

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

1. To steadfastly strive for emergence of political forces and the people’s representatives who can implement a genuine, disciplined multi-party democratic system while constantly emphasizing on the national interests of the State.
2. To persistently strive for promoting the socio-economic life of the people through the development of agro-based industries in improving the agricultural sector, the vital foundation of the economic growth of the State.
3. To put emphasis on enhancing the national education and health sectors for sustainable development of the State.
4. To implement multi-party democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of multi-party democratic general election process and successfully moving towards with the multi-party democratic system aspired by the entire people.



This photo captures the ongoing upgrade work at Dawei Airport.

Dawei Airport upgrade to support deep-seaport development

Dawei Airport features a 12,000-foot-long, 100-foot-wide runway across 364.677 acres, with three parking areas capable of accommodating up to five domestic aircraft simultaneously.

AN official from the company upgrading Dawei Airport said that work is underway and that the upgrade will support the Dawei deep-seaport project.

As part of the upgrade of Dawei Airport, work is ongoing to enable the airport to accommodate large cargo and passenger aircraft such as the Airbus

A320.

In addition to upgrading Dawei Airport, there are plans to expand circular-route flights serving Dawei, Bokpyin, and Kawthoung.

The current Dawei Airport has a runway that is 12,000 feet long and 100 feet wide, and the total area of the airport is approximately 364.677 acres. In

addition, there are two parking aprons, each 200 feet wide, and one parking apron measuring 600 by 300 feet, which together can accommodate up to five domestically operated aircraft at the same time.

The upgrade of Dawei Airport is expected to contribute to improving aviation services and an increase in tourism to the Dawei region. — ASH/TH

Article

A Visit to the Meilamu Pagoda Festival

By Maung Maung Aye

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Myanmar Film Academy Awards to launch in Feb 2026

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FSD honours 200 volunteer groups for rescue efforts during Mandalay earthquake

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227 foreigners involved in telecom fraud deported

NATIONAL

- Let us encourage production for prosperity of the Nation.
- Let us ensure education sector for the development of the Nation.
- Let us protect our environment for the prosperity of the Nation.

Myanmar Gazette

Head of Service
Organization appointed

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed U Nay Lin, Deputy Director-General of the Road Transport Administration Department under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, as Director-General at the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Notification 1/2026

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

3. Bhaddanta Paññavamsa, Pyitawaye Monastery, Seingon Ward, Sagaing, Sagaing Region

4. Bhaddanta Nandima, Maha Ledi Monastery, Ledi Ward, Monywa, Sagaing Region

5. Bhaddanta Sobhana, Zinawdaya Buddhism Learning Centre, Thawtapan Ward, Sagaing, Sagaing Region

6. Bhaddanta Vayama, KanU Buddhism Learning Centre, Yezin Village, Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw

7. Bhaddanta Dhammapiya, Yadanabon Tawya Buddhisim Learning Centre, Ela, Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw

8. Bhaddanta Sobhana, Maha Weikza Theikpan Buddhism Learning Centre, Popakon Village, Zeyathri Township, Nay Pyi Taw

9. Bhaddanta Paññalankara, Shwe In Yeikha Buddhism Learning Centre, Saya San Ward, Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw

10. Bhaddanta Jotika, Pwinthla Theingon Buddhism Learning Centre, Ywabe Ward, Pyay, Bago Region

11. Bhaddanta Sirinda, Zawtikayon Pali Tekkatho Monastery, Hsantaw Ward, Pyay, Bago Region

12. Bhaddanta Acinnajoti, Chanmyathazi Monastery, Ywabe Ward, Pyay, Bago Region

13. Bhaddanta Sucitta, Saddhammapala Buddhism Learning Centre, Ywabe Ward, Pyay, Bago Region

14. Bhaddanta Saddhammavamsa, Koethaung Sasana Mingala Buddhism Learning Centre, Nawin-Pyithaya Ward, Pyay, Bago Region

15. Bhaddanta Indobhasa, Dhammika Buddhism Learning Centre, Myoma Ward, Monyo, Bago Region

16. Bhaddanta Javana, Taikkyauung Pali Tekkatho Monastery, South Zaygyo Ward, Gyobingauk, Bago Region

17. Bhaddanta Nandisena, Yadana Theikdi Buddhism Learning Centre, Aungmyitta Ward, Magway, Magway Region

18. Bhaddanta Revata, Shwetaung Pali Tekkatho Monastery, Ohbo Ward, Yenangyoung, Magway Region

19. Bhaddanta Tejavanta, Sethmu Masoeysin Taikthit, Industrial Zone-2, Nya Ward, Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay Region

20. Bhaddanta Vasavinda, Sasana Weponla Pali Tekkatho Monastery, Yanmyoauung Ward, Meiktila, Mandalay Region

21. Bhaddanta Jagara, Hsinbyumei Buddhism Learning Centre, Hmantan Ward, Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region

22. Bhaddanta Paññasiri Bhivamsa, Kahteintaw Buddhism Learning Centre, East Khamakan Monastery, Ahneiktaw Ward, Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay Region

23. Bhaddanta Indacara, State Pariyatti Sasana University, Dawnabwa Ward, Aung-
- myaythazan Township, Mandalay Region

24. Bhaddanta Rajinda, Minkyaung Buddhism Learning Centre, Shanpwe Ward, Myittha, Mandalay Region

25. Bhaddanta Paññajota, Nanthamyaingbo Monastery, Maha Dhammikayama Monastery, Kyunlon Okshanung Ward, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay Region

26. Bhaddanta Aggadhamma, Khemathiwun Buddhism Learning Centre, Sanpya/Tampawady Ward, Kyaukpadaung, Mandalay Region

27. Bhaddanta Garava, Pha-auk Weluwun Monastery, Pha-auk Village, Mawlamyine Township, Mon State

28. Bhaddanta Tejaniya, Maha Melzel Buddhism Learning Centre, Taungthusu Ward, Kyaikto, Mon State

29. Bhaddanta Mahinda, Thatipahtan Buddhism Learning Centre, Ywaluk Village, Chaungzon Township, Mon State

30. Bhaddana Nandiya, TheingiU Buddhism Learning Centre, Thantada Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon Region

31. Bhaddanta Ratthapala, State Pariyatti Sasana University, Ward 7, Mayangon Township, Yangon Region

32. Bhaddanta Kusala, Mingala Thukha Pali Tekkatho Monastery, Boelein Aungmingala Ward, Tamway Township, Yangon Region

33. Bhaddanta Vicittasara, Thitsa Gonyi Monastery, L Ward, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region

34. Dr Bhaddanta Uttara, Pariyatti Patipatti Missionary Eiddhinandayama Monastery, Peinnegon Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon Region

35. Bhaddanta Candobhasa, Thudhamma Gonyi Buddhism Learning Centre, Kyakansu Ywathit Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon Region

36. Bhaddanta Cakkinda, Anandagonyi Buddhism Learning Centre, Sawbwagyigon Ward, Insein Township, Yangon Region

37. Bhaddanta Kumara, Ariyamaggin Buddhism Learning Centre, Myitta Nyunt Ward, Tamway Township, Yangon Region

38. Bhaddanta Candimasiri, Yattawmu Samanekyaw Buddhism Learning Centre, Pyitawtha Ward, Hlegu Township, Yangon Region

39. Bhaddanta Suriya, Yadanaaung Buddhism Learning Centre, Dayebo Village, Hlegu Township, Yangon Region

40. Bhaddanta Kheminda, Khemathiwun Buddhism Learning Centre, Athawady Monastery, Ward 2, North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region

41. Bhaddanta Nayaka, Manhso Phayagyi Buddhism Learning Centre, Ward 8, Lashio, Shan State

42. Bhaddanta Paññasiri, Bummin-Khemmin Monastery, Ward 4, Kengtung, Shan State

TO BE CONTINUED

Notification 2/2026

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

Outstanding Performance in Arts Field (Second Class)

1. U Wan Tin

Second Vice Chairman

Myanmar Accountancy Council
2. U Moe Kyaw

Member

Myanmar Accountancy Council

Outstanding Performance in Medical Field (First Class)

1. Professor

President

Myanmar Academy of Medical Science
- Dr Nay Win

Outstanding Performance in Fine Arts Field (First Class)

1. U Chit Myo Htaik

Theatrical Performing Expert
- (Pho Chit)

Outstanding Performance in Literary Field (First Class)

1. Professor U San Tha Aung

Writer

Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Acting President

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Foreign Head of State sends congratulatory message to Acting President Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 78th Anniversary of Independence Day

The following is congratulatory message from Foreign Head of State/Government sent to Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the occasion of the 78th Anniversary of Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Mrs Rosario Murillo, Co-Presidents of the Republic of Nicaragua send Congratulatory Message to Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

ON behalf of the Government of Reconciliation and National Unity of the Republic of Nicaragua, our people, and ourselves, we extend our warmest and most fraternal congratulations to you and the brotherly people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on the 78th anniversary of your nation's independence, on 4 January.

Nicaragua deeply recognizes and values the rich cultural heritage, spirituality, and fraternity of your people, pillars that have sustained your national identity throughout the ages.

Our best wishes join those of your people on this national holiday, with the aspiration that the path forward will be illuminated by understanding and well-being for all the families that make up the beautiful land of Myanmar.

We reiterate our commitment to strengthening peoples of friendship, solidarity, and mutual respect that unite our Peoples and Governments.

Receive, Brother President, our fraternal and revolutionary embrace, with the affection of the Nicaraguan people for the beloved People of Myanmar.

Myanmar Film Academy Awards to launch in Feb 2026



Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn speaks at the coordination meeting on the organizing of the 2025 Myanmar Film Academy Awards Ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn presided over the coordination meeting on the successful holding of the 2025 Myanmar Film Academy Awards Ceremony yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the Union minister mentioned that the awards ceremony would be held on 7 February 2026 in Nay Pyi Taw, detailing the examination processes for the selected films by the award selection subcommittee, better arrangements for the event with Forever Group Company Limited, and proper cooperation to be able to hold the event grandly and successfully.

The attendees reported on the work being alone by their respective subcommittees and ongoing work plans for the event, and the Union Minister concluded the meeting. — MNA/ KTZH

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Central Bank of Myanmar

Notification 2/2026

5th Waning of Pyatho 1387 ME
7 January 2026

1. The Central Bank of Myanmar, exercising the powers in Subsection (b) of Section 49 of the Foreign Exchange Management Law, issues this notification.
2. The Central Bank of Myanmar, with Notification 37/2024, set the mandatory foreign currency conversion rule to 25 per cent for exporters to convert them into kyat according to its directives mentioned in Notification 12/2022.
3. Instead of 25 per cent of the export earnings received from exports, exporters shall exchange only 15 per cent for Myanmar kyats according to the directives in the Central Bank of Myanmar Notification 12/2022.
4. This notification shall take effect on 1 January 2026.

Than Than Swe
Governor

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

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NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Reminder 7 January 2026

THE multiparty democratic general election, Phase I, was held in 102 townships on 28 December 2025.

In accordance with Rule 102 of the relevant Hluttaw Election Rules, candidates who contested in the respective constituencies must submit their election expenditure statements (Form 20) to the relevant Region or State Election Subcommission, or to the District Election Subcommission designated by the Commission, within 30 days of the date on which the relevant Region or State Election Subcommission announces the names of the elected Hluttaw representatives.

If Hluttaw candidates who contested in the election, or their election agents, fail to submit the election expenditure statements within the prescribed period, the Commission will declare them disqualified under Rule 109 of the relevant Hluttaw Election Rules.

Therefore, the Union Election Commission hereby reminds all Hluttaw candidates who contested in the election, and their election agents, to submit the election expenditure statements within the specified period.

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement 10 / 2026 5th Waning of Pyatho, 1387 ME 7 January 2026

Announcement on List of Individuals Elected as Representatives to Region or State Hluttaws

IN the multiparty general elections conducted in phases beginning on 28 December 2025 under Section 49 (b) of the Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Law, the respective Region and State Election Subcommissions issued announcements declaring the election results.

Accordingly, the Union Election Commission hereby announces that the individuals listed below have been elected as representatives to the respective Region Hluttaws or State Hluttaws, under the “First-Past-The-Post” system.

Mon State

No	Name	CSC No	Constituency / Representative Number	Representing Party/Independent
1	U Zayya Oo	10/ThaPhaYa(C)000391	Kyaikto Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
2	U Aung Htut	6/KaThaNa(C)003523	Kyaikmaraw Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
3	U Aung Kyi Thein	12/MaRaKa(C)018150	Chaungzon Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
4	U Tin Zaw Tun	10/MaLaMa(C)095436	Mawlamyine Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
5	Daw Lay Moe Thu	10/ThaHtaNa(C)086383	Thaton Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party

Yangon Region

No	Name	CSC No	Constituency / Representative Number	Representing Party
6	Daw Thi Thi Mon	12/KaMaYa(C)050042	Kamayut Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
7	U Thein Naing	12/KaTaTa(C)001962	Kyauktada Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
8	U Win Thet	12/TaKaNa(C)101067	Taikkyi Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
9	U Nay Win	12/TaTaNa(C)017045	Twantay Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
10	U Soe Yu	12/KaMaYa(C)037160	Dagon Myothit (South) Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
11	U Aung Moe Kyaw	13/RaSaNa(C)004835	Botahtaung Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
12	U Min Thein Tun	8/RaSaKa(C)095338	Mayangon Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
13	U Myo Min Naing	12/MaGaDa(C)104665	Mingaladon Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
14	U Kyi Myint	12/MaBaNa(C)017186	Hmawbi Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
15	U Naing Win	12/MaGaTa(C)000117	Thingangyun Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
16	U Yan Myo Aung	14/PhaPaNa(C)140928	Thanlyin Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
17	Daw Zin Zin Myo Tun	12/KaMaTa(C)064595	Ahlon Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party

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We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.
Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish **“Letter to the Editor”** that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

“Our Government shall not permit any disruption of the forthcoming election. The electoral process shall remain free and fair, and no interference shall be exercised upon those who participate in it. Yet, let it be firmly declared that any attempt to disturb or sabotage the election shall be met with the full weight of authority”.

(An excerpt from the radio address regarding the election, delivered by General Aung San on 13 March 1947)



FROM PAGE 4
Shan State

No	Name	CSC No	Constituency / Representative Number	Representing Party
18	U Arkar Lin	13/LaRaNa(C)123780	Pindaya Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
19	Khun Nyo Maung	13/HsaHsaNa(C)055417	Hopong Township Representative 1	Pa-O National Organization Party
20	U Kyaw Aung Than	13/NaKhaTa(C)003405	Nawngkhio Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
21	Sai Hwam Nwet	13/KaTaNa(C)006006	Kengtung Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
22	Sai Aun Kham	13/TaKhaLa(C)041334	Tachilek Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
23	Khun Kyi	13/TaKaNa(C)209385	Taunggyi Township Representative 1	Pa-O National Organization Party
24	U Lin Aung Swe	12/DaGaNa(C)016196	Namsang Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
25	U Naw Taung	13/MaHsaTa(C)033884	Muse Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
26	Sai Khattiya	13/MaHsaNa(C)012351	Monghsat Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
27	Dr Lasaing	13/LaRaNa(C)007142	Lashio Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
28	Sai Kyaw Htay	13/LaKhaTa(C)001352	Langhko Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
29	Khun Thet Naing	13/LaLaNa(C)070043	Loilem Township Representative 1	Pa-O National Organization Party

Ayeyawady Region

No	Name	CSC No	Constituency / Representative Number	Representing Party
30	U Myint Kyaing	14/KaPaNa(C)005427	Kyonpyaw Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
31	U Aye Kyaw	7/TaNgaNa(C)116001	Pathein Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
32	U Saw Thaung Dan	14/MaAhPa(C)039997	Maubin Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
33	U Soe Naing	14/MaMaNa(C)110484	Myaungmya Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
34	U Soe Paing	14/KaKhaNa(C)023693	Kyangin Township Representative 1	National Unity Party
35	U Myo Min Than	14/MaAhNa(C)148500	Myanaung Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
36	U San Min	14/LaPaTa(C)011001	Labutta Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
37	U Aye Han	14/HaThaTa(C)094727	Hinthada Township Representative 1	Union Solidarity and Development Party

Sd/ Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Candidates compete in Phase I of General Election 2025 for Region or State Hluttaws

THE Union Election Commission issued the announcement on competition of the candidates for the seats of Region or State Hluttaw in Phase I of the Multi-party Democratic General Election 2025.

U Zeyar Oo of Union Solidarity and Development Party, U Ye Khant of National Unity Party, Daw Tin Tin Nwe of National Interest Development Party, U Kyaw Win Tun of Mon Unity Party, U Win Kyi (a) Min Kyi of People’s Pioneer Party and Daw Thwe Thwe Oo of People’s Party competed in Kyaikto Township of

Mon State; U Aung Htut of USDP, Dr Naing Hla Aung of MUP, U Aung Zaw Soe of People’s Party, Daw Kyu Kyu Hmwe of NIDP, U Boe Pein of NUP and U Aung Tin Htoo of PPP in Kyaikmaraw Township; U Aung Kyi Thein of USDP, U Naing Tun Oo of MUP, Daw Si Si Mar of NIDP, U Kyaw Thein of NUP and U Khant Ko Ko of PPP in Chaungzon Township; and U Tin Zaw Tun of USDP, U Nay Lin Kyaw of MUP, U Than Aung of NIDP, U Myo Aung of NUP, U Aung Tun Myint of People’s Party, U Hein Lin Aung of PPP, Khun Kyaw Hsan of Pa-O

National Development Party and U Zaw Myo Latt of Shan and Nationalities Democratic Party in Mawlamyine Township.

Likewise, Daw Lay Moe Thu of USDP, Khun Thet Maung Maung of PNDP, Daw Su Myat Thwe of NUP, U Win Zaw Oo of NIDP, U Han Win Aung of MUP, U Yin Win Naing of People’s Party and U Win Min Oo of PPP contested in Thaton Township of Mon State; Daw Thi Thi Mon of USDP, U Myint Thu of NUP, U Htin Lin Aung of People’s Party, Daw Aye Sanda Myint as an independent, U Thu Htet Kyaw

Lwin of PPP and Daw Saw Sanda Myint of SNDP in Kamayut Township of Yangon Region; and U Thein Naing of USDP, U Ko Ko Naing of People’s Party, U Tin Zarli Win Tun of PPP, U Mya Thein of NUP, U Chit Thet Paing Oo of SNDP, and U Myint Oo of Myanmar Farmer s’ Development Party in Kyauktada Township; U Win Thet of USDP, Daw Aye Aye Po of NUP, U Kyaw Kyaw Lin of People’s Party, U Min Naing of SNDP, U Myo Zaw Htwe of Unity and Development Party, U Nay Zar Lin of MFDP, U Hmone Tin Aung Naing Lin of

PPP, Daw Khin San Win of Democratic Party and Daw Nway Oo Mon of Peace and Diversity Party in Taikkyi Township.

U Nay Win of USDP, U Banyar Swe Tun of 88 Generation Student Youths (Union of Myanmar) Party, Daw Tin Htar Wai of MFDP, U Zaw Min of PPP, Daw Myo Pa Pa Aung of People’s Party, U Myo Ko Ko of SNDP and U Win Zaw of UDP took part in the election in Twantay Township; U Soe Yu of USDP, Daw Nwe Ni Kyaw of People’s Party, U Kyaw Ye Paing of PPP, U Nay Zaw Aung of NUP,

SEE PAGE 6

NATIONAL

Candidates compete in Phase I of the General Election 2025...

FROM PAGE 5

U Thant Zaw Moe as an independent, U Chan Win Han of MFDP and U Nay Lin Htut of SNDP in Dagon Myothit (South) Township; U Aung Moe Kyaw of USDP, Daw Khin Myo Htet of People's Party, Daw Thin Thin Myo of SNDP and U Nan Aung of PPP in Botahtaung Township; U Min Thein Tun of USDP, Daw Wah Wah Lwin of People's Party, Daw Ni Ni Saw of PPP, Daw Hla Thein Htay of NUP, Daw Thinza Theint Theint Hlaikng of SNDP and Daw Mie Mie Soe Min of MFDP in Mayangon Township; and U Myo Min Naing of USDP, Daw Kyawt Ei Ei Zin of People's Party, U Pyae Phyo Aung of PPP, U Soe Win Aye of NUP, U Nyi Nyi Tun of MFDP, U Zaw Zaw Htet of SNDP and Daw Myat Hsu Mon as an independent in Mingaladon Township.

U Kyi Myint of USDP, U Win Tin of People's Party, Daw Saw Yu Nanda of NUP, Daw Yin Yin Aye of PPP, Daw Khin Khin Hlaing of Democratic Party, Daw Aye Aye Thwe of SNDP, U

Hlaing Bwa of UDP, U Than Ohn of MFDP and Daw Thinza Htwe of PDP competed in Hmawby Township; U Naing Win of USDP, U Soe Htet Win of People's Party, U Tin Ko Ko of NUP, U Pyae Phyo Paing of PPP, U Aung Ko Ko Phone as an independent, Daw Myint Myint May as an independent, Daw Khaing Sabei of MFDP and U Thant Zaw of SNDP in Thingangyun Township; U Yan Myo Aung of USDP, U Myint Than of People's Party, U Zarni Tint (a) Kaung Min Khant of PPP, Daw Yu Yu Khaing of PDP and U Khin Zaw of SNDP in Thanlyin Township; and Daw Zin Zin Myo Tun of USDP, U Khin Maung Win of People's Party, Daw Aye Sanda Myint of NUP and U Nanda Myo Aung of PPP in Ahlon Township.

U Arkar Lin of USDP, U Sein Win (a) U Myo Thein of Danu National Democracy Party, U Kyaw Htwe of Pa-O National Organization and U Win Thaw of PPP competed in Pindaya Township of Shan State; Khun Nyo Maung of PNO, U Maung

Maung Aung of USDP, and U Tun Min of PPP in Hopong Township; U Kyaw Aung Than of USDP, U Sithu Win of NUP, U Htein Lin of SNDP and Daw Soe Thiri Zar as an independent in Nawngkhio Township; Sai Hwam Nwet of USDP, Sai Soe Moe Aye of SNDP, Daw Na Luu Di of NUP, U Ah Jay of Akha National Development Party and U Henry of PPP in Kengtung Township; and Sai Aum Kham of USDP, U San Win Aung of SNDP, U Ah Ju of ANDP and Daw Dee Lah of PPP in Tachilek Township.

Khun Kyi of PNO, U Aung Thura Shin of USDP, Daw Moe Ei Ei Phyu of SNDP, Daw Khin Thet Nwe of NUP, Daw Khin Thida Tun of People's Party, U Tin Oo of PPP, U Myo Kyaw of DNNDP, Daw Tin Ma Ma Maung as an independent, U Aung Kyi Oo of Inn National League Party, and U Wunna Bo of MFDP contested in Taunggyi Township; U Lin Aung Swe of USDP, Daw Poe Hnin Phyu of SNDP and Nang Phyu Phyu Myint of PNO in Namhsan Township; and U Naw

Tawng of USDP and U Sai Than Oo of SNDP in Muse Township.

Sai Khattiya of USDP, Sai Phu Lu of SNDP, Sai Mai Han of NUP and Daw Lah Lah of ANDP competed in Monghsat Township; Dr La Seng of USDP, U Sai Khun Lu of SNDP and Daw Khin Myo Kyi of NUP in Lashio Township; Sai Kyaw Htay of USDP and U Sai Hla Kyaw of SNDP in Langkho Township and Khun Thet Naing of PNO, U Sai Tun Seng of SNDP and Nang San Nyunt of USDP in Loilem Township.

U Myint Kyaing of USDP, Sa Min Shwe of Kayin People Party, Daw Khin Than Swe of NUP, U Khin San of PPP, U Aung Myint Tun of MFDP and Daw Su Su Hlaing of People's Party participated in the election in Kyonpyaw Township of Ayeyawady Region; U Aye Kyaw of USDP, U Aung Teza Aye of MFDP, U Min Hein (a) U Min Thet Naing of PPP, Saw Thein Khin of KPP and U Win Naing of SNDP in Patheingyi Township; U Saw Thauang Dan of USDP, Daw Khin Myo Thet of

People's Party, U Myo Khaing of NUP, Nant Yupa Than of KPP, U Aung Kyi Soe of PPP, U Thet Swe Oo of MFDP and U Pyaw Phyo Aung of SNDP in Maubin Township; U Soe Naing of USDP, U Tun Tun Win of NUP, U Aung Tin Tun of PPP, U Moe Kyaw Thu of MFDP, U Soe Aung of People's Party and Daw Thin Thin Oo of SNDP in Myaungmya Township; and U Soe Paing of NUP, U Saw Min Htoo of USDP, U Win Min Thaik of PPP and U Aye Nyein of People's Party in Kyangin Township.

U Myo Min Than of USDP, U Hsan Lin Aung of People's Party, Daw Aleinmar Tun of PPP, U Myint Kyi of NUP and U Myo Aung of SNDP competed in Myanaung Township; U San Min of USDP, Daw Chan Myae Mon of People's Party, Daw Su Su Win of MFDP and U Aye Ko Naing of PPP in Labutta Township; and U Aye Han of USDP, Daw Than Than Swe of NUP, U Sein Thauang of People's Party and U Aye Myint (a) U Aung Hein of PPP in Hinthada Township. — GNLM

YRIC greenlights 6 new investments across manufacturing, hotel and service sectors

THE Yangon Region Investment Committee (YRIC) endorsed one domestic enterprise in the hotel and tourism sector; two domestic enterprises and two foreign enterprises in the manufacturing sector and one joint venture in the service sector, with an estimated capital of US\$4.98 million and K9.56 billion, at the meeting held in the last week of December 2025.

Those enterprises will execute manufacturing and selling of construction material with 100 per cent local sales, manufacturing, grinding and marketing of rice (90.74 per cent export and 9.26 per cent local sales), production and exporting of value added farming products (100 per cent export), separating, sorting, packaging and export of various kinds of recycle metal scraps products (100 per cent export), assembling, manufacturing and distributing various types of fuel-powered two-wheel and three-wheel motorcycles using

(SKD) system (100 per cent local sales) and hotel services, said an official of the YRIC.

Those businesses will create 415 jobs for locals. The committee members inspected general issues of 17 companies, including an increase in the labour force of one company (430 jobs). The regional investment committee has been endorsing investment projects in accordance with rules and regulations under the Myanmar Investment Law to spur investments and create more job opportunities. — ASH/KK



This image illustrates a three-wheel motorbike powered by fuel oil.

FSD honours 200 volunteer groups for rescue efforts during Mandalay earthquake

This photo reveals rescue workers and volunteers helping in search and rescue efforts during the earthquake.



THE Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs has announced that commendation certificates have been awarded to 200 charitable organizations, including auxiliary fire units, in recognition of their dedicated efforts in search and rescue operations during the Mandalay earthquake.

The certificates were presented by the Director-General of the Fire Services Department to auxiliary fire stations and social welfare and charitable organizations that worked tirelessly during the powerful Man-

dalay earthquake, which struck on 28 March 2025.

Speaking on the occasion, Ko Aung Ye Htut, Chairman of the Aung Ye Htut Social Welfare Association, said, "Among those receiving the commendation certificates are six auxiliary fire brigades based in Yangon Region, more than 150 social welfare and charitable organizations, and over 40 charitable groups from Upper Myanmar. We are extremely delighted to receive this recognition. As this is the first commendation we have received throughout

our years of charitable service, it feels as though our sense of responsibility has grown even greater". At around 12:51 pm on 28 March 2025, a very strong earthquake measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale, with its epicentre near Mandalay, struck the area, causing widespread damage across several regions and states nationwide. Residential buildings, religious structures, government buildings, as well as numerous roads and bridges, were damaged or destroyed, and there were many fatalities. — ASH/MKKS

We will not imitate democratic systems from other countries

❖ “We will not simply copy the democratic systems of other nations. Instead, we must establish and implement a form of democracy that reflects our nation’s history, way of life, cultural values, and traditions – a democracy in the Myanmar way, guided and led by our own people.”
(Excerpt from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening ceremony of the Peace Forum 2025 on 25 June 2025)

MTE invites open tender for teak, hardwood and plywood sales

THE Open Tender Committee, Local Marketing and Milling Department of Myanma Timber Enterprise operating under the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environmental Conservation, will sell 2,697 tonnes of teak, hardwood round logs and veneer plywood through competitive bidding.
Those teak logs and hardwood veneer are from the respective mills of the Local Marketing and Milling Department in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon Region, Bago Region, Magway Region and southern Shan State.
The sales will take place on 15 January 2026 from 8:30 am at the Tawwin Hall, Gyogon, Insein Township, Yangon. Individuals can enquire about details about tendering procedures through a web portal www.mte.gov.mm or contact numbers at 09 795700439 and 09402705515. — NN/KK

Rice export zone coordination meeting sets roadmap

A work coordination meeting on the implementation of the rice export zone and paddy seed processing development was held on 5 January 2026 at Office 15 in Nay Pyi Taw.
The meeting highlighted procedures to develop rice export zones jointly implemented by the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and Myanmar Rice Federation, with initial project areas of 340,000 acres, agricultural contributions of K450,000 per acre to farmers involved in the zone, a harvest plan and a roadmap for sustainable agricultural growth in accordance with the State policies and guidelines.
MRF also contributed K1.25 billion in capital expenditure to a leading group for the protection of farmer rights and the enhancement of their benefits, and discussed detailed plans for paddy seed production on 5,000 acres. — NN/KK

CBM injects THB3.18M, CNY480,000 into market



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar (head office) in Nay Pyi Taw.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) pumped over 3.18 million baht and over 479,900 yuan into the financial market on 6 January 2026, in addition to selling over US\$481,000 into the edible oil-importing companies.
CBM sold \$2.24 million, purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on 5 January 2026, along with an injection of over 782,500 yuan into the market.
CBM announced on 31 December that it would sell 10 million yuan to importers and \$23 million to those engaged in the fuel oil sector.
CBM sold over \$903,100 to edible oil-importing companies and over \$331,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on that day, along with an injection of 49,200 baht into the market.
CBM sold over \$2.65 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$4 million to fuel oil-importing companies on 30 December.
CBM sold over \$2.3 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$464,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 29 December.
CBM made an injection of over \$21 million, 2.4 million yuan and 1.5 million baht in November.
CBM injected over \$2.48 million, 5.75 million yuan and 4.98 million baht in October, along with sales of over \$54 million purchased from CMP companies. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

Unpaid property tax in PyinOoLwin coffee zones faces blacklisting: Agri Dept



High-quality Myanmar export coffee.

THE Department of Agriculture notified those who remained to pay property tax for buying and selling the coffee project areas in PyinOoLwin need to make payment by 15 January,

and failure to do so will lead to blacklisting.
Some of the authorized growers who were granted a permit to execute coffee plantations in vacant, fallow and virgin lands in PyinOoLwin District, Mandalay Region, failed to commence operations in the coffee project area and resold the plot of land. The government gave the green light to land transactions with tax payment as a special programme to grow momentum for coffee farming, declared through state-run newspapers.
Nonetheless, 56 individuals have been found to be evading tax so far. Therefore, they are notified to make payment before 15 January 2026. Failure to make payment will result in blacklisting. The department will continue to declare those business people left to pay. Individuals can enquire about details through the department at 09 444022612. — NN/KK

Nurture university students as reliable human resources

NOW is the time for young people to join universities at different levels and in different professions. Universities in various regions of the country hold fresher welcome ceremonies to give opportunities to fresher students of universities so as to happily join their academic institutions.

A senior citizen is typically defined as someone aged 65 and older. Today’s senior citizens have to consider various movements in their youth. Currently, most of the citizens have taken retirement from their professions. Now is the time for even businesspersons at 65 years and above to reduce workloads in their relevant business societies. So, they should not forget their activities at a young age and need to understand the activities of current young people.

As such, nobody should disturb the learning environment and opportunities of those university students. It can be said that those who destroy the learning opportunities of university students can be defined as individuals who undermine the prospect of the State as well as eliminate society. Hence, everyone should consider that they themselves can accept the life to become the culprits of the State history and if they wish to see the devastation of their societies due to a lack of reliable human resources.

15 to 19, who are at the basic education level, the attendance rate is 45.3 per cent, while only 15 per cent of those aged 20 to 24 are enrolled at the university level. For those aged 25 and above, the rate is very low, almost negligible.

As such, nobody should disturb the learning environment and opportunities of those university students. It can be said that those who destroy the learning opportunities of university students can be defined as individuals who undermine the prospect of the State as well as eliminate society. Hence, everyone should consider that they themselves can accept the life to become the culprits of the State history and if they wish to see the devastation of their societies due to a lack of reliable human resources.

MYANMAR is a land of festivals. The festivals are of different types: religious, cultural, social, etc. Even famous pagodas have their own festivals. Being a famous pagoda, Meilamu Pagoda also has its own festival that is usually held in January every year. Since I live near the Kaba Aye Pagoda, the Meilamu Pagoda is only a 30-minute walk from my home.

Five years ago, on a cool wintery January evening, I visited this famous festival. Entering the precincts through the western archway gate, I was greeted by the sight of the glittering Meilamu Pagoda shining brilliantly under the floodlights. It rises to the height of 98 feet with its base like a mangrove bud. So, it looked so magnificent in my eyes. This magical sight reminded me of the legend of this pagoda, saying thus: The pagoda was built by King Okkalapa in honour of his mother, Queen Melahmu, who was the adopted daughter of a hermit who discovered an enormous mangrove bud. When it bloomed, a beautiful baby girl appeared inside. Because she came from a mangrove flower, she was named Melahmu, and the hermit raised her as his daughter. When she came of age, she married Sakka, who was in the guise of a handsome lad, and bore King Okkalapa in due course ...

Near the Meilamu Pagoda, two majestic Buddha statues stood: one reclining and another seated in the Dhammacakka mudra. Small prayer halls with tiered roofs surrounded the area, shaded by lush green trees. As I walked around the pagoda compound, I saw some pilgrims dressing in their fine clothes, some saying prayers, some telling their rosary beads, and some donating golden robes to the pagoda that was under renovation. Many stalls sold souvenirs, traditional bags, and handcrafted items. Craftsmen and astrologers also set up booths to offer their services.

One unique attraction was a crocodile-shaped building used as a Buddha museum. In the middle of a small lake, near it stands a shrine dedicated to the brass image of the Vennarable Uppagutta. From the bridge leading to this shrine, visitors enjoyed feeding fish and tortoises. Because it was the festive season, pilgrims filled every nook and corner. Feeling hungry, I went to a food stall near

the winding creek. Pilgrims were chatting cheerfully, and a couple nearby was enjoying fritters. After ordering my food, I relaxed and admired the natural beauty of the mangrove-lined creek. I espied the glittering pagodas on another bank in North Dagon. A few sampans glided gently along the creek, while old wooden houses lined the southern bank. To the north, the Ngamoeyeik Bridge connected North Okkalapa and North Dagon, and its traffic was streaming. The creek itself eventually flows into the great Yangon River.

As I gazed at the water, I remembered the old legend of Ngamoeyeik, the crocodile who was said to have lived in this creek. According to folklore, the crocodile served as a matchmaker for Prince Min Nanda and Princess Shin Mwe Hlon, whose love ended tragically. Young lovers still share this melancholy tale and think about it. It also filled me with a sense of quiet sadness.

After spending about half an hour there, I walked out of the precincts to participate in the festive activities along Sudhamma Road. At that time, the darkness was descending gradually from the sky. The festive area became packed with the pwe-goers. The traffic was too heavy and nearly came to a standstill. I crossed the road easily and continued walking along the festive area.

The Meilamu Pagoda festival lasts for ten days each year. My visit happened on a super Sunday, which meant the entire area – from Ward (2) Market, North Okkalapa to the Kyaukyedwin Bridge – was teeming with festive-goers. People jostled through the crowds, some dressed warmly while others wore colourful clothing. Since offices, schools, universities, some shops, and clinics were closed on weekends, people were free from their responsibilities. Therefore, they could relax and enjoy the festive nights.

I reached the top of Kittar Road near Phonegyi Lan busstand. There were many entertainments such as merry-go-rounds, Pirate Boat, an artificial playground only for the children, Ferris wheel, etc., at this junction. I saw some children playing merrily on the artificial playground "Happy World" while their parents stood looking carefully at their movements until time was up. Fun railway services for children add-



My visit to the Mei-la-mu Pagoda Festival was a memorable and enjoyable experience.

A Visit to the Meilamu Pagoda Festival

By Maung Maung Aye

ed extra enjoyment in the festive area. Some thrill-seekers were riding the Pirate Boat and the merry-go-round. The soundboxes produced Hit Hop songs and jaunty music adaptable to the entertainment. Some were shrieking, riding merry-go-rounds, Ferris wheels. In the cool wintry breeze, it was creepy even to watch their rides. Standing among the lights, music and joyful crowds, I enjoyed the pwe (festival).

I noticed some people selling Thanaka, dried fish, mats, Ngapi, etc. Since their products were available at an affordable price, there were a lot of customers near their stalls. Pork skewers, chicken skewers, etc., were available at some stalls. Most eaters were young people. It was customary for them to wear fashionable clothes and jeans on the chill, wintry nights.

Residents set up temporary shelters that were built of bamboo

poles and tarpaulin sheets. Only then will they be able to protect themselves from the heat of the sun in broad daylight. It is learnt that within ten festive days, some sellers stopped their sales at Ward (2) Market temporarily. They moved and earned their windfalls selling snacks and items, and got the handsome profits. Traditional dramatic shows, known as Zat pwes, entertained large audiences. Among them, the popular “Moe Gyo Ngat Ngae” show drew excited spectators.

Gold fish breeding glass boxes were arrayed in the colorful fluorescent lights. Various species of goldfish were swimming to and fro. Their beauty and grace caught the attention of the visitors, especially the children.

Laughter and music filled the air. Young people played dart games to win teddy bears, often kept as gifts for Valentine’s Day. Footwear shops, commodities

shops and small stands selling cigarettes, betel quids, and candies lined the road. Food stalls offered classic Myanmar dishes such as mohinga and Rakhine monti. There were many shops selling clothes at affordable prices, temporary bookstalls, and food stalls selling fried or well-cooked pork and steak, fried chicken, chips, fritters, biryani, pickled tea leaves, and other snacks. The festival grounds are also filled with stalls promoting pharmaceutical products and stalls selling pots, pans, bowls, spoons, pillows, and other household items. Visitors eagerly joined and took part in the festival. To the delight of the crowd, the marketers handed out free samples of coffee, tea, and medicine, much to the delight of the crowd.

Some stalls sell household goods used by housewives. Cups with different shapes and colors and plastic items are available.

There were also tattoo shops, which mostly attracted young people. Many of them got tattoos at these shops. Some youths liked tattoos, so they got their bodies tattooed. It is believed that these tattoos protected them from harm and made them look stronger or more attractive. Even some girls had waterproof tattoos on their arms, hands, and other parts of their bodies.

In one stall, colourful teddy bears of all sizes were on display. Many young people drew lots to test their luck. I decided to try as well, paying three thousand kyats. To my delight, I won a pretty teddy bear.

The festival area of this pagoda was always crowded with visitors who had a high standard of living. Most of the pwe-goers were model girls, youths, ladies and parents. Some were local people and came with their friends. Some children came with their

parents and relatives. Lovers also visited together. Young people or adults often communicate with each other using mobile phones. They came to the festival in their own cars and wore fashionable clothes. Thus, it can be said that the festival is modern and matches the current trends.

Gourd fritters shops were popular among young people. Besides gourd fritters, Mohinga, salads, and fried bean curds were also available. Young people had fritters with sauce and lettuce, etc. Free green tea was also served. They listened to the music coming from the shops and sat and watched the girls passing by. They truly enjoyed themselves.

One or two large, clever snakes could also be seen. Although they were boa constrictors, they did not harm the visitors. The snake-charmers entertained the crowd with these snakes, and people enjoyed watching them. People also donated money for the snakes’ food as much as they could. It is believed that donating to the snakes brings good luck, since the snakes are living beings too. Some performers, including

festival ended. They kept staying for about three days selling their products, unlike the town sellers who left earlier. They sold items such as thanakha bark, traditional snacks, and traditional toys.

The bathrooms and toilets were located in a separate part of the festival. Most sellers stayed in their temporary shelters throughout the festival and did not return home during these days. They tried to earn money by selling their goods. The bathrooms and toilets were open 24 hours a day, making them convenient. Because of these facilities, sellers could stay clean and healthy during the festival. If they got dirty from sweat and dust, they could use the bathroom for 500 kyats.

Volunteer associations also came to the festival area. They organized groups and set up water pots near the entrances. They donated drinking water to pilgrims and festival-goers. It is said that these donors came to the festival without expecting anything in return.

Indian vendors sold snacks such as samosas and baya kyaw. By means of reading Tarot cards, some fortune-tellers foretold the customers’ futures.

Some stalls sold lucky draws, and the customers waited to see the results, checking against their numbers. If they were lucky, they would win money, phones, TVs, washing machines, and other prizes.

There were also stalls with fun games. The sellers used the names of famous football clubs such as Liverpool, Manchester United, and Arsenal to attract customers. They played dice that had the names and symbols of these football clubs. If customers correctly guessed the name of the club that appeared on the dice, they won prizes from the sellers.

In conclusion, my visit to the Meilamu Pagoda Festival was a memorable and enjoyable experience. The festival showed the religious devotion, culture, and joyful spirit of the people. I enjoyed the majestic pagoda, the lively crowd, the food, games and entertainment. People from all walks of life came together to relax and have fun. This festival truly reflects the tradition and modern life of Myanmar. I will always remember this visit and hope to visit the festival again in the future.

NATIONAL

227 foreigners involved in telecom fraud deported

MYANMAR deported 212 Indians and 15 Pakistanis, totalling 227 individuals, involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities in Kayin State via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday.

Myanmar authorities officially handed the deportees the necessary legal documents to ensure their smooth repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

This photo displays Myanmar Immigration processing the deportation of foreign immigrants.



MoC sets 2026 vehicle import policy

THE year 2025 will be the oldest model to be issued an import permit for non-commercial vehicles under Section 13 (B) of the Export and Import Law, according to Notification 120/2025 regarding the 2026 vehicle import released by the Ministry of Commerce.

The model year must be 2025 and 2026 for non-commercial vehicles. Public service vehicles such as mini-buses, city buses, express buses and commercial trucks manufactured in 2022 and later can be imported. Moreover, fire trucks and ambulances manufactured in 2017 and later are allowed for import. The oldest model of machinery is set for 2017.

Except for machinery, all import vehicles must be left-hand drive under the 2026 vehicle im-

port policy.

Heavy equipment that cannot be driven on public roads such as excavators, bulldozers, wheel loaders, vibratory rollers, clamp loaders, motor graders, road roller compactors, bridge cranes, gantry cranes, tower cranes, pilling machines, crawler drills and cranes, overhead travelling cranes, mobile cranes, rough-terrain cranes, forklifts, boom lifts and asphalt finishers are allowed to be brought into the country as long as they are 15 years old or less.

The ministry issues the specified model year for vehicle importation yearly. The existing automobile import policies are not modified, the notification stated, as stated by the Commerce Ministry. — NN/KK

Tribute concert for late music legend set for Yangon on 16 Jan



This image shows a poster for the music concert titled “Myaynilan Ka Chitthu Lankyar”, dedicated exclusively to selected songs by Sai Htee Saing.

ACCORDING to singer Bo Phyu, a music concert titled “Myaynilan Ka Chitthu Lankyar” (Lovers’ Lane off the Red Earth Road), featuring exclusively selected songs by the late singer Sai Htee Saing, will be held on the evening of 16 January at Yangon Social F & B, Music, Kids Playground in Mayangone Township, Yangon Region.

At the concert, performances by Shan ethnic stereo singers Bo Phyu, Sai Aung Hti Kham and Sai San (the daughter of Sai Htee Saing) will be accompanied by the Immortal Band, which will provide musical support throughout the event.

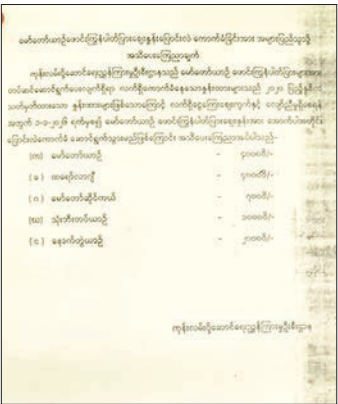
Singer Bo Phyu said, “Together with the Immortal Band, we will wholeheartedly perform melodies that resonate with the lingering chill of winter. As we will be singing the songs of our Shan ethnic elder brother, Sai Htee Saing, it will be a night that makes you feel as though you have returned to the uplands. I would like to warmly invite everyone to come and enjoy the evening.” — ASH/KZL

RTAD revises embossed number plate fees from 1 Jan 2026

THE fee for embossed vehicle number plates, which was previously set at K9,000, has been revised to K40,000 with effect from 1 January.

Under the revised fee structure for embossed number plates, the charges have been set at K40,000 for motor vehicles and trawlargy, K7,000 for motorcycles, K10,000 for three-wheeled vehicles, and K20,000 for trailers. It is reported that these revised rates are now being collected accordingly.

According to the Road Transport Administration De-



This image reveals embossed vehicle number plate fees currently being charged under the revised rates.

partment, the fees that had been charged for embossed vehicle number plates were based on rates set in 2020. As these rates were no longer in line with current market prices, the department has revised the fees to better reflect present economic conditions.

Departmental records further indicate that as of the end of December 2025, more than 646,000 passenger vehicles had been registered, along with over 33,000 trawlargy, more than 120,000 three-wheeled vehicles, over 23,000 trailers, and more than 4.2 million motorcycles. — ASH/MKKS

NEWS PHOTO



THE Vice-President of the Myanmar Sports Media Federation and U Wunna, President of the Myanmar Muay Federation, each donated K1 million to U Soe Min, an executive member of the Myanmar Sports Media Federation, who is currently receiving treatment at the Cardiac Surgery Department of the Yangon General Hospital, on 7 January. — Bala/MKKS

NATIONAL

UMTA to launch tourism digital marketing course



Myanmar's tourism booth at the 25th Moscow International Travel and Tourism Exhibition.

THE Union of Myanmar Travel Association (UMTA) has planned to conduct a tourism digital marketing training course to enhance the use of digital marketing technologies for the tourism sector. For the training project,

UMTA held a coordination meeting with the Department of Hotels and Tourism of Yangon Region on 6 January, with the support of the regional government. The meeting emphasized the enhancement of the use of digital marketing for the tourism sector and details of the training programme, said UMTA. Interested UMTA members can attend the training course at no charge, and around 80 trainees will be accepted. UMTA has currently worked for facilitating the development of the tourism industry, promoting tourist destinations and boosting cooperation with ASEAN countries and international institutions. — MT/ZS

Free dialysis treatment offered at KBZ Centre, Mandalay

THE KBZ Centre Mandalay has announced that free haemodialysis treatment will soon be available, and patients wishing to receive treatment can collect application forms between 8 and 10 January. Starting from 9 am on those days, forms are available at the KBZ Centre Mandalay, corner of 73rd Street and 110th (Manawhari) Street, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay. Patients must bring their original citizenship scrutiny card to collect the form. There is a daily limit on the number of applications issued, and once the daily quota is met, no further forms will be provided for that day. Applications can be submitted from 9 am to 4 pm on 15 and 16 January. Documents to be brought together with completed application forms include the patient's latest medical records,

treatment history, and the physician's referral letter. All submitted applications will be systematically reviewed by a board of specialist doctors, and selected patients will be contacted directly during the last week of January. — MT/ZN



An infographic from the KBZ Centre Mandalay regarding the application process for free kidney dialysis treatment.

Depression News 2, 2026

Issued at 7 pm MST on 7 January 2026

Depression Condition

According to the observations at 6:30 pm MST today, the Depression over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining East Equatorial Indian Ocean has moved west-northwest. It is centred at about 645 nautical miles south-southwest of Coco Island (Myanmar), 420 nautical miles east-southeast of Trincomalee (Sri Lanka) and 605 nautical miles southeast of Puducherry (Sri Lanka).

It does not intend to move towards the Myanmar coasts at the present stage, and therefore, the Depression is coded as the yellow stage.

Position of Depression, centre pressure and wind

The Depression is located at Latitude 5.1 degrees North and Longitude 87.3 degrees East, the centre pressure of the Depression is 1006 hPa, and the maximum wind speed near the centre is 30 miles per hour at 6:30 pm MST today.

Next 48 hours forecast

- It is likely to intensify into a Deep Depression during the next 24 hours and move west-northwestwards and may reach over the Southwest Bay of Bengal. — DMH

Myanmar nationals in ROK urged to renew passports 6 months early

THE Myanmar Embassy in the Republic of Korea said Myanmar nationals can extend their passports six months before the expiration date gets expired.

The embassy said it has found unwanted delays, such as re-verifying and imposing a fine if the passport extension starts only after the passport's validity has expired.

It has urged Myanmar passport holders to do the passport extension six months ahead of time before the validation date expires, and also reminded of making sure complete the documents for the service.

The Myanmar Embassy

This photo shows the embassy issuing new passports for Myanmar nationals in December 2025.

in the Republic of Korea has service through verification. — provided a passport renewal MT/ZS

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Wednesday, 7 January 2026)

BAY INFERENCE:

According to the observations at 6:30 pm MST today, the Depression over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining East Equatorial Indian Ocean has moved west-northwest. It is centred at about 645 nautical miles south-southwest of Coco Island (Myanmar), 420 nautical miles east-southeast of Trincomalee (Sri Lanka) and 605 nautical miles southeast of Puducherry (Sri Lanka). The weather is cloudy over the South Andaman Sea and South Bay, partly cloudy over the Eastcentral Bay and a few clouds over the North Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 8 January 2026:

The weather will be

generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Lower Sagaing Region and Chin State and partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of a slight decrease in night temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 January 2026: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 January 2026: A few clouds.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 January 2026: Generally fair weather. — DMH

ECONOMY
WORLD

India’s power sector to see recovery without demand surge in FY27

INDIA’S power sector is expected to see a year of recovery without a sharp rebound in demand, according to a report on India Power Outlook 2026 by Bernstein.

Power demand declined by around 0.7 per cent in FY26 till December, after registering strong growth of seven per cent and five per cent in the previous two years. The report expects demand to recover to around 5 per cent growth in the coming year, aided by a supportive base from May onwards, although weather conditions are not expected to be particularly favourable.

On the supply side, India added a record 41 GW of power capacity in FY26 till November, and total additions for the fiscal year are expected to reach around 55 GW. This includes approximately 42 GW of renewable capacity and about 9 GW of thermal capacity.

The report says that renewable capacity additions are expected to moderate in FY27 to around 35 GW due to slower tendering, grid constraints and reduced government support. Thermal capacity additions are expected to continue at about 8 GW in FY27. — ANI



India’s power sector is expected to see a year of recovery without a sharp rebound in demand, according to a report on India Power Outlook 2026 by Bernstein. PHOTO: ANI



People walk past a mural depicting now ousted Venezuelan president Nicolas Maduro near the National Assembly in Caracas PHOTO: AFP

Venezuela interim leader taps ex-central bank boss to lead economy

Calixto Ortega Sanchez, who led Venezuela’s central bank from 2018 until April 2025, has been appointed by interim leader Delcy Rodriguez to the cabinet’s top economic post.

VENEZUELA’S caretaker president Delcy Rodriguez on Tuesday appointed a former central bank director to her cabinet’s top economic post, one she herself had held until the toppling of leftist leader Nicolas Maduro.

Rodriguez picked Calixto Ortega Sanchez, who led Venezuela’s central bank from 2018 to 2025 and also has a background in the oil industry.

It was her first cabinet change since being sworn in as interim president Monday, two days after a US military strike that led to Maduro being whisked away in handcuffs to stand trial in New York.

Rodriguez held the same economic portfolio Sanchez will now take over, while she also served as Maduro’s vice president and oversaw Venezuela’s key hydrocarbons sector.

In a statement on state TV, she said the government hoped “to consolidate” last year’s numbers going forward – citing a projection of the ECLAC regional economic commission of 6.5 per cent growth for Venezuela in 2025. — AFP

Malaysia eyes increased economic role for bioeconomy

MALAYSIA’S bioeconomy sector will expand in value in the coming years and play an even bigger role in contributing to the country’s gross domestic product growth, Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Chang Lih Kang said on Wednesday.

Bioeconomy Corporation, the lead development agency for the bio-based industry in Malaysia, is expected to drive this growth and lead Malaysia’s bioeconomy towards global competitiveness, Chang said in a statement.

The ministry is confident that even greater value will be achieved in the coming years, particularly as the organization sharpens its focus over the next five years on six high-value, high-growth sub-sectors: next-generation proteins, regenerative propagation, sustainable materials,

bio-based chemicals, regenerative medicine and precision diagnostics, he said. — Xinhua



Biofertilizers are natural formulations containing living or latent microorganisms that enhance soil fertility by making essential nutrients more available to plants. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXABAY

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trump claims Venezuela sending millions barrels

US President Donald Trump said Tuesday that Venezuela’s interim government will deliver up to 50 million barrels of oil to the United States, and that the proceeds “will be controlled by me” as president.

“The Interim Authorities in Venezuela will be turning over between 30 and 50 MILLION Barrels of High Quality, Sanctioned Oil, to the United States of America,” Trump posted on his Truth Social platform.

“This oil will be sold at its market price, and that money will be controlled by me, as President of the United States of America, to ensure it is used to benefit the people of Venezuela and the United States.” — AFP

Australia’s
BlueScope
Steel mulls
US\$8.8B
takeover bid

AUSTRALIA’S BlueScope Steel says it is evaluating a Aus\$13.2 billion (US\$8.8 billion) joint takeover bid by a US rival and a diversified local firm.

BlueScope Steel, which has more than 16,500 employees worldwide, said it was the fourth attempt by US-based Steel Dynamics to snap up its American steel-making operations.

In the latest bid, Steel Dynamics has teamed up with Australian industry, energy and media company SGH to buy and split up the steelmaker, the companies said.

Under the proposal, SGH would acquire all shares in Melbourne-based BlueScope. SGH would then sell the North American operations to Steel Dynamics while retaining the rest of BlueScope’s global steel-making business for itself. — AFP

Warner Bros
rejects updated
Paramount
takeover bid,
backs Netflix deal

THE board of entertainment and news giant Warner Bros Discovery (WBD) urged shareholders Wednesday to reject an updated takeover bid by rival Paramount, saying it is inferior to Netflix’s offer.

Paramount amended its hostile takeover bid in mid-December to include an over-\$40 billion personal financing guarantee from tech titan Larry Ellison, an ally of US President Donald Trump. Ellison’s son David is the CEO of Paramount Skydance, which controls the historic Hollywood studio as well as a host of TV groups, including CBS. — AFP



Staff members sort parcels at a management center of ZTO Express in Helan County, Yinchuan, northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, 11 November 2025.
PHOTO: XINHUA

China’s postal delivery
volume hits 216.5 bln items
in 2025

CHINA’S postal industry processed 216.5 billion delivery items in 2025, an increase of 11.5 per cent year on year, according to data released at the 2026 national postal work conference on Wednesday.

The courier sector alone handled 199 billion parcels, marking a 13.7 per

cent growth from 2024.

Zhao Chongjiu, head of the State Post Bureau, said at the conference that the postal industry’s total business revenue reached 1.8 trillion yuan (about US\$256.5 billion) in 2025, rising 6.4 per cent year on year. Revenue from courier services climbed 6.5 per

cent to 1.5 trillion yuan.

Zhao noted that the industry has maintained steady and positive growth momentum, with key indicators showing stable growth and the sector further strengthening its role in boosting economic and social development. — Xinhua

CHANGING DISTRIBUTOR OF REGISTRATION PESTICIDE

This is a notification of the change of distributor of below insecticide, registered by **Lionchem Pte., Ltd**, under the Myanma Pesticide Registration Board, from **Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte Ltd** to **Charoen Pokphand Produce Myanmar Co., Ltd**. Any Objection to this change can notify to joint Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein, within 14 days.

Trade Name	A. I	Reg. Type	Reg. No.
Fan-Pro 240 EC	Chlorfenapyr 190g/l + Lufenuron 50g/l EC	Provisional	P2023-5412

Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte Ltd.- PH: 0942111797

CHANGING DISTRIBUTOR OF REGISTRATION PESTICIDE

This is a notification of the change of distributor of below insecticide, registered by **Eastchem Co., Ltd**, under the Myanma Pesticide Registration Board, from **Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte Ltd** to **Charoen Pokphand Produce Myanmar Co., Ltd**. Any Objection to this change can notify to joint Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein, within 14 days.

Trade Name	A. I	Reg. Type	Reg. No.
Archer Plus 50 WP	Flonicamid 10% + Nitenpyram 40% WP	Provisional	P2024-5376

Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte Ltd.- PH: 0942111797

Indonesia touts
‘victory’ in achieving
rice self-sufficiency

PRESIDENT Prabowo Subianto said on Wednesday that Indonesia’s rice production met all domestic demand, hailing a landmark achievement for food security -- one of his key campaign promises.

In a speech to farmers in Karawang, east of the capital Jakarta, Prabowo celebrated an “important victory” in achieving rice self-sufficiency within just over a year since he entered office in October 2024.

“No nation is truly free if food is not available to its people. A nation

cannot be independent if its food supply depends on other countries,” he said. Indonesia last achieved rice self-sufficiency in 2008, and before that in the mid-1980s. Rice is a staple food in the Southeast Asian nation of 286 million people.

According to the National Food Agency, a government body aimed at advancing food security, Indonesia produced 34.71 million tonnes of rice in 2025, exceeding annual consumption needs of 31.19 million tonnes. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0036N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0036N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-1-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SEA STELLAR VOY.NO. (2518)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SEA STELLAR VOY.NO. (2518)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-1-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S’PORE) PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD



Venezuela's acting president Delcy Rodriguez was a staunch supporter of her ousted boss, Nicolas Maduro. **PHOTO: JUAN BARRETO / AFP/FILE**

“No foreign agent” governing Venezuela, says acting president

Venezuelans remain steadfast defending nation after bombardment.

VENEZUELA'S acting president, Delcy Rodriguez, on Tuesday condemned the US military capture of President Nicolas Maduro and his wife, stressing that “there is no foreign agent” governing the South American country.

“We are here governing alongside the people. The Venezuelan government rules our

country, no one else,” she said at an event in Caracas. “There is no foreign agent governing Venezuela.”

Following the US bombardment of Venezuela’s capital as part of the military operation to capture Maduro, Venezuelans “remain steadfast” in their bid to defend the nation, said Rodriguez.

In addition to paying tribute to the victims of the US assault, Rodriguez said that demonstrations will be held across the country to demand the release of the presidential couple from US custody. She added that despite the attack on Venezuela, the country continues to fulfil its production, supply and export cycle. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Heatwave sweeps S Australia, triggering bushfire alerts

AN intense heatwave swept southern Australia on Wednesday, with temperatures in multiple locations soaring above 40 degrees Celsius.

In downtown Melbourne, the mercury rose to 42 degrees Celsius on Wednesday afternoon, making it the hottest day since January 2020. People flocked to the beaches to seek a touch of coolness while Ambulance Victoria said they had experienced a 12-per-cent increase in workload on Wednesday.

Ambulance Victoria reminded the public to keep hydrated, avoid going out during the hottest part of the day, and use air conditioning and fans if necessary.

Meanwhile, residents of Bungil, Granya and Thologolong, small towns over 280 kilometres northeast of Melbourne, have been ordered to evacuate or take shelter due to the threat posed by nearby bushfires. — Xinhua

Iran army chief threatens response to ‘threats’

IRAN'S military chief warned on Wednesday that Iran will not stand by and allow itself to be threatened by outside powers, after the United States and Israel backed anti-government protests.

“The Islamic Republic of Iran considers the escalation of hostile rhetoric against the Iranian nation a threat and will not tolerate its continuation without responding,” General Amir Hatami said, according to the Fars news agency. Hatami, commander of the Iranian army but not Iran's most senior officer, warned that “if the enemy makes a mistake” Iran's response would be more robust than during last June's 12-day war with Israel. — AFP

Yemeni separatist leader continues duties from Aden

YEMEN'S separatists Wednesday urged Saudi Arabia to halt its air strikes and said their leader was still in Aden, after a Saudi-led coalition accused him of fleeing to an unknown location.

Aidasor Alzubidi, whose forces seized swathes of land last month only to see it retaken by his Saudi-backed rivals, failed to fly to Riyadh for talks and was dismissed from the government, even as a Saudi-led coalition launched strikes on his home province.

“While the Southern Transitional Council condemns these unjustified air strikes, it demands that the Saudi authorities immediately cease the aerial bombardment,” the group said, in a statement, adding that Alzubidi “continues his duties from the capital, Aden”. — AFP

Hanoi proposes halting trains through cafe street

AUTHORITIES of Vietnam’s capital Hanoi have proposed suspending passenger train services running through the city’s well-known railway cafe street, Vietnam News Agency reported Wednesday.

The proposal, which was submitted by the Hanoi People’s Committee to the Ministry of

Construction, calls for adjustments to passenger train operations on the national railway section between Hanoi Station and Gia Lam Station.

If approved, no passenger trains would operate on the stretch between Hanoi Station and Long Bien Station, which runs through densely populated

inner-city neighbourhoods and the popular cafe-lined area, according to the report.

Located along the railway, the railway cafe street has attracted thousands of visitors every day despite repeated bans and the installation of physical barriers, local media reported. — Xinhua



Authorities of Vietnam’s capital Hanoi have proposed suspending passenger train services running through the city’s well-known railway cafe street. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

SPORTS

Ayeyawady and ISPE FC secure wins in Myanmar Women’s League

MATCHDAY XIII of the 2025-2026 Myanmar Women’s League kicked off on 7 January, with Ayeyawady FC and ISPE FC both claiming victories.

At the Padonma Ground, Ayeyawady FC edged Yangon United FC 1-0. Ayeyawady continued their strong run in the second round and, with this win over Yangon United, moved level in the title race with defending champions ISPE FC. Yangon United’s defeat left them seven points adrift of Ayeyawady with a game in hand, significantly reducing their title chances. Phyu Phyu Win scored the decisive goal in 27 minutes. Ayeyawady have 30 points from 12 matches, while Yangon United have 23 points from 11 matches.

At the Thuwunna Youth Training

Centre Ground 1, defending champions ISPE FC recorded a six-goal victory over Yangon City FC. ISPE continued to apply pressure in the title defence, trailing Ayeyawady by two points with a game in hand. Shwe Yi Htun scored in 36 minutes, Lin Myint Mo struck in 49, 50 and 70 minutes, and Su Pyae Pyae Kyaw added goals in 55 and 80 minutes. ISPE have 28 points from 11 matches, while Yangon City remain without a point after 12 matches.

Matchday XXX-III continues today at the Yangon United Sports Complex, where YREO FC will face Thitsa Arman FC. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Ayeyawady FC and Yangon United FC in action. PHOTO: MWL



Strasbourg supporters were left enraged after their promising young coach Liam Rosenior moved to fellow BlueCo club Chelsea. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Strasbourg face pitfalls of multi-club system as Chelsea take Rosenior

THE departure of Strasbourg coach Liam Rosenior to take over as Chelsea manager has exposed the harsh realities of multi-club ownership, which is gaining ground across the world but causing discord between supporters and teams.

The relatively inexperienced Rosenior, 41, has achieved a remarkable elevation from the modest French Ligue 1 side to the World Club Cup champions, who are both owned by American Todd Boehly’s BlueCo consortium.

Worldwide, between 200 and 300 clubs are part of a multi-ownership group. Manchester City, who sit at the top of City Football Group, and Manchester United (Ineos) are some of the other big names.

A clear hierarchy exists within such a structure and not being at the top of an ownership group can mean being reduced to the role of feeder club. The consequences of being in such a position are hitting home for Strasbourg

supporters, who have been left enraged after their promising young coach moved to Chelsea on Tuesday following the Premier League giants’ decision to part ways with their previous boss, Enzo Maresca.

“When you’re not at the top, you’re also there to serve the interests of the multi-owner and the consortium,” Christophe Lepetit, director of studies at the Centre for the Law and Economics of Sport at the University of Limoges in France, told AFP. — AFP

Medvedev extends strong start to season ahead of Australian Open

FORMER world number one Daniil Medvedev extended his impressive start to the season ahead of the Australian Open with a straight-sets win over Frances Tiafoe in Brisbane on Wednesday.

The top seed took just an hour to defeat the American 6-3, 6-2 following his equally ruthless first-round win over Hungary’s Marton Fucsovics on Monday.

Medvedev served superbly against Tiafoe and didn’t face a break point in reaching the third round.

The 29-year-old Russian has conceded that the world’s top two, Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner, are out of reach of the other players on the men’s tour.

But he also said that anything could happen at a Grand Slam and he has shown in the first two rounds in Brisbane that he will be one of the challengers when the Australian Open starts on 18 January.

“I’m really happy with the way I played the two matches,” said Medvedev, a three-time beaten finalist at the Melbourne major.

“It’s kind of continuing what I started doing at the end of the last year, already playing better and better.

“But these two matches (this week) I think were even better and I’m happy that some things I worked on in the pre-season seemed to work here”. — AFP tour.



Russia’s Daniil Medvedev hits a return to Frances Tiafoe. PHOTO: AFP



Hun Sen: Cambodia committed to implementing ceasefire with Thailand

Hun Sen said restoring peace will also contribute to peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region.

SAMDECH Techo Hun Sen, president of the ruling Cambodian People’s Party, said on Wednesday that the kingdom is committed to strictly and fully implementing a ceasefire with Thailand to restore peace for both nations.

Hun Sen, also president of the senate, said restoring peace between Cambodia and Thailand will also contribute to peace, security, stability, and prosperity in the region.

“Cambodia expresses its deepest gratitude to all friendly countries and the international community, particularly the United States, the People’s Republic of China, and ASEAN member states under the coordination of Malaysia as the ASEAN Chair, for their active assistance and participation in seeking this peaceful solution,” he said.

Cambodia and Thailand agreed to an immediate ceasefire on 27 December 2025, after three weeks of armed conflict that caused casualties on both sides.

— Xinhua



This pool photo taken and released on 26 June 2025 by Agence Kampuchea Presse (AKP) shows Cambodia’s Senate President Hun Sen delivering a speech during his visit to Cambodian armed forces stationed along the border with Thailand in Oddar Meanchey province on 26 June 2025. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Amid political shift, Venezuelan oil revival could keep global prices lower for longer: JP Morgan

VENEZUELA could become one of the biggest sources of new oil supply in the world over the next decade if the country undergoes a political transition, potentially reshaping global energy markets and keeping oil prices lower for longer, said JPMorgan in its latest report.

In its Oil Markets Weekly, JPMorgan said a regime change in Venezuela would represent one of the largest upside risks to global oil supply in 2026 and beyond, an outcome that oil markets are not currently pricing in.

Venezuelan crude production, which stands at roughly 750,000-800,000 barrels per day, could rise to 1.3-1.4 million barrels per day within two years of a political transition and potentially reach 2.5 million barrels per day over the next decade with sustained investment.

Notably, Venezuela remained a massive player in the oil industry in terms of reserves.

Earlier on Tuesday night, US President Donald Trump announced that the interim authorities in Venezuela would turn between 30 and 50 million barrels of sanctioned oil to the United States and said that while the oil will be sold at its market price, the money will be controlled by US President to ensure it is used to benefit the people of Venezuela and the United States. — ANI



A worker from Petroleos de Venezuela operates machinery in front of the Fortune oil tanker, docked at the El Palito Refinery, Carabobo state, Venezuela. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

Ho Chi Minh City plans new political hub

VIETNAM’S southern hub Ho Chi Minh City plans to build a political and administrative centre in the Thu Thiem new urban area, aiming to create a centralized and modern working space to support the governance of a major metropolis, local daily VnExpress reported Wednesday.

The centre is designed to be a 26-storey building and will be developed under an environmentally friendly model, featuring open spaces to facilitate public access to administrative services. City authorities are scheduled to complete planning and investment procedures and break ground on the project in the first quarter of this year. The centre is expected to become operational in 2027.

The Thu Thiem new urban area, located on the western side of the Saigon River, covers an area of 930 hectares. — Xinhua