

OPINION

Medicinal Activity And Importance Of Mint (Mentha)



Muhammad Nauman Sultan, Masood Ahmad, Safura Bibi, Maria Naqve

Mint or Mentha belongs to the Lamiaceae family, which contains around 15 to 20 plant species, including peppermint and spearmint.

Peppermint is one of the oldest and most highly regarded herbs for appeasing digestion and may also restore digestive efficiency. In addition, peppermint has been known as disorders improving including: analgesic, ulcerate-bloat, irritable bowel syndrome or gastrointestinal motility, and immune system stimulant. Peppermint essential oil has biological activities, such as antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant properties. Peppermint essential oil stimulated immune system in broiler chicks.

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History And Symptoms Of The Coronavirus Illness



Swaira Shabir

SARS Is A Respiratory Illness That Emerged In Southern China In 2002 And Quickly Spread To Other Countries.

Coronavirus is the global pandemic that caused "shelter in place" warnings across the world. A coronavirus is a group of infections that affect both people and animals and ranges from the common cold to significant respiratory distress and kidney failure. This article will discuss the history and symptoms of the Novel Coronavirus.

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Reasons To Rethink Your Customer Service Strategy For Retail Growth



Kamil Riaz Kara

Make it so easy to do business with you that it's not worth your customer's time to do business with anyone else Ron Kaufman

Summarized above is the essence of customer service. Customer service is a factor so integral to developing your business' competitiveness that you need to constantly revise and revamp the strategy to suit your customer's needs.

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Weekly Edition



PITB Signs MoU For Skills Gala And Talent Hunt Expo 2023

Up to 200 training companies, 20,000 attendees, experts, decision-makers from the government, and influencers will all attend the Expo. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) and SkillsToDo for the 2023 Skills Gala and Talent Hunt Expo has been signed.

Ahmad Islam Syan, a joint director of PITB Freelancing, and Ayesha Zaman, the founder of SkillsToDo, both signed the MOU. The Freelancing Wing team and PITB DG e-Governance Sajid Latif

were also present. The PITB will participate in the expo, which will take place on March 16, 17, and 18 at the Faletti's Hotel in Lahore, as a supporting partner. The goal of the 2023 Skills Gala and Talent Hunt Expo is to bring together all digital training centres under one roof, give them important data, and raise awareness of the potential opportunities for youth empowerment.

Up to 200 training companies, 20,000 attendees, experts, decision-makers from the government, and influencers will all attend the Expo. In this regard, PITB Chairman

Faisal Yousaf stated that these occasions and expos would generate fresh business prospects and aid in empowering both young people and businesses. With the aid of some of the best professionals in the field, SkillsToDo's eLearning platform enables anyone to pick up in-demand skills in just 90 to 120 minutes. It's smarter and more effective than traditional classes, from finding one-hour or 60-minute courses to mastery. You make wiser decisions and learn more quickly. Our platform enables anyone to quickly learn new skills

using video lectures, tests, and gamification.

The PITB was created in 1999 by the Punjab government as an independent organisation under the Department of Industries. From 2001 to 2011, it was run by the Information Technology Department. The department's main objectives were to keep an eye on international opportunities, meet the growing demand for IT, create policy initiatives, and plan and carry out initiatives to boost the competitiveness of the IT sector in the Punjab province.

Organic Agriculture Support Facility To Setup AT NARC: Chairman PARC

Dr. Ali stressed the significance of boosting agricultural exports because organic products are more valuable on global markets.

Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali, the chairman of the Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC), announced on Thursday that a facility to support organic agriculture would be built at the National Agriculture Research Center in addition to establishing a local certification body that would be recognised internationally.

Speaking at the Organic Agriculture Policy Review Workshop, sponsored by the Laudes Foundation and hosted by CABI Regional Bioscience Centre Pakistan, Dr. Ali stressed the significance of boosting agricultural exports because organic products are more valuable on global markets. He also announced the establishment of an organic agriculture support facility.

The workshop's main goal was to bring all the stakeholders in organic agriculture together under the umbrella of the programme "Building the Policy Ecosystem for Organic Production Landscape in Pakistan" in order to create a national organic agriculture policy.

In his remarks, Chairman PARC thanked the event's organisers and discussed the necessity and value of organic agriculture for Pakistan. Many types of agriculture are already carried out organically in Pakistan, according to Chairman PARC, but it still requires technical direction from the appropriate authorities.

He emphasised the potential for organic farming in Balochistan and the importance of taking action to support and



MoCC Launches Strengthening Climate Adaptation & Resilience Project

The speakers stressed that partnerships and cooperation between the government, civil society, and private sector are essential to the project's success.

The German Cooperation and the Federal Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) have launched the Strengthening Climate Adaptation and Resilience Project in Pakistan in an effort to improve the nation's capacity to deal with the effects of climate change, particularly in vulnerable communities and sectors like health, agriculture, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

In order to ensure that the project's benefits are fairly distributed among various communities, including women, youth, and other marginalized groups, the Strengthening Climate Adaptation and Resilience (SAR) Project in Pakistan prioritizes gender-inclusive and socially inclusive approaches.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is in charge of carrying out the project, which is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Mr. Syed Mujtaba Hussain, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC), expressed appreciation for the German government's support during the launch and emphasised that the SAR project will be crucial in bringing together all stakeholders from the federal and provincial levels. He emphasised the significance of sustainable development for Pakistan's future and urged all stakeholders to collaborate in order to ensure...[Read More](#)

13 Pakistani Universities Attend Education Expo Held In Colombo



Different questions about the scholarship programme, Pakistan's educational system, and the resources available to international students were raised by students and faculty.

Up to 13 Pakistani universities participated in an education expo held in Colombo, Sri Lanka,

where they gave students information about opportunities for higher education in their nation.

Three days of events were held at the Higher Education Expo and Convention Center in Colombo by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and the Pakistan High

Commission in Colombo. 13 universities from Pakistan's public sector attended the expo, according to a press release from HEC.

In order to raise awareness of the opportunities for higher education available to Sri Lankan students in Pakistan, particularly the Allama Iqbal Scholarships for Sri Lankan Students under the Pakistan-Sri Lanka Higher Education Cooperation Programme, HEC officials, under the direction of the commission's project director, Jehanzeb Khan, organised two exclusive seminars. Different questions about the scholarship programme, Pakistan's educational system, and the resources available to international...[Read More](#)

Pakistan's Climate Activist Aiysha Siddiqia Names In American Magazine

Aiysha Siddiqia started a climate education programme called "Fossil Free University" and co-founded a global climate youth coalition called "Polluters Out" in 2020.

Aiysha Siddiqia, a climate activist from Pakistan, is listed among the women of the year in a list published by the American magazine Time on Friday.

Time magazine also revealed the names of women who have distinguished themselves in a variety of fields, including politics, human rights, and the arts, from Mexico, Iran, Brazil, Ukraine, and Pakistan, among other nations in its 2023 list.

Siddiqia, who is from a tribal community in northern Pakistan, became a climate and human rights advocate after

experiencing the effects of climate change firsthand. At the age of 14, she realised that her surroundings were unsafe.

Siddiqia is regarded as a powerful voice in the fight against climate change. Her poem, "So much about your sustainability, my people are dying," was read

aloud at the COP27 Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, which was held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, the previous year.

She began working in the field of climate sustainability when she was 16 years old, and for the past 24 years, she has been raising awareness of the effects of

climate change issues that are affecting people all over the world, with a focus on the least developed nations that are bearing the brunt of the problem.

She started a climate education programme called "Fossil Free University" and co-founded a global climate youth coalition called "Polluters Out" in 2020.

In her interview with the publication, she made the following observation: "I was brought up to believe that the earth is a living thing. She gives you life, and in exchange, you have a duty.

The cries of Mother Earth are now being collectively disregarded by us.

Because of the same structures that are mistreating, harming, and stealing from people without their consent...[Read More](#)





Pakistan Government Partners With IUCN To Develop CcGAP

The creation of the ccGAP as well as the expansion of the pipeline of projects promoting gender equality were two of the project's main outcomes.

Millions of people are impacted annually by extreme weather events in Pakistan, which is extremely vulnerable to climate change. A national climate change gender action plan has been created by the government in response to this in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other organisations (ccGAP). The plan seeks to ensure that national actions in six priority sectors are gender-responsive.

Pakistan is one of the nations that is most susceptible to the broad and cross-sectoral effects of climate change. According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2016, Pakistan is one of the countries that consistently experiences extreme weather.

For instance, in 2014, 2.5 million people were impacted by monsoons that followed dry spells, which resulted in the destruction of 130,000 homes and more than 1 million acres of cropland.

The Government of Pakistan and its stakeholders have undertaken a project to develop a national climate change gender action plan (ccGAP) to ensure gender-responsive national actions across the six priority

sectors.

This pilot effort enhances existing and nascent policy and programming while elevating the country's position as an international leader in inclusive sustainable development, climate action, and resilience.

Gender inequality limits widespread social, political, and economic security and well-being, according to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2022.

Pakistan recognizes that climate change affects women and

was developed using a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral, and participatory approach.

It aims to build institutional and stakeholder capacity on gender and environment linkages, synergize national commitments for gender and climate action, and develop creative projects that empower both men and women to be change agents, enhancing Pakistan's readiness for climate action and resilience.

Government, civil society, academia, researchers, the private sector, and individual experts

Climate Change was expected to have improved knowledge and capacity to support other ministries in the implementation of the suggested actions, as well as an efficient mechanism for coordinating gender equality.

Additionally, it involved the development of capacities and the execution of climate change actions with women's organisations and gender focal points. Along with the creation of the ccGAP, the entire procedure was also written down for distribution.

An essential benchmark was the analysis of sectoral gender gaps. The creation of the ccGAP itself was a learning process that included idea exchange, capacity building, and stereotype challenge. Six priority sectors—agriculture and food security, forestry and biodiversity, disaster risk reduction, water and sanitation, integrated coastal management, and energy and transport—were each subject to a gender gap analysis. The analysis highlighted issues and pointed out important steps. The action plan was developed around four main themes: capacity building, gender balance, policies and management mechanisms, and adaptation and mitigation strategies. The ccGAP strongly advises using gender-segregated data to review the indicators on a regular basis and track advancement...[Read More](#)



men differently and that women and men have distinct capabilities as agents for change. Narrowing the gender gaps is essential to building climate preparedness and resilience for all.

The Climate Change Gender Action Plan (ccGAP), a cross-sectoral national action plan,

were among the major parties involved in the process.

The creation of the ccGAP as well as the expansion of the pipeline of projects promoting gender equality were two of the project's main outcomes.

The National Designated Authority (NDA)/Ministry of

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PK-CN Tissue Culture Lab Commits To Grow Local Potato Production



One of the few occasions when Pakistan is not only self-sufficient for domestic consumption but also an exporter of potatoes.

"Since most of Pakistan's potato seeds are imported, the cost of locally produced, high-quality seeds is high and prohibitive for many small-scale farmers. To reduce our reliance on imported seeds, our tissue culture lab is dedicated for production of local high-quality potatoes, "In an exclusive interview with the reporter, Dr. Babar Ijaz, who oversees projects abroad for Shandong Rainbow Agricultural Technology Co., Ltd., revealed this information. One of the few occasions when Pakistan is not only self-sufficient for domestic consumption but also an exporter of potatoes. Many different types of crops were destroyed by floods in Pakistan last year, but potato production soared by 35% to 7.937 million tons in FY22 from 5.873 million tons in FY21 because floods did not affect Punjab, which is a centre of potato production...[Read More](#)

PTA Asked For Moratorium On QoS, Payment Of USF



Following a sharp decline in the exchange rate, Pakistan's average revenue per user (ARPU) fell to \$0.80, placing telecom operators in a dire financial situation.

The telecom companies have requested a one-year moratorium on quality of service (QoS), rollout obligations, and payment of the Universal Service Fund (USF) and Ignite Fund reduction from 2 to 1 percent from the regulator, the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA).

In light of the current situation, there has been a significant decline in service quality across much of the nation. The results for voice service quality are particularly poor due to a variety of factors, such as load shedding and financial constraints.

In order to maximise the base price, the cellular mobile operators have also demanded voice and data floor price uplift mechanisms.

The telecom companies' demands include (i) moratorium on quality of service (QoS), (ii) a suspension of rollout commitments, (iii) a reduction in the annual contributions made by the telecom...[Raed More](#)

Dr. Arif Masud Appoints As President Of Prestigious SES, USA

Dr. Arif Masud's election as President of the Society of Engineering Science is a noteworthy accomplishment and acknowledgement of his contributions to the engineering community.

The esteemed Society of Engineering Science (SES), USA, has appointed Dr. Arif Masud as its president. His election as President of the Society of Engineering Science (SES) is a noteworthy accomplishment and acknowledgement of his contributions to the engineering community.

Dr. Arif Masud said, "It is an honour to lead the SES in 2023. I will work to develop opportunities to strengthen our Society and our community in new, efficient, and enjoyable ways."

Arif Masud is the John and Eileen Blumenschein Professor of Mechanics and Computations in the Departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Aerospace Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-



Grainger Champaign's College of Engineering.

He also shares a joint appointment with the Carle-Illinois College of Medicine as Professor of Biomedical and Translational Sciences.

Dr. Masud has made fundamental and innovative contributions to the development of residual-based turbulence models, biofluid dynamics, non-Newtonian fluids, and mixture theory models for coupled

chemo-thermo-mechanical problems. He has also worked on stabilised and variational multiscale methods for fluid and solid mechanics.

Dr. Masud is currently the Associate Editor (AE) of the International Journal of Multiscale Computational Engineering. Previously, he was the AE of the ASME Journal of Applied Mechanics, the ASME Journal of Engineering Mechanics...[Read More](#)

PARB Approves Oilseed & Soybean Projects To Reduce Oil Import Bill

Sesame exports from Pakistan have exceeded Rs 75 billion in the current fiscal year, and it is possible that they will rise even higher.

Oilseed and soybean projects worth about Rs 100 billion have been approved by the Punjab Agricultural Research Board (PARB) in an effort to cut down on oil import bill and boost farmer income, which will ultimately boost the nation's economy.

Sesame exports from Pakistan have exceeded Rs 75 billion in the current fiscal year, and it is possible that they will rise even higher. Agricultural scientists and farmers should be commended for this outstanding accomplishment.

Dr. Javed Ahmed, the chief scientist of the wheat department at the Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, made these remarks to the attendees of a one-day training seminar that was organised by the department of oilseeds...[Raed More](#)

Speakers At Conference Raise Concern Over Food Shortage In World

The conference's conclusions included suggestions for improving the nation's food systems through saline agriculture.

Concern over the food shortage in World was raised by national and international speakers on the third and final day of the conference on the management of saline resources in the context of global climate change.

The conference's speakers all agreed that funding should be prioritized for research on climate change and other issues, such as food shortages, and that the government should invest in science and technology.

According to a statement, the Salim Habib University, the Nuclear Institute of Agriculture, and the University of Karachi's Dr. Mohammad Ajmal Khan Institute of Sustainable Halophyte Utilization collaborated to jointly organise the international event.

The conference's conclusions included suggestions for improving the nation's food systems

through saline agriculture. Dr. Irfan Aziz, an associate professor at KU MAK-ISHU, presented the suggestions after consulting with the attendees.

Although there is labour in Pakistan, according to Dr. Salman Gulzar, director of KU MAJ-ISHU, "we always look towards the west for the solution to our problems." He told the audience that "our research institute would facilitate them in making saline lands suitable for cultivation" if the provincial and federal governments supported

the KU MAJ-ISHU.

"We will require resources and money to easily turn the salty and desolate lands into green fields." The conference's principal organiser, Dr. Salman Gulzar, made a suggestion that the government sector invest more in science and technology by increasing research funding, particularly in sustainable development, non-traditional crop production, and carbon sequestration in light of global warming.

The attendees emphasised the significance of continuing to

hold such conferences and expanding regional and international research collaborations during the closing ceremony.

The world's rapidly growing population, the depletion of resources, and climate change, according to experts from various nations, including the United States, Russia, China, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, Britain, Iran, and others, are some of the main causes of food shortage world-wide.

Due to increasing soil erosion, climate change, and pressure from the growing human population, they noted that the current agricultural production would need to be doubled, which seemed to be a challenge to mitigate food shortage in world. In this case, these issues could be resolved by growing non-traditional halophyte crops on rich soils. They warned that due to the current state of the economy and the effects of climate change, there would be severe food shortages...[Read More](#)



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M. Nauman Sultan

Consuming mint might promote brain health. One study found mint extracts have potential to treat Alzheimer's symptoms, although more research is needed. Another study found that smelling peppermint could enhance memory and increase alertness, although it's unknown if ingesting it has similar effects



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Peppermint is one of the oldest and most highly regarded herbs for appeasing digestion and may also restore digestive efficiency. In addition, peppermint has been known as disorders improving including: analgesic, ulcerate-bloat, irritable bowel syndrome or gastrointestinal motility, and immune system stimulant. Peppermint essential oil has biological activities, such as antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant properties. Peppermint essential oil stimulated immune system in broiler chicks. Furthermore, peppermint not only improved disorder's digestive system, also peppermint and antioxidant effects. Moreover, peppermint was efficient in blood parameters improvement and immune system stimulation in birds. To achieve these goals with regard to sustainable medical uses, we reviewed a summary of introduction, history, active constituents physiological and pharmacology uses of peppermint with concerning on essential oil in this Article.

Importance of Mint
Mint is one of the oldest culinary herbs known to mankind. Its remarkable medicinal properties have made it one of the most commonly known and used herbs ever.

Health Benefits
Mint has been used in traditional medicine to treat a variety

of ailments for many years. Unfortunately, there aren't many human studies documenting the impact mint has on the body apart from digestion support and irritable bowel syndrome relief. With time, research could confirm that mint is useful in treating a wider variety of illnesses.

Brain Health
Consuming mint might promote brain health. One study found mint extracts have potential to treat Alzheimer's symptoms, although more research is needed. Another study found that smelling peppermint could enhance memory and increase alertness, although it's unknown if ingesting it has similar effects.

Digestive Health
When it comes to medicinal uses, mint is perhaps most popularly known as a remedy for digestive problems. Taking peppermint oil reduces abdominal pain and helps treat irritable bowel syndrome without producing side effects. Animal and in vitro studies suggest that mint leaves could have wider medicinal applications than those currently known. These types of studies have found that mint is able to kill bacteria, reduce stress, and fight cancerous tumor cells. Human trials will be required to determine if mint also has these effects on the human body.

Beats Stress and Depression
Mint is an essential part of aromatherapy. It's strong and refreshing smell could help beat stress and rejuvenate mind. Mint has adapted genetic properties that regulate cortisol levels and boost the body's natural resilience to stress. Adaptogens help balance the body in whatever way is needed. By breathing in the aroma

of mint, your mind is instantly calmed. According to studies, it also helps release small amount of serotonin in the brain that may help beat depression.

Medicinal Properties of Mint
Anti-Spasmodic Effect
Peppermint

Mint is well known as anti-spasmodic. Although the mechanism the association are not understood; but it's believed peppermint relaxes gastrointestinal smooth muscle by reducing calcium influx in both large intestine and jejunum. There is a study showing similar mechanism in animals. Hawthorn reported an action of peppermint essential oil or menthol on calcium channel blocking activity in

pressure reduce in stomach or to equal stomach gas pressure with esophagus. There is evidence showing effectiveness peppermint in decrease intestine gas. They showed the pills produced of peppermint decreased intestine gas pressure.

Gastrointestinal Motility
The spasmolytic action of peppermint oil was demonstrated on isolated rabbit and rat intestine. Studies showed peppermint essential oil benefit on gastrointestinal motility, although the mechanism of this association is not understood. A calcium antagonistic effect of menthol was found. Both gastric motility and secretion are affected by substance many lines of evidence

tinal enterocytes.

Skin and Mucus Membranes
Peppermint oil motivates cold receptors on the skin and good for dilates blood vessels, furthermore caused a sensation of coldness and an analgesic impact. Seem active principles of essential oils (menthol in peppermint) act as a digestibility enhancer, balancing the gut microbial ecosystem and stimulating the secretion of endogenous digestive enzymes and thus improve growth. There is evidence showing application mint as indigestion disorders and colonic spasms by reducing the gastrocholic reflux.

Antioxidant Properties
Antioxidants have been greatly used as food additives to supply protection against oxidative degradation of foods by free radicals. Antioxidants serve to maintain these highly reactive free radicals, thereby maintaining the structural and functional integrity of cells. The phenolic compounds may contribute directly to the antioxidant action; therefore, it is necessary to investigate total phenolic content. The amounts of total phenolic compounds were higher in ethanol extract while lowest for essential oil.

Antioxidants are important for the immune defense and health of the humans and animals body. According report indicated that in vitro condition, Ethanolic extract of Mentha genera has noticeable antioxidant ability against various oxidative systems; moreover, this extract can be used as an accessible source of natural antioxidants in possible food supplement or in pharmaceutical industry.



atrial and papillary muscle or brain synaptosomes (rat) or atrial and papillary muscle (guinea pig) and retinal neurons (chick).

Anti-Bloat Effect of Peppermint

The peppermint essential oil pharmacological action (Anti-bloat) in humans are well cleared but although the mechanism of this association is not understood. The mechanism may be results of gas

suggest that material plays an important action in nociception at the spinal level. Recent studies have shown a non-competitive prevent of the contraction response induced by 5-hydroxytryptamine and substance on isolated smooth muscle.

Therefore; a neuronal site of action of peppermint oil could also be possible. Moreover, a direct epithelial site of action was observed on small intes-

"We are the children of a technological age. We have found streamlined ways of doing much of our routine work. Printing is no longer the only way of reproducing books. Reading them, however, has not changed."

—Lawrence Clark Powell author
Author of more than 100 books



Tashfeen Jarral

'Original biofuels' allude to biofuels arranged from sugar, starch, vegetable oil, or creature fats through regular innovation. These crops are also used as human and animal feed



Making Biodiesel – An Eco-Friendly Step To Go Green

The sustainable biodiesel by microbial fermentation is reported with less cost and more efficient process with modern research efforts for diverse innovative research centers and biotechnology industries start-ups.

For making biodiesel, glycerin is extracted from the fat or vegetable oil using a chemical process called transesterification. Methyl esters and glycerin are the two byproducts of the procedure.

Since the disclosure of fire, humans have used biomass energies as strong biofuels for warming and cooking. For a long time, petroleum products are being utilized as a primary well-spring of energy; in any case, the utilization of them is impractical and beginnings ecological issues identified with petroleum derivative burning.



This is on the grounds that biofuel is gotten from biomass, and it releases scatter gases that contain less carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur oxide (SOx), nitrogen oxide (NOx), un-burnt hydrocarbon and particulate matters (PM). Thus, this test might allow petroleum derivatives to be sup-

planted by sustainable power sources, for example, biofuels that are harmless to the ecosystem.

Biofuels are gaseous fuels or renewable liquid prepared from living organisms or the wastes that they produce. The growing worldwide inhabitants demand

additional energy provisions for refining the excellence of life. As a general rule, biofuels can be named four ages like the original, second, third, and fourth generation.

'Original biofuels' allude to biofuels arranged from sugar, starch, vegetable oil, or creature

fats through regular innovation. These crops are also used as human and animal feed.

Second generation biofuels are produced from lingo-celluloses biomass that is not edible and oil produced from non-food plants like Azadirachta indica (Neem).

Third generation fuel is derived from microalgae, which give high biomass yield and do not compete with agricultural production system. Second and third era biofuels likewise are called progressed biofuels.

Fourth generation biofuels combine genetically engineered feedstock with genetically modified microorganisms, such as cyanobacteria, to efficiently generate bioenergy, and they are made using non-arable land.

For the most recent fourth generation biofuels, the biochemistry and petroleum-based processing has the advanced technology is implemented to yield the biofuel without carbon, i.e. bioethanol and

biodiesel.

Indeed, carbon dioxide, a by-product of fossil fuel combustion, is the principal greenhouse gas contributing to global warming. Production of sustainable biodiesel by microbial fermentation is reported with less cost and more efficient process with modern research efforts for diverse innovative research centers and biotechnology industries start-ups.

The future of genetically modified algae biofuel depends on enhancing the efficacy of its cultivation, improving the algae strains used, and endorsing the commercialization of biomass generation.

Besides this, scientists unlocking the secrets of sea-slugs that have the ability to retain 'stolen' chloroplast from algal food sources and carry out photosynthesis.

Understanding this unusual organism gives a whole new meaning to "going green".



Danyal Haider Khan

The idea of storing various household things in natural sources stems back to a time when there were no contemporary alternatives. Ancient civilizations utilised ash, sand, herbs, and medicinal plants to increase the storage life of various foods



Use Of Botanicals For Stored Grain Pests

By Danyal Haider Khan, Usama Fareed, M. Zaryab Khan, M. Ashir

Food loss prevention during postharvest storage is critical from a financial standpoint. Postharvest infestation control with chemical (contact/residual) insecticides and fumigants is now commonly acknowledged as part of integrated pest management.

Because of the residual problem and health concerns to consumers, synthetic chemical insecticides are either prohibited or handled with caution. Plant-based pesticides are getting a lot of traction as a result of the recent rise in the usage of green insecticides.

Losses in stored grain due to pest:

According to current estimates, insect pests cause a loss of up to 25% in rice and maize, 5% in wheat, and 15% in pulses in India. More than 20,000 species of field and storage pests are responsible for the destruction of almost one-third of the world's food output, which is worth more than \$100 billion each year. India, as a tropical country, suffers 20-30%

damage to stored food in the temperate zone, only around 5-10% of grain products are lost to insect pests. In the year 2010-2011, India's food grain output was estimated to reach 250 million tons, with stored grain insect pests causing damage to approximately 20-25 percent of the grain. According to a World Bank research, storage bugs cause the loss of 12-16 million tons of agricultural grains if not stopped, one-third of the world's population would be fed. As a result, there is a pressing need to find effective, cost-effective, and ecologically sustainable solutions for controlling and managing pests in stored products.

Use of botanicals for stored product pest management:

The idea of storing various household things in natural sources stems back to a time when there were no contemporary alternatives. Ancient civilizations utilised ash, sand, herbs, and medicinal plants to increase the storage life of various foods. Many of these techniques retain their validity in the contemporary day since they are cost-effective and long-lasting. The presence of essential oils, which are lipophilic volatile secondary metabolites, is responsible for the majority of the action. Many spices and herbs, as well as their extracts, have insecticidal qualities, which are commonly found in

the essential oil fraction. Botanical insecticides now account for less than 1% of the global pesticide business.

Plant products as new chemotherapeutants in plant protection have recently gotten a lot of interest in different regions of the world. Plant products have the potential to be useful in pest control because of their non-phytotoxicity, systemicity, simple biodegradability, and stimulatory nature of host metabolism.

The utilisation of plant compounds, particularly those of natural origin with minimal mammalian toxicity, has grown in popularity during the last few decades. Pest control chemicals have been employed with a variety of tropical medicinal plants and spices. Plant products such as ash, vegetable oils, and powdered plant parts are frequently claimed by peasant farmers and researchers to be effective in insect pest management. The utilisation of plant compounds, particularly those of natural origin with minimal mammalian toxicity, has grown in popularity during the last few decades. Pest control chemicals have been employed with a variety of tropical medicinal plants and spices. Plant products such as ash, vegetable oils, and powdered plant parts are frequently claimed by peasant farmers and researchers to be effective in insect pest manage-

ment. Biologicals are biodegradable and leave no harmful residues or by-products because of their natural origin.

Classification of Botanical Insecticides

Based on their effect on insects, we may divide plant components into six categories: repellents, feeding deterrents/antifeedants, toxicants, growth retardants, chemosterilants, and attractants.

Repellents: Repellents are low-impact chemicals that stimulate olfactory or other receptors in insects to keep them away from treated objects. Some historically beneficial Ghanaian plant materials, such as *Ocimum viride* and *Chromolaena odorata*, have also been found to reduce the survival of stored product insect pests to less than 25% after 10 days of treatment at concentrations of 0.1 mg/ml and higher.

Essential oils from the Lamiaceae (mint family), Poaceae (aromatic grasses family), and Pinaceae (pine and cedar family) families are widely utilised as insect repellents across the world.

Antifeedants/Feeding Deterrents: Antifeedants are compounds that make the treated materials unappealing or unpleasant to insects, therefore inhibiting or disrupting their eating. Glycosides of steroidal

alkaloids, aromatic steroids, hydroxylated steroid meliantriol, triterpenehemiacetal, and other antifeedants are among the most common naturally occurring antifeedants. Secondary metabolites like as alkaloids, phenolics, and terpenoids are used to make antifeedants, with the latter being the most effective. The most prevalent anti-feedants include limonoids from neem (*Azadirachta indica*) and chinaberry (*Melia azedarach*) plants, such as azadirachtin and toosendanin, as well as limonin from citrus species.

Toxicity: The chemical makeup of essential oil, the source from which it was collected, the season and ecological circumstances, the technique of extraction, the period of extraction, and the plant component utilised all influence the toxicity of the oil.

The volatile toxicity of *C. sativum* essential oil was discovered in stored product insects. Nicotine, an active component of *Nicotiana tabacum*, has been described as a potent organic poison with contact-stomach poisoning and insecticidal characteristics, as well as human toxicity. Many *Ocimum* species, as well as their oils, extracts, and bioactive components, have been shown to have insecticidal properties against a variety of

insect species.

Fumigant toxicity:

Horseradish oil, mustard oil, and *Foeniculum* fruit extract have been shown to have insecticidal action using a fumigation approach with 100 percent mortality in sealed containers. In open containers, there is a 2-4 percent mortality rate.

Reproduction Inhibitors: Plants and their different components have been found to affect insect oviposition, egg hatchability, postembryonic development, and progeny generation when combined with grains. Botanicals induce theovariole in female flies to misfire.

Oviposition inhibition occurs when females die before depositing their eggs after coming into touch with botanical materials, or when living females fail to lay eggs.

Plant-based bio insecticides are now gaining popularity as a result of modern commercialization strategies and government efforts. Farmers and extension workers must be taught about the usage and value of botanicals, and extensive effort must be done to develop their efficacy for large-scale and long-term application.

Subsidies and programmes should be provided by the government, and efforts should be made to encourage the adoption of such items.



Kamil Riaz Kara

How you, as a restaurant business, can add value to the time that the customer is giving you is the strategy that you would have to design. An effective POS Ecommerce solution can help minimise the time taken for the prerequisites of the experience. As a result, you can offer customer service that offers customer their value for the time they are giving. Customer service, in this regard, is a tool which will help you create a loyal customer base



Reasons To Rethink Your Customer Service Strategy For Retail Growth

Make it so easy to do business with you that it's not worth your customer's time to do business with anyone else. Ron Kaufman

Summarized above is the essence of customer service. Customer service is a factor so integral to developing your business' competitiveness that you need to constantly revise and revamp the strategy to suit your customer's needs.

With the ever-changing business world, especially the retail segment, it is critical that your customer service changes with it. The revolution of the internet is not complete. It is still changing, and the way businesses use it to connect with their customers, deliver service, and handle complaints is revolutionizing too. Who would have thought two decades ago that an online bookstore will soon turn into the world's largest online retailer: Amazon? Who could have imagined that successful brick-and-mortar stores like Walmart would be trailing behind Amazon's strategy to succeed in the changing retail landscape?

Amazon has made use of customer service to grow leaving little gaps for the competitors. While this sounds too ambitious to begin with, as a retail-

er, you should understand that the core of Amazon's strategies is customer service. Here are five reasons and ways for you to rethink your customer service strategy:

Connect with your Customer

Customer feedback is one of



the most important aspects which will help you to analyse your offerings and changing it according to the customer's needs. One thing to consider is that at times, these needs are not quantitative.

Customer needs like new experiences, ease of purchasing, and complaint handling might sound vague at first. However, it is important to realize how, by using technology or human resources, you can best meet these customer needs. In this case, it is vital to connect with the customer and get insights on what works and what doesn't.

Save Time

Customers want to save time, not on the experiences, but on the prerequisites of the experience. For example, in a restaurant business, the customer would want to save time on ordering and paying, but not

rush on the experience of dining.

How you, as a restaurant business, can add value to the time that the customer is giving you is the strategy that you would have to design. An effective POS Ecommerce solution can help minimise the time taken for the prerequisites of the experience. As a result, you can offer customer service that offers customer their value for the time they are giving.

Customer service, in this regard, is a tool which will help you create a loyal customer base.

Differentiate from the

Competitors

Customer service will not only help you in offering great value to your customer but on the basis of this, it will help you differentiate from the competitors. It is critical, that in this era of strong retail competition, one plays on the factors that differentiate.

However, as a business owner, you should understand that this differentiation factor should not be easily replicated. In management, the VRIO model is used to assess the resources and competencies of a business. The VRIO stands for valuable, rare, inimitable, and organized. Factors that tick boxes on all these criteria would truly help you differentiate from the competitor. At times, brand name and history is a strong differential factor that other businesses cannot replicate. However, if you are a new business, you can make use of technology and the power of your customers to develop a differentiation strategy.

Data is Key
At times, to develop a factor that helps you differentiate from the competitor, your data can be a strong resource. This means collecting feedback from the customer, analysing customer purchase patterns and behaviours can help you understand the mind of the customer.

The customer's mind is a mysterious box that needs to

be explored. The customer themselves are not aware of their intentions and why they act on certain things at times. However, for this, you would want retail software that helps you to analyse key trends on a real-time basis.

For example, Walmart failed in Germany because the store workers were asked to smile to the customers. Since this customer service strategy was very effective in the US, it was expected that it would work well in Germany too. However, Germans were uncomfortable with this gesture since smiling is associated with flirtation. This was one of the reasons it failed in Germany.

Therefore, understanding your customer through thorough analysis and data is necessary to attain success.

Important for Brand Building
As a business owner or an entrepreneur, you know the importance of a brand name. Initially, customer service was only considered to be important in the hospitality industry because they play on experiences to build their brand value.

However, now that the competition is high, customer service is an important component for your brand, be it in any sector of the retail industry.

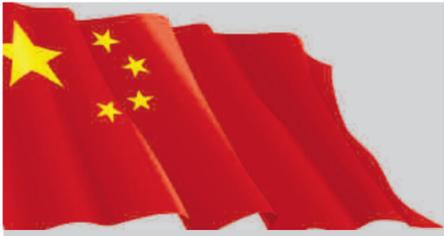
If you are selling products in the beauty category, customer service such as informing the customer on the status of their orders, customer feedback,

and handling customer complaints should be such that it at least satisfies the customer if not exceed expectations. It will help in generating a word-of-mouth marketing effect too which will add to your brand value.

How to Scale-up in the Retail Sector?

These five reasons you should rethink about your customer service strategy prove the importance of customer service to a business' success. It is critical that as a business owner, you utilize technology as well as human resources to come up with clever and innovative customer service solutions for your customer's needs.

One of these is being present on multiple platforms to offer the customer what they want. For example, your customer might be comfortable with using an e-commerce website rather than visiting your website. In this case, consolidating your channels into one platform would be a critical factor to manage your customer service effectively. There are e-commerce integration tools available that best suit your business needs and offer the best customer service. The examples of retail giants such as Walmart and Amazon show how customer service can help soar the business to new heights and also, how the wrong customer service strategy can lead to failure...**Read More**



China Leads US In High Impact Research Of Critical Technologies: Study

The ASPI discovered that for a select few fields, all of the top 10 research institutions worldwide are in China.

The independent think tank Australian Strategic Policy Institute, or ASPI, based in Canberra, claims that China has a "stunning lead" over the US in high-impact research across critical and emerging technologies.

The ASPI said in its report released on Thursday that China, the second-largest economy in the world, is outpacing the US in terms of its research into 37 of 44 crucial and emerging technologies across the defence, space, energy, and biotechnology sectors. This includes work on advanced air-

craft engines, drones, and electric batteries. The study was financed in part by the US State Department.

The ASPI discovered that for a select few fields, all of the top 10 research institutions worldwide are in China, and they produce nine times as many high-impact research papers as the second-placed nation, which is frequently the US.

According to the ASPI, China has a particular advantage in technologies relating to defence and space. Western democracies are falling behind in the race for scientific and technological advances, according to the report, which was authored by senior analyst Jamie Gaida for the institute.

The ASPI claimed that President Xi Jinping's administration and those that came before it "deliberately designed and long-term policy planning" to produce China's lead. The report's authors issued a warning that democratic countries might suffer as a result of China's hegemony in certain strategic fields of research.

The lead could, in the short term, give China "a stranglehold on the global supply of certain critical technologies." Long-term, according to the ASPI, China's dominant position could help it succeed in nearly every industry, including technologies that don't yet exist.

"Unchecked, this could shift not just technological develop-

ment and control but also global power and influence to an authoritarian state where the development, testing, and application of emerging, critical, and military technologies are not open and transparent and where they cannot be inspected by independent civil society and media," the think-tank warned.

The ASPI exhorts governments all over the world to work together and increase research spending in order to catch up to China.

It also suggested steps to prevent "illegal technology transfers" to China, like visa screening for visitors to research facilities, and advised governments to consider...[Read More](#)

Chinese Telecom Companies Share Knowledge About MWC 2023



A significant number of Asian participants have returned, with about 5,000 from China showcasing the newest innovations and cutting-edge technologies.

Leading Chinese telecom companies gathered this week in Barcelona, Spain, for the Mobile World Congress 2023. The event is regarded as the biggest and most important one ever held in the field of mobile communication. A global audience has seen the newest products and technologies from businesses like ZTE, OPPO, and Huawei. Gao Ang of CGTN has more.

Chinese leading telecom companies released a 5G Network Co-Construction and Sharing Guide at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain, to share key technologies and operational experiences in 5G with international peers.

China Unicom's Chairman and CEO, LIU LIEHONG "China Unicom will use its balancing role to support the development of smart devices, content, and applications on the one hand, while driving the growth of the ICT industry on the other, connecting upstream and downstream players to jointly create and share value."

More than 200 countries and regions have sent over 80,000 people to the event. A significant number of Asian participants have returned, with about 5,000 from China showcasing the newest innovations and cutting-edge technologies.

Participating Chinese companies included ZTE, OPPO, and Huawei, with some emphasising digitalization and green development.

British participant HISHAM "In my opinion, Chinese businesses are setting the pace for innovation. You should start by looking for a Chinese company if you're looking for innovation."...[Read More](#)

China Needs To Enhance Triaged Medical Procedures: Expert



Zhang stated that the week of January 21-27—the month leading up to the Spring Festival holiday—was a particularly trying time for healthcare professionals.

The main body of the craft will continue to travel towards a main-belt comet after completing this task in order to explore it, the centre said on Thursday in a notice inviting scientists to a workshop on this mission. Researchers from the Chinese mainland, the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macao, as well as Taiwan, are invited to the workshop, which is scheduled to take place in Hefei, Anhui Province...[Read More](#)

He said on the sidelines of this year's two sessions, "The central leadership of the Communist Party of China has been upgrading virus control policies based on the latest epidemic situations, which has enabled us to avoid several waves of infection peaks driven by deadly strains. "This is the main justification for ending the epidemic." China started easing COVID-19 curbs gradually in November when the less pathogenic but highly transmissible Omicron strain became dominant, and infection levels peaked in late December. According to Zhang, the week of January 21-27—the month leading up to the Spring Festival holiday...[Read More](#)

China's Yangtze River Serves As An Example Of Ecological Protection

Liao Wenbin stresses need for local govt to become more cognizant of the big picture and to foster a strong sense of responsibility for safeguarding the Yangtze River's upper reaches.

China has upheld the principle that clear waters and lush mountains are priceless resources, as part of a national plan to keep nature and people in harmony. Yibin, a city on the Yangtze River in Sichuan Province of China, is where Meng Qingsheng begins. In the Yangtze River's waters, it is uncommon to see schools of fish assembling, but in Yibin in southwest China, things are dif-



ferent. Since the implementation of a 10-year fishing ban, the city has experienced an increase in biodiversity. President Xi Jinping's visit to Yibin last year, according to Mayor Liao Wenbin, was a "milestone event" for the development of the city's ecological system.

Liao Wenbin Yibin City Mayor and 14th National People's Congress Delegate "I had the honour of hearing the General Secretary's counsel firsthand. He emphasised the need for local government to become more cognizant of the big picture and to foster a strong sense of responsibility for safeguarding the Yangtze River's upper reaches. He also demanded the adoption of strict guidelines to safeguard water quality and guarantee uninterrupted flow. That makes Yibin's role and purpose as the first city on the Yangtze more clear.

President Xi stopped by this waterfront park while on his tour of Yibin. He stated that maintaining the region's status as the birthplace of Chinese civilization and fostering high-quality development in the Yangtze River Economic Belt depend on protecting...[Read More](#)

China Plans To Send Robotic Spacecraft To Collect Samples From Asteroid



The robotic spacecraft will first orbit the asteroid before making a close approach in order to use a mechanical arm to collect dust from its surface.

The Lunar Exploration and

Space Program Center of the China National Space Administration has reported that the Chinese government has approved a plan to send a robotic spacecraft to gather samples

from an asteroid.

The 2016 HO3, the smallest and closest "quasi-satellite," will be the target of the Tianwen 2 mission, which will send up a probe to collect samples from it and return them to Earth.

The main body of the craft will continue to travel towards a main-belt comet after completing this task in order to explore it, the centre said on Thursday in a notice inviting scientists to a workshop on this mission. Researchers from the Chinese mainland, the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macao, as well as Taiwan, are invited to the workshop, which is scheduled to take place in Hefei, Anhui Province...[Read More](#)

The Wandering Earth To Usher New Era Of Domestic Sci Fi Tales: Gao



According to recent seminar, the Chinese television adaptation of Liu Cixin's Three-Body Problem, the first Asian novel to win the Hugo Award, has gained popularity abroad.

The success of the film series The Wandering Earth and the popularity of the television drama Three-Body, according to Gao Changli, director-general of the TV drama division at the National Radio and Television Administration, may herald a new phase in the rise of domestic sci-fi tales in the nation.

The drama, he continued, "offers a distinctive edge for homegrown tales in the global sci-

fi landscape," containing a wealth of ideas and information drawn from traditional Chinese philosophy and culture.

According to a recent seminar held in Beijing, the Chinese television adaptation of Liu Cixin's Three-Body Problem, the first Asian novel to win the Hugo Award, has gained popularity abroad. Tencent Video reports that the series has amassed 5 million views on YouTube and a 7.9 out of 10 rating on the international review aggregator IMDb. Gao Changli, director general of the TV drama department at the National Radio and Television Administration...[Read More](#)

China Selects Astronauts For 2023 Missions To Tiangong Space Station

For the Shenzhou 16 mission, scheduled to launch in May, and the Shenzhou 17 mission, scheduled to launch six months later, two three-person crews have been chosen.

The astronauts who will fly two crewed missions to its Tiangong space station this year have been chosen by China. Later this year, China will send two crews to the Tiangong space station, which is now fully functional, where they will spend six months conducting scientific research and maintaining the space station.

For the Shenzhou 16 mission, scheduled to launch in May, and the Shenzhou 17 mission, scheduled to launch six months later, two three-person crews have been chosen. The missions will launch from Jiuquan in the Gobi Desert on Long March 2F rockets.

Each mission also includes a backup crew that is prepared to step in and take over for the primary crew if necessary.

Yang Liwei, the deputy chief designer of China's human spaceflight programme, told Chinese broadcaster CCTV that the astronauts of crewed missions, including the astronauts

who will perform the mission and the backup crew, will be chosen one to one and a half years before the start of the spaceflight mission.

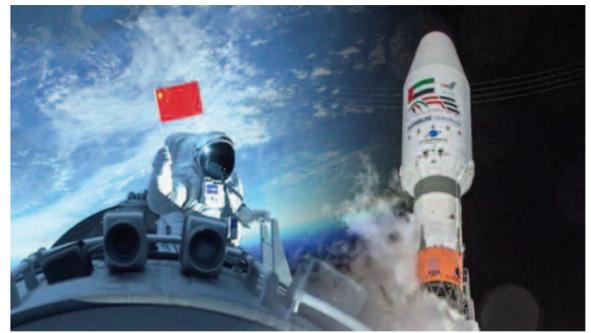
Yang, who was also China's first astronaut in space, continued, "Now we've basically conducted astronaut selection for two missions together, and will select a backup crew.

The China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) used to send a backup crew for a space mission on the flight after. This seems to have changed, which is most likely a result of the adjustments needed to launch crewed missions every six months.

Prior to Shenzhou 12, which

made the first visit to the Tiangong Station's core module in 2021, China had a gap of almost five years. Shenzhou 11 was launched in 2016, and Shenzhou 12 was launched in 2021.

The fact that China continues to withhold the astronauts' identities until just before launch is one thing that has not changed. The People's Liberation Army-run CMSA typically announces the crew at a press conference one day prior to launch. A third group of new astronauts will be recruited by China in 2020. The 18 individuals, made up of 17 men and one woman, ought to have finished...[Read More](#)





MGRC Collaborates For R&D Of Biotechnology Products

MGRC, Kensana Health Canada, and MAHSA University have strategically partnered to conduct R&D on potential biotechnology and phytopharmaceutical products.

The Malaysian Genomics Resource Centre Bhd (MGRC), Kensana Health Canada, and MAHSA University have strategically partnered to conduct research and development (R&D) on potential biotechnology and phytopharmaceutical products.

The partnership will involve joint R&D on species improvement, identification, formulation, and pre-clinical testing of

novel phytocompounds with potential therapeutic and commercial value, according to a statement released by MGRC, a company that specializes in genomics and biopharmaceuticals, on Friday (Feb. 24).

The strategic partnership to conduct R&D on potential biotechnology and phytopharmaceutical products, according to executive director Datuk Alvin Joseph Nesakumar, aims to increase R&D activities using plant-based formulations to produce outcomes that can be commercialized in nations where the use of cannabinoid medications is legal.

This year, there are also initiatives to register products containing cannabidiol in Malaysia. The group's focus on the biopharmaceuticals business for growth and sustainability will be supported by its track record of partnerships and collaborations, the executive said.

"We have the market knowledge and expertise in the distribution of healthcare related products," he said. He added that the MGRC has the lab tools required to support the R&D initiatives.

Healthcare supplies and services are provided by the Malaysian Genomics Resource

Centre Berhad. It offers services for genetic screening, genome sequencing, and analysis. It provides full-service genomics solutions, including genome sequencing, genome analysis, and genetic testing.

Using whole genome sequencing (WGS), any eukaryotic or prokaryotic organism can have its entire genome sequenced. Genomes from plants, animals, bacteria, and people are included in this. As part of its WGS service, it provides both de novo sequencing and resequencing. Services like bioinformatics, trait analysis, and trio sequencing...**Raed More**

Gross Output Value Grew 23.2% For Crops Sub-Sector In Malaysia



The value of the gross output of the crops sub-sector was reported to be RM75.8 billion, with a share of 74.9%, in its Annual Economic Statistics (AES) Agriculture Sector 2021.

The value of gross output for the "Pix for representational purpose only/AFPPixsector" increased by 23.2% to RM101.3 billion in 2021 from RM82.2 billion in 2020, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DoSM). This increase was primarily attributable to the "crops" sub-sector.

The value of the gross output of the crops sub-sector was reported to be RM75.8 billion, with a share of 74.9%, in its Annual Economic Statistics (AES) Agriculture Sector 2021.

RM18.7 billion (18.4%), RM4.4 billion (4.3%), and RM2.4 billion (2.4%) were recorded in the other three subsectors, which include livestock, forestry and logging, as well as fisheries.

Sarawak, with a share of the gross output value for the agricultural sector of 30.2%, Sabah, with 20.3%, and Johor, with 12.3%, were the three major states.

Additionally, from RM36.1 billion the year before to RM45.6 billion in 2021, the value of intermediate input for the agriculture sector registered an increase of 26.5%.

Value added, meanwhile, increased by 20.7% over the same period, from RM46.2 billion to RM55.7 billion. With a share of 32.9%, Sarawak contributed the most value added with RM18.3 billion, followed by Sabah with RM13.3 billion (23.9%) and Johor with RM6.1 billion (11.0%). With shares of RM27.7 billion (60.6% of intermediate input value) and RM48.2 billion (86.5% of value added)...**Raed More**

Energy Efficiency & Conservation's Bill Draft At Study Stage: Nik Nazmi



NRECC is still studying the draft of the Bill (RUU) on energy efficiency and conservation, according to its minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad.

"When there is energy-efficient electrical equipment, the government does not need to build expensive power plants," Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad told reporters after launching the Malaysia Energy Literacy Program (MELP).

Prior to this, it was reported that the government was enacting legislation to allow the Energy Commission to provide more comprehensive coordina-

tion and effective regulation.

The Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment, and Climate Change (NRECC) is still studying the draft of the Bill (RUU) on energy efficiency and conservation, according to its minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad. He stated that many countries have adopted laws governing energy efficiency and conservation, such as the United Kingdom (UK), where all electrical appliances are energy efficient, resulting in a consistent decrease in energy demand over a 20-year period...**Raed More**

Malaysia & Spain To Sign MoU For Cooperation In Field Of STI

The Malaysian and Spanish governments are set to sign MoU in the field of STI, according to the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MOSTI).

Malaysia is prepared to accept investment from companies in the technology sector attending the Mobile World Congress (MWC) in 2023, particularly in the field of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI).

Malaysia, according to Minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation Chang Lih Kang, is a top choice for investors looking to increase its market

MRANTI, DNB Extend MoU To Boost 5G Technology In Malaysia



"I am hopeful that businesses in area can now take advantage of ultrafast & low latency connectivity to develop new & exciting 5G-enabled products & serv-

ices," said Nasution M. Malaysian Research Accelerator for Technology and Innovation (MRANTI), Digital Nasional Berhad (DNB), and

Ericsson have extended their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the commercialization of 5G-enabled Science, Technology, Innovation, and Economy (STIE) solutions for businesses in Malaysia.

The three parties signed a memorandum of understanding that was presented to the partners at Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) Mobile World Congress (MWC) Barcelona 2023 event.

According to the expanded Memorandum of Understanding, the partners will aid in the creation of the MRANTI 5G Experience Centre by offering information...**Raed More**

RM1.69B Worth Of Subsidies For Egg Producers Approve: Minister



Agriculture and Food Security Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu said it was one of the short-term measures taken to address the market's shortage of chicken eggs.

A total of 18,880 egg producers application worth RM1.69 billion in subsidies had been approved up until February 15. Agriculture and Food Security Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu said it was one of the short-term measures taken to address the market's shortage of chicken eggs.

Besides providing subsidies to egg producers, other measures included allowing egg imports

beginning in December last year, as well as imports of day-old chicks (DOC) from Brazil, New Zealand, France, and Australia to ensure a sufficient supply of egg chicken.

"In the long run, (the government aims to) reduce grain corn imports by 30% through farming on 80,000ha of land nationwide, with 1.44 million tonnes of grain corn expected to be produced by 2032," he said in a parliamentary response to Che Alias Hamid's question (PN-Kemaman).

Other measures, according to Mohamad, include looking for alternatives to animal feed ingredients...**Raed More**

Langkawi's Forest Transforms Into Malaysia's Immersive Night Attraction

Dream Forest is well-positioned to draw tourists of all ages, including families, vacationers, business travelers, event organisers, students, and culture vultures.

Dream Forest, the first immersive night attraction in Malaysia, has been created from a 1.2KM trail in a more than 100 million-year-old prehistoric forest on Langkawi. Dream Forest is slated to open on May 1, 2023.

Puan Sri Tiara Jacqueline, group president of Enfiniti and chief dream maker, developed the concept and brought it to life with the help of an all-Malaysian team made up of the brightest minds in the fields of construction, technology, and design.

As soon as the sun goes down, the forest comes to life, transforming fables about the Giants of Langkawi, Merong Mahawangsa, and Dayang Bunting into engaging experiences for tourists from all walks of life.

In her remarks at a recent press conference, Tiara stated, "I

believe we have a wealth of stories in our own backyard that we can share with the world through various mediums. She mentioned that this project was a part of the team's strategy to revitalise and reinvigorate Langkawi's lovely former Kampung Buku (Book Village).

Visitors to the theme park will experience an immersive, multi-sensory journey through Langkawi's enchanted rainforest while being surrounded by illuminations and projection mapping. Every location has a distinctive history that makes it

special for tourists, she continued.

Dream Forest is a haven of biodiversity located in the lush Lubuk Semilang rainforest at the base of Gunung Raya. Here, visitors can go on nature walks during the day to take part in forest bathing and see animals like flying lemurs, dusky leaf monkeys, Sumatran toads, and even several species of hornbills.

Dream Forest is well-positioned to draw tourists of all ages, including families, vacationers, business travellers, event organisers...**Raed More**



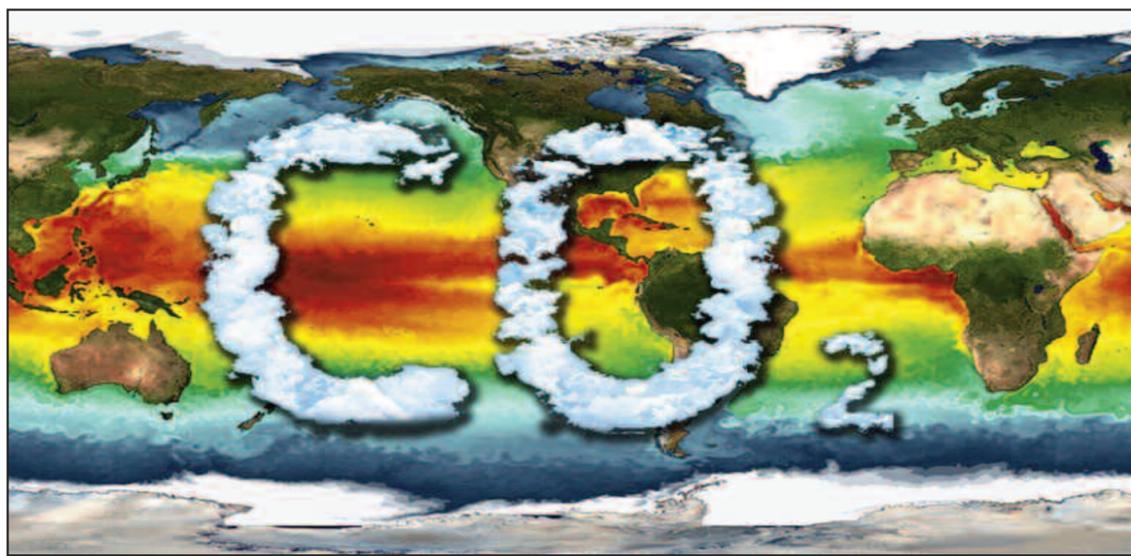
share in the digital economy, which will lead to more opportunities for trade and business.

In this regard, the Malaysian and Spanish governments are set to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the field of STI, according to the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MOSTI).

The MoU is anticipated to improve collaboration between the two nations' ministries of science and technology, particularly in the STI sector.

He told Media on the sidelines of MWC 2023 in this city, "With the signing of the MoU, both countries will explore further cooperation in STI including biotechnology, space sciences, emerging technology, and energy efficiency, among others.

Chang also emphasised that MOSTI's participation in MWC 2023 has made it possible to further explore AI regulations and ways to impose AI ethics, which refers to a large number of considerations combining safety, security, human concerns, and environmental issues. "We also had very fruitful discussions about how to understand the framework...**Raed More**



Carbon Dioxide And Global Temperatures Indissolubly Linked: Scientists

According to senior climate scientist, the idea that carbon dioxide and climate are unrelated is completely inconsistent with legitimate science.

Climate scientists claim that greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide trap heat in the atmosphere and warming global temperatures. According to scientists, both the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and global temperatures are continuing to rise at a historically unprecedented rate.

The text in the tweet reads, "There's no correlation between carbon dioxide & climate & never was. "CO2 has been steadily declining for millions of years and is in trouble. The

weather is also getting colder, not warmer." Peter Clack, a Twitter user, frequently disseminates false information about climate change.

The tweet received over 1,000 retweets in less than two weeks, while the Instagram post was liked more than 100 times in less than a week. Climate scientists claim that carbon dioxide and global temperatures are indissolubly linked.

According to senior climate scientist Howard Diamond of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Air Resources Laboratory, the idea that carbon dioxide and climate are unrelated is completely inconsistent with legitimate science.

"That simply goes counter to all the available scientific data and research we have collected and developed over nearly 200 years," Diamond said in an email. The ability of CO2 to prevent escaping long-wave radiation, such as heat, from the planet's surface and back into space is clearly demonstrated by empirical data.

Marcus Sarofim, an environmental scientist with the EPA's Climate Science and Impacts division, concurred. The warming in global temperatures has been directly attributed, according to scientists, to an unprecedented rise in carbon dioxide emissions from human activity.

Several graphs in the screenshotted post purport to demon-

strate that there is no correlation between carbon dioxide concentrations and global temperatures.

The graphs, according to Diamond, do not accurately depict the link between atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations and global temperatures. The top right chart is from a Yale University study published in 2001.

However, Diamond said that the graph "simply tells us that we have less CO2 today than we did, say, 540 million years ago," and no credible climate scientist would dispute that. The chart does not appear with the title "CO2 famine for the past several tens of millions of years" in the original paper...[Read More](#)

U.S. House To Give Biden The Power To Ban Chinese Owned TikTok

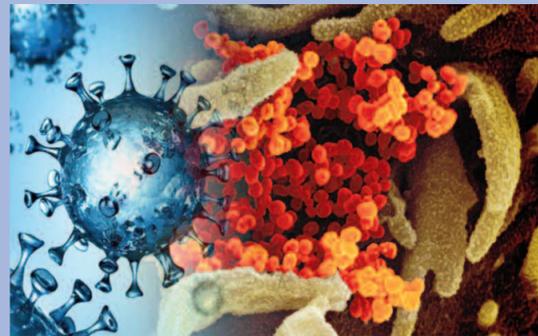


By a vote of 24 to 16, lawmakers approved the legislation giving the administration new authority to ban the ByteDance-owned app and other security-risky apps. In what would be the most extensive American restriction on any social media app, the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee voted on Wednesday along party lines to grant President Joe Biden the authority to ban TikTok, which

is owned by China.

By a vote of 24 to 16, lawmakers approved the legislation giving the administration new authority to ban the ByteDance-owned app and other security-risky apps. Over 100 million Americans use this app. "TikTok poses a risk to national security. Action is required now "Rep. Michael McCaul, the committee's chairman and bill sponsor, is a Republican...[Read More](#)

Z Division Tries To Address Query Regarding Causes Of COVID-19 Pandemic



According to The Wall Street Journal, which broke the news first, the findings have been sent to the White House and important members of Congress.

The U.S. Department of Energy's "Z Division" was created to assist intelligence agencies in comprehending the significance of Soviet nuclear weapons tests. But the terrorist attacks of 9/11 would alter its purpose.

Twenty years later, as the Z Division tries to address the query that researchers, medical professionals, and regular Americans have regarding the causes of the COVID-19 pandemic: How did it take place?

Scientists from the Z Division and other experts from the Energy Department's national laboratory complex came to the conclusion that the pandemic most likely began with an unintentional laboratory leak in Wuhan, China, in a recent classified intelligence report.

According to The Wall Street Journal, which broke the news first, the findings have been sent to the White House and important members of Congress.

Scientists and others are pushing the claim that the virus most likely emerged through natural means, like animal-to-human transmission, in response to the report, which has sparked a backlash against the Biden administration.

The White House has not endorsed the Energy Department's findings on the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic, but four agencies have concluded with "low confidence" that the virus was initially transmitted from an animal to a human...[Read More](#)

NASA's SpaceX Crew 6 Safely Traveling To Intl' Space Station

SpaceX Crew-6 will advance human exploration beyond low-Earth orbit and improve life on Earth by conducting fresh scientific research.

NASA's SpaceX Crew-6 crew members successfully launched to the International Space Station at 12:34 a.m. EST on Thursday from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. As of now, they are in orbit. The six-commercial crew rotation mission for the agency with SpaceX aboard the orbital laboratory features the international crew.

NASA astronauts Warren Hoburg and Stephen Bowen, along with cosmonauts Andrey Fedyayev of Roscosmos and Sultan Alneyadi of the United Arab Emirates, were aboard the Dragon spacecraft Endeavour



when it was launched into orbit by a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. They were travelling to the International Space Station for a science mission.

NASA and SpaceX teams have successfully completed a history-making mission to the International Space Station, with Crew-6 conducting over 200 experiments to prepare

for missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond and improve life on Earth.

SpaceX will monitor the flight from its mission control center in Hawthorne, California, and NASA teams will monitor space station operations from the Mission Control Center at the agency's Johnson Space Center in Houston. The Commercial Crew Program is proof American ingenuity and leadership in space benefits all of humanity through groundbreaking science, innovative technology, and newfound partnership. Dragn will dock autonomously to the space-facing port of the station's Harmony module at 1:17 a.m. on Friday, March 3. NASA Television, the NASA app, and the agency's website will provide live coverage of the docking and hatch opening...[Read More](#)

DART Mission Of NASA Successfully Achieves Its Two Main Goals



Astronomers claim that DART has successfully done both mission, demonstrating that a "kinetic impactor" like DART is a "viable technique to potentially defend Earth if necessary.

The Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) mission of NASA had two main objectives: to show that an asteroid could be targeted in a high-speed encounter and to show that the target's orbit could be changed.

Astronomers claim that DART of NASA has successfully done both mission, demonstrating that a "kinetic impactor" like DART is a "viable technique to potentially defend Earth if necessary." Two studies are part of a group of five DART papers published online in the journal Nature on March 1st.

The most recent findings concentrate on reconstructing DART's final moments, making exact calculations of how much the spacecraft altered its target's orbit, solving the mystery of Dimorphos' twin tails, and highlighting significant mission moments recorded by an international network of citizen science telescopes.

Even though scientists are still analysing the DART data, they are already planning a follow-up mission: the Hera spacecraft from the European Space Agency, which will launch in October 2024 and arrive at Didymos two years later.

Hera is tasked with thoroughly investigating the Didymos-Dimorphos system, including the crater left by DART's plunge.

"This situation is exciting and rare for planetary exploration." Co-author of one of the studies and planetary scientist at The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), Carolyn Ernst, told Space.com in an email.

The DART probe started sending home images once every five hours, which were then processed by a ground optical navigation team, researchers report in the new papers, a month before its impact.

The SMART Nav system onboard DART's autonomous navigation system was given free reign to navigate itself about four hours before impact. This system also processed images to first recognize Didymos and later Dimorphos...[Read More](#)

US Rural Areas To Receive \$300mln For Affordable Energy Sources

Funding aims to provide these communities with eligible projects to modernize existing electric generation facilities, upgrade electric grid transmission and distribution.

The U.S. Energy Department announced on Wednesday that rural areas and tribal nations without access to reliable energy will start receiving more than \$300 million to develop clean and affordable energy sources.

For remote communities with fewer than 10,000 residents, a bipartisan infrastructure law signed by President Joe Biden in 2021 included \$300 million as well as \$15 million for a prize competition to help them develop the capacity for new energy systems.

The announcement means that communities can now submit applications for federal cost-share funding of up to \$100 million for multi-community projects and up to \$5 million to \$10 million for single-site demonstration projects.

Energy Secretary Granholm said in a statement, "The DOE is stepping up its efforts to ensure that every American — especially those in rural and remote areas — can unlock the public health and cost-

saving benefits that come with the transition to a clean energy future.

About one in six Americans resides in rural or remote areas, which are more likely to have low population densities, a distance from larger transmission systems, and disproportionately high energy costs. Economic development is frequently hampered by tribes' and rural communities' lack of reliable energy.

When it comes to the most affordable renewable energy sources, solar and wind power have maintained their top positions. Both energy sources are significantly less expensive than

alternatives that use fossil fuels, and they get cheaper every year.

The funding aims to provide these communities with eligible projects to modernize existing electric generation facilities, upgrade electric grid transmission and distribution, and improve energy efficiency.

Deputy Energy Secretary of the United States David Turk made the funding announcement at the Alaska Federation of Natives' Alaska Day Convention. Nine geographical regions representing various issues with energy access, weather patterns, and climate impacts...[Read More](#)





AfCFTA Implementation parks Domestic Hydrocarbons Market's Creation

Nigeria's energy achievements have been largely attributed to participation of international oil companies (IOC), including TotalEnergies, Shell, Eni, Chevron and ExxonMobil. Local content laws and the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) have sparked the development of a fiercely competitive domestic hydrocarbons market within largest oil producer in Africa.

Nigeria is the largest oil producer in sub-Saharan Africa and one of the oil and gas markets on the continent. Nigeria's energy achievements have been largely attributed to the participation of international oil companies (IOC), including TotalEnergies, Shell, Eni, Chevron and ExxonMobil.

However, with IOC divestment from key hydrocarbon assets, local companies have stepped up, driven by local content-oriented regulation and the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

The Nigerian government established the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development (Local Content Act) in 2010 to promote indigenous participation in the sector.

The Act prescribes minimum thresholds for the use of local products and services, the promotion of skills and technology transfer, value addition and job creation, and the awarding of oil and gas contracts and undertakings to local companies.

In this regard, the regulation has been crucial in enhancing

the role that local businesses play while also fostering fierce domestic competition in Nigeria.

Nigeria, oil producer in Africa, is committed to significantly raising local content throughout the sector, and is currently debating a Bill for the amendment of the Act that would broaden the definition of Nigerian companies, increase capacity compliance, and revise the minimum target levels for imported goods.

The implementation of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) in 2021, which is a significant driver of Nigeria's domestic market, has further bolstered that market.

The legislation primarily focuses on revenue and natural resource management, whereas

the PIA involves a complete overhaul of the oil and gas industry, commercializing the NNPC, establishing two regulatory agencies, and ensuring increased transparency and accountability. The Local Content Act is still essential in the nation and will continue to grow the domestic economy.

The AfCFTA's implementation in January 2021 only served to increase local companies' participation because a supportive environment had already been established to encourage it, opening up new possibilities for intra-African trade and commerce. In order to create a single market for goods, people, and services, the AfCFTA specifically entails the removal of red tape, the simplification of customs procedures...[Read More](#)

Lafarge Africa Recognizes For Sustainability Reporting At NGX Awards



Lafarge Africa received the award for leadership in sustainability reporting for exemplifying sustainability.

Lafarge Africa Plc, one of the top innovators in sustainable building solutions, has won four awards for its contributions to sustainability and environmental performance as well as its dedication to gender inclusion and workplace diversity. At the 2022 NGX Made of Africa Awards, the company was given the Sustainability Reporting Award.

The NGX Made of Africa Awards are intended to honour organisations and people working in the capital market system who have excelled in providing value and making a lasting impact while also serving as major forces in the development of the Nigerian and African capital markets.

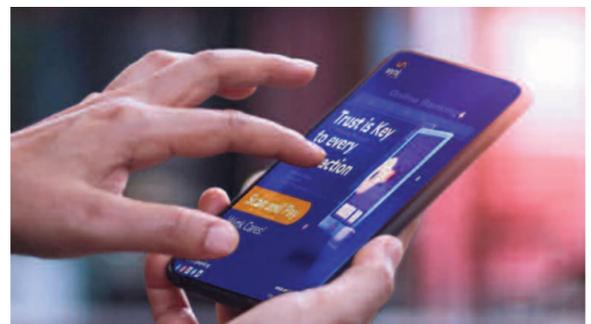
Lafarge Africa received the award for leadership in sustainability reporting for exemplifying sustainability. The building solutions company received a reward for upholding high ethical standards, adhering to "The Exchange's" (NGX) rules and regulations, and other pertinent laws and regulations.

Lafarge Africa also won the Environmental Sustainability Conference, Expo and Awards (ECOSEA) 2022's Eco-friendly Cement Manufacturing Company of the Year Award.

Titilope Oguntuga, the company's head of sustainability and corporate branding, won the ECOSEA 2022 award for "Environmental Sustainability Professional of the Year" (Extractive Industry).

This honour of sustainability reporting is given to individuals and groups for their enormous efforts and contributions to the nation's environmental sustainability. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations...[Read More](#)

Nigerian Tech Startup Launches The Wynk Lifestyle Super App



The Wynk Lifestyle Super App was specifically created to ease the lives of all user classes by addressing their pain points.

The advancement of a cashless economy is the goal of an innovative lifestyle app called "The Wynk Lifestyle Super App" that was recently released by Nigerian tech startup Wynk Limited. The app was specifically created to ease the lives of all user classes by addressing their pain points.

The company claimed to be a cost-effective solution to a wide

range of issues, including financial services and fintech, domestic and international payments, the delivery of healthcare services, education, agribusiness, and e-commerce, among many others. The Wynk Lifestyle Super App is based on three strategic verticals: rides (including e-hailing, deliveries, and public transportation), payments for all transactions, and lifestyle.

This contrasts with the majority of existing apps, which are constrained in their scope...[Read More](#)

Investment In South African Tech Startups Fell In 2022: Report



Prior to 2022, South Africa's funding levels had been increasing year over year; 2022 was the first time this had not happened. The 2022 African Tech

Startups Funding Report by Disrupt Africa shows that South Africa experienced a year-over-year (YoY) decline in both the number of startups receiving

funding and the overall amount of funding received. In 2022, funding for South African tech startups fell.

A landmark year for tech startups in Africa, despite South Africa's difficulties, was 2022. Throughout 2022, over 600 African tech startups raised a combined \$3.3 billion, a YoY increase of 55.1%. In light of the year's overall global investment decline, particularly in riskier asset classes like venture capital, the growth in investment is impressive. However, South Africa had a difficult year, with only 78 startups receiving funding (12.3% of all funded ventures in Africa)...[Read More](#)

Climate Change Disasters Forcibly Displacing Africans: ISS Report

In sub-Saharan Africa, 44 million people are displaced, up from 38.3 million at the end of 2021, according to UNHCR planning estimates for 2023.

More Africans are being forcibly displaced than ever before across many regions of Africa as a result of conflict, political violence, climate change, and food insecurity. According to a recent report by the Institute of Security Studies (ISS), the number of people who were forcibly displaced—including those who were internally displaced, asylum seekers, and refugees—exceeded 100 million globally in May 2022...[Read More](#)

Drought In East Africa Risks Lives Of 22m People: UN Official



A senior UN official claims that due to the worst drought the region has ever experienced, millions of people in East Africa are in danger of starving to death.

The UN World Food Program's regional director for Eastern Africa, Michael Dunford, stated in an exclusive interview with Arab News that the situation of drought in East Africa, including the Horn of Africa, is the worst in terms of food security that we have recently witnessed.

"Our current drought is the worst in over 60 years. Five rainy seasons failed us. The sixth rainy season is now upon us, and it is anticipated that it will also underperform. This indicates that the drought itself has an impact on more than 22 million people of East Africa."

"Ethiopia, northern Kenya, and Somalia face a crisis. I am most concerned about Somalia because more than half of the population needs humanitarian assistance. In 2022, WFP's operation has significantly

expanded. Over 5 million people already receive our messages. The issue is that things will only get worse if it doesn't start to rain," continued Dunford, who earlier this week attended the third Riyadh International Humanitarian Forum.

A group of 16 international organisations said in a statement released in November that millions of people in Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia were in crisis as a result of the extensive crop and income losses brought on by the two-year long severe drought.

With the Saudis, we have a long-standing partnership. We want to find ways to create relationships that will last over time and have bigger, more consistent funding sources. In the region, more than 3 million people, who regularly go a day or more without eating and have sold their possessions to survive, are experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity, the statement claims.

More than 1.3 million people in Somalia have been forced to leave their farms and relocate to displacement sites as a result of the drought.

The WFP raised more than \$4.6 billion last year, with the US being the largest single donor, according to Dunford, who expressed a desire to increase the number of donors.

Dunford stated that in order to be able to meet these ongoing needs, "We need funding from all donors, including Saudi Arabia." "WFP needs more than \$455 million over the next six months to operate in Somalia. The US government has primarily been in charge, so we are requesting assistance from all donors." "Saudi Arabia has been a great support to us. WFP has received more than \$1 billion in the last five years...[Read More](#)

Cambodian Authorities Reports Two Cases Of Avian Flu: UN Health Agency

These are the first cases of avian flu, known as H5N1, reported in Cambodia since a widespread outbreak in 2014 according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

The UN health agency said on Sunday that Cambodian authorities reported two cases of avian flu, including the death of an 11-year-old girl from the virus.

These are the first cases of avian flu, known as H5N1, reported in Cambodia since a widespread outbreak in 2014 according to the World Health Organization (WHO). In humans, the infection, which mostly affects animals, has a 50% mortality rate.

"The global H5N1 situation is concerning given the virus's widespread spread in birds around the world," said Sylvie Briand, Director for Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness and Prevention at the United Nations Health Organization.

"We are in close contact with Cambodian authorities to learn

more about the outbreak." Because the virus is still being detected in poultry populations, more human cases are likely, according to the WHO. Almost all human H5N1 infections have been linked to close contact with infected live or dead birds or contaminated environments. "WHO takes the threat posed by this virus seriously and has urged increased vigilance in all countries," she said.

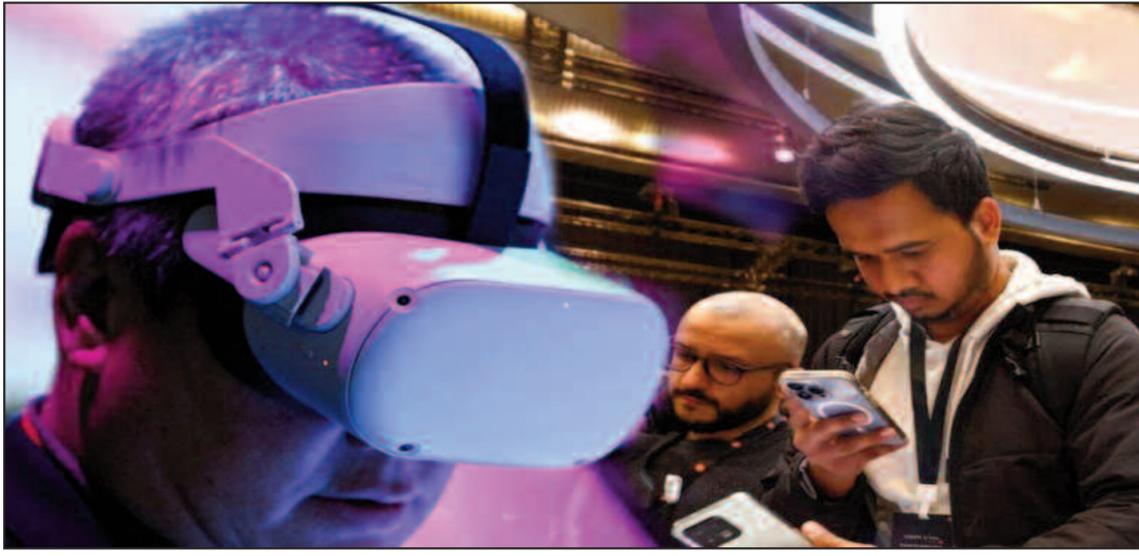
Between 2003 and February 25, 2023, 873 human cases of

H5N1 were reported in 21 countries, with 458 deaths. WHO, however, advises against imposing any travel or trade restrictions based on current information.

To date, evidence suggests that the virus does not easily infect humans, and that person-to-person transmission is unusual.

In Cambodia, where the case was reported, a joint animal-human health investigation is already underway...[Read More](#)





Annual Mobile World Congress Trade Fair Unveils New Mobiles

The four-day event is the largest and most important gathering of the phone tech industry in the world and is held in a sizable conference centre in Barcelona.

The annual Mobile World Congress (MWC) trade show got underway on Monday, bringing together top figures in the mobile and telecommunications industries to present their latest product innovations and talk about the direction of technology.

The four-day event is the largest and most important gathering of the phone tech industry in the world and is held in a sizable conference centre in Barcelona. On Monday, Nokia unveiled its "self-fix phone"—

one of the first low-cost Android smartphones intended for in-home repairs.

Customers will be able to perform quick fixes themselves with the help of the technology, which has been introduced to the market in collaboration with iFixit, such as changing out worn-out batteries or cracked display screens.

With an enviable lifespan for customers, Nokia and its parent company, HMD Global, hope the phone will appeal to a market looking to save time and money with their next investment. The OnePlus 11 concept phone, which uses the brand-new Active CryoFlux cooling system, has been unveiled by OnePlus.

The phone appears to have

coloured stripes running along its back from the outside. The fluid that is being circulated inside the phone by the ceramic piezoelectric micropump is actually this.

The reason? It can increase handset performance and longevity and speed up charging, much like cooling systems you might find on a PC. When Motorola unveiled a phone with a roll-out screen, it upped the ante. The display will automatically unscroll from the bottom and grow from 5 inches (13 cm) to 6.5 inches when you double tap it on the side.

Lenovo showed off a laptop with a rolling screen that took about 19 seconds to unscroll to its fully extended position.

Other brands, including Samsung and China's Oppo and Tecno, also released their latest folding designs. Xiaomi's 13 and 13 Pro have taken the global stage at MWC, with Germany, France, Spain, and Italy being the first markets to introduce Android smartphones with Leica cameras and Snapdragon 8 Gen 2.

Xiaomi's Honor Magic5 series has taken the top spot for camera and screen tech in the DXO-MARK Global Smartphone Ranking, with a rounded design and a 100-degree, 12MP selfie function. The 1312 x 2848 pixel screen can peak at 1800 brightness. Xiaomi also debuted a prototype pair of AR glasses with XDA at MWC...[Read More](#)

Boston Provides Essentials For Startup Founders To Launch Businesses



Boston has all of these elements, starting with a long history of innovation and 44 colleges and universities located in the metro Boston area.

In order to build a startup culture, a city or region needs key elements such as an innovation engine, successful exits, angel investing, accelerators and incubators, coworking spaces, and VC firms investing across stages. It requires a few profitable exits, which in turn fuels angel investing as increasingly wealthy entrepreneurs seek to assist new startup founders establishing businesses in achieving their own objectives.

Boston has all of these elements, starting with a long history of innovation and 44 colleges and universities located in the metro Boston area.

Route 128 was once known as "America's Technology Highway," rivaling Silicon Valley for influential tech companies. However, minicomputer companies like Digital Equipment Corporation, Wang, and Data General were born and thrived in metro Boston before falling by the wayside.

It was more common for engineering students to go to big companies like IBM, Texas Instruments, and Motorola instead of starting their own companies, making Silicon Valley the tech standard bearer. In the 1990s, a new generation of Bay State startups focused on areas like chips, storage, and memory. Over time, the area saw the development of a robust technology startup ecosystem across industries like cybersecurity, robotics, and biotech, with companies like HubSpot, Wayfair, Rapid7, Boston Dynamics, and Moderna. Additionally...[Read More](#)

Alienware Announces Slew Of Revamped PC Gaming Peripherals



The \$100 headset will be available starting on April 14 in China and North America and on May 19 elsewhere in the world.

In a live Twitch stream, Alienware unveiled a slew of updated PC gaming peripherals. Furthermore, it provided information on the cost and availability of its most recent laptops from CES.

The mechanical Alienware Tri-Mode Wireless Gaming Keyboard is one of the first PC gaming peripherals that offers three different connection

options: Bluetooth 5.1, a detachable USB-A to USB-C paracord cable, and a 2.4GHz wireless USB-C dongle (including a dongle extender).

A programmable rocker switch and dial, anti-ghosting, and N-key rollover are among the features of the keyboard's Cherry MX Red switches, which have a 100 million actuation life-cycle. On April 14 in the US and China, the keyboard goes on sale for \$290. On May 19, it becomes available everywhere else...[Read More](#)

WHO Releases New Primary Ear And Hearing Care Training Manual



The manual can be used to train nurses, doctors, and other healthcare professionals who work in neighbourhood primary healthcare facilities.

To help nations develop the capacity of their health workforce to provide ear and hearing care at the community level, the World Health Organization (WHO) released a new primary

ear and hearing care training manual.

The manual can be used to train nurses, doctors, and other healthcare professionals who work in neighbourhood primary healthcare facilities. It is a practical guide on the prevention, identification, and management of hearing loss and common ear diseases.

The modules cover the workings of hearing, conducting ear exams and hearing evaluations, advice on preventing, managing, and referring common ear diseases, as well as hearing loss rehabilitation. It has practical, hands-on exercises for building skills.

According to WHO Director for the Department for Noncommunicable Diseases, Dr. Bente Mikkelsen, "Ear and hearing problems are some of the most prevalent conditions encountered in the community."

It is essential that these conditions are quickly recognised and managed across the continuum of care, starting at primary health care, by training more healthcare professionals and physicians so they can deliver the necessary ear and hearing care services to their communities, the report states.

The launch of the new training manual and today's World Hearing Day, which has as its theme Ear and hearing care for all, are related events. Let's make it happen by emphasising how crucial it is to incorporate ear and hearing care into primary care as a crucial element of universal health coverage. The majority of the time, ear, nose, and throat (ENT) specialists and audiologists are the ones who provide ear and hearing problem services, which are typically reserved for the tertiary...[Read More](#)

Therizinosaur Dinosaur Enormous Claws Ineffective For Combat: Study



According to a new study, a "completely bizarre" dinosaur with enormous claws whose purpose has long been unknown was unable to fight or repel attackers due to their fragility.

Therizinosaur dinosaur, the scythe-clawed from Jurassic World, could not have used its enormous, "useless," flimsy claws to fight, according to scientists. According to a new study, a "completely bizarre" dinosaur with enormous claws whose purpose has long been unknown was unable to fight or repel attackers due to their fragility.

In the most recent "Jurassic

World" film, the creature is seen impaling the vicious predator Giganotosaurus and batting away a deer with its scythe-like claws. The latest research, however, suggests that this portrayal is untrue.

Therizinosaur dinosaur, existed between the Late Triassic and the Cretaceous (220 million to 66 million years ago).

Zichuan Qin, a doctoral student at the University of Bristol in England who led the study, told Live Science that "movies and documentaries suggest that they used these claws like long swords to fight each other or predators...[Read More](#)

MEA PCD Market Expects To Decline 18.9% Year On Year: IDC

Worldwide Quarterly PCD market Tracker from the international technology research & consulting firm predicts that in Q1 2023, 4.8 mln units will be shipped throughout the region.

The Middle East and Africa (MEA) personal computing devices (PCD) market, which includes desktops, notebooks, workstations, and tablets, is predicted to experience a decline of 18.9% on an annual basis in the first quarter of 2023, according to International Data Corporation's (IDC) analysis of the market.

The most recent Worldwide Quarterly PCD market Tracker from the international technology research and consulting firm predicts that in Q1 2023, 4.8 million units will be shipped throughout the course of 2023, a 10.9% year-over-year decline in shipments.

"Looking at 2023 overall, the biggest decline by far is expected to be seen in Egypt, where a massive education deal that was delivered in 2022 is not expected to be repeated...[Read More](#)

Small Island Developing States Turning To Renewable Energy Sources

Antigua and Barbuda have the same lofty objective as Mauritius in the Caribbean, but the latter is aiming for a significant 60% of the nation's energy mix.

For their energy needs, small island developing states (SIDS) are increasingly turning to renewable energy sources. The Solomon Islands have started a roadmap in the Pacific to generate all of their energy from renewable sources by the year 2030.

Antigua and Barbuda have the same lofty objective as Mauritius in the Caribbean, but the latter is aiming for a significant 60% of the nation's energy mix.

Small island developing states (SIDS) are struggling to unlock the potential of renewable energy to transform their societies. Resources such as solar, wind, geothermal, and marine energy remain largely untapped, even with rapidly falling production costs.

SIDS still rely heavily on petroleum products, and many have

low or insignificant amounts of renewable energy in their energy mix. These challenges are complex but not insurmountable, and the Commonwealth is committed to supporting island nations to secure a more sustainable future.

The Little Island Developing States experience a unique set of difficulties. Since SIDS have small, open economies by nature, many of them rely heavily on imported oil products to meet their energy needs, which

include those for electricity, transportation, and cooking. In addition, they deal with some of the highest electricity prices in the world as well as significant supply chain challenges.

The prices for imported refined oil products (including diesels, gasoline, and LPG) are typically high due to low volumes, small markets, varying fuel standards, distance from suppliers, and the weak negotiating position of individual island countries and territories...[Read More](#)

