

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



This photo shows fishing vessels at the port in Myeik, Taninthayi Region.

Extreme weather halts commercial fishing operations

Myanmar put a three-month stop to the fishing season in the Myanmar Sea from April to June in the 2023-2024 financial year.

SOME fishing trawlers have not commenced operations yet amid extreme weather conditions in the Myanmar Sea, even after the closed season for commercial fishing ended in July.

With the low-pressure cell and strong monsoon, torrential rainfall caused floods in low-lying areas and flood-prone areas. Erratic weather conditions are found in Myanmar coastal areas as well.

“Only large fishing vessels are found in the sea. Squid boats and other small fishing trawlers cannot start operations. Extreme weather conditions left the ves-

sels afloat. The fishing season is likely to be fully operational at the end of September,” a fishing trawler owner said.

Myanmar put a three-month stop to the fishing season in the Myanmar Sea from April to June in the 2023-2024 financial year, and 30 per cent of fishing trawlers were ruled out one month earlier than usual for the local self-sufficiency and export markets.

“Peak breeding season is actually during the June-August period. We rarely see fishing trawlers leaving port in the monsoon season. A fishing ban is now

imposed in the open season. We have to put a large capital of K100 million to run fishing operations so we do not leave for sea yet amid extreme weather conditions,” said a businessperson.

There are fishing blocks in Ayeyawady and Yangon regions and Rakhine, Mon and Taninthayi states of the Myanmar Sea. About 1,500 offshore fishing vessels run in Taninthayi Region. Myanmar’s fisheries and seafood are commonly traded in Taninthayi, Myeik and Mawtaung in Taninthayi Region and the Singkhon border in Thailand. — Myint Oo (Myeik)/KK

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Taxpayers can use IRD portal for e-payments

APTERR to contribute over 1,000 tonnes of reserved rice to flood victims

UNDER the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR), 1,002.71 tonnes of reserved rice will be distributed to flood-impacted regions, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

Deputy Minister Dr Tin Htut for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation inspected APTERR’s rice storage facility located in Thanlyin Township, Yangon, on 22 September to ensure systematic storage operations and warehouse capacity

management, thereby instructing officials concerned to connect with related institutions to distribute 1,002.71 tonnes of reserved rice to flood-stricken regions and states.

Afterwards, he met officials of the

Agriculture Department in Insein Township, highlighting the development of agricultural production, ensuring dam and reservoir safety and reliability, and providing capacity building for the staff. — NN/KK

NATIONAL



Six (6) days remain until the National Census.



Six Peace Principles Key to Ongoing Peacemaking Efforts

THE Six Peace Principles are not only aligned with the essence of the NCA but also stem from the “Knowledge” gained through continuous peace efforts over successive periods, and they represent the “reality” that must be pursued to strengthen ongoing peacemaking efforts.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the 79th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day parade on 27 March 2024)



Village damsels with 'Sanyitwine' hairstyles performing household chores.

Unique 'Sanyitwine' hairstyle

VILLAGES boast lovely traditions and cultures, natural beauty and fine arts. Yaypokegyi village in Pwintbyu Township has been preserving Sanyitwine (top-knot with a circular fringe) for over 200 years.

All visitors to that village are pleased with its extraordinary 'Sanyitwine' hairstyle. There are only three villages in Myanmar that preserve such a traditional hairstyle. They are Khansatgon village in Natogyi Township, Setsetyo village in NyaungU, Mandalay Region, and Yaypokegyi village in Pwintbyu Township, Minbu District of Magway Region.

Myanmar also possesses natural springs, waterfalls,



Damsels with 'Sanyitwine' hairstyles and Pathein parasols on their way to the pagoda.

birds, and gardens, and the natural beauty, such as the enchanting tradition and culture of villages like 'Sanyitwine', is such a source of pride for the country. Therefore, everyone should keep preserving that hairstyle. — Zeyar Htet (Minbu)/KTZH

6 special civil appeal cases passed judgements; 6 special civil appeal cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of Chief Justice of the Union U Tha Htay and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Khin Maung Gyi, Daw Thin Thin Nwet, Daw Pyone Pyone Aye and Dr Ko Ko Naing was convened Monday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgements for six special civil appeal cases Nos 36/2024 (Mandalay), 43/2024 (Yangon), 44/2024 (Yangon), 48/2024 (Yangon), 49/2024 (Mon) and 51/2024 (Yangon).

Six special civil appeal cases – Nos 41/2024 (Ayeyawady), 5/2024 (Shan), 31/2024 (Mandalay), 50/2024 (Mon), 54/2024 (Bago) and 63/2024 (Ayeyawady) were heard. — MNA

Special Weather News

Issued at (19:00) hours MST on 23-9-2024

ACCORDING to the observations at (17:30)hrs MST today, the Low-Pressure Cell over the Central Bay of Bengal still persists. It is likely to move Westwards and may further intensify into a Low-Pressure Area over the Westcentral Bay of Bengal during next (24)hrs.

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

Advisory

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

Flood Warning

(Issued at 19:00 hrs MST on 23-9-2024)

According to the (18:30)hrs MST observation today, the water level of Bago River at Bago is observed as about two feet below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next two days.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Bago Township, to take precaution measure and to stay away from the flood-prone areas in time if the water level will rise. — DMH

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

SAC Member consoles flood victims, provides cash, foodstuffs in Shan State

STATE Administration Council Member Khun San Lwin, accompanied by Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung and relevant officials, handed over cash assistance and relief supplies for the flood-hit victims at the monastery in Sanphu village, Hopong township of Pa-O self-administered zone yesterday.

They first took five precepts from the Presiding Patron Sayadaw of the Naungtaung Parahita TatU Monastery and donated offerings.

The SAC member then comforted the flood victims, highlighting the arrangements for their safe return, rehabilitation processes, access to drinking water and reopening of schools.

The SAC members and party presented foodstuffs



SAC Member Khun San Lwin and officials warmly greet flood victims in Hopong yesterday.

and K15 million each for Htitaugu-Naungday village-tract, Loimao region and Khaungnwe-Indaw region, Loilem township, Monastery Presiding

Sayadaw, and the commandant of MCTI presented K3 million donated by U Zaw Win and Daw Nway Nway Win family to Lin Kha La Sayadaw.

They donated day meals to Sayadaws and members of the Sangha and inspected the healthcare services at the Sanphu Monastery.

Due to the heavy rainfall on 11 September, 261 houses were totally destroyed, 336 were partially destroyed, and the death toll reached 26 in Sanphu village, Hopong township, where 4,497 people of 1,095 households were residing.

The SAC member and party then headed to the Hanlwe Monastery and met with flood-impacted people in the Konkyaing village-tract. They consoled the victims and donated K20 million in food and other necessities.

There are 3,617 people from 691 households and 684 houses in Konkyaing village-tract, Pongin region. The flood hit five villages, including 570 people of 140 households; 23 houses were totally destroyed, and 34 were partially destroyed. — MNA/KTZH

DPM MoFA Union Minister meets MISIS members

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe met Members of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) yesterday at the Conference Room of the MISIS.

At the meeting, the Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs reflected on contemporary international relations and the current situation in Myanmar and provided guidance for the future direction of the MISIS.

The Chair and members of MISIS reported on the current implementation process of the MISIS and made briefing of their intellectual views on global and local conditions to the Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Then, the Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Chair, and the members of MISIS exchanged their insightful thoughts on international, regional, and domestic affairs cordially and frankly. — MNA



The meeting between Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe and Members of the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) in progress yesterday.

NATIONAL

DPM MoFA Union Minister attends Saudi Arabia's National Day reception

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe yesterday attended a reception hosted by Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Saud Abdullah Alsubaie at Wyndham Grand Hotel in Yangon on the occasion of Saudi Arabia's 94th National Day.

Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe was welcomed at the reception by the Saudi Arabian ambassador.

After the opening procedures, the

Saudi Arabian ambassador made a greeting speech.

Then, the two leaders cut the cake and posed for the documentary photo together with other attendees.

The ambassador hosted the dinner to participants.

Ambassadors from foreign embassies in Yangon, chargés d'affaires, military attachés and resident representatives of the UN agencies and invitees attended the event. — MNA/KTZH



Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe and Saudi Arabian Ambassador Mr Saud Abdullah Alsubaie cut the ceremonial cake at yesterday's event.

MoEP Union Minister receives Deputy Governor of Yunnan Province

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Nyan Tun received the delegation led by Mr Liu Yong, Deputy Governor of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, yesterday morning at the reception hall of the Union Minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw.

They cordially discussed

matters on continued work between the Ministry of Electric Power and the Yunnan Provincial Government, the successful development of the electricity sector between Myanmar and China, and continued cooperation from various energy sources for the development of Myanmar's electricity sector.

Deputy Minister U Aye Kyaw, heads of department and officials from the Department of Economic Affairs and Department of Energy of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China attended the event. — MNA/TS



Union Minister U Nyan Tun meets Deputy Governor Mr Liu Yong of Yunnan Province in Nay Pyi Taw.

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

MNREC Union Minister receives Deputy Governor of Yunnan Province

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi received Mr Liu Yong, Deputy Governor of Yunnan Province, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially discussed cooperation in forest, mine and environmental conservation between the two countries.

After the event, the China Arts and Crafts Association handed over relief items worth 700,000 yuan for flood-hit people to the

permanent secretary of the Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement. The permanent secretary then gave a certificate of appreciation in return.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Min Thu of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, the permanent secretary, departmental officials and relevant officials of the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Khin Maung Yi holds talks with Deputy Governor Mr Liu Yong of Yunnan Province yesterday.

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

MIFER Union Minister attends ASEAN and Dialogue Partners Economic Ministers' Meetings

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw, who is also the ASEAN Economic Minister of Myanmar, and delegations attended the ASEAN and Dialogue Partners Economic Ministers' Meetings, which were held back-to-back with the 56th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (AEM) in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

The Union minister attended the 20th AEM-EU Trade Commissioner Consultation on the morning of 16 September 2024. At the meeting, Ministers reviewed the activities of the EU-ASEAN Business Council (EU-ABC) and its recommendations and discussed the progress of ASEAN-EU Economic Cooperation Programmes and the implementation of the ASEAN-EU Trade and Investment Work Programme 2024-2025. Then, the Union minister joined the 13th AEM-Russia Consultation, where views were exchanged on potential collaboration to strengthen ASEAN-Russia economic relations under the ASEAN-Russia Trade and Investment Work Programme for 2021-2025. In addition, the meeting noted the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN-Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) economic relations.

In the afternoon, the Union minister participated in the AEM Troika Open-Ended Dialogue with Switzerland's Trade Minister. During the meeting, Ministers adopted the Joint Declaration on Economic Cooperation between ASEAN and the Member States of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). They discussed the possible economic cooperation between ASEAN and Switzerland. Afterwards, the Union minister attended the Fourth AEM-UK Consultation. At the Meeting, Ministers noted the progress of the ASEAN-UK Economic Integration Programme (EIP) 2023-2024. They exchanged views on how ASEAN and the UK can leverage the Programme to further strengthen the economy under the ASEAN-UK Economic Integration Programme from 2024 to 2028.

The Union minister joined the 8th AEM-Hong Kong (China) Consultation on the morning of



Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw participates in the AEM-United States Trade Representatives (USTR) Consultation in Laos.

20 September 2024 and discussed the progress of the Work Programme of the ASEAN-Hong Kong Investment Agreement and the review of the ASEAN-Hong Kong Economic Work Programme. Then, the Union minister attended the AEM-United States Trade Representative (USTR) Consultation. At the meeting, Ministers discussed the implementation of the 2023-2024 ASEAN-US Trade and Investment Framework Arrangement (TIFA) and Expanded Economic Engagement (E3) Work Plan and endorsed the 2024-2025 ASEAN-US TIFA and E3 Work Plan.

In the afternoon, the Union minister attended the 13th AEM-Canada Consultation. Ministers exchanged views and provided guidance on the recommendation of the business mission of the Canada-ASEAN Business Council to ASEAN Countries for promotion of trade and investment between ASEAN and Canada, the implementation of the 2021-2025 Work Plan to Implement the ASEAN-Canada Joint Declaration on Trade and Investment (JDIT), the status of capacity building projects under the Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development (EDM) and the progress of the ASEAN-Canada Free Trade Agreement negotiations. Afterwards, the Union minister participated in the 21st AEM-India Consultation, and Ministers noted the recommendations submitted by the ASEAN-India Business Council (AIBC) and exchanged views on the progress

of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement review negotiations.

On 21 September, the Union minister participated in the meeting with ASEAN, Australia, and New Zealand Economic Ministers at the 29th AEM-CER Consultation. Ministers discussed and provided guidance on the preparations for the forthcoming entry-into-force (EIF) of the Second Protocol to Amend the ASEAN-Australia, New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA), the implementation progress of the AANZFTA Implementation Support Programme of the Economic Cooperation Work Programme and the outcomes of the 2024 ASEAN-CER Integration Partnership Forum (IPF) held on 29 May 2024 in Auckland, New Zealand. Then, the Union minister attended the 30th ASEAN-METI (Japan) Consultation. At the meeting, Ministers discussed the implementation of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement, ASEAN-Japan collaboration initiatives, including Future Design and Action Plan of Innovative and Sustainable ASEAN-Japan Economic Co-Creation 2023-2033 and the recommendations of the Federation of Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry in ASEAN (FJCCIA).

In the afternoon, the Union minister joined the Economic Ministers of ASEAN, Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, and the US at the 12th East Asia Sum-

mit (EAS) Economic Ministers' Meeting and exchanged views on mitigating the impact of regional and global economic uncertainty through collaboration among EAS Countries.

The Union minister participated in the 23rd AEM-MOFCOM (China) Consultation on the morning of 22 September 2024. At the meeting, Ministers discussed and provided guidance on the progress of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA) 3.0, the Work Programme on Further Deepening ASEAN-China Trade and Economic Cooperation, and the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN-China Initiative on Enhancing Cooperation on E-Commerce. Afterwards, the Union minister joined the 21st AEM-ROK (Republic of Korea) Consultation, and Ministers discussed the report on the upgrade of the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA) and the progress report on ASEAN-Korea economic cooperation.

In the afternoon, the Union minister attended the 27th AEM-Plus Three (China, Korea, Japan) Consultation. At the meeting, Ministers noted issues and recommendations raised by the East Asia Business Council (EABC), the progress of implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Economic Cooperation Work Programme 2023-2024 and the progress of the ASEAN Plus Three Industrial Chain & Supply Chain Partnering Conference, and endorsed the ASEAN Plus Three Economic Cooperation Work Programme 2025-2026. Then, the Union

minister participated in the 3rd Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Ministers' Meeting, and Ministers exchanged the experiences of the implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and discussed the establishment of the RCEP Unit at the ASEAN Secretariat.

Mr Malaithong Kommasith, Minister of Industry and Commerce of Lao PDR, chaired the Meetings, which were attended by Economic Ministers of ASEAN, Australia, New Zealand, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Hong Kong (China), Canada, Russia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, EU Trade Commission Representative, the members of business councils, the Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat and representatives. The meetings were joined by U Aung Ko, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Dr Marlar Myo Nyunt, Myanmar SEOM Lead and Director-General of the Foreign Economic Relations Department, and responsible persons together with the Union minister.

During the meeting, the Union minister met Mr Vladimir Ilichev, Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, on 19 September and Mr Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce and Industry, on 21 September, and discussed promoting bilateral economic relations between Myanmar and Russia as well as Myanmar and India, respectively.

The Myanmar delegation led by Dr Kan Zaw, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, arrived back from Vientiane, Lao PDR, on the evening of 23 September 2024 after attending the 56th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Meeting and Related Meetings.

The Union minister and delegation were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by the director-general and officials from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. — MIFER

NATIONAL

Myanmar, Nepal strengthen trade and tourism relations



Myanmar Ambassador U Myo Myint Maung poses for the documentary photo with Ms Rita Dhital, Joint Secretary of the Southeast Asia and Pacific Division at Nepal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A discussion aimed at facilitating smoother trade, cultural exchange, and tourism technological services between Myanmar and Nepal was held at the Nepali Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 20 September, according to Myanmar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The talks also focused on improving the travel experience for Myanmar pilgrims visiting

the Lumbini region of Nepal. The talks were attended by U Myo Myint Maung, Myanmar's Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, and Ms Rita Dhital, Joint Secretary of the Southeast Asia and Pacific Division at Nepal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the discussions, both sides exchanged views on enhancing the longstand-

ing friendly relations between the two nations. Topics included increasing cooperation in trade, culture, tourism, and technical services, as well as further improving the experience for Myanmar pilgrims visiting Lumbini. Both countries expressed their commitments to strengthening collaboration in mutually beneficial sectors. — ASH/KZL

Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation donates K1.5B to flood-hit villages in Shan State



This picture captures actress Khaing Hnin Wai donating to 30 pregnant women with K2 million per person.

ACCORDING to actress Khaing Hnin Wai, the Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation donated K3 million per household to 155 flood-affected families in Kalaw Township, Shan State, on 23 September.

"We provided nearly K500 million in total, with K3 million given to each of the 155 households in Kalaw Township. Following the advice of the Mashikhana Sayadaw, we also donated K1 billion to flood-affected villages in Kalaw, Nyaungshwe, Inlay, and Shwenyaung," said Khaing Hnin Wai.

Khaing Hnin Wai reportedly required two injections after being bitten by a venomous creature during her visit to Kalaw, where she was planning to purchase land for squatters.

The Khaing Hnin Wai Foundation has announced that it had received around K1.7 billion in flood relief donations as of 22 September. — ASH/MKKS

Hay Mar Nay Win to perform solo concert in Yangon on 29 Sept



This photo showcases Hay Mar Nay Win singing at The Round House Royal Kandawgyi on 21 June. PHOTO: SOE THIHA

A solo concert by renowned Myanmar singer Hay Mar Nay Win will take place at The Heart of Rangoon (THOR) in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon, on 29 September, accompanied by the Aurora Band.

"It will be a wonderful evening to reunite with my fans,

whom I haven't seen in a long time, and sing the songs of our generation together with joy. I hope to see you all at the show," Hay Mar Nay Win said.

The One Lady Show by Hay Mar Nay Win will begin at 6:30 pm on 29 September. — ASH/TRKM

Charity concert at Happy World supports Shan State flood victims

A music concert featuring film stars, theatrical professionals, and singers was held at the Happy World amusement park in Dagon Township on 22 September to raise funds for flood victims.

"We originally planned to hold the concert near the southern archway of the Shwedagon Pagoda, but due to heavy rain, the owner of Happy World generously arranged for us to use their hall instead. They also donated funds

for the flood victims and allowed park visitors to enter without admission fees so they could contribute to the relief effort. Additionally, the owner of Haw Nan coffee mix provided coffee for the guests," said actor Moe Set.

It was also reported that the funds raised from the concert will be donated to those affected by the floods in the Kalaw and Inlay regions of Shan State. — ASH/MKKS



This photo depicts the flood fundraising music concert at the Happy World, where music was performed, and hot coffees were treated visitors at the Happy World amusement park.

THE Internal Revenue Department (IRD) allows taxpayers to apply electronic payment through IRD's Tax Payment Hub Portal (<https://onlinepayment.ird.gov.mm>).

The IRD has been upgrading e-payment platforms to facilitate taxpayers. Electronic payment channels are currently available for taxpayers to make corporate tax payments or individual tax payments using a taxpayer identification number or citizenship scrutiny card number.

MPU Debit Card (e-Commerce) through IRD's official website (<https://www.ird.gov.mm/>) and Customer Credit Transfer using CBM Net, i-banking, m-banking, and Pay are eligible to make tax payments for now.

The portal was initially launched on 1 September 2024,

Taxpayers can use IRD portal for e-payments



The portal was initially launched on 1 September 2024, with payment channels such as UAB Pay, UAB Banking, and MPU debit card.

with payment channels such as UAB Pay, UAB Banking, and MPU debit card. Taxpayers will be notified later in a timely manner for electronic payments with mobile banking of other banks

and other Pay digital wallet platforms.

Corporate taxpayers linked with Large Taxpayer Office 1, 2 and Medium Taxpayer Office 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 and individual income

taxpayers with 111 offices of the respective IRD can continue electronic tax payment with the current existing channels of the private banks and MPU Debit.

The e-payment system can

save time, reduce cash use, and check tax payment receipts in the department's data centre and database by registering. This effort can help avoid money loss, fraud and misconduct.

Tax types are Pay-as-you-earn (PAYE), Withholding Tax (WT), Capital Gain (CG), Stamp Duty (SD), Commercial TAX (CT), Income Tax (IT), Gemstone Tax (GT) and Specific Goods Tax (SGT). Taxpayers can enquire e-payment through contact numbers of Taxpayer Service Units (phone at 01 8389311, 01 8389322) for Yangon, (067 3430522, 0673430544) for Nay Pyi Taw, (02 4030192, 02 4030638, 02 4030639) for Mandalay, (01 8378371, 01 8370195, 01 8379021) for e-Service Help Desk Centre and respective township tax offices within office hours, IRD notified. — NN/KK

YGN palm oil reference rate rises to K6,850 per viss this week

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market was set higher to K6,850 per viss this week ending 29 September, up from K6,720 recorded last week ending 22 September 2024, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution.

The figures show a slight increase of 130 per viss this week from last week's rate.

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 Consumer 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

MTB and MWEA ink MoU

TO help promote business management systems, modern technologies and business sustainability needed by Myanmar women's businesses, Myanmar Tourism Bank (MTB) and Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association (MWEA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The MoU was signed on 22 September at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon.

At the ceremony, MTB Executive Director Daw Theingi Lin and MWEA President Daw Kyway Kyway Zin signed the agreement with MTB CEO U Win Lwin and MWEA Vice-President Dr Myat Thida Myint as witnesses.

Both parties signed the



This photo shows the MoU signing ceremony between MTB and MWEA (Photo -Myanmar Tourism Bank).

MoU to provide MTB's banking services for developing business management techniques, modern technologies and sustainability that Myanmar women need in their businesses,

to enable comprehensive development in the various economic and tourism sectors of the country, and to bring forth a brighter future for the members of MWEA. — MT/ZN

Myanmar attends ASEAN Retail-Chains & Franchise Federation annual dinner in Malaysia

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Aung Soe Win attended the ASEAN Retail-Chains and Franchise Federation (ARFF) annual dinner at the Sheraton Hotel in Kuala Lumpur on 20 September.

The ARFF is an organization comprising successful brand owners from 16 Asian countries. Ambassadors and diplomats from various ASEAN nations attended the dinner.

The event was honoured by the presence of YB Dato' Sri

Ismail Sabri, the ninth Prime Minister of Malaysia, who served as the ARFF Honorary Patron, along with YB Khairul Firdaus Akbar Khan, Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, who was the guest of honour. — ASH/TMT

OPINION

ARTICLE Weather Report

Sustain society with natural disaster resilience

2024 is a year of floods occurring in Afghanistan, Brazil, Indonesia, Kenya, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, and other countries worldwide. Recently, Typhoon Yagi intensified in Asia, affecting flash floods, landslides, and inundation in China, Vietnam, northern Thailand, and partially Myanmar.

Rescue teams evacuated hundreds of thousands of people were evacuated from their houses, but hundreds of people were dead, and many others injured in the flooding. In Myanmar, a total of 2,149 buildings were totally destroyed, 3,455 buildings were partially destroyed, and 136,023 buildings were submerged, totalling 141,627 schools, in addition to 546 schools being flooded.

It is true that nobody can evade natural disasters. But they are able to mitigate the impacts of these natural disasters as much as they can. It depends on natural disaster management capacity. Only when all countries systematically implement preparedness, emergency response, and rehabilitation will those countries sustain a society capable of resilience against the impacts of natural disasters.

and overflow of natural water.

Many areas of Myanmar are flood-prone yearly. Lo-lying areas of the nation are experiencing flooding and overflow of rivers and creeks triggered by storms. Terrible loss and damage are increasing in the nation due to climate change. At present, if global people cannot timely conserve forests and reduce the use of fossil fuels not to deform water circularly and cause soil, water and air pollution, the whole world will be warmer than the existing temperature, triggering worse climate change.

It is true that nobody can evade natural disasters. But they are able to mitigate the impacts of these natural disasters as much as they can. It depends on natural disaster management capacity. Only when all countries systematically implement preparedness, emergency response, and rehabilitation will those countries sustain a society capable of resilience against the impacts of natural disasters.

Moreover, he noted that a total of 148,643 people were affected by flooding. Additionally, he continued that 164 people lost life in flooding in Nay Pyi Taw, 5 in Kayin State, 2 in Bago Region, 134 in Mandalay Region, 78 in Shan State and 1 in Ayeyawady, totalling 384 with 89 persons still missing. In the terrible incident, he added that 435 religious buildings were damaged, affecting 533 roads and bridges, 2,489 lamp-posts, 99 telecom towers, 144,998 animals and 735,461 acres of paddy. As such, the government is striving to arrange the cultivation of monsoon paddy as much as possible, and if not, the cultivable lands will be utilized for growing summer crops.

Recently, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology released weather forecasts, stating that the Sittoung and Thaugyin rivers would rise; two deep depressions may occur in the second week of September, one of which may be a storm. As such, people need to take care of flooding

National Self-Defence

By Ma Aye Su (Law)

IN terms of the “Just War Theory”, a nation has the right to self-defence when its sovereignty and independence are encroached. This theory allows a nation to exercise the right to self-defence for its territorial integrity and its political freedom.

National self-defence is to defend the nation from imminent threats. In other words, it is to safeguard a nation’s sovereignty, infrastructure and socioeconomic lives and interests of the citizens. It is also a defence against internal and external threats.

Under the right to national self-defence, the defence of the nation from internal threats means the exercise of national self-defence when violent acts and the attacks of terrorist groups in the country threaten the security and stability of the State. National self-defence is required to be exercised to defend the nation from any form of external threats.

Our country is an independent sovereign State. The

Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (2008) prescribes that “The Sovereign power of the Union is derived from the citizens and is in force in the entire country”, and the Defence Services has the right to administer for the participation of the entire people in Union security and defence.

As our country is an independent sovereign State, it has the right to counter the threats fully as the right to self-defence when its territorial integrity and political freedom are encroached. The government is making endeavours to have perpetual peace and build a Union based on democracy and federalism, whereas some ethnic armed groups are taking advantage of political dilemmas in the country to make the expansion of territories. Such actions of ethnic armed groups are encroachment on territorial integrity and political freedom.

It can be witnessed that some ethnic armed terrorists, insurgents and PDF terrorists

are committing acts of terrorism such as attacks to wreck public security, lives and properties of the people, infrastructure that is important for the public and individuals, State-owned buildings, vehicles, machines and other materials. They also blow up roads and bridges used for public purposes, launch bomb attacks against transmission

of village administrators, hold women like female teachers to ransom and conduct forced recruitments. Such actions are defined as acts of terrorism under the provisions of the Counter Terrorism Law.

Such doings are terrorist attacks against the State and the people residing in the country. Accordingly, some ethnic armed

Under the right to national self-defence, it is required to counter the encroachment on the State’s sovereignty and the acts of terrorism on the State and the people. This issue is not to be regarded as only the Tatmadaw affair but it is also the national affair. Hence, every citizen has the responsibility to safeguard national interests. Every citizen needs to take any role in exercising the right to national self-defence.

towers, shell crowded areas in towns and villages from a distance, launch drone attacks, kill innocent civilians wantonly, make forced arrests and killings

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insurgent groups have been declared as terrorist groups. Under the right to national self-defence, it is required to counter the encroachment on the State’s sov-

eignty and the acts of terrorism on the State and the people. This issue is not to be regarded only as Tatmadaw’s affair; it is also a national affair. Hence, every citizen has the responsibility to safeguard national interests. Every citizen needs to take any role in exercising the right to national self-defence.

Local ethnic residents are

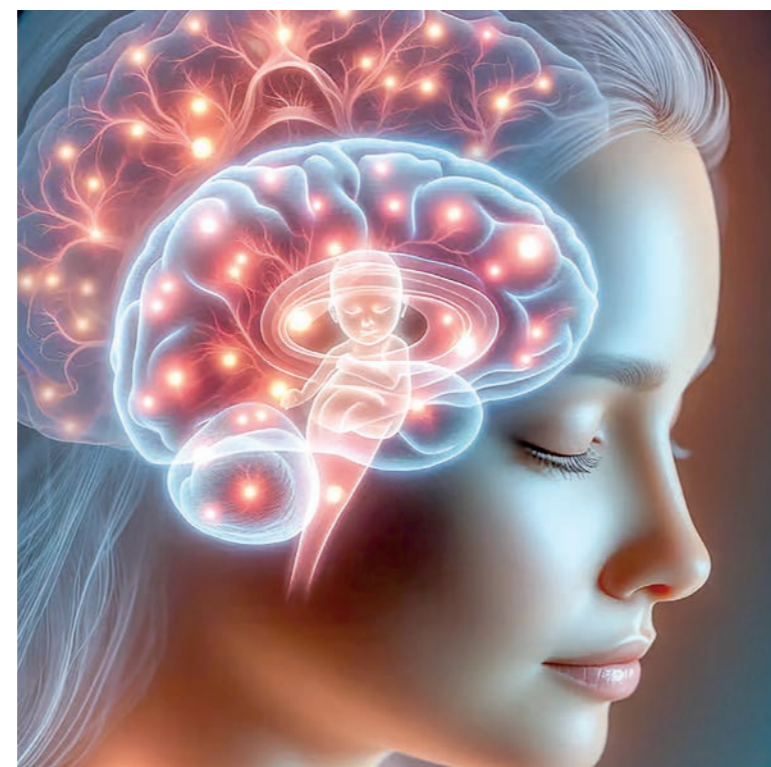
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Researchers Map Brain Changes During Pregnancy, Unveiling Transformation Insights



Researchers at UC Santa Barbara, led by Professor Emily Jacobs, have created the first comprehensive map of a human brain during pregnancy. **ILLUSTRATION: VISUAL REPRESENTATION IMAGE/EASY-PEASY**

The study enhances understanding of the neurobiological adaptations that occur in the maternal brain, an area that has previously been understudied.

PREGNANCY is a transforming period in a person’s life during which the body undergoes rapid physiological adjustments to prepare for parenthood, as we all know. What the broad hormonal alterations caused by pregnancy do to the brain is still a mystery.

Researchers in Professor Emily Jacobs’ group at UC Santa Barbara have created the first-ever map of a human brain during pregnancy, shedding insight on this understudied area.

“We wanted to look at the trajectory of brain changes specifically within the gestational window,” said Laura Pritschet, lead author of a paper just published in Nature Neuroscience (link). Previous studies had taken snapshots of the brain before

and after pregnancy, she said, but never have we witnessed the pregnant brain in the midst of this metamorphosis.

Researchers have conducted an in-depth study of one first-time mother’s brain, tracking changes before, during, and after pregnancy over two years. Collaborating with Elizabeth Chrastil’s team at UC Irvine, they aimed to understand the neurobiological changes occurring during gestation. Using advanced imaging techniques, they observed significant brain reorganization, providing new insights beyond previous pre- and post-pregnancy comparisons.

The study revealed a notable decrease in cortical gray matter volume, particularly as hormone

levels increased during pregnancy. This reduction, which can resemble the brain’s developmental changes during puberty, may indicate a process of “fine-tuning” brain circuits rather than deterioration. Importantly, this suggests that pregnancy triggers a phase of cortical refinement.

Conversely, the researchers also observed a temporary increase in white matter, crucial for inter-regional brain communication, peaking in the second trimester before returning to pre-pregnancy levels at childbirth. This dynamic change had not been documented before and underscores the brain’s remarkable plasticity in a short time-frame.

Source: ANI



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 23 September 2024)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at 17:30 hours MST today, the Low-Pressure Cell over the Central Bay of Bengal still persists. It is likely to move Westwards and may further intensify into a Low-Pressure Area over the Westcentral Bay of Bengal during next 24 hours.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 24 September 2024: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing Region and Northern Shan and Kayah states, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Mandalay regions and Kachin State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is 100%.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The Cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Chin, Eastern Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states. The area along the Cumulonimbus clouds

movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-12 feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of thundery activities in Central Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2024: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2024: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%.

NATIONAL

Collective cleanup, healthcare measures ongoing in flood-hit areas

RELIEF and rehabilitation measures are actively taking place in wards and villages impacted by floods across various states and regions, including the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Yesterday, Tatmadaw members, along with police, firefighters, Red Cross members, volunteers, and the public, engaged in relief efforts such as cleaning up debris and removing fallen tree branches from roads, bridges, and various facilities, including monasteries, schools, hospitals, clinics, and departmental buildings. These efforts were concentrated in Zeyathiri, Pynmana, Tatkon, Lewe, and Pobbathiri Townships within the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, as well as Kalaw Township in southern Shan State, and Loikaw and Loilemlay in Kayah State.

Additionally, healthcare activities and health education sessions were conducted at temporary relief camps.

Donations of supplies, clothing, food, and money were made by Tatmadaw families (Army, Navy, and Air), departmental personnel, associations, and generous individuals to support those affected by the floods. On the same day, Lt-Gen Phone Myat from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), along with Commander Maj-Gen Soe Min of the Nay Pyi Taw Command, visited Thitkhaukhwa Village in Lewe Township, where they encouraged flood-impacted residents and donated rice, food, and K10,000 to each household. They also visited the Thukharama Monastery in the village to make offerings to the Sayadaw.

Similarly, Commander Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt of the Eastern Command and his officers visited the Ottarayon Pariyatti Monastery in Loikaw Township, Kayah State, where they provided assistance to flood-stricken individuals by donating rice, edible oil, and food. On 19 September, they continued their support by delivering rice, oil, and food to flood victims.



The post-flood cleanup measures underway yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Temporary iron frame Bailey bridges are being constructed to replace those destroyed by the floods, enabling road and bridge access for transportation as quickly as possible. — MNA/TMT

by the floods, enabling road and bridge access for transportation as quickly as possible. — MNA/TMT

by the floods, enabling road and bridge access for transportation as quickly as possible. — MNA/TMT

MPT employees unite for flood relief efforts



This photo shows the MPT family donating to flood-stricken people. PHOTO: THIT HSAN

IN areas affected by floods from Typhoon Yagi, donors are collaborating with the state to support relief efforts. In the third week of September, employees from MPT contributed cash and food items to flood relief centres in various regions and states across the country, as well as mobile communication equip-

ment to the Natural Disaster Management Centre.

In flood-impacted areas such as Bago Region (East), Mon State, Kayin State, and Shan State (East and South), MPT staff collectively distributed 18 types of essential food items, clothing, medicines, and K10 million to families affected by the floods. Addition-

ally, MPT is allowing free calls and SMS messages between MPT phones to help residents in these areas communicate during an emergency. MPT has reportedly donated 12 landlines, 12 unlimited SIM cards, and a Wi-Fi line with a data speed of 100MB to the Natural Disaster Management Centre. — Aung Than Oo/TRKM

Pacific AA Group donates relief aid worth K150M for flood-hit areas

PACIFIC AA Group donated aid, including medicines and food, worth K150 million for flood-stricken people, according to AA Medical Products Ltd.

Heavy rains resulted in flash floods in some regions and states. Pacific AA Group went to provide aid worth K150 million for 3,000 families at villages in Toungoo, Ottwin, Yedashe, Swa, and Yeni in Bago Region, villages of Paleik, Singaing, Myitha, TadaU and Kyaukse in Manda-

lay Region, villages of Tatkon, Pyawbwe, Yamethin and Nay Pyi Taw and villages of Kalaw, Inlay, Nyaungshwe and Aungban in Shan State.

Vitamin tablets, oral salt packs, flu and skin ointment tubes, clothes for men, women and kids, mosquito nets and blankets, plates, laundry detergent powder packs, ready-made noodles and canned fish were delivered to 3,000 families. — MT/ZS



This photo showcases the Pacific AA Group providing relief aid.

NATIONAL



Ma Shwesar Noe. PHOTO: KANU

Govt assists Myanmar citizen in safe repatriation from UAE

THE government of Myanmar places great importance on its citizens residing abroad and strives to ensure their safe and swift return to Myanmar in the event of difficulties, regardless of the circumstances they face. To facilitate this, the Myanmar Consulate-General and Embassy coordinate with relevant embassies and ministries to ensure the safe repatriation of its citizens.

In such efforts, the Myanmar Consulate-General in Dubai worked closely with the Dubai police force, the immi-

gration department, and the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization to help repatriate Ma Shwesar Noe, a Myanmar national who encountered difficulties while working in the UAE. That involved securing her outstanding wages, regaining her passport, and facilitating her departure. The Consulate-General also coordinated with MAI to issue an Out Pass, allowing her to return. Ma Shwesar Noe departed Dubai for Yangon on 22 September and arrived in Yangon at 10:15 p.m.

The Myanmar Consulate-General continues to assist other Myanmar nationals in the UAE who are facing hardships, ensuring their safe return. The Myanmar government, through its consulates and embassies, remains committed to assisting Myanmar citizens abroad who experience difficulties. Workers and their families have expressed sincere gratitude to the government, the Myanmar Consulate-General, and the Myanmar Embassy for their efforts in assisting those in need. — Nyein Thu(MNA)/TKO

Counter-argument to false information

Security forces accused of banning donations in Toungoo's flood-hit areas

THE malicious media spread false information, claiming that security forces released directives to report them regarding the donation of relief items in flood-hit villages of Toungoo Township, Bago Region, and legal action will be taken against those who donate for flood-hit villages with intense conflicts under the Counter-Terrorism Law.

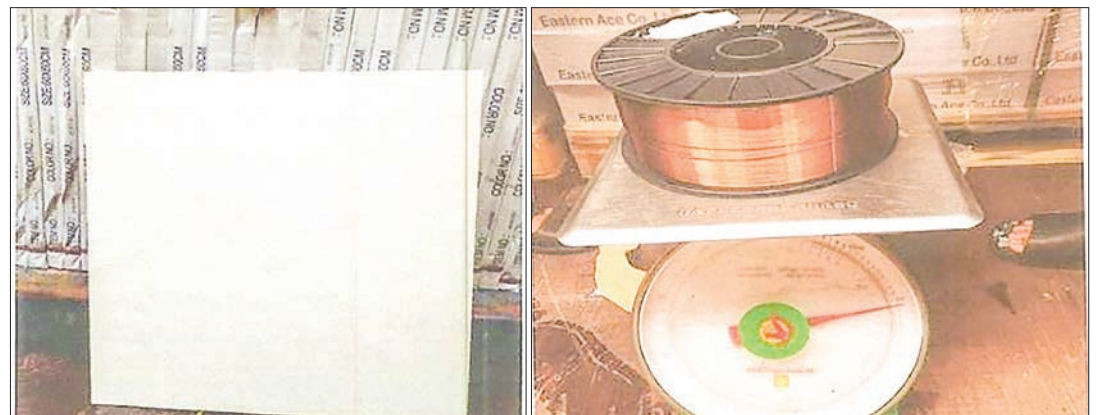
According to a security official of Toungoo, the National Disaster Management Committee released a notice saying the donated food cooked by the well-wishers is kept instead of being consumed instantly due to weather conditions. Such action can grow microbes that can cause food poisoning and spoil. After consuming such food, flood victims have health risks such as vomiting and diarrhoea. Well-wishers are urged to donate through supervisory teams and management teams of relevant townships. Therefore, security force members inspected for security purposes and did not impose any restrictions.

Members of social welfare organizations, Tatmadaw, police force, Red Cross society and fire brigade actively participate in relief measures and rehabilitation processes in flood-battered regions and townships. The malicious media intentionally circulate such fake news to mislead the people about security forces. — MNA/KTZH



This screenshot validates misinformation.

Nationwide crackdown yields K1,607.729M in illegal trade seizures



Porcelain tiles and welding wire are seized at Asia World Port Terminal container checkpoint.

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

On 20 September, teams managed by the Magway Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force carried out inspections, resulting in the seizure of five unregistered motorbikes worth approximately K1.53 million in the Magway, Minbu, and Thayet districts, as well as 0.516 tonne of illegal timber in Natmawk Township, valued at around K92,437. The action was taken under the Import-Export Law and Forest Law.

On the same day, combined teams under the Customs Department inspected and seized two industrial goods

valued at K62.085 million at Myanma Industrial Port and five industrial goods worth approximately K1.457 billion at the Asia World checkpoint. Additionally, on 22 September, they confiscated one type of foodstuff and four types of consumer goods valued at K12.7 million at Yangon International Airport, following proper Customs procedures.

On 22 September, teams under the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force seized two commercial goods, one consumer good, and one foodstuff valued at approximately K4.06 million, along with a Higer bus worth K40 million at the Nyaunkhashay x-ray machine checkpoint. On 23 September, they confiscated 13.601 tonnes of illegal teak and

0.106 tonne of hardwood valued at approximately K12.041 million in Bago District under the Forest Law.

On 23 September, teams managed by the Sagaing Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force conducted inspections. They seized one unregistered Mitsubishi Pajero worth around K10 million and one unregistered Canter truck valued at K8 million at the Yadanabon Bridge checkpoint in Sagaing. The action was taken under the Import-Export Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported that from 20, 22 and 23 September, 23 arrests were made, resulting in the seizure of illegal goods valued at approximately K1,607 million. — MNA/TMT

ECONOMY WORLD

US travel agent delegation eyes business opportunities of China tourism wave

DURING her first visit to China, Jennifer Chernay posed for photos on a bench along the winding corridor of the Yuyuan Garden in Shanghai Municipality, holding a puppet panda in her hands.

The garden Chernay visited has many attractions, including traditional Chinese pavilions, trees, ponds and views of the skyscrapers in Shanghai's financial zone.

"Yuyuan Garden is a place where traditions meet modernity. I like it," said Chernay, a travel consultant at Kahala Travel.

From 9 to 20 September, she and more than 10 other US travel agents, many of whom were visiting China for the first time, explored cities such as Beijing, Xi'an, Chongqing and Shanghai, riding the "China Travel" wave,

which has become a popular trend on social media.

"I think it would be a great experience for my clients to taste China's spicy Sichuan food or Beijing duck, and see friendly Chinese people," Chernay said.

She said that Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum in Xi'an, where the tour delegation was able to appreciate the Terracotta Warriors and experience making their own warrior models, had left a deep impression on her.

The group found it difficult to make the little Terracotta Warrior figurines, so it was "mind-blowing" to think that ancient Chinese people built them by hand, she said, noting that she was impressed by their wisdom.



A member of a delegation of over 10 Los Angeles-based travel agents takes selfies at the Summer Palace in Beijing, capital of China, 11 September 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Gabriel Valeriano, a marketing assistant at California-based Elite Voyages, said: "In China, there are high-speed trains from

one city to another, and many places have subways and public buses. Public transport is easy and we do not always need to

rent a car."

Valeriano said that in-depth tourism connecting cities like Beijing, Xi'an, Chongqing and Shanghai would be attractive to his clients. "People should see the past, present and future of China," he added. He said that travelling to Asia has become more popular as the country has had more exposure on social media in recent years, and that China's 144-hour visa-free transit policy is beneficial to the development of Asia cruise tours.

"We are designing cruise tours of over 10 days to Asia, which connect countries including China, Japan and the Republic of Korea," he said, adding that tourists can stay in each country for a few days and experience different cultures. — Xinhua

Eurozone business activity slumps after Olympics boost

EUROZONE business activity declined for the first time in seven months in September, as France lost steam after the end of the Paris Olympic Games, a key survey said Monday.

S&P Global's purchasing managers' index (PMI) — a key gauge of the overall health of the economy — dropped to 48.9 in September, down from 51 in August.

Any reading below 50 indicated contraction.

"The eurozone is heading towards stagnation. After the Olympic effect had temporarily boosted France, the eurozone heavyweight economy, the Composite PMI fell in September to the largest extent in 15 months," said Cyrus de la Rubia, chief economist at Hamburg Commercial Bank.

"Considering the rapid decline in new orders and the order backlog, it doesn't take much imagination to foresee a further weakening of the economy."

The survey showed that Germany and France, the eurozone's top two economies, were largely responsible for driving the slump in the 20-country single currency area. — AFP



A general view shows the Obelisk on the Place de la Concorde, the Olympic Cauldron in the Tuileries Gardens and the Louvre ahead of the Parade of French athletes who competed in the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris on 14 September 2024. PHOTO: GONZALO FUENTES / POOL / AFP

S Korea's export falls 1.1% in 20 days of September

SOUTH Korea's export slightly fell in the first 20 days of this month due to less business days, customs office data showed Monday.

Outbound shipment shrank 1.1 per cent from a year earlier to US\$35.58 billion in the 1-20 September period, according to Korea Customs Service.

The downturn came as the Chuseok holiday, or an autumn harvest celebration, slashed

the number of working days by 2.5 days in the cited period.

The daily average export spiked 18.0 per cent in the 20-day period. The monthly export maintained an upward trend for the 11th consecutive month through August.

Import decreased 4.5 per cent to \$34.78 billion in the September 20-day period, sending the trade surplus to \$799 million. — Xinhua

Vietnam's semiconductor industry to secure annual revenue of US\$25 bln by 2030

VIETNAM'S semiconductor industry is expected to secure annual revenue of more than US\$25 billion and an added value growth rate of 10-15 per cent by 2030, according to a strategy for developing the country's semiconductor industry by 2030, with a vision to 2050.

From 2030 to 2040, the country targets respective annual revenues of over \$50 billion and

\$485 billion for the semiconductor and electronics industries, which are expected to record an added value growth rate of 15-20 per cent, Vietnam News Agency reported Monday.

By 2050, the semiconductor and electronics industries are expected to double annual revenues and reach a growth rate of 20-25 per cent in added value. — Xinhua

China's digital publishing industry grows rapidly in 2023: report

THE scale of China's digital publishing industry reached 1.618 trillion yuan (about US\$228.89 billion) in 2023, up 19.08 per cent year on year, according to an annual report.

The report, issued by the Chinese Academy

of Press and Publication (CAPP), was released during the 14th China International Digital Publishing Expo that kicked off Saturday in the city of Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province.

By the end of 2023,

the number of Chinese online literature readers reached a record high of 537 million. The overseas market scale for Chinese online literature exceeded four billion yuan, covering more than 200 countries and regions.

Traditional culture has become a significant theme element in various Chinese online culture forms, including literature, animation and games, noted Wei Yushan, head of CAPP, at the expo.

— Xinhua



Writers attend the Global Authors Roundtable Conference of the 2nd Shanghai International Online Literature Week in east China's Shanghai, 6 December 2023. PHOTO: CHINA LITERATURE LIMITED/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA

German govt, auto industry hold crisis talks

THE German government is Monday hosting crisis talks to support the country's beleaguered auto industry, with Volkswagen reportedly calling for subsidies to boost slumping electric car demand.

Germany's flagship auto industry is battling challenges on several fronts, from high manufacturing costs to a troubled transition to electric cars and weakening demand in key market China.

Among the hardest hit has been Volkswagen, Europe's biggest carmaker, which announced earlier this month that it urgently needed to cut costs, and

channel NTV.

German Economy Minister Robert Habeck is hosting the talks online, with participants including top carmakers, the VDA auto industry association, major suppliers and trade unions.

Among suggestions put forward include reintroducing subsidies for electric vehicles, which were phased out last year, leading to large falls in EV sales.

The Spiegel news outlet reported that VW was calling for a government subsidy of 4,000 euros (\$4,450) for the purchase of a pure electric car if the



German car maker Volkswagen (VW) company's headquarters are pictured in Wolfsburg, northern Germany, on 3 September 2024. PHOTO: AFP

was considering the closure of German plants for the first time in its 87-year history.

Ahead of the talks, which were reportedly due to start on Monday afternoon, Volkswagen CEO Oliver Blume said it was a chance to push through rapid help for the industry.

"We have major challenges... Perhaps the biggest in the country at the moment," he told news

manufacturer also offered a discount of 2,000 euros.

Blume said that "entire package" was needed, from subsidies to tax breaks and the price of charging for electric vehicles.

"It is important to exchange ideas, to examine which levers can be used in the short, medium and long term and then to make bold decisions." — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2412S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2412S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **23-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (237N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (237N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BAJO VOY.NO. (V.036N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BAJO VOY.NO. (V.036N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ZHONG SHENG-166 VOY.NO. (2404B)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ZHONG SHENG-166 VOY.NO. (2404B)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-9-2024** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT-1** 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
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING PRIVATE LTD

MYANMA Port Authority "NOTICE of High Tide"

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.01 feet to 20.18 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of October 3rd to October 6th, 2024. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

ROLLING UPDATES: WORLD

Innovations at intl manufacturing convention pave way for future industries

THE 2024 World Manufacturing Convention concluded Monday with a showcase of cutting-edge technologies and pivotal agreements that are set to drive the evolution of future industries.

The convention, which brought together industry leaders, innovators, and policy-makers from across the globe, highlighted the critical role of innovation in shaping the next generation of manufacturing.

Throughout the four-day convention held in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, a total of 718 investment projects worth 369.2 billion yuan (about US\$52 billion) have been signed, underscoring strong collaboration in fields such as artificial intelligence, green technology and advanced manufacturing.

Among the most notable was a partnership agreement between Hefei and Chinese drone maker EHang, which focused on the operations and sales of the company's passenger-carrying autonomous aerial vehicles in east China.

In addition, a cooperation agreement on the production of high efficiency cadmium telluride thin film solar cells was also inked at the convention.

This type of cell has a much lower production cost compared to crystalline silicon



Qijiang-2 humanoid robot hands an orange to a visitor at the 2024 World Manufacturing Convention in Hefei, east China's Anhui Province, 20 September 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

and other solar cells. Additionally, their spectrum is the most consistent with sunlight, allowing them to absorb some 95 per cent of sunlight.

A highlight of the event was the display of several groundbreaking products and technologies that are poised to reshape the manufacturing landscape. Humanoid robots that can mimic human movements with remarkable precision were prominently featured.

One of the standout presentations came from the Anhui Provincial Key Laboratory of Humanoid Robots, which introduced the Qijiang-2 humanoid robot capable of performing delicate tasks such as folding

clothes, opening bottles, wiping dishes and navigating uneven terrain.

"In the future, these humanoid robots will be able to adapt to both industrial production and elderly care scenarios, serving as robot workers and caregivers," said Liu Houde, director of the laboratory.

The convention not only served as a platform for technological advancements but also offered an immersive experience.

At the convention's outdoor exhibition area, visitors were enthralled by an unmanned sightseeing bus equipped with Shine Auto's self-developed autonomous driving technology. — Xinhua

News in brief

8 dead in lightning incident in central India

AT least eight people, including six school children, died and one was injured when lightning struck them amid rains in India's central state of Chhattisgarh on Monday, confirmed a local police official.

The incident took place in the afternoon when children were returning from school in Joratarai village of the state's Rajnandgaon district, added the cop.

Chhattisgarh is one of the states in India that is particularly susceptible to lightning-related fatalities. Earlier this month, seven men had died and three were injured in a similar incident in the state's Balodabazar-Bhatapara district. — Xinhua

30 bodies found in boat adrift off Senegal coast: army

SENEGAL'S navy has recovered at least 30 bodies from a boat discovered adrift around 70 kilometres (43 miles) off the coast of the capital Dakar, the army said Monday.

Investigations are underway to establish where the vessel came from and to confirm the death toll, the army said in a statement posted on social media.

Senegal's coastline sees frequent tragedies involving attempts to reach Europe by boat.

After being alerted to the incident late Sunday, a navy patrol towed the adrift, long, wooden fishing boat known as a pirogue to the port of Dakar where it arrived around 06:00 am (GMT) Monday, the statement said.

A team of doctors, fire service personnel and sanitation workers awaited the convoy's arrival, it added.

"Recovery, identification and transfer operations are being made extremely delicate by the advanced state of decomposition of the bodies," the army statement said.

"So far, 30 bodies have been counted."

Senegal's coasts are one of the main departure points for scores of migrants hoping to reach Europe every year, many heading for the Spanish Canary Islands. — AFP

Dissanayake sworn in as new president of Sri Lanka

ANURA Kumara Dissanayake was sworn in as the ninth executive president of Sri Lanka at the Presidential Secretariat on Monday morning.

Speaking in his inaugural address, he said his administration will face many challenges and his main task is to create a new political culture.

Dissanayake said he will work with experts and make optimum decisions for the

country.

He added that the country needs good relationships with all foreign countries, and he is committed to building great relationships with all.

Dinesh Gunawardena resigned as prime minister earlier and extended his congratulations to Dissanayake on his election as president of the country. — Xinhua

Anura Kumara Dissanayake (R, front) is sworn in as the ninth executive president of Sri Lanka at the Presidential Secretariat in Colombo, Sri Lanka, 23 September 2024. Dissanayake, candidate of National People's Power The National People's Power, emerged as the winner in the presidential election in Sri Lanka held on Saturday, the Election Commission confirmed Sunday. **PHOTO: NPP/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**



SPORTS

Leverkusen edge Wolfsburg in seven-goal thriller in Bundesliga



Bayer Leverkusen's team celebrates after the German first division Bundesliga football match between Bayer Leverkusen and VfL Wolfsburg in Leverkusen on 22 September 2024. **PHOTO: INA FASSBENDER / AFP**

BAYER Leverkusen climbed into second place after coming from behind twice to beat Wolfsburg 4-3 in the Bundesliga on Sunday.

Leverkusen started brightly but fell behind after just eight minutes when defender Nordi Mukiele headed Mohammed Amoura's dangerous header into the wrong net.

The Werkself responded well and equalized six minutes later after Wolfsburg failed to clear the ball out of their area, allowing Granit Xhaka to find Florian Wirtz, who curled the ball into the bottom left-hand corner from

the edge of the box. The Wolves continued to wait for a counterattack as the defending champions began to gain the upper hand as the game progressed.

Both goalkeepers had their hands full of work as Kamil Grabara denied Patrick Schick and Wirtz in quick succession on the half-hour mark, before Amoura shot wide from a promising position.

The hosts completed their comeback moments later when Jonathan Tah headed home Alejandro Grimaldo's corner to make it 2-1. — Xinhua

Myanmar national team prepares for FIFA friendlies against Sri Lanka

ON 22 September, the coaching staff of the Myanmar national football team announced a preliminary list of 39 players who will be trained for upcoming FIFA international friendlies.

These players will begin their training session on 24 September 2024, with further selections to determine the final squad for the friendly

matches.

The Myanmar national team is scheduled to face the Sri Lankan national team in FIFA international friendlies in Yangon on 10 and 13 October. The Sri Lankan team features players from various countries, including Germany, Australia, Norway, Ireland, Iceland, France, Sweden, Kenya, Hong

Kong, and the Maldives. They advanced to the next round after defeating Cambodia in the third qualifying match for the 2027 Asian Cup.

Currently, the Sri Lankan national team is ranked 200th in the FIFA world rankings, while the Myanmar national team holds the 167th position. — Htun Htun/TKO



Myanmar National Team's training in camp before playing with Japan's National Team in the match of FIFA World Cup 2026 Preliminary Competition Asian Zone (Round 2).

FC Barcelona remain top of La Liga with an impressive 5-1 win away to Villarreal to make it six wins from six games, but could have paid a heavy cost as goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen suffered what could be a season-ending knee injury.

Ter Stegen suffered the injury while claiming a corner two minutes into the second half after two goals from Robert Lewandowski had put Barca ahead, and Ayoze Perez pulled one back for the home side.

Pablo Torre added Barca's third just before the hour, with Raphinha adding two more in 74 and 83 minutes.

Atletico Madrid dropped points with a 1-1 draw away to Rayo Vallecano in which they again punched below their summer spending.

Isi Palazon put Rayo ahead with an excellent goal with Conor Gallagher levelling for Atletico after the break to further increase his status at the club.



Barca win with big price in La Liga

Barcelona's Brazilian forward (11) Raphinha kicks the ball and scores his team's fifth goal during the Spanish league football match between Villarreal CF and FC Barcelona at La Ceramica stadium in Vila-real, on 22 September 2024. **PHOTO: JOSE JORDAN / AFP**

Athletic Bilbao move up to third with a 3-1 win at home to Celta, which gives them their third triumph in a week.

Gorka Guruzeta's

fourth-minute flick put Athletic ahead, but Iago Aspas levelled from the penalty spot in the 25th minute.

Guruzeta's second of the

game put Athletic back ahead after 39 minutes before Alvaro Djalo's first goal for the club sealed the win 10 minutes from time.

Earlier in the day, Getafe and Leganes drew the south-Madrid derby 1-1 with Borja Mayoral's 83rd-minute penalty for the home side, cancelling out Jorge Saez's goal for Leganes seven minutes earlier.

On Saturday, Vinicius Jr helped Real Madrid notch a 4-1 win at home to Espanyol.

Thibaut Courtois deflected a low cross into his own net in the 54th minute to give Espanyol the lead, but some poor defending allowed Dani Carvajal to tap in the equalizer four minutes later.

Vinicius sent over a pinpoint cross for Rodrygo to score Madrid's second goal in 75 minutes and added a third three minutes later as Espanyol gave the ball away cheaply in midfield.

Kylian Mbappe scored a penalty in the last minute after Endrick had been pulled back to net Madrid's fourth. — Xinhua



Xi calls for accelerating progress in China's space endeavours

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Monday encouraged personnel in China's space industry to continue to work hard and accelerate progress in space endeavors.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, met the representatives of space scientists and engineers who participated in the research and development of the Chang'e-6 lunar mission at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

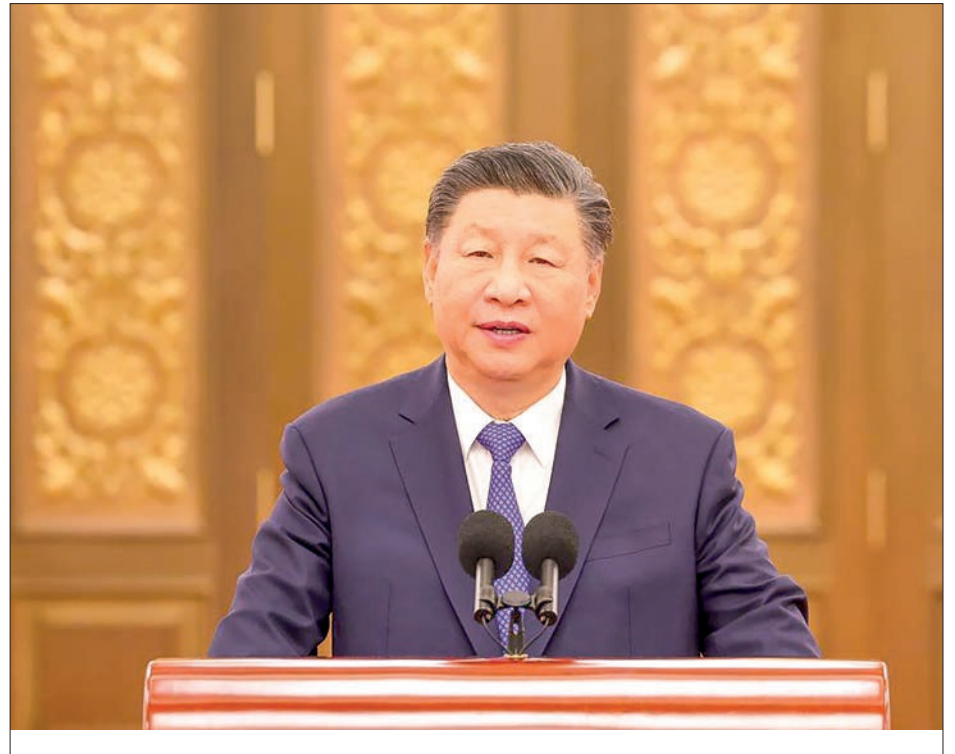
Xi stressed that the achievements of the lunar exploration project embody the wisdom and hard work of several generations of Chinese aerospace workers, and demonstrate the remarkable accomplishment the country has made

in scientific and technological self-reliance in recent years.

He urged efforts to promote the spirit of lunar exploration, characterized by "chasing dreams, daring to explore, collaborating to overcome challenges, and achieving win-win cooperation", to further enhance the national confidence and pride of all Chinese people, and build up a great force for comprehensively promoting the building of a strong country and realizing national rejuvenation through Chinese modernization.

The Chang'e-6 probe was launched from China on 3 May. On 25 June, its returner made a landing in north China, bringing back 1,935.3 grammes of samples from the far side of the moon.

Xi noted that Chang'e-6, for the first



Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, delivers an important speech in Beijing, capital of China, 23 September 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

time in human history, collected samples from the moon's far side, breaking through a number of key technologies, marking another landmark achieve-

ment in China's endeavours in space as well as in science and technology. It is an important milestone for China's lunar exploration project. — Xinhua

Iran warns Israel of 'dangerous consequences' of Lebanon strikes



Smoke billows from a site targeted by Israeli shelling in the southern Lebanese village of Burj el-Shmali on 23 September 2024. The Israeli military on 23 September told people in Lebanon to move away from Hezbollah targets and vowed to carry out more "extensive and precise" strikes against the Iran-backed group. PHOTO: AFP

IRAN'S foreign ministry warned Israel on Monday of "dangerous consequences" following deadly strikes on Hezbollah strongholds in Lebanon.

Foreign ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani called the Israeli strikes "insane", and warned of "the dangerous consequences of the Zionists' new adventure".

Israel on Monday launched a wave of air strikes targeting Iran-backed Hezbollah forces in southern Lebanon, killing at least 182 people including children, according to Lebanon's health ministry.

The attacks mark the largest escalation of violence between Hezbollah and Israel since the war in the Gaza Strip erupted

on 7 October. Kanani said Israel's "crimes" in Palestinian territories and their "expansion to Lebanon are a clear example of a serious threat to regional and international peace". He strongly criticized US support for Israel called upon the United Nations Security Council "to take immediate action to stop these crimes". — AFP

BRICS helps build fairer, more equitable global governance system: survey

THE BRICS mechanism contributes to building a fairer and more equitable global governance system, said a survey published Monday.

The Global Survey: BRICS Cooperation in the New Era of Global Development 2024, conducted in 30 countries with 12,316 valid samples, showed the average recognition of the role of the BRICS mechanism in improving the global governance system reached 94.6 per cent among the participants. The respondents believed that the BRICS mechanism would enhance the representation of developing countries in global governance and enhance the reform and improvement of the global governance system, the survey said.

Such sentiment is stronger among developing countries, with recognition in the BRICS countries and other developing nations exceeding 95 per cent, the survey noted, adding that countries like Russia, Brazil, Pakistan, Cuba, Peru and Mexico all have a recognition rate of over 96 per cent. — Xinhua