

First Face-to-Face APhO After the Pandemic



Mongolia hosted the 23rd Asian Physics Olympiad (APhO) successfully in Ulaanbaatar on May 22-28 under the auspices of President of Mongolia Khurelsukh Ukhnaa. 195 students from 27 countries of the Asia-Pacific region were asked to solve theory and experiment-based complex questions of Physics.

On May 27 the results of the APhO were summed up and a total of 33 stu-

dents won Gold Medals and 17 students got Silver Medals while Honorable Mention went to 34 students.

Lang Cheng Chao from China became the Absolute Winner and also won Best Performance in Theoretical Examination and Egor Potapov from

Russia gained Best Performance in Experimental Examination.

At the APhO 2023, all the students from the Chinese and Russian teams won gold medals and Chinese student Lang Cheng Chao obtained the highest score of 33.5 points. The 11th-grader L. Dulguun from the host coun-

try, won a bronze medal, the second bronze of Mongolia at APhO after 14 years.

All students were tasked to complete three theoretical tests and two problems in the Experimental Examination for five hours each. The experimental apparatus used for the exam were

manufactured in Taiwan by the order of Mongolian physicists.

"Experimental Exam has 5-6 problems in each on two topics. In the first part, we use a mechanism design with a very precise configuration developed by us. The second part is characterized by experiments using materials at hand, in which students study a single physical phenomenon and gain a wide range of knowledge," said B. Bat-Otgon from the National University of Mongolia.

On the 7th day of the APhO Nobel laureate Professor Konstantin Sergeyevich Novoselov delivered a lecture "Materials for the future". Although it was not included in the schedule of the Nobel laureate's visit to Mongolia, at the request of Minister of Education and Science L.Enkh-Amgalan, he specially signed on all medals' strap of the 23rd APhO.

"An online competition is no less rigorous, but somehow it seems to lack an important aspect of the competition: the networking and camaraderie that develops as we participate in the Olympiad. I am grateful and glad that Mongolia has this time round agreed to organize it this year face-to-face for the first time," noted President of the Asian Physics Olympiad, Leong Chuan Kwe.

During the closing ceremony of the Olympiad, Malaysia was named as the host country for the 24th Asian Physics Olympiad, and the Olympiad flag was officially handed over to the country.



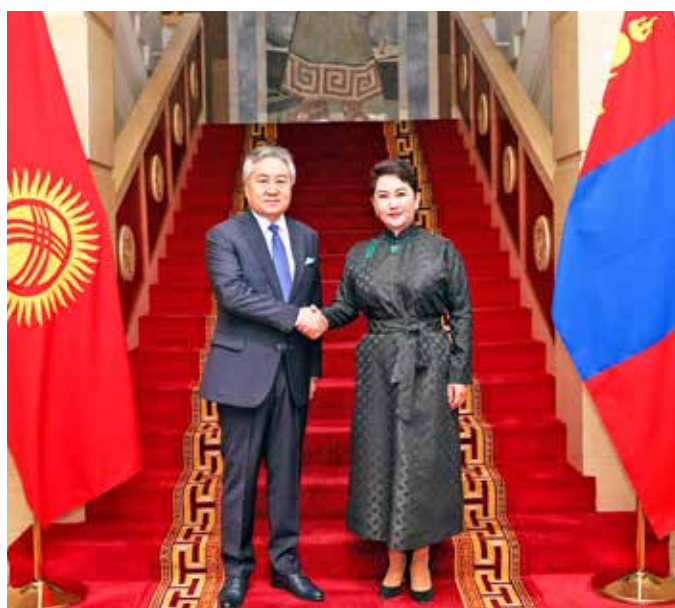
Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Visits Mongolia

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic Zh.Kulubaev paid Official Visit to Mongolia on May 29-30. The Visit by Minister Zh. Kulubaev held great significance as it marks a decade since the last visit by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan to Mongolia.

On May 30, Minister of Foreign Affairs B. Battsetseg held official talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic Zh. Kulubaev.

In a warm and official atmosphere, the Ministries evaluated the current state of the relations and cooperation between Mongolia and Kyrgyzstan. They addressed a range of issues on further extending the relation to other areas, such as politics, trade, economy, logistics, agriculture, culture, and tourism, and discussed expanding the joint commitments in the international and regional arena.

Mentioning the fact that



Mongolia has been maintaining friendly relations and cooperation with Kyrgyzstan over the past

30 years, Minister B. Battsetseg affirmed the commitment to enrich the bilateral relations with

economic content and intensify the cooperation based on shared characteristics of both nations as landlocked developing countries.

Foreign Minister of Kyrgyzstan Zh. Kulubaev is accompanied by Kyrgyz Minister of Agriculture Djanybekov, Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade, and other officials. In this regard, Minister Zh.Kulubaev underlined the wide range of possibilities to develop cooperation in agriculture in a mutually beneficial way.

The parties agreed to support economic cooperation between the two countries, with a focus on facilitating the export of meat and meat products from Mongolia to Kyrgyzstan and other Central Asian countries through Kyrgyzstan, in turn, the import of fresh fruits and vegetables from Kyrgyzstan to Mongolia at the state policy level. In this regard, the parties highlighted the importance of close cooperation

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Bloomberg commodity price 2023/06/02		
GOLD	USD/t oz.	1,975.30
COPPER	USD/lb.	363.45
SILVER	USD/t oz.	23.37
BRENT CRUDE	USD/bbl.	71.83
WHEAT	USD/bu	576.50

Foreign Minister Visits Saudi Arabia



Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Political Consultative Meeting Signed

Within the framework of the Official Visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Minister of Foreign Affairs B. Battsetseg held a meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs, HH Prince of Saudi Arabia Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud on May 25.

During the meeting, the parties exchanged in-depth views on bilateral relations and cooperation. On the sideline of the meeting, the Ministers signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Political Consultative Meeting between Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia and agreed to organize the first Political Consultative Meeting in near future. Minister B. Battsetseg noted that within the framework of the foreign policy that Mongolia is developing with Gulf countries, there are wide opportunities to develop mutually beneficial cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in coordination with the development policies of the two countries.

In this context, she expressed interest in attracting investments from Saudi Arabia in the mining, energy, and agriculture sectors, initiating the export of meat and meat products from Mongolia, and mutually supporting tourism and student exchange. Meanwhile, the Minister proposed to jointly implement projects and programs within the framework of green development.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs HH Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud emphasized the importance of actively developing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries in the aforementioned fields. He expressed his delight that this Official Visit marks the beginning of further cooperation between the two foreign ministries.

Enhancing Tourism and Trade: Mongolia and Saudi Arabia Forge Partnership

On the same day (May 25), Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia B. Battsetseg met with Her Highness Princess Haifa bint Muhammad Al-Saud, the Deputy Minister of Tourism of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

During the meeting, Minister B. Battsetseg expressed the intention to support the development of the tourism industry between Mongolia and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, following the declaration of "Years to Visit Mongolia" by the Mongolian Government for the period 2023-2025.

The parties agreed to establish joint communication and promotional efforts between enterprises in the tourism industry of both countries.

Additionally, Minister B. Battsetseg proposed the establishment of direct flights to enhance tourism activities between the two countries, as well as air transport connections between Mongolia and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Moreover, discussions were held on activating trade and economic investment activities between the two nations, specifically focusing on the supply of halal meat and meat products from Mongolia to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Her Highness Princess Haifa bint Muhammad Al-Saud, the Deputy Minister of Tourism, expressed her commitment to improving and expanding activities related to tourism and cultural development with Mongolia. Furthermore, members of the Saudi Arabian Motorsport Association expressed their interest in visiting Mongolia during the upcoming summer.

Environmental and Green Development Cooperation to be Intensified

As part of her Official Visit, Minister B. Battsetseg met the Minister of State and Member of the Council of Ministers of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia HH Prince Turki bin Muhammad bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz Al Saud on May 26.

The parties exchanged in-depth views on expanding bilateral relations and cooperation, with a special focus on reciprocating high-level visits this year and enriching the bilateral relations with economic content. Then, the parties agreed to jointly implement mutually beneficial projects and enhance the legal basis of the relations between the two countries.

Expressing the intention to develop mutually beneficial cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in coordination with the development policies of the two countries, within the framework of the foreign policy that Mongolia is developing with Gulf countries, Minister B. Battsetseg noted the significance that the Mongolian side has been attaching to the cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the environment and combating climate change efforts.

On his side, HH Prince Turki bin Muhammad bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz Al Saud expressed his delight in expanding relations and cooperation between the two countries and affirmed his readiness to cooperate in all possible fields to develop bilateral relations and cooperation, especially in the environment and green development fields.

Mongolia-Kazakhstan Intergovernmental Commission Meeting Held

The 9th Meeting of the Mongolia-Kazakhstan Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) on Trade, Economic, Science, Technological, and Cultural Cooperation was held in Ulaanbaatar on May 26. The Meeting was co-chaired by Minister of Finance of Mongolia B. Javkhlan, and Minister of Information and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan Darkhan Kydyrali.

The current situation of trade and economic cooperation between Mongolia and Kazakhstan, and further development of cooperation in trade, economic, investment, logistics, cultural, tourism, and information technology areas were discussed during the Meeting.

The parties agreed to develop a road-map for intensifying the cooperation between the two countries in trade, economy, and investment in 2023-2025.

Recognizing transport and logistics as inseparable parts of trade and economic cooperation, the parties pledged to support each other in overcoming challenges that the landlocked countries face to access the sea. Moreover, the meeting included a discussion of prospects for cooperation in forestation by coordinating the national campaigns of "One Billion Trees" of Mongolia and "Two Billion Trees" of Kazakhstan.

In connection with the declaration of "Years to Visit Mongolia" by the Mongolian Government for the period 2023-2025, the parties discussed expanding the cooperation in the tourism sector by leveraging the mutual visa exemption and

direct flights between the two countries, with particular attention on developing the eco and ethnic tourism.



In the scope of strengthening the ties between the business communities of the two countries, establishing a Mongolia-Kazakhstan Business Council and supporting the cooperation between the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the two countries were also considered within the Meeting's agenda.

On the sideline of the Meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Environmental Sector between the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia and the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan was signed.

Following the Meeting, Minister of Finance of Mongolia B. Javkhlan, and Minister of Information and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan Darkhan Kydyrali signed the Final Minutes of the IGC meeting.

The next meeting of the IGC was tentatively planned to be organized in 2025 in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Visits Mongolia

Continued from page 1

between the veterinary service and animal quarantine organizations of the two countries. Within the framework of the "Years to Visit Mongolia", the Ministers discussed possibilities to broaden the cooperation in tourism by leveraging the mutual visa exemption and reviving the direct flight between the two countries.

The "Mongolia-Kyrgyzstan Friendship Grove" project is planned in Erdenet City as part of the "One Billion Trees National Campaign" initiated by the President of Mongolia. This project will symbolize the joint commitment of the two

Mongolia Khurelsukh Ukhnaa.

President Receives Kyrgyz Foreign Minister

President of Mongolia Khurelsukh Ukhnaa received Foreign Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic Zh. Kulubaev on May 30.

At the outset of the meeting, President U. Khurelsukh noted the existence of great potential in trade, economic, cultural, and humanitarian cooperation and stated the importance of advancing bilateral relations to a new level. Moreover, the President expressed confidence that Kyrgyz's President S. Zhaparov's Visit to



countries to protecting the environment and combating climate change.

They also discussed issues, including the regularization of the mechanism of consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the exchange of young diplomats, and the training of our diplomats in foreign language courses at the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan. Our two countries have actively cooperated in international and regional fields, and the parties confirmed that they are committed to deepening cooperation within the framework of the United Nations and other international organizations.

Following the Official Talks, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia B. Battsetseg held a press briefing. During the briefing, Minister B. Battsetseg highlighted the Kyrgyz side's decision to open its embassy in Mongolia during a State Visit of President of the Kyrgyz Republic S. Zhaparov, who will visit Mongolia in July, by the invitation of President of

Mongolia, which will take place during the Naadam Festival, would bring impetus for intensifying political dialogues and expanding cooperation between the two countries.

For his side, Minister Zh. Kulubaev expressed the interest of the Kyrgyz side in maintaining mutually beneficial cooperation in trade, economics, defense, agriculture, light industry, education, and transportation sectors. In addition, the consonance between the goals and objectives of the "One Billion Trees" national campaign, initiated by President of Mongolia U. Khurelsukh, and the initiative of President S. Zhaparov "Zhashyl Muras" was highlighted.

It is noteworthy that the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, which was commemorated last year, was of high significance in bringing the relations and cooperation between the people of the two countries closer.

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WEATHER

Sunrise: 04:57 Sunset: 20:43

■ Ulaanbaatar and Central Aimag: Night temps between +4 C and +7 C. Day time temps between +12 C and +19 C
■ Eastern Aimag: Night temps between +8 C and +12 C. Day time temps between +21 C and +24 C
■ Western Aimag: Night temps between +6 C and +8 C. Day time temps between +15 C and +24 C
■ Gobi Aimag: Night temps between +4 C and +9 C. Day time temps between +14 C and +22 C

President Receives the WHO Representative



President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa received Socorro Escalante, the Resident Representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) to Mongolia, on May 29.

At the beginning of the meeting, the President expressed gratitude on behalf of the people of Mongolia to the WHO for their continuous support during the Covid-19 pandemic. He also acknowledged that this year marks the 75th anniversary of the WHO and emphasized Mongolia's commitment

to this year's theme of "Health for All."

The President emphasized the importance of developing Mongolia's healthcare system in alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and expressed the intention to expand cooperation with the WHO within the framework of the interrelated national campaigns, "One Billion Trees," "Food Supply and Security," and "Healthy Mongolian."

The WHO Resident Representative to Mongolia Socorro Escalante commended the acces-

sibility and quality of primary healthcare services as well as the professional skills of Mongolian doctors and specialists, based on her recent visits to healthcare organizations in Mongolia.

The WHO fully supports Mongolia's national campaigns, "One Billion Trees," "Food Supply and Security," and "Healthy Mongolian," initiated by the Mongolian President. In this context, Socorro Escalante affirmed her commitment to achieving common goals during her tenure in Mongolia.

Socorro Escalante said, "Through our collaboration, we aim to strengthen Mongolia's healthcare system, advance the 'Healthy Mongolian' national campaign, enhance health security capacity, promote healthy environment, and improve the ability to combat both infectious and non-infectious diseases. These directions will be reflected in our five-year strategic document."

President U. Khurelsukh wished Socorro Escalante, the WHO Resident Representative, success in her future endeavors and pledged support in maintaining close and fruitful cooperation.

U. Khurelsukh: The Government Shall Establish Favorable Condition for the Well-Being of Women at Border

On the eve of the imminent 90th anniversary commemorating the establishment of the contemporary border protection organization, an assembly of over 450 female border guards has convened at the Central Cultural Palace.

During the conference, deliberations centered around pragmatic approaches to address the societal challenges faced by women border guards, the advancement of border units, as well as the values and leadership of female border personnel. In light of the occasion, the President of Mongolia and the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Khurelsukh Ukhnaa conveyed his felicitations to the women border guards and their families.

The President emphasized that it is the responsibility of both the State and the Government to establish favorable conditions for the well-being of numerous women at the border units who have left their hometowns, families, and careers to accompany their husbands. He expressed belief



that these women residing in border areas and women border guards will make significant contributions towards fostering holistic development within military units and organizations. This includes creating green surroundings, promoting productivity within households, and shaping a robust and healthy Mongolian society.

Furthermore, the Government, alongside relevant organizations and officials, was urged to promptly implement measures

aimed at increasing the wages of public servants operating in remote regions. Additionally, efforts should be directed towards improving educational and training opportunities for children residing in border areas, while also introducing technological advancements. It is noteworthy that women constitute 38.5 percent of the total workforce within the border guard organizations, with many of them employed in remote divisions and units.

The Government Funds' Information Made Open

On May 26, Minister of Digital Development and Communications N. Uchral briefed the press on the Government funds which information is made available on shilen.gov.mn under the Government's Five W Campaign against corruption.

According to the Minister's presentation, all information on the Government Funds for Environment and Climate, Science and Technology, Crime Victim Compensation, Film Art, and Aid for Citizens Abroad has been fully uploaded to and updated on the website. In addition, information on the other four Government Funds, namely the Public Service Fund, Health Insurance Fund,

Budget Stabilization Fund, and the Government's Reserve Fund, will be uploaded to the site for public access next week.

Minister of Digital Development and Communications N. Uchral said, "The Government provides over 25 funding schemes, but it should be noted that not all of them are funded by the Government. Indeed, we do need these funds. Most importantly, the target groups of the funds must be reached and benefit from them."

As of today, we have made information about 14 funds publicly available. In accordance with the Law on Public Information Transparency, we will continue our efforts to pro-



vide citizens with open access to information."

CABINET SESSION



At its session on May 31, the Cabinet made the following decisions:

The Cabinet discussed a Draft Law on Amending the Law on Budget - 2023 and decided to submit it to the State Great Khural.

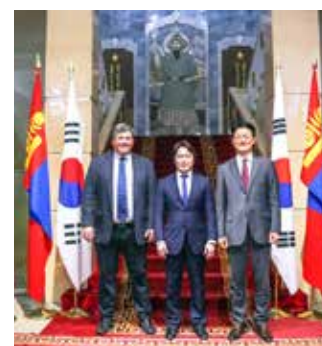
As of Q1 2023, the budget revenue has exceeded the projections and the economy has

grown by 7.9 percent, leading in Asia. Therefore, the Cabinet decided to increase the salary of public organizations, pensions for the elders, and welfare for vulnerable groups.

Minister of Labor and Social Protection Kh. Bulgantuya said, "Half of the budget adjustment of MNT 1.8 trillion will be spent on increasing salaries of public servants, resulting in pay raises for 217,000 out of the total 225,000 employees. The pay raise will range from 10 to 50 percent."

First Tripartite Meeting between Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the USA

The first tripartite meeting between Mongolia, the Republic of Korea, and the United States was held in Ulaanbaatar on May 30.



The Mongolian side was led by Director of the Policy and Planning Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs G. Byambasuren, representatives of the Republic of Korea – by Director of the Department of Northeast Asia of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Choi Yong jun, and the US representatives – by Assistant Secretary of the Department of State Mark Lambert. At the first meeting, the parties exchanged views on a wide range of regional and international security issues of mutual interest and agreed to cooperate in the fields of trans-

port and logistics networks, energy, mineral resources, food security, climate change, and development cooperation.

The parties agreed to organize the tripartite meeting on a regular basis and issued a joint statement.

PM Holds Discussion with Arts and Culture Sector Employees

On May 29, Prime Minister L. Oyun-Erdene convened his 12th-morning meeting with the representatives of the culture and arts sector, in the presence of Minister of Culture Ch. Nomin, Minister of Finance B. Javkhlan, and Minister of Labor and Social Protection Kh. Bulgantuya. This meeting serves as a vital platform for decision-making level discussion on matters pertaining to the culture and arts sector, aiming to foster collaboration and address pertinent issues at hand.



The meeting was attended by representatives of the management and artists of the Mongolian Grand Theatre of National Arts, Mongolian State Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet, Mongolian State Academic Drama Theatre, Mongolian State Philharmonic Orchestra, Choijin Lama Temple Museum, National Library of Mongolia, Children's Central Library of Mongolia, and Arkhangai Aimag Musical Drama Theatre. They discussed and exchanged opinions about implementing the Government decisions and the problems in the field of culture and arts.

The participants of the meeting noted that artists and service workers in the culture and art sector, comprising approximately 30 percent of the total workforce earn a monthly salary of MNT 500,000 and urged to raise the current wage to MNT 1 million. Additionally, there is a need to increase the basic salary for employees at different levels within the sector and pro-

vide bonuses for the degree of qualification and expertise in compliance with the provisions outlined in the Law on Culture.

The current budget constraints, resulting from the implementation of the Law on Austerity, have significantly impacted the ability of libraries and cultural centers to augment their treasury or publication and artwork collections. In addition, measures should be taken to improve the funding and environment for secondary school libraries and allocate sufficient resources for this purpose. Furthermore, it is imperative to address the issue of librarians' low salaries and the provision of modern equipment for cultural and artistic institutions.

To elevate the status of professional artists, it is recommended to consider reducing taxes and commissions imposed on wages, while also focusing on providing substantial increases in actual take-home pay. Moreover, state policy should be developed to support lighting and other cultural specialists to overcome human resource shortages and improve the overall condition in the sector.

Construction of Cross-Border Railway to Double Exports Begins



The construction of a 7.1 km railway connecting the Mongolian port Shiveekhuren with the Chinese port Sekhe started on May 27. Shiveekhuren border port, located in

Gurvantes soum of Umnugobi aimag is a strategically important port through which 48 percent of Mongolian export coal is transported to China.

According to the Governmen-

tal Resolution No.186 of May 17, a permit for the construction of the railway infrastructure of the Shiveekhuren-Sekhe port cross-border narrow-gauge railway was granted to "Nariin-

sukhait Railway" LLC, and the construction is scheduled to be completed by October of next year.

Prime Minister of Mongolia L. Oyun-Erdene attended the opening ceremony of the construction and delivered a speech.

The Prime Minister underlined that connecting Shiveekhuren-Sekhe ports by railway is of exceptional strategic significance since it is a part of the western vertical axis railway of Mongolia in route of Shiveekhuren-Nariin-sukhait-Artssuuri, which will be the cross-border railway of the "Economic Corridor" of Mongolia, the Russian Federation, and the People's Republic of China.

PM Oyun-Erdene said, "The economy continues to recover day by day due to the restoration of the port, the demolition of the corrupt system, and the revelation of the hidden economy. The economy, which was -4.6 percent in 2020, grew by 1.6 percent in 2021, 4.8 percent in 2022, and 7.9 percent in the first quarter of 2023. The state budget revenue exceeded by MNT 1.1 trillion, foreign exchange reserves reached USD 3.8 billion, and the gross domestic product per capita reached USD 5 thousand for the

first time. Today, in the scope of the Port Revival, as part of the "New Revival Policy," we are starting the construction work to connect Shiveekhuren Port of Mongolia with Sekhe Port of China by railway through public-private partnerships, which will make an important contribution to the economy of the country."

With the completion of the Shiveekhuren-Sekhe port cross-border railway, the port's export capacity, including coal export will double reaching 20 million tonnes.

In this way, based on free market competition, it will become possible to export the coal, mined in the region saving time and costs, and procure to the main export markets, as well as to increase the value of the mineral deposits in the Gobi region and open up new opportunities for economic turnover.

On the day, Prime Minister L. Oyun-Erdene got acquainted with the work of transporting coal with driverless smart transport or AGV at Shiveekhuren port. The transport has been in operation since December 2022 and can transport 6.5 million tons of coal per year.

Government Paying Special Attention on Revival of Industrialization

By the initiative of Prime Minister L. Oyun-Erdene, the National Conference on Industrialization took place on May 26 in the State Palace.

One of the key goals of the Government's "New Revival Policy" is "Revival of Industrialization." The main purpose of the Conference is to provide concrete solutions on a large scale for enhancing the utilization of energy and infrastructure potential and coordination of public and private sectors, which are crucial for the sector's investment, legal environment, and the recovery of industrialization. Approximately 1000 domestic and foreign representatives participated in the conference, which was co-organized by the National Industrialization Committee, Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry, National Mining Association, and "Erdenes Mongol" Association.

Prime Minister L. Oyun-Erdene underlined that the signi-

ficance of this Conference is to determine the solutions to increase the export of mining products, which is a backbone of the country's economy, and diversify the economy. Over the past two years, the Government has been focusing on overcoming the difficulties of the pandemic, and has announced to implement "New Revival Policy." All attention was focused on the core of the medium-term policy – "Port Revival."

Quite a number of important results have been achieved, such as agreeing on the border connection point that was not able to be resolved for many years, and commissioning Gashuunsukhait and Zuunbayan railways into operation, which aims to increase the export transportation gates of mining products. The Government has paid particular attention to the digital transition of public services and has integrated approximately 1000 services of more than 80 Government organizations into the "E



Mongolia 3.0" system. Similarly, the Prime Minister officially announced that the Government will pay exceptional attention to intensifying the "Revival of Industrialization."

Mongolia ranks 15th in the world with 173 billion tons of coal reserves, and 6th in Asia with 74 thousand tons of uranium reserves. A total of 36 million tons of copper reserves, about 250 million tons of oil reserves,

11 billion tons of iron ore reserves, and three million tons of rare earth element reserves have been registered, while 22 million tons of feldspar reserve accounts for nine percent of the world's reserves.

To this extent, the mining sector accounts for 93 percent of Mongolia's exports and 69 percent of foreign direct investment. For our country with the dominance of raw materials

export, the primary goal is to build up process plants of the main raw materials such as coal, oil, copper, and iron ore, and to increase the production of value-added products based on advanced technology and innovation. Minister of Mining and Heavy Industry J. Ganbaatar accentuated that it is necessary to focus mainly on accelerating the process of transition from mining to processing by clarifying the legal environment, attracting investment, and preparing human resources.

Minister of Economy and Development Ch. Khurelbaatar presented in detail the current situation of Mongolia's economy, external and internal factors, and future trends to the participants of the conference. He said that in order to diversify its economy, Mongolia should concentrate attention on two sectors: industrialization and tourism, and facilitate a stable investment environment for industrialization.

Development Bank Raises USD 75 Million by Issuing Private Bonds

In accordance with the Resolution No. 22 of April 24, 2023 of the Board of Directors of the Development Bank of Mongolia, capital equal to USD 75.0 million has been raised from foreign investors by issuing private bonds in OTC market. On May 12 of this year, an agreement was signed with "Mopane Securities" LLC, registered in London, and the aforementioned capital has been raised.

It was informed that investment without risks associated with foreign currency rate or issuing securities in MNT provides an opportunity to diversify the resources of the Develop-

ment Bank and protect against the risk of foreign exchange rate fluctuations.

Out of USD 500 million "DBM 2023" bond USD 99.7 million was redeemed.

In 2018, the Development Bank of Mongolia issued USD 500.0 million worth "Euro" bonds or "DBM 2023" bonds with 7.25 percent interest rate to the international market independently without government guarantees. The bond is listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange and is publicly traded in international markets.

In order to implement proper debt management in the Development Bank, it was decided to partially cancel the purchase of

"DBM 2023" bonds according to Resolution of the Board of Directors No. 52 of 2022 and Resolution No. 3 of this year. In line with the above decisions, the Development Bank has been implementing partial bond cancellation since October 2022. During this period, the bank canceled bonds with a total issued price of USD 99.7 million. As a result, the balance of the "DBM 2023" bond has decreased from USD 500 million to USD 400.2 million.

The Development Bank has saved USD 13.8 million in its current portfolio by redeeming "DBM 2023" bonds with an issued price of USD 100.0 prior to its maturity date at a weighted



average price of USD 92.4. Specifically, until October 23 of this year or the "DBM 2023" bond repayment deadline, USD

7.54 million has been saved from the principal amount and USD 6.34 million from interest costs respectively.

Enhancing Healthcare Accessibility: Inauguration of the Burn Center

In response to the growing need for specialized care for burns and injuries, the Burn Center under the National Traumatology and Orthopedics Research Center opened on May 29. The Burn Center has nine wards and 250 beds to provide comprehensive and accessible medical treatments including for burns, sports injuries, emergency care, intensive care, surgical anesthesia, orthopedics, reconstructive surgery, rehabilitation, and ambulatory care.

The center provides both emergency and inpatient care for burns and injuries. Annually, the center expects to treat approximately 35,000-40,000 emergency patients, 15,000-20,000 outpatients, 6,000-7,000 inpatients, and 2,500-3,000 surgical patients. The establishment of this center is projected to alleviate the burden on the National Center for Traumatology and Orthopedics Research Center by reducing its patient load by 25-30 percent. Additionally, it is anticipated to decrease the need for costly diagnoses and treatments abroad.



Overall, the Burn Center aims to enhance access to quality medical care, improve patient outcomes, and reduce the strain on existing healthcare facilities

and expensive treatments abroad.

Despite the delay in the construction process, the Burn Center's Block A was commissioned in July 2022, commencing burn

care services. Now the center is fully operational with the opening of Block B, an eight-story hospital building.

In 2009, the State Specialized

Inspection Authority concluded that the old building of the Burn Center, which was built in 1957, was not safe for use and the construction of the new building was stagnant for eight years due to financial issues. The Governments of Mongolia and Kuwait agreed to spend the nonrefundable aid of USD 8 million from the Kuwait Fund for constructing the new building and for procuring medical equipment.

The inaugural ceremony for Block B was attended by Prime Minister of Mongolia L. Oyun-Erdene, who delivered a speech emphasizing the government's commitment to completing projects within a designated timeframe. Thanking the Government of Kuwait and the Kuwait Fund, the PM noted that "We will shift to a system that ensures the completion of projects within 2-3 years of the designated financial timeframe. In line with this policy, substantial investments have been made in the health sector from 2021 to 2023, equivalent to the cumulative investment amount made over the past decade."

World Leaders in Liver Transplantation Meeting in Ulaanbaatar



The International Living Donor Liver Transplantation Society, the State First Central Clinic, and the National Cancer Center co-organized an international scientific theoretical conference "iDLTG Colloquium 2023 in Ulaanbaatar" on May 26.

World leaders in liver transplantation from the USA, Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, India, and Belgium participated in the conference. High technologies for kidney, liver, and bone stem cell transplantation

have been fully introduced in the health sector of Mongolia, while teams for pancreas and heart transplantation have been formed and started preparatory works.

Mongolia was registered internationally as the 45th country to have introduced liver transplantation. Previously, our citizens had to go abroad for this type of surgery and treatment at a high price, but from 2011 Mongolian surgeons started to carry out these surgeries in the country, and since 2021 the Mongolian Government

and the Ministry of Health have implemented a comprehensive policy whereby organ transplant treatments are now covered by health insurance 100 percent free of charge.

The National Liver Transplantation Team has successfully performed 200 surgeries. The State Great Khural approved the Law on Donors and is working to resolve the issue of nonliving donors. Construction of the Organ Transplantation Center is currently under discussion.

Health Education for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention

Non-communicable diseases account for 77 percent of the morbidity and mortality of the working-age population in Mongolia. In other words, the fact that Mongolians get sick and die due to preventable diseases shows the urgent need of providing health education to citizens and developing a healthy lifestyle.

That was the main point of the first national conference on prevention and control of non-communicable diseases held on May 22 at "Chinggis" hotel.

The Ministry of Health and National Center for Public Health jointly organized the national conference "Trends for prevention and control of non-communicable diseases" supported by the World Health Organization. The Conference was attended by more than 150 people from cities and rural areas, representing all levels of the health organizations, including referral and primary health institutions and relevant government and non-government organizations.

In his opening speech, Minister of Health S. Chinzorig pointed out that the Government is working to prevent infectious and non-infectious diseases and

reduce the preventable death rate by improving the health education of the population and strengthening the public health care system at the national level and increasing coverage of early detection examinations and diagnosis.

According to the 2019 hierarchical study on the prevalence of non-communicable diseases and accidents, and reasons and risk factors, one out of three people aged 15-69 and one out of two people aged 45-69 in Mongolia have a high risk of contracting non-communicable diseases, and the risk is higher among men, 1.5 times higher than women.

As of 2022, more than 60 percent of the total population lives in cities and towns. Due to the difference in urban and rural development, people migrate to cities and towns in order to improve their livelihoods, and as a result, urban planning does not keep up with the pace of urbanization, the number of residential areas increases without any regulations. These cause difficulties in the people's health, social and cultural services, housing provision, and auto traffic.

The Health Minister said, "We are facing many problems related to urbanization such as air, water and soil pollution in the



capital city, accidents, violence, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, and mental illness." In order to correct the fact that medical health care and public health care, which are the two pillars of the health sector, have not been developed evenly; much more devoted to one and neglected the other, he noted that a draft law on public health care services has been drafted to submit the Parliament for the discussion in the spring session.

In his speech, Advisor to the President T. Munkhsaikhan, said that the "Healthy Mongolian" program, which is important for

protecting the people's health, aims to create a proper system in which citizens have good habits and take care of their health. The President pays special attention to this aspect and has taken some concrete steps, including the decision to establish an independent fund by collecting MNT 300 for every liter of alcohol. He underscored that without improving the quality of primary health care and services, it is pointless to develop referral hospitals.

Dr. Socorro Escalante, the Resident Representative of the World Health Organization in

Mongolia, briefly introduced policies and actions in the world towards reducing mortality by reducing non-communicable diseases, and said that Mongolia's health service accessibility is one of the best in the region. She said that at least 40 percent of the population of the aimags she visited were under the age of 18, and considering the fact that the base of the population age pyramid in Mongolia is teenagers and young people, providing health education and creating healthy habits should start from childhood. "If we can work well with the six-year-olds and below now, we can achieve actual results in 5-10 years. People's living and working environment is important in preventing non-communicable diseases, so attention should be paid to reducing air, water and soil pollution, creating healthy and safe working conditions, and WHO will focus on improving public health."

During the three-day national conference, the participants discussed current problems in prevention and early diagnosis of prevalent non-communicable diseases in detail, sharing achievements and lessons in the prevention and made recommendations.



Stone Inscriptions of Tsogtu Khun-Taiji Registered in UNESCO's Memory of the World

The stone inscriptions of Tsogtu Khun-Taiji, Prince of Khalkha, have been officially registered in the list of international documentary heritage by UNESCO's renowned "Memory of the World" program.

During the May 2023 meeting of the International Consultative Committee of

UNESCO's "Memory of the World" program in Paris, the nominated documentary heritage materials from various member countries underwent study and comprehensive deliberation. As a result, a total of 64 extraordinary monuments were selected and officially inscribed in the program's illustrious list of Inter-

national Documentary Heritage, which included the nation of Mongolia. Remarkably, the reve-

red heritage of Prince of Khalkha Tsogtu Khun-Taiji's rock inscriptions was among the distinguished entries chosen for inclusion.

The Stone Inscriptions of Tsogtu Khun-Taiji are regarded as one of the most iconic and important symbols of Mongolian script and literature. The monument consists of three stone inscriptions carved by the same people, in the same year. The inscriptions are amazing not only because of their clarity and the beauty of the clean lines of the letters but also how well they have been preserved to this day. The main inscription, dated 1624, is a poem carved on the smooth, vertical rock, which was composed by Tsogtu Khun Taiji. This poem is often considered by

scholars to be the finest example of pre-Qing Mongolian poetry composed according to the canons of Buddhist poetry. The importance of the inscriptions is that they stood as a witness to a turbulent and dramatic time in the history of 17th century Mongolia, when Ligden Khan, the last Great Khan of the Mongols, was desperately struggling to maintain unity among the Mongols as they faced the rising power of the Manchus.

In 2011, three documentary heritages from Mongolia were registered in UNESCO's "Memory of the World" program. They are: Luvsandanzan's "Golden Button," Mongolian Shunkhan Danjuur, "Nine Gems."

Source: UNESCO



May 30 marks the International Day of Peacekeepers. Since becoming a full member of the United Nations, the world community in 1961, our country has been honorably fulfilling its

obligations to support the activities of the United Nations in the field of safeguarding international peace and security. Over 21,000 military troops have served in peacekeeping operations since

Mongolia to Increase Female Peacekeepers to 15 Percent

2002. In the past, more than a thousand female officers and leaders have participated in peace-building activities. Women peacekeepers are highly valued by the UN for empowering, providing security, and acting as role models for local women.

On May 30, about 900 military personnel from our country are successfully performing their duties in peacekeeping operations in 7 countries and regions of the world. The participation of our country in UN peacekeeping and

international military operations is crucial for safeguarding the country's national security in a political and diplomatic way, the successful implementation of the third neighborhood policy, and strengthening the country's position in the international community and military trust in the region.

From May 2023, medical experts have been sent for the first time to perform in the "International First Stage Medical Team" operation in the Republic

of Lebanon. As part of the International Day of Peacekeepers, the personnel of the Mongolian Armed Forces and state military organizations have paid respect to the Mongolian peacekeepers at the "Mongolian Soldiers for Peace" memorial complex in the National Park.

During the event, a showcase of military equipment, a photo exhibition of peacekeepers, and a running competition were held.



Next Generation Learns to Live in Eco-Friendly Environment

Within the framework of the "Education for Sustainable Development" (ESD-II)

Project implemented by the Swiss Cooperation Office and Consular Agency in Mongolia, the "Joint Initiative and Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development-2023" National Forum was held at the "Corporate Convention" center.

The opening of the Forum was not typical; pupils of the schools implementing the project delivered greetings and put questions to the guests and representatives from the Government who came to the Forum.

The pupils of the "Erdmiin Urgoo" complex school of Bayangol district of Ulaanbaatar participated as panelists and reported what they had learned during three years of the project, as well as questioned the guests

"Why is education for sustainable development important in society and in your life?" and exchanged opinions.

Member of the State Great Khural and member of the Standing Committee on Education, Culture, Science and Sports of the Parliament G. Damdinnyam answered the above question, "One of the main goals of sustainable development is to create an eco-friendly environment for residents, and I realized this while studying in Canada, in Vancouver, one of the greenest cities in the world. At that time, my daughter was six years old. When she entered school, the oak tree outside her school was to be removed. My daughter wrote a letter to the city administration, asking 'why they do that.'"

He said, "Following the letter, the city management came and informed that they were moving

the tree to another place for the expansion of the school building, promised to regenerate and grow it again. I never forget their lesson delivered to schoolchildren."

Director of "Temuulen" complex school of Chinggis City of Khentii aimag M. Zolzaya expressed her viewpoint, "People often ask us if the ESD project is funded. Of course, we have been duly financed from the project and local authorities. However, our project is different from other projects that are usually monitored after 3-4 years of funding. As for our project, stakeholders, partners, and implementers are all constantly interlinked at every step, and it is possible to achieve real results with less funding. For instance, as a result of one of the four interrelated projects that we have implemented, children learned the ways to reduce waste by choosing food correctly."



Head of International Cooperation and Consul in Mongolia Ms. Stefanie Burri summed up in one sentence the results of the "ESD-II" project, "Within our project, the next generation of Mongolia, children and youth, are creating their own eco-friendly environment, and learning to live and work in such an environment."

Management staff, teachers and students of 30 model schools

implementing the ESD-II project, representatives of six aimags and two districts of the capital, which were selected for the project, international donor organizations, private sector, line ministries, such as the Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, and public organizations, altogether 300-350 people attended the Forum.



The 33rd National Book Festival, organized by the "Nomiin

Soyolt Yertonts" NGO under the auspices of Chairman of the

The 33rd National Book Festival Celebrated

State Great Khural G.Zandanshatar took place on May 26-28 at Sukhbaatar Square.

The biannual book festival ran for three days until 8 pm each day under the theme "Let's Read More."

This time, more than 250 publishers and over 300 authors participated in the festival. The festival offered a multitude of captivating programs to the visitors including BookCon, book fan meetings, book networking, "Change my mind" sessions, quizzes, reader-author meetings, "Read to Win" and "Khavriin

Nairag" activities, the "Delkhii" band performance and shows by the "Book World" club students.

Students from rural book clubs joined the festival and volunteered for organizational tasks in addition to representatives of authors and publishers in aimags.

A sample survey was conducted among a total of 1500 individuals during the National Book Festival with the aim of gathering insights regarding their reading habits and preferences. 42.2 percent of the respondents were men and 57.8 percent were

women and the average age was 24. The age range varied from the youngest being 12 years old to the oldest being 80 years old.

The survey revealed that most of the readers prefer physical copies as a notable 88.4 percent of the participants expressed a preference for paperback books. Among them, 69.9 percent opt for new printed books, while 18.5 percent for used books.

Moreover, 11.3 percent of the respondents purchase e-books and audiobooks, while 0.3 percent buy braille books.

Impacts of Climate Change on Mongolia's Nomadic Herder

Mongolia has experienced a 2.1-degree Celsius increase in average air temperatures over the past 70 years, making it one of the countries most affected by climate change. This changing climate has had adverse effects on vital sectors such as agriculture, particularly animal husbandry, as well as the natural ecosystem requiring urgent and timely actions. As of 2021, the assessment of desertification and land degradation in Mongolia reveals that 77% of the land is degraded due to overgrazing and climate change.

Additionally, the frequency and magnitude of natural hazards including harsh winters, drought, snowstorms and dust storms are increasing. Comprising nearly 30% of the population and relying heavily on livestock and natural resources for their livelihood, nomadic herders are extremely vulnerable to these impacts signifying the urgent need for enhancing their risk management capacity as an adaptation priority for Mongolia.

Let's explore how Mongolian nomadic herders and the very life as-they-know-it are being challenged by climate change and how they are striving to adapt to the ever-changing climate from Narangerel and Ariuntuya's household – one of the 300 thousand herder households in Mongolia.

Narangerel and Ariuntuya are champion herders in Ulziit soum (sub-provincial unit) of Arkhangai province of Mongolia. Narangerel is also a celebrated wrestler and racehorse trainer.

Together, they look after over 1,000 animals in their herd including sheep, goat, cow and horse which is a significant undertaking for their family of six.

The birthing season and the task of caring for malnourished animals after a harsh winter make spring the most challenging time for many herders.

Every member of the household, including their sons and eldest daughter, is occupied with caring for the animals both the weaker ones and newborns starting their day before 6 a.m. and ending it after 10 p.m. Ariuntuya says, "When our children get home on the weekends from school, they are huge help for us but when they are in school during weekdays, we become very busy and shorthanded."

Unlike the city residents, this household or Mongolian nomadic herders don't have weekends off. It is a 7-day routine all around the year.

Over their 30 years of herding livestock, they have noticed a significant and challenging change in recent years—the accelerated pace of climate change. Narangerel says, "Predicting seasonal changes has become increasingly difficult. For instance, by May, we should already see the emergence of new green grasses and vegetation, which are crucial for our herds to regain strength after losing up to 30% of their body weight during winter. However, this year in May, we still haven't seen the grasses, making things very challenging."

Indeed, the animals are very weak, and landscape is still plain yellow with little to no vegetation for the animals to graze. Every morning, Narangerel would help



the weak animals to stand up and while Ariuntuya together with their daughter and sons feed them as the animals can't leave for pasture themselves yet. Even if they manage to reach the pasture, grass is still yet to come.

Narangerel further added, "We are also seeing significantly warmer temperatures in December and January, but unusually cold temperatures in March and April compared to the past. This unpredictability makes planning extremely challenging for us." Sadly, these patterns are becoming increasingly common causing difficulties for many herders. This year alone, certain regions of Mongolia experienced temperatures as high as +5.5 degrees Celsius in January on some days.

One of the major challenges herders are facing in recent years is drying of the nearby rivers, springs and streams forcing them to rely on wells which are shared by everyone in the surrounding area which is usually around 10-15 herders' households and 4,000-5,000 animals daily.

Narangerel explains that in the event of water depletion or operational issues with the wells, the herders are left with no choice but to travel approximately 10 kilometers to the nearest river to provide water for their animals. This round trip to the river consumes an entire day.

One effective solution to tackle this challenge is the protection and fencing of springs, with the support of the UNDP's ENSURE project. This project is funded by the Global Environment Facility and has been assisting the local community for several years. According to the locals, a spring that had almost dried up two years ago due to the presence of herds of animals blocking the spring source, has now made a remarkable recovery since it was fenced. It now runs for hundreds of meters and has even formed two small lakes along the way.

This rejuvenated spring now provides abundant water not only for the people and animals in the area but also for the local wildlife.

The combination of harsh winter followed by delayed vegetation in spring has inflicted significant losses upon many herders. As reported by locals, some herders in the surrounding area have suffered the loss of 60-70% of their livestock this year. The frequent presence of animal carcasses serves as a stark reminder of the extent of the impact. Reportedly, the nationwide animal losses have reached nearly 500 thousand as of March 2023, dealing a severe blow to the livelihoods of thousands of nomadic herders.



The livelihoods of herders are heavily dependent on their livestock, particularly through the sale of cashmere, meat, wool, and hides. However, in recent years, many are losing their herds at an unprecedented rate due to extreme weather conditions resulting from climate change and land degradation amplified by overgrazing of pastures by the staggering number of over 70 million animals.

Consequently, many herders now agree to reduce their herd size and focus on the quality of their animals. Moreover, many are also seeking to diversify their income sources to reduce their livelihood dependency on the herd size. One prominent alternative that has emerged is tourism. Mongolia's nomadic culture is a captivating attraction for foreign tourists, and herders possess significant potential to benefit from this growing interest.

Narangerel and Ariuntuya are reaping the benefits of the "Ger and Nature" ecotourism initiative by UNDP. This initiative, funded by UN PAGE, aims to promote community-based eco and cultural tourism. As custodians of the nomadic lifestyle and

culture, herders are the primary beneficiaries of this programme.

Mongolian herders often rely on an excessive number of plastic containers to store their food and water, leading to health issues as they age. Additionally, there is a need for environmentally friendly and portable toilets that cater to the nomadic lifestyle while meeting the requirements of tourists.

Through the initiative, herders are receiving essential guidance on becoming professional hosts and overcoming key challenges. Their success in establishing alternative income sources, reducing their reliance on the herd for livelihood, is crucial for their future. It plays a vital role

in enhancing their adaptability to changing climate conditions, ensuring the survival of their lifestyle and traditions.

"When I grow up, I want to become a wrestler and herder just like my dad" says their youngest son, a third grader, expressing his aspirations for the future.

With a smile on his face, Narangerel affectionately pats his son on the head and says, "I am glad that he wants to carry on our herding tradition. However, I want to ensure that he receives a secondary education before he chooses to become a herder and wrestler." Ariuntuya wholeheartedly supports this sentiment and also expressed her pride in their eldest daughter's ambition to study dentistry after completing high school.

While they are hopeful to continue and preserve their traditional livelihood and nomadic herder culture, challenges of adverse climate change impacts loom large in the years to come underscoring the critical and ongoing support from development organizations such as UNDP and their partners.

Source: UNDP Mongolia

The lawyer's advice



In cooperation with Hanns Seidel Foundation

The Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) as a political foundation is active in 60 countries worldwide under the motto of Democracy, Peace and Development". In Mongolia, HSF is active since 1993 and supports the transformation and establishment of the rule of law.

-After the death of the owner of information, how to collect, process and use information related to him?

-If the owner of information died, or considered to be died, information related to him shall be collected, processed and used in compliance with the will, the written consent of a member of his family and legal representative. If 70 years passed after the death of the owner of information, it will not be required to ask for permission to collect, process and use sensitive information of the respective person.

-Is it permitted to transfer information to individuals, organizations and international organizations abroad?

-In cases other than those specified in the international agreements of Mongolia, or those permitted by the owner of information, it is prohibited to transfer information to individuals, organization and international organizations abroad.

-What should be taken in consideration when deleting data?

-A person who is responsible for information shall delete the data on the following grounds:

1. On request of the owner of information provided that information was not collected, processed and used in compliance with the grounds and procedure specified in the law;

2. The person who is responsible for information is obliged to delete information pursuant to international agreements of Mongolia, valid decision of the court;

3. Information, the purpose for which was originally collected has been achieved, or is contractually or mutually agreed upon, except those collected and processed in compliance with the law;

4. Other grounds specified in the law.

It is prohibited to delete information for other grounds except the abovementioned.

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Terunofuji Gan-Erdene Captures His 8th Emperor's Cup



■ Lone Yokozuna Terunofuji rounded off the Summer Grand Sumo Tournament with a 14-1 record on Sunday by defeating ozeki Takakeisho in the final bout of the 15-day meet.

After undergoing surgery on both knees in October, the 31-year-old Grand Champion claimed his eighth Emperor's Cup by achieving an insurmountable record.

In the final bout of the 14-day meet at Ryogoku Kokugikan, Terunofuji emerged victorious over sekiwake Kiribayama, who had an 11-3 record.

Terunofuji sat out four straight tournaments due to health issues. However, by the 14th day of the summer tournament, he had only suffered a single defeat. The two Mongolian-born wrestlers went face-to-face in an epic battle that saw them lock into a stalemate before Terunofuji used an outside

grip to force Kiribayama over to the edge and off the dohyo.

"After the tournament started, I promised myself that I would give my best throughout all 15 days," Terunofuji said.

Although Kiribayama may feel disappointed about not securing a second straight championship after his maiden Emperor's Cup in March, he can find solace in knowing his promotion to ozeki is almost guaranteed.

Kiribayama has 34 wins over his past three tournaments as either a komusubi or sekiwake, with the standard promotion benchmark being 33.

Yanjindulam Receives International Grand-Prix Award



Bitola, a beautiful city in the Republic of North Macedonia, hosted the 24th International Monodrama Festival. On May 23, actress R. Yanjindulam from "Mongol Tuurgatan" theater of Tuv aimag, received the Grand Prix at the festival for her performance in the monodrama "Who am I," written and directed by Ts. Bayasgalan, with stage direction by B. Batdelger.

The festival featured 13 monodramas presented on three separate stages on May 12-20, welcoming artists from 11 countries.

The jury team included Nina Mazur, the Theatre Critic and

Co-Chair of the International Monodrama Forum of UNESCO, and Actors Nikolai Urumov and Sashko Kotsev.

The jury described the Yanjindulam's performance as a delicate and emotional experience, likening it to a harp melody: gentle, emotional, quiet, and fragile. The actress's expression was universal and understandable without any language barrier. Every word spoken was a symphony of feelings that aligned with the director's concept, which was subtle and unobtrusive. A complex topic from everyday human life, without pathos, translated into this theatrical performance.

Powerlifter Orgilbold Crowned World Champion

On May 20-28, Sun City, South Africa, became the stage for the IPF World Classic & Equipped Bench Press Championships, where Mongolian powerlifters displayed their prowess and awe-inspiring strength. Led by coach Kh. Enkhbold, 28 athletes from Mongolia showcased their determination and vied for the top spot in this prestigious event.

In a momentous achievement for Mongolian powerlifting, International Master of Sports Orgilbold Galdan marked his name in history by securing the gold medal in the adult's -93 kg category at the championships. On May 24, the championship witnessed Orgilbold's exceptional performance, crowning him as a Two-time World Champion.

This remarkable triumph not only captured Mongolia's first gold medal at the championships



but also claimed the seventh medal overall for Team Mongolia.

Orgilbold performed an impressive Bench Press of 227.5 kg, mirroring once again his remarkable performance at the previous year's world championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan-2022. By achieving this feat, he not only defended his title but

solidified his status as an athlete to watch out for in the world.

Besides, B. Orgilbold, B. Uurtsaikh, B. Batsaikhan, G. Gantugs, and G. Sumiyasuren earned silver medals, while Sh. Perenlei bagged a well-deserved bronze medal.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Mongolia's Powerlifting.

The "5th Children's Cultural Festival" Held in Germany

The "5th Children's Cultural Festival" was successfully held in Ebermannstadt on May 13, 2023, among students of nine Mongolian schools operating in Germany. A total of 179 students, 28 teachers and more than 220 parents and fans participated in the event, which was organized in cooperation with the "Erdem - Language and Cultural Center" NGO and the Embassy of Mongolia in the Federal Republic of Germany.



and protecting national history, culture, heritage, and customs, and for the well-being of the nation's future.

The first Mongolian school in Germany was founded in Berlin in 2007. In the festival, which was organized for the first time in 2016 by the initiative of the "Od" school in Munich, this year, children competed in 14 genres, including solo and group singing, dance, national music, classical music, and recitation. Embassy Counsellor and Head of the Consular Department Mr. Chuluunbaatar Batbileg handed over Frankfurt-Ulaanbaatar-

Frankfurt route flight tickets, donated by MIAT Mongolian Airlines, to E. Erdenekhangai, a student from the "Solongo" school and B. Michel, a student from the "Erdem" school, which were selected as the "Best Participant" of the festival.

According to the results of the "5th Children's Cultural Festival," the students of the "Solongo" school from Stuttgart were selected to organize "6th Children's Cultural Festival" in 2025 after leading this year's festival by winning a total of 11 medals (5 gold, 4 silver, 2 bronze).



Over 2.6 Million Trees Planted Last Month

Under the "One Billion Trees" National Campaign initiated by President of Mongolia, Khurelsukh Ukhnaa, 25 thousand citizens and four thousand organizations have planted 2.6 million trees throughout the country last month.

In eight locations of the capital city, 198 thousand trees, shrubs, and bushes were planted.

Today, the nation's sapling and seedling resources stand at 56.2 million, while the seed resources amount to 12.2 tons.

Last year, the total forest area damaged by forest pests



was estimated at 729 thousand hectares. Based on the research, Forest Integrated Pest Management will be conducted in an area of 185 thousand hectares in 2023 to combat the forest pests and safeguard the health of Mongolia's forests.