

Mongla Region Sees Intensified Push for Peace and Stability

The NDAA urged the President to prioritize socioeconomic development for ethnic communities in the Mongla region.



President U Min Aung Hlaing receives the delegation led by National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA) Chair U Htein Lin.

A delegation led by Chair of the National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA) U Htein Lin paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi

Taw yesterday afternoon. At the meeting, the NDAA Chair reported on the great pride and joy expressed by the Peace and Unity Committee of Special Region 4 and all ethnic people across the region, including the National Democratic Alliance Army

(NDAA), over the election of U Min Aung Hlaing as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; the situation of NDAA-Mongla group on the path of “Peace, Unity and Development” for more than three decades with maintaining the good relations with

successive governments of the State, and the pledges of NDAA-Mongla group to further strengthen trust and cooperation with the government through persistent contacts while striving for forging peace and stability of the nation and

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DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Egypt explore cooperation to improve cotton production

MYANMAR and Egypt held talks at Egypt’s Agricultural Research Centre (ARC) in Giza to advance bilateral cooperation aimed at improving Myanmar’s cotton production and strengthening the country’s agricultural sector, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The high-level meeting brought together the Myanmar ambassador to Egypt, the head of International Relations at the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Recla-

mation, and the president of Egypt’s Agricultural Research Centre.

“Both sides discussed cooperation to boost cotton yields and explored broader opportunities for partnership across the agricultural sector.

The two sides also reviewed the 2025 Myanmar-Egypt Memorandum of Understanding on agricultural cooperation, aiming to translate its strategic commitments into practical action. – ASH/TH



This photo shows Myanmar and Egyptian officials meeting to discuss bilateral cooperation to enhance the cotton sector.

Flood alerts issued across Myinmu, Pakokku, NyaungU, Hpa-an, Madauk, and Myitnge



The condition of floodwaters entering Hpa-an seen on 10 August.

THE Department of Meteorology and Hydrology reports that river levels across Myanmar continue to rise, with waters in Myinmu, Pakokku, NyaungU, Hpa-an, Madauk, and Myitnge already surpassing danger marks in their respective towns.

Based on measurements taken at 6:30 am on 11 August, the Ayeyawady

River water level in Myinmu has exceeded the danger mark by 26 centimetres and is forecast to rise by another 15 centimetres within the next day; 34 centimetres above the danger mark in Pakokku and 51 centimetres in NyaungU, with forecasts to rise by approximately 20 centimetres over the next day.

While the Chindwin

River in Monywa is forecast to recede, the Thanlwin River at Hpa-an has risen 80 centimeters above the danger mark and is expected to climb another 10 centimeters within the next day. The Sittoung River at Madauk has risen 18 centimeters above the danger mark and is expected to remain elevated, while the Dokhtawady River at Myit-

nge has surged to a critical 116 centimeters above the danger mark and is projected to stay high.

Authorities have issued warnings urging residents along riverbanks and in lowlying areas of the affected townships to closely monitor flood conditions and prepare to relocate swiftly to safe locations if necessary. — TWA

NATIONAL

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Dr Kay Thi Kyaw, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Social Welfare under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, as Director-General of the same organization on probation from the date she assumes charge of her duties.

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Tuesday 11 August 2026

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 12 AUGUST 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Mandalay and Lower Sagaing Regions and Kayah State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and eastern Shan States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Mandalay, Magway, Upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Rakhine and southern Shan States. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hours. Wave height will be about 10-13 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Isolated heavy falls in Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 AUGUST 2026: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 AUGUST 2026: Some rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 AUGUST 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

U Soe Thet Naung appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Soe Thet Naung, Chargé d’ affaires/ Minister of the Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Rome, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam. — MNA

Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital to launch 57th free eye-care drive in Sept

THE Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital, located inside the Hsipaw Pagoda in northern Shan State, will start the 57th free eyesight donation from 14 to 17 September.

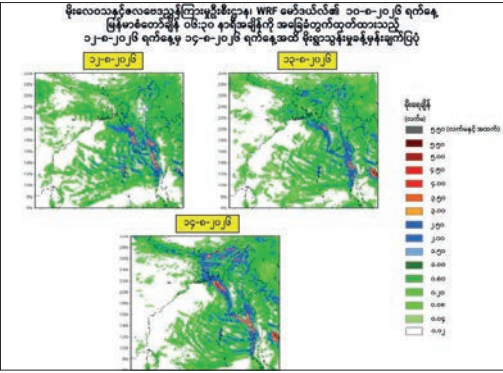
People with vision problems can receive free eye care and medical services at the hospital until 15 September as part of its charitable eye-care programme. The four-day programme provides eye examinations and treatment free of charge, and patients are invited to visit the Hsipaw Sitagu Free Eye Hospital during the designated period. — TWA/ZS



Sitagu Sayadaw visits the hospital and encouraged patients.

Heavy Rainfall Warning No 42

Issued at 8 pm MST on 10 August 2026



Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of the strong monsoon and unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal and the strong development of the convective clouds, such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flights. — DMH

Bay of Bengal Condition

Issued at 7 am MST on 11 August 2026

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 am MST today, a low-pressure area may form over the Northwest Bay of Bengal on 12 August 2026. — DMH

El Niño Conditions News

Issued on 11 August 2026

a. The Sea Surface Temperature (SST) and Atmospheric conditions in the Tropical Pacific Ocean near the equator indicate the persistence of strong El Niño conditions. According to the forecasts from International Meteorological Agencies based on Numerical Weather Prediction Models, very strong El Niño conditions is likely at the end of 2026.

b. Although El Niño is a phenomenon that occurs in the Pacific Ocean, its impacts

can generally lead to irregular rainfall patterns, higher day temperatures, abnormal storm activity, drought and other extreme weather events in the upcoming summer season.

c. Therefore, all relevant sectors are kindly requested to take necessary precautionary measures in advance. Updates on the El Niño status will continue to be issued and disseminated in a timely manner. — DMH

NATIONAL

Mongla Region Sees Intensified Push for Peace and Stability

FROM PAGE 1
carrying out border region development.
They urged the President to prioritize socioeconomic development for ethnic communities in the Mongla region. They also noted that the meeting between the NDAA and the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee yielded positive outcomes.
In response, the President discussed

the endeavours of the State to restore lasting peace in accord with the Constitution (2008), situations of ethnic armed organizations to serve the interests of the State and their regions, plans of the State to improve the transport sector for overall development of Mongla region, and the arrangements of the State to assign teachers and facilitate infrastructure for development of

the education sector in Mongla region, upgrade hospitals to improve the health sector along with assignment of health staff as well as fulfilment of medications.
The President outlined plans to deploy government and Tatmadaw health personnel to deliver healthcare services to ethnic communities in the Mongla region, while also highlighting initiatives to generate electricity from

hydropower and solar energy to ensure a stable supply across eastern Shan State.
Furthermore, the President and the NDAA Chair cordially talked about making greater efforts to ensure peace and stability as well as development of Mongla region, situations to carry out regional development undertakings and implement border trade measures, plans to clarify

the peace process and guidance for regional development given by the Head of State to local ethnic people in Mongla region, and emphasis to be placed on cooperation in national development as well as border region peace and stability.
After the meeting, the President and the NDAA Chair exchanged gifts and posed for documentary photos alongside attendees.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-President U Nyo Saw, NSP-NC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing, Lt-Gen Kyaw Ko Htaik from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and officials. The NCAA Chair was accompanied by Vice-Chairs U San Pae and U San Lu, General Secretary U Kyi Myint and Secretary U Aik Pan. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar Hosts 37th ASEAN Environment Officials Meeting

MYANMAR is hosting the 37th Meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Environment (ASOEN) and Related Meetings virtually from 10 to 13 August.
The opening ceremony was held at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 August. Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan Oo called for closer ASEAN cooperation to address environmental challenges, including climate change, plastic pollution, biodiversity loss and transboundary haze pollution.
ASEAN Chair and Philippine Department of Environment and Natural Resources Undersec-



Union Minister U Hsan Oo delivers a keynote address at the 37th ASEAN Senior Officials on the Environment Meeting (ASOEN).

retary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs, Attorney Jonas R Leones, also delivered opening remarks online.
Deputy Minister Dr Thaung Naing Oo and

officials attended the opening ceremony, while senior environmental officials from ASEAN member states, chairs of the working groups, and representatives from the

ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and the ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre joined virtually. — MNA/KZL

Yangon Police Step Up Crime Prevention, Law and Order

POLICE personnel from township police stations across Yangon Region conducted operations in cooperation with traffic police and local administrative officials to strengthen the rule of law and prevent crime.
As part of the operations yesterday, the Insein Township police officer, together with relevant departmental officials and personnel from Myoma Police Station, conducted public awareness activities on crime prevention. Meanwhile, members of

the Bahan Township Traffic Police Unit conducted road safety awareness campaigns at pedestrian crossings to promote pedestrian safety.
Also, on the evening of 10 August, township police officers in Ahlon, Mingala Taungnyunt and Thakayta townships inspected KTV establishments, vehicle checkpoints and household guest registration records as part of efforts to maintain law and order and prevent crime. — Aung Thu/MKKS



A vehicle checkpoint in Yangon.

Placement test held for out-of-school students for 2026-2027AY

THE placement test for out-of-school students of primary and middle school education for the 2026-2027 academic year was held on 9 August, according to the Ministry of Education.
The test was conducted at designated centres in various regions and states,

with 693 out-of-school primary-level students and 1,662 out-of-school middle-level students taking part. — ASH/MKKS



A placement test for out-of-school primary and secondary education.

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NATIONAL

Falam Restores 400V Power Lines

UNDER the supervision of the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee, 400-volt electricity lines are being reinstalled along Thitsa Road in Falam Township.

About seven miles of the township's 26 miles long 400-volt power lines were previously damaged during terror attacks.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo and officials inspected the rerouting of the electricity lines to facilitate the resumption of power distribution through the main power line and a small hydro-



MOEE personnel are seen in the restoration of power lines.

power plant.

The deputy minister also inspected the renovation and repair of

government staff housing and offices in Falam Township.

Rehabilitation and re-

construction work is also underway in Tiddim and Tonzang townships. In Tiddim, construction materials, school furniture and textbooks supplied by the State were handed over for the renovation of Htanywet Village Basic Education Middle School. In Tonzang, the deputy minister and members of the Township Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee inspected renovation work at the Township Road Department's guesthouse, Youth Training School office and Basic Education High School. — MNA/MKKS

Sheet piling work underway to reinforce Ngawun embankment



Deputy Minister Dr Thaung Naing and officials inspect the reinforcement work at the Ngawun embankment.

SHEET piling work is underway at the Ngawun embankment in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Re-

gion, where river erosion caused a breach beneath the embankment, resulting in its subsidence and

allowing river water to overflow.

Deputy Minister for Construction Dr Thaung

Naing and officials inspected the reinforcement work yesterday morning. Officials reported on the embankment reinforcement, sheet piling, the arrival of necessary equipment and materials, and plans for the remaining work. The deputy minister coordinated the necessary measures.

A total of 286 steel sheet piles are required, of which 55 had been installed as of yesterday. — MNA/MKKS

Recuse, cleanup activities continue in Laymyethna

IN Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region, heavy rainfall and river erosion on the night of 30 July 2026 caused water to breach and flow through a sand ridge at the base of the Ngawun River embankment. As of today, floodwaters have entered five urban wards in Laymyethna, major roads in the town and 121 surrounding villages-37 villages in Hinthada Township; two wards and 24 surrounding villages in Yekyi Township; two wards in Ngathainggyoung and six villages in Kyonpyaw Township; and totalling nine wards and 188 villages have been affected by flooding.

Tatmadaw personnel from the South-West Command, members of the Myanmar Police Force, firefighters, social rescue

groups, charitable organizations and local ethnic groups are jointly conducting search and rescue operations for flood victims while providing food and necessary healthcare. To control and protect the water inlet from the Ngawun embankment, geotextile bags (geobags) are being placed, sandbags are being filled into floating docks, and steel sheet piles are being driven.

Tatmadaw personnel, members of the Myanmar Police Force, firefighters and charitable organizations are jointly cleaning schools and roads in areas where floodwaters have receded. Officials from the South-West Command are coordinating the necessary measures. — MNA/KTZH



This image features ongoing relief efforts in Laymyethna Township.



Deputy Minister U Bo Bo Kyaw inspects the Ngawun riverbank protection work.

Ngawun riverbank protection, embankment reinforcement underway

THE Department of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems is planning riverbank protection, silt dredging and channel excavation work along the Ngawun River, with embankment construction or diversion channels to be implemented where

necessary. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Bo Bo Kyaw inspected the planned and ongoing works along the river on 10 August, including sections of the Ngawun embankment in Hinthada and Laymyethna town-

ships affected by erosion and sandbank formation. At milepost 25/3 in Laymyethna Township, where subsidence had occurred, geotextile bags (geobags) are being used to protect the embankment from erosion. Steel sheet piles are also being driven to block deep-wa-

ter channels, while large geobags are being placed using dredging vessels and boats. Officials also discussed measures to strengthen the embankment and accelerate riverbank protection works along the Ngawun River. — MNA/KZL

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.

NATIONAL

Yenangyoung's Emerald Green Village Project activities inspected

RESPONSIBLE officials conducted a field inspection yesterday to observe the implementation status of the Emerald Green Village Project activities being executed in Yonseik (North) Village, Yenangyoung Township, Magway Region.

Township Head U Aye Tun Min of the Department of Rural Development in Yenangyoung Township, together with project-responsible staff, inspected the status of successful implementation of agricultural and livestock breeding businesses carried out with funds from the Emerald Green Village Project in Yonseik (North) Village, as well as whether the monthly required records and tables had been filled in.

In Yonseik (North) Village, loans from the Emerald Green Village Project revolving fund have been provided to a total of 107 members, including 61 people engaged in agricultural businesses with K25.8 million, 41 people engaged in livestock breeding businesses with K18.1 million, and five people engaged in trading businesses with K2.3 million, totalling K46.2 million. The project activities are underway successfully. — Naw Lu (Rural)



This image shows an agricultural project in Yenangyoung Township.

Bago Region aims fish surplus beyond local demand in FY2025-26



Images feature fish workers at work on a Bago Region fish farm.

THE Bago Region Fisheries Department is undertaking measures to produce enough fish to meet local consumption needs and generate a surplus in the 2026-2027 financial year, exceeding the production level of the 2025-2026 financial year. More than 3,000 acres of freshwater fish farms are currently being operated in Bago Region.

Aquatic products are produced annually in Bago Region through aquaculture, leasehold fisheries and common fishing activities. In the 2025-2026 financial year, the breeding sector produced 68,410,940 viss of fish, leasehold fisheries produced 92,965,380 viss, and common fishing activities produced 138,957,446 viss, bringing total fish production to 300,333,766 viss. As production exceeded local fish consumption of 32,030,442 viss, a surplus of 268,303,324 viss was produced and distributed to fish markets in Yangon Region for domestic consumption and to cold storage facilities for export.

The regional fisheries department is targeting a total production of 306,466,478 viss of aquatic products in the 2026-2027 financial year, comprising 69,153,412 viss from aquaculture, 93,430,207 viss from leasehold fisheries and 143,882,860 viss from common fishing activities. Of this total, 30,108,140 viss of fish will be produced to meet local consumption needs, while a surplus of 276,358,338 viss is targeted for production.

“Due to increased fishing activities in the sea, fish production has declined, making the aquaculture sector increasingly important for food security. In particular, the aquaculture sector is important in the freshwater areas of Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions. Fishery stations are carrying out artificial breeding through fish spawning and releasing juvenile fish back into natural waters and aquaculture areas. This helps ensure a continuous supply of fish for local consumption. I am pleased that the six districts and 28 townships in the region can produce abundant fish and meat products for more than 4.4 million people, as well as fish for export,” said Dr Su Myo Thwe, director of the department.

From the 2020-2021 financial year to the 2024-2025 financial year, fish production in Bago Region was calculated and undertaken at a rate of 10 ticals per person a day to ensure sufficient local consumption. In the 2026-2027 financial year, freshwater fish are being farmed and produced not only to meet the local consumption needs of more than 4.4 million people in Bago Region but also for export. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

Kyain Seikkyi disburses VRFP project loans

UNDER the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, the Department of Rural Development of Kyain Seikkyi Township, Kayin State, disbursed the seventh round of the Village Revolving Fund Project (VRFP) loans at the village monastery hall yesterday. The initiative aims to provide capital for local communities from Khalaiywalay Village, to engage in agriculture, livestock breeding, and other small-scale business ventures.

U Min Wai Phyto, Head of the Kyain Seikkyi District Department of Rural Development explained the objectives and benefits of the Village Revolving Fund Project. Township Head U Saw Hein Min detailed the rules to be followed during loan disbursement, interest rates,

and the schedule for principal and interest repayments.

Subsequently, under the supervision of the project staff, members of the village project committee systematically disbursed a total of K50.5 million in low-interest revolving fund loans directly into the hands of 76 project members: 30 individuals engaged in agriculture, 37 in livestock breeding, and nine in trading.

According to the Kyain Seikkyi Township Department of Rural Development, implementing the VRFP in this village has enabled rural residents to undertake income-generating activities on a manageable scale, thereby improving their socioeconomic lives and reducing poverty rates. — Ko Ko Soe (Rural)



Village representatives receiving the loans.

Write for us

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

NATIONAL

K80M+ offered to 6 artefact donors as of June

ACCORDING to the records of the Section of Antiquities, over K80 million in reward money have been presented to six individuals who handed over artefacts up to the end of June in the 2026-2027 financial year.

Reward money totalling K80,464,681 was provided for 1,433 items, which include two gold items, 349 silver items, and 1,082 other items.

During the 2025-2026 financial year, 10 individuals handed over artefacts, depositing a total of 951 items, including 12 silver items and 939 other items,



Union Minister U Maung Myint presenting a gift back to a contributor on 4 June.

for which K20,934,839 in reward money was distributed.

An official from the Department of Archaeology and National Museum

stated that the number of people handing over ancient artefacts has grown due to awareness campaigns on social media, and that items from the

Bronze Age and Iron Age are particularly predominant among submissions.

The department provides cash rewards alongside certificates of honour for submissions, including the original value, a period-specific bonus, a craftsmanship bonus, and a rarity value.

The department has announced that ancient artefacts collected through such submissions and donations are registered as assets and preserved and exhibited at its branches, sub-departments, and museums.

— MT/ZN

Rural Development Funds disbursed in Sinbaungwe

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Sinbaungwe Township, Magway Region, disbursed Village Rural Development Fund revolving funds in Chinsu Village, Hmunnyaungbintha Village-Tract, yesterday.

Acting Township Head of the Sinbaungwe Township Department of Rural Development Daw Ei Ei Mon explained the objectives and benefits of the Mya Sein Yaung village project, the rules and regulations outlined in the project manual, interest rates, loan duration terms, and compliance guidelines. She then handed over the re-

volving fund of K32 million to the village project committee members.

Following this, under the close supervision of the Township Department of Rural Development staff, the village project committee members disbursed a total of K32 million to 36 members on the same day, directly into their hands at low interest rates. This included K18 million for 16 agricultural workers, K11 million for 17 livestock breeders, and K3 million for 3 traders, as reported by Daw Ei Ei Mon, Acting Township Head of the Sinbaungwe Township Department of Rural Development. — Nyein Thu (DRD)

Yedashe distributes fertilizer inputs to monsoon crop farmers



A farmer receives a fertilizer bag at the ceremony in Yedashe Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development,

Bago Region, Yedashe Township, held a ceremony to distribute fertilizer inputs to monsoon crop

farmers from 190 villages on a pay-after-harvest basis at the department's meeting hall yesterday.

Taungoo District Administration and Management Committee Chairman U Saw Tun Oo delivered opening remarks. Yedashe Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Yi Yi Pyone then explained that the fertilizer inputs were provided at affordable prices under a deferred payment scheme after

harvest to ensure timely access to agricultural inputs, achieve targeted crop yields including monsoon paddy, and promote quality seed selection suitable for local conditions.

Afterwards, the district committee chairman and officials distributed 4,500 bags of urea fertilizer and 500 bags of compound fertilizer, totalling 5,000 bags, to local farmers from 190 villages across the township. — Thaw Zin Htoo (DRD)



A disbursement ceremony for the rural development fund is underway in Sinbaungwe Township.

TadaU's completed village road paving project inspected

THE Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development's TadaU Township Rural Development Department conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the completion of the village road paving project in Hlegyitan Village, Uthi Village-Tract, funded by the Mya Sein Yaung (Emerald Green) Village Project.

Township Head Daw Chaw Yin Su of the TadaU Township Rural De-

velopment Department, township project officers, and members of the Village Road Construction Committee inspected the completion of the village road paving project in Hlegyitan Village. Township Head Daw Chaw Yin Su stated that the completed work needed to be maintained for a long time.

The village road in Hlegyitan Village, TadaU Township, is 1,250 feet long, 14 feet wide,



and one foot and nine inches high. The village road paving project was started in the third week of May with the technical support of the Township Rural Development Department, with the invest-

This image shows the completed village road paving project in TadaU Township.

ment of K39.75178 million from the Emerald Green Village Project in the 2026-2027 financial year. Now, 100 per cent of the work has been completed, and the village is clean and beautiful, with good transport and education, health, and social activities being carried out, said Daw Chaw Yin Su, Township Head of the TadaU Township Rural Development Department. — Aung Ye Kyaw (DRD)

NATIONAL

FDA warns public against five banned cosmetic products

THE Department of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a public warning against five cosmetic products found to contain harmful substances and lack proper registration.

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Health, the FDA regulates cosmetics sold in the market to ensure the products and ingredients are safe for consumers.

Five products (88/Total White Underarm Cream, Anylady Make-up Palette highlighter/blusher (01), Anylady Make-up Palette highlighter/blusher (02), Anylady Make-up Palette highlighter/blusher (03) and Herbal Black Henna) were found to contain prohibited substances that pose health risks. None of the products is registered with the FDA.

The FDA stated that the banned chemicals in these products can cause skin irritation, redness, rashes, and systemic absorption, leading to numbness, muscle tremors, fatigue, headaches, and depression. Long-term use might result in kidney damage and other chronic diseases.

Thus, cosmetic importing companies, distributors, wholesalers and retailers should not ethically distribute unregistered cosmetics that are declared unsafe for use. The relevant authorities will take legal action against illicit dealers under Section 3, Chapter 3(D) of the Public Health Law for non-compliance. — NN/KK

MEC: ACPE certification opens for professional engineers

THE Myanmar Engineering Council (MEC) released an announcement that engineers can now apply for the ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer (ACPE) certificate.

The council’s Monitoring Committee facilitates the process through the ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineers Coordinating Committee (ACPECC). Consequently, registered Professional Engineers (PE) are eligible to apply.

They need to submit a Professional Experience and Competency Report (PECR) along with a presentation. They also must pass an in-person professional interview.

Applicants must ensure their PECR and presentation adhere to the specified guidelines, outlining managerial status and expertise in relation to ongoing projects within ASEAN member states.

The Monitoring Committee will schedule professional interviews for those who have submitted their PECR and presentation documents. Personal attendance at the interview is mandatory. PECR submissions and presentations must be delivered by 4 pm on 28 August, 2026. — NN/KK



A general view of a rice trial cultivation plot in Shan State (East).

DICA blocklists 23 firms, directors over loan defaults

THE Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) announced that the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has placed 23 companies and their directors on an exclusion list after they failed to repay loans from the Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank in 2024.

DICA announced that the registrar will publicly post the denial list and compliance shortcomings on its website if companies registered under the MyCO system fail to observe the laws, rules, bylaws of relevant government institutions, and the provisions of the Myanmar Companies Law. — NN/KK



This image shows the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) office.

MCDC bids tenders for diesel, Octane-92, and premium diesel procurement



A tanker is seen docking at the terminal of Thilawa Port.

THE Mandalay City Development Committee’s Factory and Motor Vehicle Department has invited

lons of premium diesel, according to the Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee.

Tender forms are available at the Factory and Motor Vehicle Department on 62nd Street in Mandalay. The deadline for submissions is 13 August. Bids are scheduled to be opened on 24 August at the YCDC office on 26th Street between 71st and 72nd Streets.

Tender form fees are K15,000 for diesel and premium diesel, and K10,000 for Octane-92.

Bidding companies must hold a valid fuel import license (original document to be presented if required) and must be direct importers of the fuel products. The successful bidder will be responsible for all applicable taxes under existing laws. Interested individuals can enquire for further details by contacting the department via 02 4080157, 02 4081316, or 09 444055071. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 11 August 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,661.30~3665.80	558.10~558.20	125.50~125.60	43.60
Trading amount in the market	8,273,234.28	1,602,922.91	82,884,144.45	-

The foreign currency volume traded in the market was for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical raw materials, industrial raw materials, consumer goods, car/motorcycle spare parts, construction materials, and packaging materials. The revenue from the CMP sector was sold to the edible oil sector and the CMP sector. — MNA

Eastern Shan State trials Pawsan Hmwe, Basmati rice

PAWSAN Hmwe and Basmati rice varieties are being cultivated on a trial basis in Monghsat Township, Shan State (East), according to the Shan State government.

In both the upland and lowland areas of Monghsat Township, 60 acres of

Pawsan Hmwe rice have been planted as trial crops. Agricultural inputs have also been provided to rice farmers.

Similarly, trial cultivation of Pawsan Hmwe and Basmati rice varieties has been carried out in Mongpan Township, Shan State (East), where rice farmers have likewise received agricultural inputs.

“The Shan State government announced that Myanmar’s Pawsan Hmwe rice enjoys a strong international reputation and remains a high-demand export commodity. Therefore, efforts will be made to revive the prominence of Myanmar’s Pawsan Hmwe rice and to increase exports of Pawsan Hmwe produced in Shan State to overseas markets. — ASH/KNN

Empowering youth for the future State

Young people are an invaluable human resource, and every effort must be made to nurture them into patriotic citizens who will contribute to the nation and promote their all-round development in the five strengths. Today’s youth must be educated, trained, and nurtured so that they become a dependable force upon which the nation can rely for its future.

This year’s International Youth Day takes on added significance as it coincides with the upcoming 30th anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth. It remains a guiding framework for recognizing youth as key actors in sustainable development and participatory governance in accord with this year’s theme “Different Contexts, Common Aspirations”. Governments worldwide provide spaces for young people in innovation, mentorship, and civic engagement to accelerate SDG implementation but also nurture

future community leaders and changemakers.

Based on the 2024 Population and Housing Census, Myanmar has approximately 17 million young people, accounting for 32.69 per cent of the total population. Despite this favourable demographic advantage, the high school dropout rate among young people has led to shortcomings in education, including limited access to higher education, inadequate vocational training, and insufficient digital literacy and technological skills. These shortcomings have resulted in a range of economic and social challenges. Economically, they include limited access to secure employment, the fact that many young people work in the informal sector without regular wages, a mismatch between formal education and labour market demands, and a weak ecosystem for entrepreneurship and innovation. Socially, young

people are facing challenges such as drug abuse, online gambling, terrorism and criminal activities, as well as mental health issues.

At present, young people have relatively low levels of civic engagement in national defence and nation-building activities. Although many participate in charitable and volunteer work with genuine goodwill, their efforts often lack systematic organization and coordination. As a result, the nation is also facing challenges in fostering national spirit and patriotism. Therefore, it is essential to strengthen young people’s capabilities and morale in all aspects. To this end, priority must be given to promoting the all-round development of the five strengths among young people, beginning at the school level.

Young people must be trained to work collaboratively with organizations and groups rather than standing alone. As a vision for the development of the youth sector, the motto “Empowered Youth, Strong Nation, Shared Future” has been adopted. A national youth development policy framework will be formulated, and strategies, as well as short-term and long-term plans, will be developed and implemented accordingly.

Where Eastern wisdom and Western psychology meet

Artificial Intelligence is transforming how we work, communicate, diagnose disease, and make decisions. Yet amid this technological revolution, one ancient truth remains unchanged: the hardest person to understand is oneself. The inscription at the Temple of Apollo in Delphi, “Know thyself”, and the Buddha’s invitation to observe one’s own mind point in the same direction. Across continents and centuries, East and West converge on a simple proposition: self-awareness is the beginning of wisdom.

The Mirror Before the Machine

AI can recognize our face, analyze our voice, and predict our choices. It cannot, however, tell us why we cling to resentment, envy another’s success, or deceive ourselves.

Psychology calls this

metacognition – thinking about our own thinking. Buddhism calls it mindfulness – observing the mind without attachment. Different languages, same destination.

A dirty mirror reflects a distorted image. Likewise, an unexamined mind distorts reality. Before correcting the world, we must first clean the mirror within.

As the old proverb says, “Sweep before your own door before sweeping the street.”

Emotional Intelligence Begins at Home

Emotional Quotient (EQ) is often described as understanding others, but its foundation is understanding ourselves.

A person who cannot recognize anger within will see enemies everywhere. One who has never understood fear will struggle to comfort the frightened. Self-awareness gives birth to empathy.

Empathy allows us to step

Know Thyself: The Missing Intelligence in the Age of AI

By U Khin Maung Myint

into another person’s shoes. Sympathy stands beside them when the road becomes difficult. Compassion then moves us to lighten their burden.

The Buddha summarized this beautifully: avoid evil, cultivate good, and purify the mind. Modern psychology merely provides different terminology for an ancient truth.

The First Precept: Do No Harm

The first Buddhist precept is usually understood as refraining

from taking life. Yet its deeper spirit is broader: avoid causing unnecessary harm.

Words can wound as deeply as weapons. Humiliation can scar longer than bruises. Lies can destroy trust more effectively than violence destroys buildings.

In today’s digital world, harm can travel at the speed of light. A careless post, an anonymous insult, manipulated information, or AI-generated deception can reach millions before conscience catches up.

Technology amplifies intention. It cannot purify it.

Stealing Without Emptying a Wallet

The second precept warns against stealing. Most imagine burglary or robbery. Modern society has invented more sophisticated forms.

People steal credit for another’s work. They steal time through deception. They steal trust with broken promises. They steal dignity through corruption. Some steal hope by spreading fear, while others steal the future through environmental destruction or reckless leadership.

As the Burmese saying reminds us, “Even if the thief escapes today, the footprints remain.”

Integrity means refusing to take what is not freely ours – whether property, opportunity, reputation, or another person’s peace of mind.

The Four Noble Truths in Everyday Life

The Four Noble Truths remain remarkably contemporary. Life contains suffering. Much of it arises from craving, pride, greed, and attachment. Freedom becomes possible when these are recognised rather than denied.

The path forward is one of ethical living, disciplined thought, and compassionate action.

Western psychology similarly teaches that many emotional struggles arise not merely from events themselves but from how we interpret and cling to them. The wisdom traditions simply arrived there over two thousand years earlier.

Integrity: The Invisible Backbone

Intelligence may open doors. Emotional intelligence helps us walk through them with others. Integrity determines whether we deserve to remain inside.

Integrity is like the roots of a great banyan tree. Hidden beneath the ground, they are rarely admired, yet they keep the entire tree standing when storms arrive.

Without integrity, AI becomes manipulation. IQ becomes arrogance. EQ becomes emotional manipulation. With integrity, all

three become instruments of service.

The Human Algorithm

Perhaps humanity’s greatest challenge is not building machines that think like humans, but nurturing humans who think wisely.

East and West are not rivals but companions. Western science explains how the brain functions. Eastern philosophy asks why the mind suffers. AI expands our knowledge. EQ deepens our relationships. Integrity guides our decisions.

In the end, the most important software has never been written in silicon. It is written daily in character.

For the greatest intelligence is not artificial, nor merely emotional. It is the quiet wisdom of a person who knows themselves, feels with others, harms as little as possible, takes only what is rightfully theirs, and leaves the world a little kinder than they found it.

Introduction

Since early July, Myanmar’s monsoon season has brought some of the most serious flooding the country has faced in recent years. In Ayeyawady Region, the breach of an embankment on the Ngawun River near Laymyethna Township submerged thousands of homes and destroyed the Lat Tha Mar Bridge, cutting off entire villages. In Sagaing Region, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) has warned of danger-level water in the Chindwin River, while controlled water releases from the Sedawgyi Reservoir in Mandalay Region have flooded villages along the Mandalay-Mogok Road. Earlier in the season, Rakhine, Bago, Kayin, and Mon States all reported rising rivers and waterlogging. Flooding on this scale is not only a humanitarian and infrastructure crisis; it is also a public health emergency, carrying risks that often persist long after the water recedes.

A Global Pattern: Climate Change Is Making Floods More Dangerous

Myanmar’s experience mirrors a global pattern. Scientists reporting in February 2026 estimated that, under 1.5 to 3 degrees Celsius of warming, 60 to

Rising Waters, Rising Risks: Safeguarding Public Health Amid Myanmar’s Floods

By Dr Aung Tun

70 per cent of the Earth’s land surface will face rising flood risk, driven overwhelmingly by human activity rather than climate variability alone. The current El Niño cycle, expected to strengthen further this year, has already intensified flood-related health emergencies in several countries. Public health researchers writing in 2026 describe floods as among the most damaging climate hazards worldwide, noting that their consequences extend far beyond immediate physical destruction into long-term health, food security, and social vulnerability. Health authorities in Europe, where flooding has claimed more than 6,000 lives since 1980, list drowning, injury, hypothermia, electrical injury, and infectious disease from contaminated water as the leading causes of flood-related death and illness, alongside the mental trauma that follows displacement. For Myanmar, this global evidence is a reminder that

flood preparedness must include health preparedness.

Myanmar’s 2026 Flood Situation

The scale of this year’s flooding in Myanmar is considerable. According to the Ayeyarwady Region government, heavy rain on the night of 30 July caused a breach in a sandbar beneath the Ngawun River embankment in Laymyethna Township, inundating five urban wards and 138 villages; more than 9,000 households and over 39,000 people have been affected, with 17 relief camps opened to shelter displaced residents.

By 6 August, water levels at the Aingthabyu intersection in Laymyethna had begun to recede, though township, ward, and village administrators continue to monitor conditions closely given the risk of further flooding. Even as this situation eases, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology

has issued fresh flood warnings for six further townships — Hpan, Madauk, Myitnge, Kalewa, Mingin, and Monywa — after the Thanlwin, Sittoung, Dokhtawady, and Chindwin Rivers rose above or approached danger marks, underscoring that this year’s flood risk extends well beyond a single region.

Health Risks During Flooding

Flooding endangers health through several interconnected pathways:

Immediate Physical Hazards: Fast-moving water poses direct physical risks, including drowning, injuries from submerged debris, and electrical hazards where floodwater reaches wiring or fallen power lines.

Threats to Food Security: In Laymyethna Township alone, more than 7,300 acres of farmland were reported affected, threatening the rice harvest for thousands of families. Crop losses of this kind can deepen food insecurity and malnutrition in the months following a flood, particularly among

children and pregnant women.

Logistical Disruptions: Damaged roads and bridges further complicate the delivery of both food aid and medical supplies to isolated communities.

Health Risks After the Water Recedes

As floodwaters recede, waterborne disease becomes the dominant concern:

Waterborne Diseases: Contaminated wells and damaged sanitation systems allow diarrhoeal illnesses, including cholera, to spread rapidly, particularly where clean drinking water is scarce, as residents in Ayeyawady’s Aingthabyu village have already experienced.

Vector-Borne Diseases: Stagnant water left behind by floods creates ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes, raising the risk of malaria and dengue in the weeks that follow.

Disruption to Healthcare Systems: Damage to health facilities and cold-chain storage for vaccines and medicines can further

disrupt routine health services precisely when demand for care is highest.

Psychological Impact: Displacement, loss of property, and prolonged uncertainty are strongly associated with stress, anxiety, and depression. Children, the elderly, pregnant women, and people with chronic illnesses face heightened vulnerability, both physically and psychologically.

Myanmar’s Response and Ongoing Challenges

Myanmar’s response to the current flooding has combined local relief efforts with infrastructure repair and high-level government engagement. President U Min Aung Hlaing travelled to Patheingyi to attend a donation ceremony for Laymyethna flood victims, where more than K23.324 billion was raised from donors, well-wishers, and organizations, including families of the Tatmadaw, for relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.

Since 31 July, regional authorities, relevant Union ministries,

residents, and volunteers have worked to reinforce the damaged embankment using timber supports, bamboo fencing, geotextile bags, and sandbags, while machinery and boats have been deployed to control the flow of floodwater; free fuel has also been provided to small boats supporting rescue and relief operations. In his remarks, the President called for systematic disaster preparedness and risk assessment to minimize losses from natural disasters, and stressed that rehabilitation works should account for future as well as current risks, including through the construction of water-control embankments to reduce flooding and improve drainage.

Rapid Surveillance & Medical Deployment: Health authorities should prioritize rapid disease surveillance in flood-affected townships, protect vaccines and essential medicines from water damage, and deploy mobile health teams where facilities have been disrupted.

Mental Health Services: Psychological support should be integrated into relief operations from the outset.

Resilient Infrastructure: Longer term, strengthening embankments, improving drainage, and incorporating climate risk into infrastructure and health-system planning will be essential as extreme rainfall events become more frequent.

Protective Measures and Recommendations

Protecting public health during and after flooding requires action on several fronts:

Early Warning Systems: Communities need reliable early-warning systems and clear evacuation guidance well before rivers reach danger levels.

Safe Water Practices: Boiling or otherwise treating water

before drinking and avoiding contaminated wells remain the single most effective defence against diarrhoeal disease outbreaks.

Rapid Surveillance & Medical Deployment: Health authorities should prioritize rapid disease surveillance in flood-affected townships, protect vaccines and essential medicines from water damage, and deploy mobile health teams where facilities have been disrupted.

Mental Health Services: Psychological support should be integrated into relief operations from the outset.

Resilient Infrastructure: Longer term, strengthening embankments, improving drainage, and incorporating climate risk into infrastructure and health-system planning will be essential as extreme rainfall events become more frequent.

What Communities Can Do

Beyond the actions of government and health authorities, communities themselves play an essential role in reducing flood-related harm:

Preparation: Households in flood-prone areas can prepare simple emergency kits with clean water, basic medicines, and important documents, while agreeing in advance on evacuation routes with neighbours. **SEE PAGE 12**

NATIONAL

Kyaukpadaung's model village project initiated; committee formed

A ceremony to conduct an introductory briefing on the establishment of the Model Village Project and form a project committee for the 2026-2027 financial year took place at the Dhammayon in Inchaung Village, Kyaukpadaung Township, yesterday.

Kyaukpadaung Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Aye Aye Thet explained the objectives, implementation processes and rules and regulations to be followed in forming the



A briefing and committee formation ceremony in progress in Kyaukpadaung Township.

project committee, as well as matters requiring cooperation from the village. The villagers selected and

formed a seven-member Model Village Project Committee through consensus to effectively lead

and implement project activities.

The project will commence implementation during the 2026-2027 financial year, focusing on six major areas including village infrastructure development, livelihood improvement, promotion of the rural economy, and establishment of a sustainable model village, with technical assistance and close cooperation from relevant departments and residents. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

Taunggyi's MSY village project briefed; committee formed



An orientation and committee formation ceremony for the Emerald Green village project is underway in Taunggyi Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an introductory briefing on the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project and formed a village project working committee in Bankan (Hlegon) Village, Taunggyi Township, yesterday.

Taunggyi Township Department of Rural Development Head U Zaw Win first explained that K30 million in revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project would be provided at a low interest rate to create employment opportunities, increase family incomes, expand household-based

businesses and implement village development activities with the increased revolving funds. The project officer detailed the rules and regulations to be followed in forming the project working committee, policies in the project manual and implementation procedures.

Villagers and village elders then elected and formed a seven-member Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Working Committee through a voting system and consensus to effectively lead and carry out project activities in Bankan (Hlegon) Village for the 2026-2027 financial year. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

MCEF, ISM jointly conduct bricklaying and formwork TOT course



This image depicts a TOT course in progress.

THE Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) and the Inclusive System Myanmar (ISM) have jointly

conducted the bricklaying and formwork training of trainers (TOT) course.

It includes OJT (on-the-job training) teaching

methods, soft skills, leadership and emerging skills, as well as academic and practical lessons on bricklaying and formwork, and each class has 20 persons with an 18-day duration, said MCEF. Among trainees, workplace trainers, site engineers and site supervisors are included.

In Phase I and Phase II, OJT teaching methodology and soft skills and emerging trends are in-

cluded, and bricklaying and formwork are featured at the phase 3- parallel technical mastery.

The final phase will focus on job instruction, planning and practical demonstrations. The Training of Trainers (TOT) course will also provide lunch, refreshments and a transport allowance, according to the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF). — MT/ZS

Zalun offers free basic sewing course

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Zalun Township, Ayeyawady Region, opened a free basic sewing machine training course at the meeting hall of the township department today to support rural wom-

en's livelihoods, create employment opportunities and develop skilled labour for the 2026-2027 financial year.

Zalun Township Management and Administration Committee Chairman U Tun Tun Lin delivered opening remarks. Zalun Township Department

of Rural Development Head Daw May Myo Han explained that livelihood training courses are selected and conducted based on local products, market demands and community needs.

Instructors detailed the course curriculum before officials provided

trainees with necessary learning materials. A total of 20 trainees from various villages in Zalun Township are attending the 45-day course, which covers both theoretical and practical basic sewing techniques taught by skilled female instructors. — Sein Lwin (Rural)



The launch of the free basic sewing machine training course underway in Zalun Township.

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.
News and Periodicals Enterprise



NATIONAL

Myanmar deports 6 undocumented foreign entrants

MYANMAR deported two Ethiopians, one Liberian, one Burundian, one Ugandan and one Togolese, totalling six 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.

Between 30 January 2025 and 11 August 2026, a total of 14,740 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 13,820 individuals have already been

deported through Thailand to their respective countries. Among the remaining 920 individuals to be deported, there are 713 who were charged under the Myanmar Immigration (Emergency) Provisions Act section 3 (1)/13(1) and the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, and 207 individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

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



Immigration officials oversee the deportation of undocumented immigrants.

60 undocumented Chinese nationals arrested in Muse

COMBINED security forces arrested 60 Chinese nationals on Mingala Muse Street in Tawyat Ward, Muse in Shan State (North) yesterday, together with 85 mobile phones, 11 all-in-one computers, two Starlink devices, two power stations, four laptops, one UPS, two motorcycles and related equipment.

Offenders will face action under the existing law after proper examination, and the seized materials will be managed in accordance with the procedures. — MNA/KTZH

This map, with inset, shows the crackdown leading to arrest online scam offenders in Muse, Shan State (North).



Kawhmu hosts coord meeting on rural development planning

A coordination meeting on the formulation of rural development plans, including short-term, medium-term, long-term and annual development plans, was held in the meeting hall of the Department of Rural Development in Kawhmu Township, Yangon Region, on 10 August.

The meeting was organized by the Department of Rural Development and the Department of Rural Road Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development to coordinate the implementation of rural development activities planned for the 2027-2028 financial year.

District Head U Aung Thet Oo

of the Department of Rural Development in Twantay District delivered the opening remarks. Township Head U Tin Ko Lat of the Department of Rural Development in Kawhmu Township then presented the status of completed and ongoing activities implemented during the 2026-2027 financial year, as well as the proposed activities planned for implementation in the 2027-2028 financial year.

Township Head U Myat Thu of the Department of Rural Road Development in Kawhmu Township also presented the status of completed and ongoing rural road development activities for the 2026-2027 financial year and the proposed

activities to be implemented during the 2027-2028 financial year.

Following the presentations, Hluttaw representatives and responsible officials from relevant departments discussed and coordinated matters related to the proposed development activities.

The meeting was attended by Hluttaw representatives, the district head of the Department of Rural Development in Twantay District, members of the Township Management and Administration Committee, and responsible officials from various township-level departments, according to the Department of Rural Development in Kawhmu Township. — Myo Myo (DRD)

Kalaw's VDP project introduced; committee formed

A ceremony to conduct an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project (VDP) and form a project committee took place in Myintwin Village, Kalaw Township, yesterday.

Kalaw Township Department of Rural Development Head U Ko Ko Nang met village elders and villagers in the village and explained the objectives, processes and expected benefits of the Village Development Project (VDP). Project staff explained the rules and regulations to be followed in selecting and forming the Village Development Committee, as well as the tasks to be carried out by the village. The villagers formed a nine-member



An initiation and committee formation ceremony for village projects is underway in Kalaw Township.

Project staff explained the rules and regulations to be followed in selecting and forming the Village Development Committee through consensus to execute village development activities effectively.

In the village, villagers will undertake development activities for the 2026-2027 financial year using support funds from the Village Development Project (VDP) and contributions from residents, with technical assistance and close supervision from officials of the Department of Rural Development. — Karan (Rural)

Hpa-an's Mya Sein Yaung project activities inspected

OFFICIALS from the Hpa-an District Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday in Taungchayyin Village, Hlaingbwe Township. Led by District Head Daw Thida Win San and staff, the inspection aimed to

assess job creation and family income-generating activities funded by the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project revolving fund.

During the visit, District Head Daw Thida Win San and project staff met members of the Emerald Green Village Project Committee. They inspected

the implementation of income-generation activities, verified whether financial record forms were systematically completed, and checked compliance with instructions outlined in the project manual before providing necessary guidance and suggestions.

According to Daw Thida Win San, a total of K37 million has been disbursed to 24 association members at a monthly interest rate of 0.5 per cent (50 Pyas). This includes 19 members engaged in agriculture, three in livestock breeding, and two in trading. — Ko Ko Soe (Rural)



Officials inspect an Emerald Green village development project in Hlaingbwe Township.

SCI/ENVIRON:ARTICLE

WORLD

Global ocean temperatures hit record July high as El Nino develops: EU climate monitor

GLOBAL ocean surface temperatures reached a record high for July as developing El Nino conditions helped drive exceptionally warm waters across the tropical Pacific, the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) said on Monday.

The average sea surface temperature across the extra-polar oceans, between 60 degrees south and 60 degrees north latitude, reached 20.96 degrees Celsius last month, beating the previous July record of 20.89 degrees Celsius set in 2023, the



This aerial photograph shows boats stranded on the sand after the harbour dried up due to low water levels of the Danube River near Batina, northeastern Croatia on 9 August 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

C3S said. Sea temperatures were exceptionally high across a large part of the tropical Pacific, where El Nino conditions are present and forecast to strengthen in the coming months.

Waters around Europe were also unusually warm, with record July sea surface temperatures along the Atlantic and western Mediterranean, where widespread strong or severe marine heatwaves developed, the C3S said.

Globally, July was the joint second warmest July on record, tied with 2024 and behind 2023. The average surface air temperature was 16.90 degrees Celsius, or 1.47 degrees Celsius above the estimated pre-industrial average for the 1850-1900 period. — Xinhua

Giant ice sheets in North America alter Australia's climate: study

GIANT ice sheets covering much of North America during the last ice age altered rainfall patterns in Australia, despite being thousands of kilometres away, a new study shows.

Researchers found that the height of the North American ice sheets produced the biggest changes in atmospheric circulation, redirecting winds across the globe and shifting the tropical rainfall belt southward, according to a release by Australia's University of New South Wales on Monday.

This southward shift strengthened the circulation that drives Australia's summer monsoon, increasing summer rainfall across much of Australia while reducing rainfall in parts of Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, it said. The study, published in *Climate of the Past*, focuses on a climate about 49,000 years ago during the last ice age, when atmospheric carbon dioxide levels were very low and large ice sheets covered parts of North America and northern Europe.

The giant ice sheets in North America were not yet as large as when they reached their peak around 21,000 years ago, but they were already large enough to influence climate far beyond their edges. — Xinhua

How technology boosts Beijing's air pollution governance

BEIJING'S blue skies have become a visible sign of the city's progress in tackling air pollution, and behind that progress, digital technologies are playing an increasingly important role.

In 2025, Beijing recorded 311 days with good air quality and only one heavily polluted day, compared with 58 heavily polluted days in 2013, when the city officially began releasing PM2.5 monitoring data. The annual



This photo taken on 10 July 2026 shows a data-driven environmental governance system, known as the innovative regulation-monitoring-inspection linkage model, showcased at the Beijing Municipal Ecological and Environmental Monitoring Centre in Beijing, capital of China. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

average PM2.5 concentration, a key indicator of air quality, fell from 89.5 microgrammes per cubic metre in 2013 to 27 microgrammes per cubic meter in 2025, a decline of nearly 70 per cent.

The progress has drawn international attention. The United Nations Environment Programme has highlighted Beijing's experience in improving air quality as a model for other cities. — Xinhua

Late monsoon gives Great Barrier Reef reprieve from coral bleaching

A late summer monsoon in 2026 brought the Great Barrier Reef a reprieve from unfolding coral bleaching, aiding its initial recovery from recent climate-induced disturbances, a report said on Tuesday.

Coral cover across all three regions of the reef increased slightly or remained at similar levels to last year, indicating limited impacts from the 2025 mass bleaching event and a regional bleaching event earlier in 2026, according to an annual survey report by the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS).

Coral cover in the northern region increased 16.7 per cent from 30 per cent to 35.1 per cent over the 2025/26 field season, while the central region rose 10.2 per cent from 28.6 per cent to 31.6 per cent. The southern region declined two per cent from 26.9 per cent to 26.4 per cent, within the margin of error; the report said. — Xinhua

Rising Waters, Rising Risks: Safeguarding Public Health ...

FROM PAGE 9

Community Leadership: Community leaders, monks, teachers, and local volunteers often serve as the first and most trusted source of information during a crisis, helping ensure that warnings and health

advice reach households without access to radio, television, or mobile networks.

Conclusion

As floodwaters continue to affect communities across Myanmar this monsoon season, the response

must be measured not only in metres of rising rivers or households displaced, but in lives protected from the diseases, injuries, and psychological strain that follow in the water's wake. Coordinated action by government agencies, health authorities, humanitarian

organisations, and communities themselves offers the best defence against a hazard that, in a warming world, is unlikely to recede for good.

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Brazil's exports to
EU rise 4% in first 60 days of
Mercosur-EU deal: official

BRAZIL'S exports to the European Union (EU) increased by about four per cent in the first 60 days since a free trade agreement between the Southern Common Market (Mercosur) and the EU took effect, Brazilian Vice-President Geraldo Alckmin said Monday.

Addressing the 25th Brazilian Agribusiness Congress, Alckmin noted the boost in sales to the EU confirms the agreement's effectiveness in expanding Brazil's access to international markets and diversifying export destinations.

The Mercosur-EU agreement, signed in January after 26 years of negotiations and entered into provisional application in May, provides for the gradual reduction or elimination of tariffs on over 90 per cent of trade between the two blocs. — Xinhua

S Korea's exports soar 45.3% in first
10 days of August

SOUTH Korea's exports soared in double digits in the first 10 days of August, supported by surging demand for locally-made semiconductors, customs office data showed Tuesday. The outbound shipments totaled US\$21.29 billion in the 1 to 10 August period, up 45.3 per cent compared to the same period of last year, according to Korea Customs Service. The daily average exports jumped 45.3 per cent to US\$3.04 billion in the 10-day period.

Semiconductor exports spiked 155.4 per cent to US\$9.95 billion on robust demand for chips used in artificial intelligence (AI) applications. — Xinhua

China central bank reform
plan targets high-level financial
opening-up

THE People's Bank of China (PBOC), China's central bank, has issued a reform and development plan for the 2026-2030 period, making work arrangements aimed at accelerating the building of a nation with a strong financial sector and improving the central banking system.

The plan said measures will be taken to "prudently advance high-level financial opening-up," noting efforts will be made to expand the global use of the renminbi in international trade, investment and financing, deepen two-way financial market access, quicken steps to build Shanghai into an international financial center and enhance the role of Hong Kong as a global financial center. As part of the open-



This photo shows the illuminated Lujiazui in celebration of the New Year in east China's Shanghai, 31 December 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

ing-up drive, the PBOC will enhance the multi-tiered and broad-coverage Cross-Border Interbank Payment System (CIPS) and push forward the development of offshore renminbi markets.

On the domestic

monetary policy front, the plan sets out to build a more scientific and robust framework by refining the modern monetary policy system with Chinese characteristics, improving the base-money issuance mechanism, and making

better use of both aggregate and structural tools.

It stresses the need to enhance market-based interest rate formation, transmission, and adjustment mechanisms, while allowing the market to play a decisive role in exchange-rate determination and keeping the renminbi broadly stable at a reasonable and equilibrium level.

To fortify financial stability, the central bank will expand the coverage of macro-prudential management, enrich its policy toolkit, and establish a monitoring and evaluation system to mitigate systemic risks in key areas.

A major pillar of the plan is to strengthen the real economy's access to quality financial services. — Xinhua

Solar eclipse sparks
scramble for protective
glasses across Europe

THE scramble for protective glasses has reached fever pitch across Europe ahead of Wednesday's rare total solar eclipse, as pharmacies, opticians and other shops struggle

to keep them in stock.

In Spain, where parts of the country will be in the path of totality, finding certified protective glasses has become increasingly difficult, with

many distribution points reporting they have run out.

A notice posted at the entrance of Madrid's National Museum of Natural Sciences said its supply of protective glasses was exhausted.

The museum was among 30 science institutions across the country taking part in a campaign organized by the government to distribute two million pairs of glasses for free.

Some pharmacies in central Madrid still had supplies Tuesday, generally selling certified glasses for safely viewing the Sun for between three and four euros (\$4.60) a pair. — AFP



Senior physics educator at San Francisco's Exploratorium museum, Desire Whitmore, aka "LaserChick", (R) demonstrates how to use a card for indirect eclipse viewing to some persons, in the abandoned village of Villalibado, near Burgos, northern Spain, on 10 August 2026. PHOTO: AFP

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M.V BAL XIAMEN VOY.NO. (106W)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BAL XIAMEN VOY.NO. (106W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-8-2026 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Japan successfully launches H3 rocket carrying positioning satellite

THE Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency on Tuesday successfully launched an H3 rocket and put a positioning satellite into orbit, marking the second successful launch in a row of Japan's flagship rocket after a failure last December.

The H3 rocket No 9 lifted off from the Tanegashima Space Centre on Tanegashima, a small island in southwestern Japan, early Tuesday, carrying the Michibiki No 7 positioning satellite, part of the country's Quasi-Zenith Satellite System used to



This photo shows H3 rocket No 9, carrying the Michibiki No 7 positioning satellite, launched from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Kagoshima Prefecture on 11 August 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

provide location information for smartphones and vehicle navigation. The launch, initially scheduled for last Friday, was moved to Monday due to a passing typhoon, then pushed back an additional

day because of inclement weather around the launch site.

Last December, the agency launched the Michibiki No 5 on an H3 rocket but failed to put the satellite into orbit, delaying a subsequent launch for the No 7 positioning satellite that had been planned for February. Five Michibiki satellites are currently providing positioning service. The government aims to have seven such satellites in orbit to provide full service without relying on any other countries. — Kyodo

China to send new naval escort fleet to Gulf of Aden, Somali waters

CHINA will send a new naval escort fleet to the Gulf of Aden and waters off Somalia in mid-August to carry out an escort mission, the country's Ministry of National Defence announced on Tuesday.

The deployment marks the 49th Chinese naval escort fleet to operate in the region, and it will take over duties from the 48th fleet, which set sail in October last year, the ministry said in a statement.

The latest fleet consists of the guided-missile destroyer Kunming, the guided-missile frigate Yueyang and the comprehensive supply ship Luomahu, according to the statement.

The ministry statement said the Chinese navy is committed to building and supporting a maritime community with a shared future and contributing to the security of global sea lanes as well as regional peace and stability. — Xinhua



This file photo taken on 7 May 2024 shows the guided-missile destroyer Jiaozuo of the 46th fleet of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy leaving after escorting a cargo ship. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

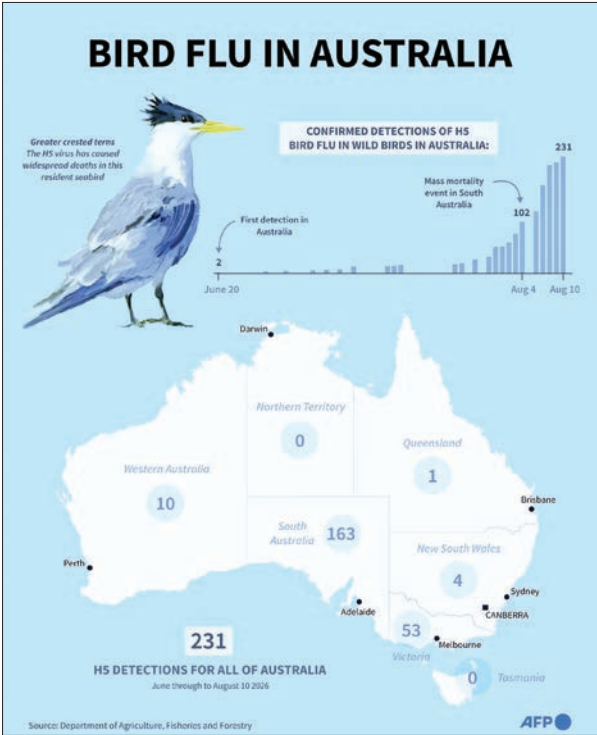
Lassa fever death toll in Nigeria rises to 237

THE death toll from the Lassa fever outbreak in Nigeria has risen to 237, with 1,000 confirmed cases reported so far in 2026, public health authorities said Monday.

In its latest update, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) said the case fatality rate stood at 23.7 per cent in July, up from 18.8 per cent recorded during the same period in 2025.

The agency attributed the rise in deaths to late presentation of cases.

During the first seven months of the year, 116 local government areas in 23 of the country's 36 states recorded at least one confirmed case, the NCDC said, adding that people aged 21 to 30 remained the most affected age group during the reporting period. — Xinhua



Infographic showing confirmed detections of the H5 bird flu in wild birds in Australia in 2026 since the first detection on 20 June, according to Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. **PHOTO: AFP/NICHOLAS SHEARMAN**

Australia to vaccinate vulnerable species against H5N1 bird flu

THE Australian government on Tuesday announced it will begin vaccinating high-risk birds in captivity against the H5N1 strain of avian influenza amid an ongoing surge in cases.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister Julie Collins said in Canberra that the government has acquired an initial 1,500 vials of the H5N1 vaccine and will begin administering it to species in captivity based on their vulnerability and risk of contracting the highly pathogenic strain. "We've been very clear that we cannot stop the H5 bird flu from spreading amongst wild birds, but we can take action to protect the species most at risk, and the vaccination is now part of that response," she said.

"Australians should expect to see more spread and larger numbers, particularly of dead birds and mass mortalities around the country from the H5 bird flu; we have been very clear that this will continue to spread across the country," she added. — Xinhua

Aeon says staff allowed to reenter quake-hit mall despite ban before blast

MAJOR Japanese retailer Aeon Co said Tuesday that employees were allowed to reenter a quake-hit shopping mall in Kumamoto Prefecture despite a company rule barring evacuees from doing so, and seven workers were subsequently killed in a blast at the facility in late July.

The retailer said on-site personnel at Aeon Mall Kumamoto in Kashiima allowed employees to reenter after they asked to retrieve valuables such as car keys and mobile phones and to close cash registers following the powerful earthquake.

The magnitude-7.1 quake, which registered the maximum level of 7 on Japan's seismic intensity scale in some areas in the southwestern prefecture on 28 July, left some employees who commuted by car unable to return home.

Aeon said its rules and drills had not covered post-evacuation cases involving personal belongings or employees unable to leave after commuting by car, adding that the absence of procedures left such decisions to on-site personnel.

The retail giant said it will revise its rules to allow employees to keep valuables with them while working. — Kyodo

SPORTS

Poe Poe Han honoured for silver at Malaysian PM's Cup Equestrian

MYANMAR'S rising equestrian athlete Poe Poe Han was honoured on 9 August after winning a silver medal at the Malaysian Prime Minister's Cup CSIJ-B equestrian competition.

Held in Malaysia from 24 to 26 July, the event featured 17 com-

petitors from 14 countries, with Poe Poe Han finishing second.

At a ceremony held at the Myanmar Equestrian Federation Clubhouse in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, federation President U Pyone Maung Maung presented a photograph and a

plaque commemorating Poe Poe Han's achievement for display in the MEF Hall of Fame. The family of President U Pyone Maung Maung and Academy Award winner Khin Thida Tun also awarded her K7.4 million in scholarships and financial support for the 2027-2029 academic years.

Team captain Chan Myae Win, head coach Ei Thet Mon and assistant coach Aung Thu Tun also received certificates and gifts. In addition, the assistant coach was awarded K1 million in recognition of his contribution.

— TWA/KZL

Equestrian Poe Poe Han is pictured accepting awards on 9 August 2026.



Yangon United to meet Ezra FC in AFC Challenge League Qualifiers



Yangon United receiving the 2025 MNL League Cup trophy.

THE 2025 MNL League Cup champions, Yangon United, will host Lao club Ezra FC in the preliminary stage of the 2026-27 AFC Challenge League at Thuwunna Stadium on 8 September at 4 pm Myanmar Standard Time.

The two sides previously met in the prelimi-

nary stage of the 2025-26 AFC Challenge League at the same venue. The match ended 1-1 after extra time before Ezra FC won 5-3 on penalties.

Yangon United will be looking to avenge last season's defeat and secure a place in the group stage of the 2026-27 AFC Chal-

lenge League with a home victory.

The winner of the preliminary-stage tie will advance to the group stage, while Myanmar National League champions Shan United have already secured direct qualification for the group stage. — ASH/KZL

Sevilla sign Scottish forward Robbie Ure

SEVILLA moved to strengthen its attack by signing Scottish striker Robbie Ure from Swedish club IK Sirius on Tuesday.

Ure arrives at the Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium for a fee of 6.5 million euros (US\$7.5 million) after scoring 31 goals in 50 appearances for IK Sirius, with 15 of those coming in 15 games in 2026.

"I think the chance to play for a very big club, a club that comes with a lot of pressure every game to play in a La Liga also is a great step for me and to take my career to the next level. I wanted to be in top class environments, some of the best and I feel like here is the place to be for me," the 22-year-old told Sevilla's official website.

He arrived in Seville on Monday to undergo his medical tests and on Tuesday signed a five-year contract with the club coached by Luis Garcia Plaza, keeping him at Sevilla until the end of 2031.

Ure has a difficult task ahead of him to provide goals and lead the line, a role filled last season by Akor Adams, who was sold to Venezia this summer.

"I think scoring goals comes down to being cool in the mind and slowing everything down and really just thinking about you and the ball. And this season I've been doing that really well. My head has been really calm in these situations. So, I hope I can continue," added Ure. — Xinhua

Swiatek dominates Shnaider to set up Toronto semi with Svitolina

FORMER world number one Iga Swiatek cruised into the Toronto Masters semi-finals on Monday to set up a clash with Elina Svitolina who fought back from a set down to reach the last four.

Poland's Swiatek, a six-time Grand Slam champion, took just 64 minutes to sweep past Russia's Diana Shnaider 6-2, 6-1.

Ukraine's Svitolina, the ninth seed, beat Russia's Ekaterina Alexandrova 3-6, 6-0, 6-3.

Swiatek reached just her second WTA semi-final this year after Rome and is seeking her first final appearance since winning the Korea Open almost a year ago in Seoul.

"From the beginning I went for it. I felt like I could dominate," Swiatek said after dropping just three



points on her first serve.

"I was quite happy with the way I played. It was a tricky match with the wind.

"I thought I needed to adjust to that. I just wanted to be more solid," added the 25-year-old world number one.

Svitolina won eight consecutive games after losing the first set on the way to dispatching Alexandrova in 93 minutes.

Swiatek leads Svitolina 4-3 in their WTA career rivalry, but lost both their meetings this year.

"I'm gonna talk with my team to adjust a little bit for

Iga's game," said Svitolina.

"Of course she's a great champion. She plays really well this tournament. I have to bring my best."

Swiatek established a 5-2 lead in the first set when she broke Shnaider a second time, courtesy of the Russian netting a backhand, and served out to take it in 31 minutes.

The Pole broke for a 2-1 lead in the second when Shnaider netted. A forehand winner gave Swiatek a 4-1 lead and a third break sealed victory.

Svitolina had more of a battle after sending a backhand long on serve to drop an evenly matched first set.

It fired up the Ukrainian who reeled off four breaks to blank Alexandrova in the second set and take a 2-0 lead in the third. — AFP

Japan successfully
launches H3 rocket carrying
positioning satellite

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WORLD

DR Congo Ebola death toll surpasses 2,000 as outbreak continues

THE death toll from the ongoing Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has surpassed 2,000, according to figures released Tuesday by the country's public health authorities.

The country has recorded 4,381 confirmed cases, including 2,011 deaths, with the overall case fatality rate standing at 45.9 per cent. Over 700 patients remain in isolation or hospital care, while 869 people have

recovered, according to official data.

Cases have been reported in five provinces -- Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Haut-Uele and Tshopo -- with the province of Ituri remaining the epicentre of the outbreak.

"Today the Ebola epidemic surpassed 2,000 deaths, half of these in the last 20 days," UN Senior Ebola Coordinator Julien Harneis said on social media Tuesday. — Xinhua



A health worker (R) measures the temperature of a patient (2nd L) suspected of having Ebola as she is transported by motorcycle taxi to Rwampara Hospital in Ituri, in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, on 26 May 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

Economic losses from natural disasters fall to \$100B in first half of 2026: Swiss Re

Economic losses from natural catastrophes worldwide are estimated to have reached \$100 billion in the first half of this year, reinsurance group Swiss Re said Tuesday, a sharp decline from the period last year.

Despite severe storms in the United States and the deadly earthquakes that struck Venezuela in June, the losses were well below the \$152 billion recorded in the first half of 2025, the group said in its latest report.

The losses were also 10 per cent below the 10-year average for the period.

But Swiss Re, which serves as an insurer for insurance companies, noted that losses from natural disasters often increase in the second half of the year, mainly due to hurricanes in the North Atlantic ocean. "A less costly first half of the



This photograph shows a tree with its leaves surrounded by burnt pine tree trunks in a forest area hit by the wildfire that swept through the Gironde region in Le Porge, southwestern France on 6 August 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

year does not mean the risk has gone away," said Balz Grollmund, the group's director of Catastrophe Perils.

"One major hurricane, earthquake or wildfire can quickly change the pic-

ture."

Severe heat across Europe since June has sparked an early wildfire season in France and Spain that has already destroyed thousands of homes and businesses as well as in-

frastructure.

"Wildfire risk has so far accounted for only a relatively small share of insured losses in Europe. Yet it is the fastest-growing weather peril globally," the company said. — AFP

India's Delhi reports spike in H1N1 cases: media

THE national capital territory of Delhi is witnessing a sharp surge in H1N1 influenza cases, multiple local media reports said Tuesday. As per data, Delhi has so far recorded over 1,300 cases of H1N1 (swine flu) this year, a nearly sixfold increase compared to 229 during the same period last year.

According to a local newspaper, Dainik Jagran, two deaths from a single family related to the disease were reported last week at a private hospital in Delhi within a

span of three days.

Local health minister Pankaj Kumar Singh told the media that the Delhi government has made adequate arrangements in terms of medicines, beds and ventilators at the hospitals to deal with the situation. Health experts attribute the rise in influenza cases to seasonal changes during the monsoon. Meanwhile, doctors have cautioned people to strictly adhere to the preventive guidelines to curb the spread of H1N1. — Xinhua

Thai PM orders system-wide gun controls, purchase permits suspended

THAILAND'S Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul on Tuesday ordered a nationwide tightening of firearms controls, suspending gun purchase permits and cracking down on illegally held and black-market weapons through both emergency and long-term measures.

During a weekly cabinet meeting, Anutin called for coordinated action across multiple agencies to close gaps in the control system and keep firearms out of the hands of those who should not have them, said government

spokesperson Rachada Dhnadirek.

With immediate effect, Rachada said, authorities will stop issuing firearm

purchase permits and halt new welfare firearm schemes until the cabinet decides otherwise.

Registrars must report

to the Ministry of Interior within 30 days on outstanding permits not yet used for a purchase. In a statement, Rachada said gun owners who bought weapons under an existing permit have 30 days from the date of the cabinet resolution to apply for a possession license or be treated as holding a firearm illegally.

The Department of Provincial Administration will audit dealers nationwide, reconciling sales against permits, while the Revenue Department examines their tax records, she said. — Xinhua



Emergency vehicles are parked at the site of a school shooting in Nonthaburi Province, Thailand, on 7 August 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**