violated its rules and anti-corruption legislation.

Trong had been the party's



Vietnamese President To Lam waves during a press conference in Hanoi after being elected the new general secretary of the ruling Communist Party of Vietnam on 3 August 2024, two weeks after predecessor Nguyen Phu Trong died. PHOTO: KYODO

general secretary since 2011. Lam temporarily took over the ailing leader's duties as party chief on 18 July, a day before he died. — Kyodo

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### 9 killed, 18 missing in southwest China flash flood, mudslide

NINE people had been killed and 18 others remained missing as of 9 am Monday after a flash flood and mudslide struck the city of Kangding in southwest China's Sichuan Province on Saturday, local authorities said.

The disaster took place at about 3:30 am Saturday in Kangding, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Garze, toppling a tunnel bridge and destroying homes in Ridi Village.

The bridge's collapse resulted in four vehicles with 11 people falling, among which two people have been confirmed dead, one was rescued, and eight remain missing. In Ridi Village, seven villagers were killed and ten are still missing.

Rescue and search efforts are still ongoing, with over 1,660 rescuers and 403 sets of equipment, including helicopters, unmanned aerial vehicles, excavators and communications vehicles mobilized to the frontline. — Xinhua



# SPORTS

## YR Chief Minister Cup Karate Championship concludes

YANGON Region Chief Minister Cup Karate Championship was held at Padetha Sports Hall of South Okkalapa Township, and over 200 athletes participated yesterday.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, relevant officials and athletes attended the event.

During the final matches, men and women competed in the respective senior and junior categories of Kata and Kumite.

After the competitions, officials

awarded the first, second, third and best athletes.

The region chief minister then presented cash prizes to athletes in men's and women's senior and junior categories of Kata and Kumite, and cash prizes and the championship trophy to ISPE, Yangon.

Karate events were held on 4 and 5 August, and over 230 Karatekas from 15 clubs competed. — Arkar Lin/KTZH

The Men's Senior 'Kumite' event in action.



## Zou Jingyuan wins China's second gymnastics gold at Paris Olympics



Zou Jingyuan of China competes during the men's parallel bars final of artistic gymnastics at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, France, 5 August 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

ZOU Jingyuan overcame a shoulder injury to capture the men's parallel bars title on Monday for China's second gymnastics gold medal at Paris Olympics.

Defending champion Zou was only the third man to win two gold medals in a row on this apparatus, amassing a massive 16.200 points to edge Illia Kovtun of

Ukraine, who took the silver with 15.500.

Shinnosuke Oka of Japan, the all-around champion, got the bronze with 15.300 points.

Zou was seen nursing his right shoulder after Sunday's rings final, in which he collected a silver. He said afterwards the injury affected his training.

Zou's near perfect routine drew gasps from the crowd at Bercy Arena. He was in perfect control and flew over bars with such smooth connections.

His compatriot Zhang Boheng who just won the silver of men's all-round finished fourth in Monday's competition. — Xinhua

## Japan wins gold in men's fencing team foil event in Paris

JAPAN won gold in the men's team foil event at the Paris Olympics on Sunday, with the 45-36 victory over Italy moving the nation to the top of the fencing medal table at the games.

The world's No 1-ranked team of Kazuki Iimura, Kyosuke Matsuyama, Takahiro Shikine and substitute Yudai

Nagano joined Koki Kano in winning fencing gold medals for Japan at the Grand Palais in Paris.

"I believed we had the quality to win the gold medal. There was pressure to get a team medal (for Japan) for the third day in a row and I am really pleased that we were able to get the gold," said Shik-

ine. In taking the final fencing gold of the games, Japan made history by becoming the first non-European or Russian team to win the event at the Olympics.

"This is like a dream to be honest and I still can't believe it, but I think our patient work has come to fruition," said Nagano. — Kyodo

## South Korea's An says best still to come after Olympic badminton gold

SOUTH Korea's An Se-young warned her best was still to come after winning Olympic badminton gold on Monday to consolidate her status as the world's top player.

Reigning world champion An, who has held the number one ranking for the past year, beat China's sixth seed He Bingjiao 21-13, 21-16 in the women's singles final at a lively La Chapelle Arena.

The 22-year-old An is the dominant force in women's badminton and won eight titles on the sport's world tour last year.

She became South Korea's first Olympic women's singles champion since 1996.

"My golden age isn't here yet because I'm still young," she said.

"I will still have more experiences and I will be able to play even better.

He, who lost the bronze medal match at the Tokyo Olympics three years ago, progressed to the final when her Spanish opponent Carolina Marin retired from their semifinal after collapsing with a knee injury.

The Chinese player stepped onto the medal podium holding a pin badge given to her by the Spanish badminton federation.

She said she was thinking of Marin and "hoping to carry her spirit into the final".

"I feel sorry for her because she is an outstanding athlete," said He, who was visibly upset after Marin's withdrawal.

"I wanted her to watch me and I hope she recovers soon." — AFP





## DPRK marks transfer of new missile systems to military units

THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Sunday held in Pyongyang a ceremony marking an official transfer of new tactical ballistic missile systems to its front-line military units, the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported Monday.

The ceremony involved 250 new-type tactical ballistic missile launchers produced at the country's major munitions manufacturers to be transferred to frontline troops, said the report.

Having declared an important task for bolstering the country's military has been successfully carried out, Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, stressed that independence, justice and peace can only be firmly guaranteed by "the absolute and matchless self-defence capability", according to the report. — Xinhua

## Bangladesh PM resigns, interim government to run country: army chief

AN interim government will be set up to run Bangladesh after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigned Monday amid protests in the South Asian country, according to army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman.

Zaman made the remarks in a broadcast to the nation on state television on Monday afternoon. He said Hasina has resigned, which confirmed media reports earlier about Hasina's step-down.

"We will form an interim government," said the army chief.

There will be no need to impose a state of emergency if the situation gets better, said Zaman.

Hasina, 76, took office for her fourth straight five-year term as the country's prime minister in January this year after her ruling Bangladesh Awami League (AL) party won a landslide victory in the parliamentary elections. — Xinhua



People and emergency crews look for survivors following Israeli bombardment on the Al-Nassr school that houses displaced Palestinians in West of Gaza city on 4 August 2024 amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the militant Hamas group. PHOTO: AFP

## G7 FMs urges efforts to avoid further escalation of Middle East conflict

THE foreign ministers of the Group of Seven (G7) countries on Sunday urged all actors involved in the current Middle East crisis to refrain from any steps that could possibly escalate the conflict further.

"We call on the parties concerned to desist from any initiative that could hinder the path of dialogue and moderation and encourage a new escalation," the G7 Italian presidency said

in a statement.

After discussing the latest developments in a videoconference, the ministers expressed "strong concern about recent events that threaten to lead to a regionalization of the crisis, starting with Lebanon", according to Italy's foreign minister Antonio Tajani.

The G7 extraordinary meeting was called after a recent escalation

in the crisis.

Tensions escalated after the assassinations of Lebanese group Hezbollah's senior military commander Fouad Shokor in Beirut, and Hamas' political leader Ismail Haniyeh in the Iranian capital Tehran on 31 July.

A few days earlier, a rocket strike in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights had killed 12 children and teens. — Xinhua

## Shoigu arrives in Iran to discuss global, regional security



In this handout photo released by the Russian Defence Ministry, Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu attends a meeting with Iranian Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics Mohammad-Reza Gharaei Ashtiani on the sidelines of a Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Defence Ministers' meeting in Astana, Kazakhstan. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

RUSSIAN Security Council Secretary Sergei Shoigu has arrived in Iran for a planned working visit to discuss global and regional security issues, the Russian Security Council said on Monday.

Shoigu will hold talks with his Iranian counterpart, Ali Akbar Ahmadian, and Chief of the General Staff of the Iranian armed forces Mohammad Bagheri. Shoigu will be received by Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. The agenda includes a wide range of issues of cooperation between Russia and Iran in Tehran, including security and economy.

Previously, Kremlin spokesman

Dmitry revealed that Russian President Vladimir Putin would be meeting with Masoud Pezeshkian at the BRICS summit in Kazan in October. In July, the Iranian President-elect released a message underscoring that Russia is "a valued strategic ally and neighbour to Iran and my administration will remain committed to expanding and enhancing our cooperation".

Sergei Shoigu's visit comes as Israel has been bracing for a potential attack from Iran and Lebanese Shiite movement Hezbollah in the wake of the assassination of Haniyeh and Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukur last week. — SPUTNIK