

The **Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR**

Preserving Traditional Arts, Cultural Heritage a National Responsibility



Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye chairs the first coordination meeting of the Leading Committee on the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition.

Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye called for concerted efforts to successfully stage the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition, stressing the importance of preserving Myanmar's traditional cultural heritage, passing it on to younger generations and promoting national culture.

She made the remarks while addressing the first coordination meeting of the Leading Committee on the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition, at the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Nan Ni Ni Aye, Patron of the Leading Committee, **SEE PAGE 3**

5 Myanmar companies showcase products at Macao Trade Fair

FIVE Myanmar companies showcased and sold jade, gemstones, jewellery, lacquerware and garments at the Guangdong and Macao Branded Products Fair 2026 (GMBPF), held in Macao Special Administrative Region, China, from 6 to 9 August, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The fair was jointly organized by the Macao SAR Government, the Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute of Macao (IPIM), and the Guangdong Provincial Department of Commerce.

Held at the Venetian Macao Cotai Expo, the exhibition featured six zones. The Myanmar companies participated in the Belt and Road Products Zone, **SEE PAGE 3**



This photo features representatives of five Myanmar firms at the Guangdong and Macao Branded Products Fair 2026 (GMBPF).

YGH reports 182 diarrhoea cases in 4 days

BETWEEN 9 and 12 August, a total of 182 patients were admitted to Yangon General Hospital for diarrhoea; 54 among them tested positive for severe diarrhoeal pathogens, and one fatality (a 92-year-old elderly patient), **SEE PAGE 5**



View of the Emergency Department at Yangon General Hospital.

Laymyethna Flood Relief, Rescue Efforts Continue

RESCUE and relief operations are continuing in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region, after heavy rainfall and river erosion caused a section of the Ngawun River embankment to collapse on the night of 30 July.

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; four wards and 27 surrounding villages in Yekyi Township; two wards in Ngathaingyoung and two wards and nine surrounding villages in Kyonpyaw Township; and totalling 13 wards and 149 villages have been affected by flooding.

Tatmadaw personnel from the South-West Command, members of the Myanmar Police Force, **SEE PAGE 5**

ARTICLE

Thanaka: Myanmar's Golden Heritage of Beauty, Culture and Tradition

PAGE 8-9

NATIONAL PAGE 3

MoFA Union Minister receives Vietnamese Ambassador

NATIONAL PAGE 7

MSMEs lacking collateral to receive K50M funding under CGI scheme

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President's Office

Order 62/2026

15th Waning of Second Waso 1388 ME
13 August 2026

Appointment and Duty Assignment of Kachin State Security and Border Affairs Minister

COLONEL Kyaw Thura, Minister for Security and Border Affairs of the Kachin State Government, has been permitted to resume his original military duties. In his place, Colonel Soe Yan Naung of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) has been appointed as the Minister for Security and Border Affairs of the Kachin State Government in accordance with clause ii of Section 262 (a), and Sub-section (b), (e) and (f), Section 264 (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; Section 19 (c) and Section 82 (c) of the Union Government Law; and clause ii of Section 8 (a), and Sub-sections (b), (f) and (g) and Section 56 (a) of the Region or State Government Law.

Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Rector Dr Ohnmar San, as the Rector of University of Cooperatives and Management Studies (Sagaing) under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, upon the expiry of the one-year probationary period.

MDY to host Traditional Myanmar Food Competition and Expo

A Traditional Myanmar Food Competition and Exhibition will be held at the Mandalay Convention Centre in Mandalay on 22 and 23 August, according to a press conference held at Hotel Hazel on 12 August.

The event is to be organized by the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture and implemented by the Myanmar Restaurant Association under the theme “Tastes of the Golden Land 2026 Mandalay”. It aims to promote the development of the tourism industry.

A total of 135 exhibition booths will be featured, showcasing traditional Myanmar cuisine as well as ethnic traditional foods.



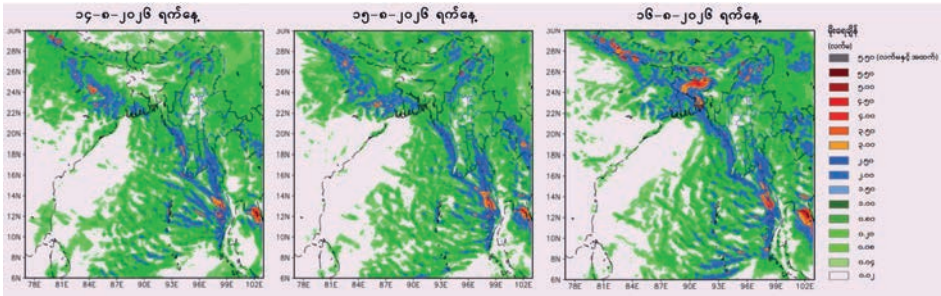
This photo captures officials holding a press briefing on 12 August to announce the Traditional Myanmar Food Competition and Exhibition set for Mandalay.

Local restaurants and hotels will take part in the competition and exhibition, while various zones of the Myanmar Restaurant Association will prepare and serve traditional dishes to visitors.

Awards will be presented for categories including Best Taste, Most Creative Dish and Best Chef. Daw Phyu Phyu Tin, a judge from the Master Chef competition, will serve as a judge for the event. — TWA/MKKS

Heavy Rainfall Warning No 44

Issued at 8 am MST on 13 August 2026



ACCORDING to the observations at 6:30 am MST today, due to the strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal, the Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over the North Bay and West Bengal, India – Bangladesh coasts and the strong development of the convective clouds, rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and

Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Bago, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States from today morning to 16 August 2026.

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

10-12 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of the strong monsoon, the Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over the North Bay and the West Bengal, India – Bangladesh coasts 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

Weather

Depression News 1, 2026

Issued at 3 pm MST on 13 August 2026

Depression Condition

According to the observations at 1:30 pm MST today, the Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over the northwest Bay of Bengal, the West Bengal Coastal, India, and adjoining Bangladesh has moved northwestwards and intensify into a Depression over the West Bengal, India. It is centred at about 315 miles west-northwest of Sittway (Myanmar), five miles northwest of Canning and 25 miles southeast of Kolkata, India.

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

Position of Depression, centre pressure and wind

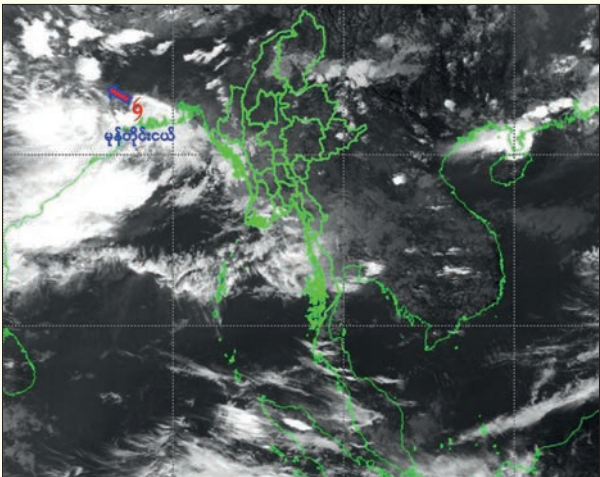
The Depression is located at Latitude 22.3 degree North and Longitude 88.6 degree East, centre pressure of Depression is 1,000 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 30 miles per hour at 1:30 pm MST today.

Next 24 hours forecast

It is likely continue to move north-westwards and may cross interior region of West Bengal, India, and may reach Jharkhand, India the during the next 24 hours. Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced of and along in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strikes, lightning, hails, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH



NATIONAL

DIPLOMACY

MoFA Union Minister receives Vietnamese Ambassador

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe received Mr Nguyen Anh Duc, Ambassador of Vietnam to Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They cordially exchanged views on accelerating mutually beneficial cooperation, further enhancing the long-standing friendly relations between the two countries and peo-

ples, resuming established bilateral mechanisms, and fostering closer cooperation in regional and international arenas, including ASEAN. — MoFA



The Vietnamese ambassador calls on Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe.

Preserving Traditional Arts, Cultural Heritage a National ...

FROM PAGE 1

said Myanmar's traditional singing, dancing, composing songs and playing music are valuable forms of intangible cultural heritage that reflect the spirit, thoughts, culture and way of life of the Myanmar people.

She said that as technological development and global cultural exchanges continue to accelerate, greater efforts are needed not only to preserve Myanmar's original cultural heritage but also to encourage younger generations to take an interest in traditional arts and pass them on to future generations.

In this regard, she stated the competition aims to identify new gen-

erations of artistes, promote the preservation and development of traditional arts, foster appreciation of national culture and strengthen national capability.

She called for the 27th competition to be organized systematically and to a high standard, building on the positive experiences of previous competitions. She emphasized the need to establish clear and precise competition rules, ensure fair, transparent and professional judging, and accurately assess the abilities of contestants.

The Vice-President also urged all those concerned to cooperate in making the competition a success that reflects na-

tional unity, cultural dignity and Myanmar's artistic traditions.

At the meeting, Union Minister for Hotels, Tourism and Culture U Maung Myint, Chairman of the Leading Committee, reported on arrangements for holding the competition and the presentation of awards, while Deputy Minister U Aye Tun, Secretary of the committee, reported on progress of tasks for organizing the event.

Officials and members of the committee also presented the preparations undertaken in their respective sectors and the work plans to be implemented to ensure the successful organization of the competition. — MNA/TTA

DIPLOMACY

Belarus, Myanmar discuss advancing women's affairs, future cooperation

FUTURE cooperation and the advancement of women's affairs between Belarus and Myanmar were discussed at a meeting between Union Minister for Women's Affairs Dr Thet Thet Zin and a delegation led by Ms Olga Chemodanova, Chairperson of the Belaya Rus Party of Belarus.

The meeting was held at the Ministry of Women's Affairs yesterday afternoon. Dr Thet Thet Zin said that women account for about 53 per cent of Myanmar's population and that



Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Zin receives the Belarusian delegation led by Chairperson Ms Olga Chemodanova of the Belaya Rus Party.

promoting the development of rural and young women is a priority. She highlighted the implementation of the National Strategic Plan for the

Advancement of Women, which focuses on women's development and the prevention of violence. She further stated that the Ministry of

Women's Affairs was established to strengthen the capacity of women and girls and promote social security.

She also expressed Myanmar's willingness to learn from other countries' experiences in promoting women's development and preventing violence.

Ms Olga Chemodanova stressed the need for awareness programmes to educate women about protecting their families and children and maintaining good health. — MNA/MKKS

DIPLOMACY

Vietnamese Ambassador calls on MoIP Union Minister

UNION Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing received Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nguyen Anh Duc and his delegation at the Union Minister's reception room in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

They cordially discussed cooperation in immigration matters between the two countries as ASEAN member states. They also discussed the mutual granting of entry visas and residence permits, the repatriation of

Vietnamese nationals who illegally entered Myanmar and were arrested, in accordance with the terms of bilateral friendship, and Vietnamese nationals prosecuted and sentenced in online fraud cases. They also stressed the need for Vietnamese nationals to enter Myanmar legally and be informed about the consequences of illegal entry.

Deputy Minister U Lin Zaw Tun, the permanent secretary and officials also attended the meeting. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister U Myint Kyaing receives Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nguyen Anh Duc.

5 Myanmar companies showcase products ...

FROM PAGE 1

displaying a range of traditional and value-added products.

The opening ceremony was attended by senior officials from the Macao SAR Government,

IPIM, the Guangdong Provincial Department of Commerce, diplomatic representatives, and

invitees, including Myanmar Consul-General to Macao Daw Phu Pwint Ko Ko. — ASH/KNN

NATIONAL

DIPLOMACY

MNPIFER Union Minister receives Vietnamese Ambassador



The Vietnamese ambassador calls on Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe.

UNION Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Kyaw Hoe received Mr Nguyen Anh Duc, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Republic of the Union of My-

anmar, at the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The two sides exchanged views and discussed matters of further strengthening and enhancing Myanmar-Vietnam economic cooperation, as well as the investment sectors currently being undertaken and ways to further increase investment between the two countries.

Senior officials from the Ministry and representatives from the Vietnamese Embassy also attended the meeting. — MN-PIFER

Cash donation made for Laymyethna flood victims

MYANMAR New Power Investment Group Company Limited donated K20 million yesterday to support relief, rescue and rehabilitation efforts for flood victims affected by the breach of the Ngawun embankment in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region, at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Social Wel-

fare, Relief and Resettlement. Deputy Minister Dr Than Soe received the donation, expressed gratitude, and presented a certificate of honour to the donor. — MNA/KTZH

Deputy Minister Dr Than Soe accepts the relief donation.



Passports expired for over 5 years must be renewed in Myanmar

FOR passports that have expired for more than five years, Myanmar nationals

The Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Tokyo.

in Japan are reminded to apply for renewal in Myanmar, said the Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Tokyo.

The embassy has accepted applications for con-

sular services in person or by post. If a passport has expired for more than five years, the holder must return to Myanmar to apply for its renewal, it stated. For returning, the embassy will

issue the certificate of identity (CI), it added.

The Myanmar community in Japan has been urged to renew their passports six months before their passports expire. — MT/ZS

Bogale's water tank construction progress inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, inspected the progress of an elevated water tank and water treatment plant construction project in Bawathit Village, Bogale Township yesterday, aiming to ensure year-round access to clean drinking water for rural residents.

Pyapon District Department of Rural Development Head U Htet Aung, Bogale Township Department Head Daw Thin Thin Hlaing, and project engineers inspected the construction site in the village. They instructed officials to

complete the works within the designated timeframe, providing necessary coordination for the requirements presented.

The construction of the elevated water tank and treatment plant is being carried out by engineers from the township department alongside local communities, using a K34.38 million from the Union budget. The overall project is currently 80 per cent complete. Upon full completion, it will supply sufficient clean drinking water year-round to 541 residents across 134 households in the village. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)



Officials oversee the water tank construction in Bogale Township.

www.gnlm.com.mm

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511
ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

Write for us

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.

NATIONAL

Renovation underway for Falam's damaged staff housing

DEPUTY Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo, together with the State Minister for Security and Border Affairs and members of the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee, inspected the renovation of staff housing damaged by violence in Falam Township yesterday.

They inspected renovation works at various government offices, including roof replacement at the district office of the Immigration and Population Ministry, wall and window repairs at the Township Immigration and Population Office, and floor and roof repairs at the Township Internal Revenue Department and Cooperative Department offices. They instructed officials to complete the works within the specified timeframe and in accordance with the required standards.

In Tiddim Township, they inspected partially damaged build-



Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo and officials inspect the renovation work in Falam, Chin State.

ings, including the Township Police Force, Myoma Police Station, two-storey, six-room staff housing, a monastic education school, the Border Area Ethnic Youth Development Training School and coach building, and the 100-bed Township People's Hospital. They also inspected the construction of an retaining wall.

Meanwhile, the Secretary of the Tonzang Township Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee inspected renovation works at the Border Area Ethnic Youth Development Training School, 50-bed Township Hospital, Township Electricity Office and Township Law Office. — MNA/MKKS

Thayezay-Madaya train to resume during Taungpyone Festival



Thayezay Station, a major railway station serving Taungpyone Festival-goers. PHOTO: NYAUNGU KO THET

DURING the Taungpyone Festival, trains on the Thayezay-Madaya route will resume operations from 19 August to 1 September to provide convenient transport for festival-goers, according to Mandalay Region Minister for Electricity, Energy, Industry and Transport U Kyaw Moe Thet.

The minister said the temporary service was arranged for festival-goers at the instruction of Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung, while the Mandalay-Madaya train service remains suspended.

After the last Mandalay-Madaya train service operated in August 2019, it was suspended due to a lack of passengers. Meanwhile, repair works, including vegetation clearance and track reconstruction, are still underway along the Myohaung-Madaya railway line. — TWA/ZS

He replied to the question raised by regional Hluttaw MP, Daw Aye Aye Thant from Madaya Township Constituency 2, on 12 August at the Third Mandalay Region Hluttaw's second regular session.

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.

Laymyethna Flood Relief, Rescue Efforts Continue



This image displays ongoing relief efforts in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region.

FROM PAGE 1

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.

Officials from the South-West Command are coordinating the necessary measures. — MNA/KTZH

YGH reports 182 diarrhoea cases ...

FROM PAGE 1

according to a response provided by the Yangon Region government to a parliamentary representative's enquiry.

Collaborative inspections of food and water are being conducted in the affected townships of Lanmadaw, Latha, Pabedan, and Kyauktada by the Yangon City Development Committee, the Department of Public Health, and district and township General Administration Departments. As a precautionary measure, a new expanded ward with a capacity of over 90 beds has been opened.

To control the spread of the infection, a temporary suspension of about three days was requested for street food vendors selling high-risk, easily contaminated items. Disinfection spraying and health awareness campaigns are being carried out around the homes of confirmed cases.

Testing of water reaching consumers through one water booster station showed a residual chlorine level of 3.96 mg/L, and consumers have been advised that if the chlorine odour is strong, they should let the water air out until the smell weakens or



Combined inspection teams conducting field checks on the application of Chlorine Booster Dosing.

disappears before using it. The Ministry of Health has advised that if severe symptoms such as dehydration and weakness occur, individuals should seek medical treatment at the nearest hospital as soon as possible. — TWA/ZN

NATIONAL

Frontline Tatmadaw troops receive warm welcome



Images display triumphant Tatmadaw personnel warmly welcome home at the Southern command.

FRONTLINE Tatmadaw members returning from security and regional stability operations were warmly welcomed at local military units in Yangon Region's Hmawby, Shwepyitha and Hlegu townships, and Bago Region's Phayagyi, on Wednesday and Thursday.

The ceremonies were attended by Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen Tin Min Latt and Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Kyaw Htet, respectively, alongside departmental officials, military officers and families, police and veteran organization members, artistes,

traditional dance troupes, teachers, students, and local communities. They welcomed back the victorious Tatmadaw members with jasmine sprigs of *Eugenia* and presented cash prizes to the returnees. The event included traditional dance and music performances. — MNA/KTZH

VRFP project funds disbursed in Kanma

THE disbursement of funds under the Eighth Village Revolving Fund Project (VRFP) was held yesterday in Zeedaw Village, Kanma Township, Magway Region, by the Department of Rural Development of Kanma Township under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, aiming at enabling rural people to undertake businesses that can increase their family income.

Staff Officer U Min Ko Naing of the Department of Rural Development of



A fund disbursement ceremony is underway in Kanma Township.

Kanma Township met village elders, male and female members and explained the objectives and benefits of implementing

the Village Revolving Fund Project (VRFP), the rules and regulations stated in the project manual, interest rates and repayment

periods, and the rules to be followed when providing loans. He transferred K34 million in project funds to the Project Working Group members.

The Project Working Group members provided loans to 38 farmers engaged in agricultural activities in Zeedaw Village, K27.55 million, and to 15 people engaged in livestock breeding activities, K6.45 million. In total, 53 male and female members were provided with loans amounting to K34 million. — Set Lu (DRD)

Pobbathiri's ongoing concrete paving work inspected

RESPONSIBLE officials conducted a field inspection on the morning of 11 August of the ongoing concrete paving work on the village road in Thayethamein Village, Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, being implemented by the Department of Rural Development of Pobbathiri Township under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, with funds approved by the Union for the 2026-2027 financial year.

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Hla Swe, Township Head U Ko Ko of the Department of Rural Development of Pobbathiri Township, and staff inspected the progress of the concrete paving works on the village road in Thayeth-

amein Village. They also met the company's responsible officials, members of the Village Development Committee, and urged them to complete the work on time in compliance with the prescribed standards and specifications.

In Thayethamein Village, the concrete paving work on the village road, which is 2,500 feet long, 12 feet wide and seven inches thick, was started by ZCO Co Ltd on 6 August 2026, with Union-approved funds of K222.063 million during the current financial year. At present, 80 per cent of the work has been completed, according to U Ko Ko, Township Head of the Department of Rural Development of Pobbathiri Township. — Naw Lu (DRD)



This image displays an ongoing concrete paving project in Pobbathiri Township.



This photo depicts the Magway Township Development Committee's highway bus terminal.

Overdue Vehicle Registrations in Magway Set for Renewal After Fines

MOTOR vehicles in Magway Region whose registrations have expired for more than five years will be re-examined in accordance with the prescribed regulations, and their registrations will be renewed upon payment of the rele-

vant fines.

The measure was announced by U Hsan Nyunt Aung, Minister for Electricity, Energy, Industry and Transport of the Magway Region Government, during the second day of the Third Regular Session

of the Third Magway Region Hluttaw, held on 11 August.

Following inspection of the overdue vehicles, owners of light vehicles will be required to pay a fine of K25,000, while owners of heavy vehicles will

be required to pay a fine of K50,000 before their registrations are renewed.

According to the Magway Region Government, a total of 224,859 motor vehicles are currently registered in the region. — TWA/KNN

Advertise

with us/ Hotline:



09 454237515, 09 255597511

MGEA to conduct
AML/CFT awareness
training on 18 Aug



THE Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association (MGEA) will hold an awareness training course on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) from 8 am to 5 pm on 18 October at the UMFCI Mingala Hall.

Participants receiving a completion certificate must remain for the full session. Latecomers arriving after 8 am will not be eligible for the certificate. Leaving during the lunch break (12:30 pm-1 pm) will disqualify attendees from receiving the completion stamp.

Participants must

personally scan their fingerprints from 7:30 am to obtain their ID cards after the full session.

Interested individuals can register through the FMGEA messenger by 18 October. They need to provide details including name, citizenship scrutiny card, and occupation (Myanmar). They can enquire about training details through U Ohn Myaing (Secretary) – 09 5504457, Kyi Sein (Joint Secretary, Admin) – 09 5511123, Aung Pyae Phyo (Joint Secretary) – 09 775599123, Aung Myint Thu (Executive) – 09 2021488 and Myint Thein Tun (Executive) – 09 5177538. — NN/KK

MSMEs lacking collateral to receive
K50M funding under CGI scheme

THE MSME Development Fund Management Committee announced that micro, small, and medium enterprises that can't provide solid collateral can now receive funding up to K50 million under the new Credit Guarantee Insurance (CGI) scheme backed by Myanmar Insurance and private insurers.

Loan procedures have also been relaxed to facilitate easier access for MSMEs. At present, the maximum MSME loan



MSME working on a manageable scale.

stands at K100 million. Financial regulations are under review with a view

to increasing this ceiling.

The state has allocated K170 billion for MSME de-

velopment, of which K150 billion has been set aside for direct lending. MSMEs now account for approximately 90 per cent of all businesses in Myanmar, generating about 70 per cent of total employment.

MSMEs are facing multiple challenges, including capital shortages, outdated technology, limited market access, a lack of skilled labour, weak supply chains, and the ripple effects of global economic slowdown. — TWA/KK

Thanlyin Glass Factory
calls for tender for sales
of scrap materials

THE Thanlyin Glass Factory, operated by Mar-larmyaing Public Company Limited, has invited bids for the sale of scrap materials from the glass factory in Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region,

Interested individuals are invited to participate

in bidding in accordance with the company's tender rules and conditions.

Registration, tender form withdrawal and deposit submission can be made from 9 am to 3 pm only between 24 and 27 August. The deadline for tender submission is at



Thanlyin Glass Factory (Myo Painting Group Co Ltd painting project).

1 pm on 28 August. Bid opening will be held at 2 pm on 28 August. The winning bid will be announced at 3 pm on the

same day. Interested individuals can enquire about details by dialling 09 976020040 during office hours. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in
the Market on 13 August 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,661.50~3669.00	557.00~557.30	125.50~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	7,785,133.74	3,625,726.56	70,474,993.56	-

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, packaging materials, and telecommunications equipment. The revenue from the CMP sector was sold to the CMP sector. — MNA

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar 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

Building Dept bids for tenders
for Toll Plaza construction at new
Gyaing (Kawkareik) Bridge



The Gyaing (Kawkareik) bridge on the Yangon-Myawady Road under construction by Japanese loans.

THE Buildings Department of the Ministry of Construction has invited open tenders for the procurement of construction materials to build a toll plaza on the new Gyaing

(Kawkareik) Bridge under the 2026-2027 Financial Year's Union Budget, according to the Special Building Task Force 13 of the department.

The toll plaza will be

constructed on the Kawkareik side to facilitate bridge toll collection.

The deadline for submission is at 4:30 pm on 24 August. Bids will be opened at the Kayin State Court in front of the Myanmar Economic Bank. The specific opening date will be announced later.

Individuals can enquire for further details through 09 420708097 or 09 401665849 during office hours, or visit the offices in person, according to the Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee. — NN/KK

OPINION

Overcome any challenges triggered by natural disasters

During this year’s monsoon season, heavy rainfall in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region, caused sand boils to emerge from the underlying sand layer at the river breach area beneath the Ngawun River embankment, allowing water to flow through and resulting in a lowering of the embankment. Consequently, floodwaters have entered wards in Laymyethna town and surrounding villages, as well as villages in Hinthada, Yegyi and Kyonpyaw townships. Extensive relief and rescue operations are currently being carried out to assist the affected communities.

The State Government is promptly conducting field visits to areas affected by flooding and carrying out relief and rescue operations in a timely manner. The relevant regional government is also

Therefore, although natural disasters are forces of nature that cannot be prevented, their impacts and losses can be minimized through preparation and appropriate measures. We must therefore prepare in advance, closely monitor developments, assess risks and take timely action before disasters occur. Indeed, the floods inundated homes, submerged roads and agricultural land, and disrupted people’s daily lives. However, they could not submerge the unity and solidarity of the people of Myanmar.

came to Laymyethna Township and participated in flood relief and rescue operations. Residents also, with the spirit of solving their own community’s difficulties themselves, worked alongside the rescue teams by operating boats, transporting supplies, preparing food, and helping with various tasks needed at relief camps. Rescue and relief operations were carried out in a timely manner without any loss of human or animal lives, due to preparation and timely action.

Generous donors from various parts of the country also went beyond making donations in their own localities by personally travelling to Laymyethna Township, one of the areas hardest hit by the floods, to donate food supplies, drinking water, clothing and other necessities.

Therefore, although natural disasters are forces of nature that cannot be prevented, their impacts and losses can be minimized through preparation and appropriate measures. We must therefore prepare in advance, closely monitor developments, assess risks and take timely action before disasters occur. Indeed, the floods inundated homes, submerged roads and agricultural land, and disrupted people’s daily lives. However, they could not submerge the unity and solidarity of the people of Myanmar.

IF you visit Myanmar, one of the first things that may catch your attention is the yellowish-white paste beautifully applied to the faces of women, children, and sometimes men. Many foreign visitors are curious about this unique facial decoration and often ask what it is and why people wear it. The answer is simple: it is Thanaka, one of Myanmar’s oldest and most cherished cultural traditions.

More than just a cosmetic, Thanaka represents the history, identity, and lifestyle of the Myanmar people. For centuries, it has remained an inseparable part of daily life, connecting generations through a tradition that continues to flourish in the modern world.

What Is Thanaka?

Thanaka is a natural cosmetic paste made by grinding the bark, wood, or roots of certain varieties of Thanaka trees with water on a circular stone slab known as a Kyaukpyin. The botanical name of the Thanaka tree is Limonia Acidissima Linn., which belongs to the Rutaceae family.

Thanaka trees are medium-sized and can grow between 20 and 30 feet in height. They are commonly found in the dry central regions of Myanmar, particularly in Magway, Mandalay,

Thanaka: Myanmar’s Golden Heritage of Beauty, Culture and Tradition

By Moon Cherry K

and Sagaing. The trees thrive in hot and dry climates but do not grow well in wetlands or salt-affected soils. Their trunks and branches are covered with sharp thorns, and the bark gradually becomes thicker as the tree matures. Many people believe that the roots produce a more refreshing and cooling paste than other parts of the tree.

A Tradition Rooted in History

Thanaka is unique to Myanmar and has been used for more than 2,000 years. Historical evidence, including ancient murals, wall paintings, and traditional records, suggests that Myanmar people were already using Thanaka as early as the fifth century AD.

Throughout Myanmar’s long history, the custom was preserved and passed down from one generation to another. It remained popular during the



Bagan, Pinya, Inwa, Toungoo, Nyaungyan, and Konbaung periods. Despite changing times and modern influences, Thanaka has never lost its place in Myanmar society.

Today, people of all ages, genders, and social backgrounds continue to wear Thanaka with pride. It remains a familiar sight in homes, schools, markets, and workplaces across the country. The enduring popularity of Thanaka reflects the strong cul-

tural bond that Myanmar people maintain with their heritage.

Natural Beauty and Skincare Benefits

One reason for Thanaka’s lasting popularity is its practical value. According to traditional Myanmar medicine, Thanaka possesses cooling and medicinal properties. For generations, it has been used to soothe the skin, reduce body heat, and protect against the strong tropical sun.

Many Myanmar women apply Thanaka after their morning bath and again before bedtime. It is also commonly applied to the faces and arms of children, toddlers, and infants. During the hot summer months, both young and old wear Thanaka on their faces, arms, and legs to enjoy its cooling effects.

In addition to its traditional uses, Thanaka is widely appreciated for its skincare benefits. It helps absorb excess oil, soothes irritated skin, and is commonly used to reduce acne and blemishes. Many users believe it provides natural protection from ultraviolet rays and helps maintain healthy skin. Its antioxidant properties are also thought to help slow the visible signs of ageing.

Traditional medicine further mentions the use of Thanaka for minor wounds, measles, seasonal fevers, and other common ailments. Although modern scientific studies continue to explore its properties, Thanaka remains one of the most trusted natural skincare products in Myanmar.

A Living Cultural Symbol

Beyond its practical benefits, Thanaka is also a symbol of beauty and cultural identity. People apply it in different styles and patterns, ranging from simple circular patches on the cheeks to artistic leaf-shaped and floral designs. These creative applications add charm and individuality while preserving a tradition that is instantly recognizable throughout the country.

For many visitors, the sight of smiling faces decorated with Thanaka becomes one of their most memorable impressions of Myanmar. It is a cultural symbol that reflects both elegance and simplicity while showcasing the nation’s unique character.

Myanmar Thanaka Day and UNESCO Recognition

Recognizing its cultural significance, the Myanmar Thanaka Planters, Producers and Exporters Association designated the Full Moon Day of Tabodwe, which usually falls in February, as My-

anmar Thanaka Day.

Tabodwe is traditionally a month of festivals and celebrations, and the demand for Thanaka is particularly high during this period. Various activities are organized throughout February to promote awareness of Myanmar’s Thanaka culture and its importance to national heritage.

These efforts also support the nomination of Myanmar Thanaka Culture for inclusion on UNESCO’s Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Such recognition would help preserve this treasured tradition and introduce it to a wider international audience.

Bringing Thanaka to the World

Today, Myanmar’s Thanaka industry is evolving to meet modern consumer needs. Growers, producers, and exporters are developing value-added products such as Thanaka creams, lotions, powders, and other ready-to-use skincare items.

These innovations are helping Thanaka reach international markets, including ASEAN countries such as the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia. More than thirty varieties of Thanaka and Thanaka-based products have also been exhibited at national MSME exhibitions, demonstrating the growing potential of this traditional industry.

The development of modern Thanaka products not only creates economic opportunities but also helps ensure that this cultural heritage remains relevant in a rapidly changing world.

Preserving a Precious Heritage

Thanaka is far more than a cosmetic product. It is a living cultural treasure that reflects the history, wisdom, and identity of the Myanmar people. For centuries, it has provided beauty, comfort, and protection while serving as a visible symbol of national pride.

As custodians of this precious heritage, we share a responsibility to preserve and promote the tradition of Thanaka. By valuing it, protecting it, and passing it on to future generations, we can ensure that Myanmar’s golden heritage continues to thrive and remains a source of pride for centuries to come.

There have been diverse ways of learning the English language all around the globe, depending on likes and strengths. Among these ways, the most popular way to study English for listening and speaking skills is learning the language with songs. Few English learners dislike listening to music, as far as I know. In actual fact, language study with songs tends to make learners feel joy and ease to a certain extent, particularly by easily gaining vocabulary, usage, expressions and pronunciation of the language. On top of that, many language learners like to enjoy listening to music for the simple reason that they are fond of singing songs themselves, and the songs also enable them to have a long-term memory for the lyrics, that is, the language of songs. Hence, five different ways to learn English with songs will herein be suggested.

Learning the English Language with Songs

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo’s Song)

- I. Pick a song we love: We can choose any English song we may enjoy. But that could be pop, hip hop or rock; whatever type of song is possible – it does not matter at all. More importantly, if we love the music we have chosen, we will learn the English of the song faster and remember it more than normal. We Are the World by USA for Africa, Nothing’s Gonna Change My Love for You by George Benson and Forever Young by Alphaville, to name but a few, are still famous among youths of today, I believe.
- II. Listen carefully: We do not need to worry even if we do not understand everything about the song. Just relax and listen to it closely whenever we want to enjoy the song. Naturally, lyrics often go fast to fit the rhythm and beat of music, so they can be hard to listen to or even sing. Hence, we cannot catch or follow the voice of a song with our eyes closed sometimes. Thus, I would like to recommend songs with slow music to beginner learners of the language in particular.

III. Read the lyrics: We can search the lyrics of a song online, namely on Google as we are all aware, or check our music app. On the one hand, when we wish to study the language with songs for our listening skills, we must never look for the lyrics of a song at first or before the whole song is learnt by heart to the degree that we get as many lyrics as we can. This should be done only when we unexpectedly croon the song ourselves. On the other hand, we can read the lyrics while we listen to the song and note down five to ten new words or phrases for writing skills in the language, where grammar is

mostly impossible for study. However, we ought not to try to learn every single new word at any time and in any situation.

IV. Note pronunciation: Hardly do we expect to hear authentic pronunciation from listening to songs every time. Due to singers’ own or artificially beautiful voices in the songs, we usually make contact with their irregular pronunciation in contrast to standardized language. Not only that, songs use short forms like gimme (give me), wanna (want to OR want a) and gonna (going to) as often as possible. Of course, these match how people really

speak in everyday English. As a result, listening this way helps train our ear for real conversations.

V. Sing along: We must be or must not be singers now or later, but we can unconsciously follow to murmur a song while listening to it. Never ever be shy to do so. Actually, the shyness frequently seen in language study is still the biggest learning inhibitor that has to be overcome. We can start singing the chorus – it is usually the easiest part of a song. Afterwards, we need to add a little more each time. Soon, we will be singing the whole song!



ARTICLE

NATIONAL

Yangon Police Launch Crime-Reduction Drive and Arrest Bus Pickpockets

POLICE officers, traffic police, and local administrators across Yangon Region recently conducted joint operations to reduce crime and improve public safety. Authorities engaged in community outreach by conducting crime-awareness talks, making home visits, and directing pedestrians to use zebra crossings in Insein, Hlinethaya (West), and Kamayut townships. Meanwhile, officers in Phaunggyi, Sangyoung, and Dagon

Myothit (South) carried out guest-list inspections, night patrols, and road-blocks. As part of the crack-down, police also arrested two pickpockets operating on public buses. In South Okkalapa, officers caught Ma Thida Aye Mya Lwin on a YBS 14 bus after she stole a Redmi phone from a male passenger's pocket. In a separate incident, police arrested Than Win, also known as Pwagyi, at the Mya Nanda bus stop after



A road checkpoint in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: REGION POLICE FORCE

he snatched two Redmi phones from a female passenger's backpack on a YBS 6 bus. Both suspects have been formally charged under Penal Code Section 379 and Section 54 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. — Aung Thu/ST

Kanbalu's Model Village project introduced; 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 in Natpay Village, Kanbalu Township, yesterday.

Kanbalu District Management and Administration Committee Chairman U Thet Zaw Oo and Region Hluttaw Representative U Than Sein delivered opening remarks. Kanbalu District Department of Rural Development Head U Soe Khine and Kanbalu Township Department



An orientation and committee formation ceremony is underway in Kanbalu Township.

Head Daw Tin Tin Khine met village elders and villagers in the village. They also explained the objectives, implementation processes and rules and regulations to be followed in forming the project committee, as well as

matters requiring cooperation from the village. The villagers elected and formed a nine-member Model Village Project Committee through consensus to effectively lead and execute project activities.

The project will commence implementation during the 2026-2027 financial year, focusing on six major areas including village infrastructure development, provision of inputs and financial services, livelihood improvement, promotion of the rural economy, community strengthening, technology dissemination, social protection, and environmental conservation, with technical assistance and close cooperation from relevant departments and residents. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

Emerald Green Village Project Revolving Fund loans disbursed in Dawei

THE Department of Rural Development (DRD) under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Taninthayi Region, conducted a ceremony for the disbursement of revolving funds under the Emerald Green Village Project at the Village Administration Office in Thayetchaung Village, Dawei Township, yesterday.

District Head U Myo Myint Aung of the Department of Rural Development, Dawei District, explained the objectives and benefits of the village project and provided information on the relevant provisions of the Rural Development Law and Rules. The project officer from Dawei Township then explained the rules and regulations to be followed in obtaining the project loans, including the terms and conditions for repayment of the principal and interest.

Following this, the

district head formally handed over K34 million in revolving funds to the Emerald Green Village Project Committee of Thayetchaung Village. Under the supervision of the district head and project officials, the village project committee subsequently disbursed the total revolving fund of K 34 million at a concessional interest rate to 34 project members on an individual basis. Of the beneficiaries, five members are engaged in agricultural activities, six in livestock breeding, 21 in trading businesses, and two in other livelihood activities.

The Department of Rural Development, Dawei Township, stated that the revolving funds were provided to support income-generating activities, improve livelihoods, and contribute to the sustainable economic development of rural communities. — Moe Moe (DRD)



Dawei Township hosts a fund disbursement ceremony on 13 August 2026.



Officials inspect an agricultural project in Mongkai Township.

Mongkai's Emerald Green project activities inspected

THE Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Mongkai Township Rural Development Department, Shan State (South), conducted a field inspection on the afternoon of 11 August to help rural residents operate their own businesses, develop their socioeconomic lives, and obtain low-interest

financial resources. Township Head U Khun Kyaw Seng of the Mongkai Township Rural Development Department and officials, together with the Emerald Green Village Project team, inspected the agricultural activities and trading activities in Tonkyin Village with the project fund of K62.4

million in Tonkyin Village, and whether the monthly accounting forms were complete. The Township Head U Khun Kyaw Seng has coordinated and provided the necessary assistance. In Tonkyin Village, 57 members of the association engaged in agricultural activities have been lent K57.5 million, and four

members of the association engaged in trading activities have been lent K4.9 million; a total of 61 members have been lent K62.4 million, and the Village Project is underway, according to the Mongkai Township Rural Development Department. — Tun Tun Lin (Rural)

British eccentrics
push humble garden
shed to new heights

“WELCOME to the Shanty Shed”, shouted steam ship enthusiast Peter McLaughlin over the din of pistons lunging back and forth as clouds of white vapour billowed from his London garden hideaway.

As an ear-splitting whistle blasted out, the 68-year-old settled into a captain’s chair next to a huge boiler he calls “the beast”.

McLaughlin credits the shed, a recreation of a ship’s boiler room, with “saving my life” after ill health forced him to retire at 50 from his job laying cables.

Nearly two decades on, it was one of 38 sheds

entered in this year’s Shed of the Year competition, now in its 20th year.

Long just a place for rusting lawnmowers, broken bicycles and old paint pots — sheds are enjoying a renaissance as personal sanctuaries, according to competition founder and “head-sheddie” Andrew Wilcox. Amid a growing trend for themed sheds, contest categories included “colourful”, “eco haven” and “pub”, with this year’s crown won by a group of friends’ gaming den.

At McLaughlin’s shed in West Drayton, west London, a strong smell of coal and hot oil hangs in the air. — AFP



This photo taken on 31 July 2026 shows steam ship enthusiast Peter McLaughlin inside his back garden shed, a recreation of a ship’s boiler room, at his home in London. PHOTO: AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gaza students await evacuation
to Italy

DOZENS of Gaza students who won scholarships to universities in Italy are still waiting to be evacuated due to bureaucratic red tape, leaving qualified students in a deadly conflict zone, AFP has found.

Although more than 200 Palestinian students have been successfully enrolled in Italian colleges through a government university corridor project started in 2025, others have been left behind.

About 50 students are still awaiting clearance to leave the Israeli-occupied territory where most higher education institutions have been destroyed — despite having met the same requirements of previous Gazan students now in Italy, non-governmental organizations say. — AFP

Germany’s dry rivers spark
battle on engineering vs
restoration

Scientists warn that the problem will intensify in coming years.

AS a heat wave dries Germany’s rivers, government ministers are at odds over what to do about it — re-engineer the waterways or restore them to their natural state.

The debate has flared as precariously falling water levels have revealed vast sandbanks on the Rhine, Danube, Elbe and other rivers, severely impacting cargo shipping crucial for many industries.

With climate change driving new heat records and longer dry spells in Europe and beyond, scientists warn that the problem will intensify in coming years.

Germany’s new transport minister, Steffen Bilger, convened a recent crisis summit with shipping, port and logistics operators on the problem



Low water levels on German rivers spark debate over engineering solutions. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

impacting the European Union’s biggest economy.

The key short-term counter measure he announced was to temporarily lift a ban on truck transports on Sundays and public holidays to help ease cargo bottle-

necks.

In the longer term, Germany needs to dredge deeper navigation channels and develop a new class of low-draft ships, argued Bilger, a member of Chancellor Friedrich Merz’s conservative

CDU/CSU bloc.

“We must make our waterways more efficient while simultaneously making ships suitable for times of low water,” Bilger said Wednesday after talks with state transport ministers. — AFP

South Africa marks elephant day

SOUTH Africa on Wednesday marked World Elephant Day with a call for collective efforts to protect the country’s elephant populations and preserve their ecological, cultural and economic value for future generations.

In a statement, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) said World Elephant Day, observed annually on 12 August, provides an opportunity to raise awareness of elephant conservation, habitat protection and the need to promote coexistence between people and el-

ephants,

According to the statement, South Africa is home to an estimated 44,000 to 45,000 African savanna elephants, which the DFFE said form an important part

of the country’s natural heritage, biodiversity, cultural identity and tourism economy.

The department said the African savanna elephant is classified as Endangered by

the International Union for Conservation of Nature, with habitat loss, fragmentation and illegal killing among the key threats to elephant populations across the continent.

The DFFE also stressed the publication of the National Elephant Heritage Strategy (NEHS) in the Government Gazette on 29 May as a significant milestone in the country’s elephant conservation efforts.

“The NEHS provides a long-term framework for the conservation and sustainable management of elephants as a national heritage asset. — Xinhua



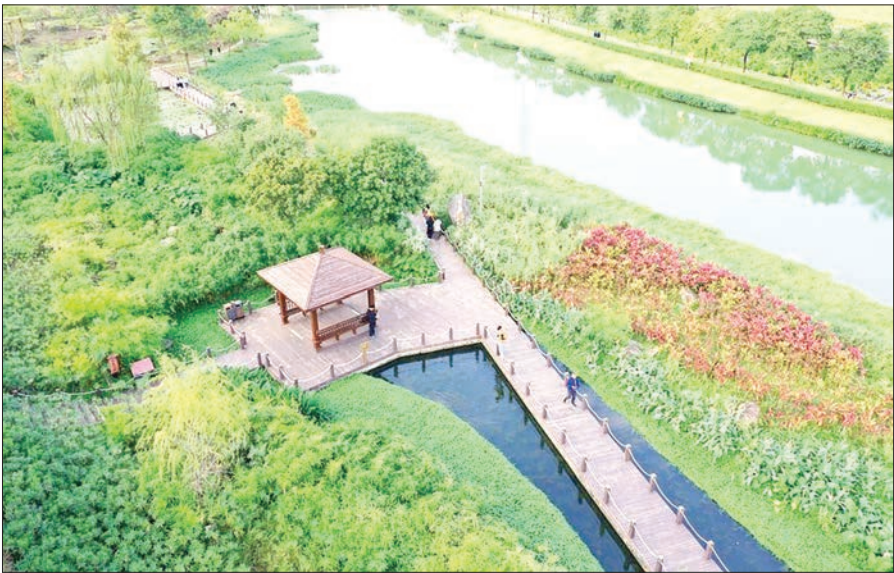
South Africa marks World Elephant Day to protect endangered wildlife populations. PHOTO: XINHUA

ECONOMY

WORLD

China's national carbon emissions market sees trading volume top 930 mln tonnes

China recently issued the 15th Five-Year Plan for Building a Beautiful China.



An aerial drone photo taken on 25 December 2025 shows people visiting Nakao River wetland park in Nanning, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

THE cumulative trading volume of China's national carbon emissions rights trading market had exceeded 930 million tonnes by the end of July 2026, Minister of Ecology and Environ-

ment Huang Runqiu said on Thursday.

This market, which began trading in 2021, has helped industries cut carbon emissions at lower costs and has contributed substantially to the

green and low-carbon transition, Huang told a press conference.

China recently issued the 15th Five-Year Plan for Building a Beautiful China, which calls for expanding the

coverage of the national carbon emissions rights trading market in an orderly manner, increasing market participants, and reducing carbon emissions per unit of product covered by the market by around 3 percent.

The country has made notable progress in addressing climate change in recent years, with its energy, industrial and transport structures continuing to improve. Li Gao, vice minister of ecology and environment, said China will expand the national carbon emissions rights trading market to cover more high-emission industries, including petrochemicals and chemicals, beyond power generation, steel, cement and aluminum smelting. — Xinhua

Spain inflation picks up in July on energy costs

SPANISH inflation accelerated in July as energy costs rose, particularly for motor fuels and electricity, final data showed Thursday.

The annual inflation rate stood at 3.6 per cent in July after 3.2 per cent in June, statistics office INE said in a statement.

The rise in energy costs pushed up the cost of transportation, though food and non-alcoholic beverage prices fell, in particular for fruits and vegetables, it said.

The statistics office

had initially estimated inflation at 3.5 per cent in July.

Global energy markets have been jolted by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a key shipping route for oil and gas exports from the resource-rich Gulf region after the US and Israeli attacks on Iran.

Spain's central bank had already raised its inflation forecast in June, and for the full year it expects inflation to reach 3.6 per cent, up from a previous forecast of 3.0 per cent. —

AFP



Spain reports rising inflation rate in July driven by higher energy costs. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

OPEC lowers global oil demand forecasts

GLOBAL oil demand is forecast to grow by 600,000 barrels per day (bpd) in 2026 year-on-year, down from last month's assessment, said the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on Wednesday.

OPEC made the forecast in its latest monthly oil market report. In its previous report in July, the organization estimated a global oil demand growth of 800,000 bpd year-on-year for 2026.

A major contributor for the downward revision



This photo shows the industrial estate of Saudi oil giant Aramco in Dammam, Saudi Arabia. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

sion is the Asia market. According to the report, China, India and Other Asia are estimated to have a weaker year-on-year oil demand growth

in 2026. Meantime, Asia Pacific is expected to see a sharper decline in its oil demand this year.

Despite the lower forecast for 2026, the

report continued to revise up its forecast for 2027, with global oil demand estimated to rise by about 2.2 million bpd year-on-year, compared with the previous estimate of 1.9 million bpd year-on-year.

Similarly, the higher growth forecast is a main result of more robust demand from Asia-related markets. China, India, Other Asia and Asia Pacific are all expected with a broader demand growth in 2027 compared with 2026. Europe will also see a larger year-on-year growth. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan wholesale prices up 7.2% in July

JAPAN'S wholesale prices in July rose 7.2 per cent from a year earlier, the Bank of Japan said Thursday, led by increases in electric power, gas and water, reflecting higher crude oil prices amid escalating tensions in the Middle East and strong artificial intelligence-related demand.

The growth in prices of goods traded between companies slowed for the first time in five months, decelerating from an upwardly revised 7.3 per cent in June, the biggest rise since March 2023.

The data came as the BOJ is assessing the right timing for raising its key policy interest rate to sustainably achieve its two per cent inflation target. Following a hike in June to a 31-year-high of 1.00 per cent, some market analysts are anticipating another rate increase at the central bank's next policy meeting in September.

Speculation about a faster pace of rate hikes has been fueled since Japanese and US monetary authorities recently conducted a joint yen-buying intervention, showing their strong determination to stem the yen's weakness. — Kyodo

South Korea fiscal deficit shrinks down

SOUTH Korea’s fiscal deficit narrowed to a multi-year low in the first half on the back of robust tax revenue, government data showed Thursday.

The consolidated fiscal balance, or gross revenue minus gross expendi-

ture, posted a deficit of 43.9 trillion won (US\$31.0 billion) in the January-June period, down from 68.6 trillion won (\$48.4 billion) in the same period of last year, according to the Ministry of Planning and Budget.

The managed fiscal balance, which excludes social security funds, recorded a deficit of 84.4 trillion won (\$59.6 billion) in the first half, down from 94.3 trillion won (\$66.6 billion) a year earlier. — Xinhua

1st Google store outside US opens in Tokyo

US tech giant Google LLC opened its first official store outside the United States in Tokyo on Thursday, at which customers can purchase new Pixel smartphones, Nest products and exclusive goods. “Japan is a highly critical market for the Google Pixel portfolio, where we are seeing rapid and enthusiastic growth in users,” Mauria Finley, vice president of Google Store, said at an opening event.

“We warmly invite all of you to come in, play, and explore a space filled with Google’s technology and passion,” she said. Visitors to the three-floor Google Store Omotesando, housed in the Tokyu Plaza, will be able to experience the



Visitors explore the brand new Tokyo store featuring cutting edge technology. **PHOTO: KYODO**

company’s cutting-edge AI technology on the second floor and receive repair and support services for smartphones and other products on the basement floor.

In addition to purchasing smartphones and other products on the first floor, people can pick up items ordered online and attend various events, according to Google, a unit of Alphabet Inc. — Kyodo

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, **Myanmar Agro Eagle Co., Ltd.**, would like to change distributor of the following products, registered by Agro Icon Cropscience Pte., Ltd. to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from former distributor Marga Min Co., Ltd. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.

Myanmar Agro Eagle Co., Ltd. (09-887887641)

Sr No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Type of Pesticide	Registration No.
1.	Daung Mahar	Cyhalofop-butyl 10% EC	Provisional	P2022-5796 (16.6.2027)
2.	Shwe Mee Chaung	Fenoxaprop-P-ethyl 6.9% EC		P2023-6064 (2.4.2028)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0055N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0055N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-8-2026** 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0404W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0404W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-8-2026** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3615S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3615S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-8-2026** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MCL 9 VOY.NO. (31N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 9 VOY.NO. (31N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-8-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (179N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (179N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-8-2026** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (035)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (035)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-8-2026** 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:

M/S ANDAMAN SEA GATEWAY GROUP OF COMPANIES LIMITED

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Milestone for China’s
homegrown aircraft with
1st intl commercial flight

After a flight of one hour and 41 minutes, the plane safely landed in Ulaanbaatar.

CHINA’S homegrown C919 aircraft completed its first scheduled international commercial passenger flight on Wednesday with a safe landing in Mongolia’s capital city Ulaanbaatar after take-off from Beijing, marking a new chapter for Chinese-made large passenger aircraft going global.

Air China flight CA723 using the C919 plane took off from the Beijing Capital International Airport for Ulaanbaatar at around 3 pm. Wednesday, the mile-



China’s domestically developed C919 large passenger aircraft lands at Chinggis Khaan International Airport, Mongolia, 12 August 2026.

stone operation coming after its maiden commercial flight on 28 May 2023.

After a flight of one hour and 41 minutes, the plane safely landed in U-

laanbaatar. A grand water salute ceremony was held at the airport. Passengers gradually disembarked from the aircraft, watched a unique ethnic dance performance, and were greeted by a procession of attendants dressed in traditional Mongolian attire.

According to available information, the international route connecting the two cities is operated under flight numbers CA723/CA724, with daily scheduled flights as a regular service. — Xinhua

Romania shuts down nuclear plant as
Danube drops

ROMANIA halted operations of its only nuclear plant on Thursday, a rare shutdown due to a drought scorching Europe that has caused the Danube river, whose waters cool the plant, to fall to record lows.

Much of Europe is facing another heatwave this summer amid droughts that have driven rivers to historic lows.

The Cernavoda plant, which usually generates

a fifth of Romania’s electricity, has been shut

down just once before, in 2003, due to drought.



The Cernavoda plant usually generates a fifth of Romania’s electricity. **PHOTO: AFP**

The national nuclear energy company Nuclearelectrica had already shut down one of the plant’s two reactors last month, and announced Thursday that it needed to shut the second as well “due to the significant and ongoing drop in the water level of the River Danube”. “We do not foresee a restart within the next ten days,” the plant’s director, Romeo Urjan, told AFP. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russia, China reaffirm support for
India’s BRICS chairship

WITH New Delhi at the helm of the BRICS grouping this year, Chinese and Russian envoys to India reaffirmed their support for India’s BRICS presidency at an event here in the national capital on Wednesday.

The leaders attended the BRICS Ambassadors’ Roundtable Discussion hosted by Vivekananda International Foundation.

In a post on X, Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong said, “Shared my views on the characteristic and development direction of BRICS cooperation with the five letters of MAGIC: Multilateralism, Action, Global Governance, Inclusiveness and Cooperation.”

He further underlined that China stands ready to work in tandem with all partner countries to deepen the cooperation between BRICS members. — ANI

Senators demand probe into
gruelling carrier conditions

CONGRESSIONAL Democrats demanded answers Wednesday about conditions aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln, following reports of food shortages, broken plumbing and mental health crises during the aircraft carrier’s record-setting deployment.

In a letter to Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth Wednesday, Senator Richard Blumenthal called for the Navy to account for conditions aboard the aircraft carrier, which “has been deployed more than 250 days” without coming ashore “in over 200 days, setting a record for consecutive days at sea”. — AFP

New Zealand and Vietnam deepen
partnership

NEW ZEALAND Prime Minister Christopher Luxon and Vietnamese President To Lam on Thursday agreed on new steps to advance their countries’ comprehensive strategic partnership.

During To Lam’s state visit to New Zealand, the two leaders discussed growing trade and investment, reducing barriers, expanding cooperation in science and technology, and deepening collaboration on peacekeeping and transnational crime, according to a New Zealand government statement. An agricultural package will expand two-way market access, including New Zealand honey and deer products, as well as Vietnamese cut flowers and foliage, the statement said. — Xinhua

Venezuela reduces public sector workday to save energy

VENEZUELA’S public sector will work reduced hours to ease pressure on the country’s decrepit power grid, interim leader Delcy Rodriguez said Wednesday.

Authorities are looking to ration electricity supplies as domestic

consumption reaches its highest level in almost a decade.

Increasingly regular blackouts outside of Caracas have triggered protests around the country in recent weeks.

Reduced hours for public sector workers

will entail “working every other day”, and half days for all employees except for essential services like healthcare, Rodriguez said.

Tuesday saw demand this year peak to 15,726 megawatts despite only around 12,000 megawatts

being available, she said.

Rodriguez, who replaced president Nicolas Maduro after his ouster by US forces in January, is governing under heavy pressure from Washington to open up Venezuela’s economy and resources to foreign companies. — AFP



Increasingly regular blackouts outside of Caracas have triggered protests around the country in recent weeks. **PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK**

SPORTS

Colin Bell appointed Myanmar women's national football team head coach

THE Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) has appointed English coach Colin Bell as head coach of the Myanmar women's national team on a three-year contract. The agreement was signed at the MFF head office on 13 August.

MFF General Secretary U Tun Tun Aung outlined the reasons for Bell's appointment and the team's future objectives before the contract was signed.

Speaking at the ceremony, Bell said he believed Myanmar had the potential to achieve success at the Asian level and expressed his ambition to guide the team to its first FIFA Women's World Cup qualification.

Born in Leicester, England, Bell holds a UEFA Pro Licence and has previously coached the women's national teams of South Korea, the Republic of Ireland and China's U20 side. His achievements include winning the UEFA Women's Champions League with German club 1. FFC Frankfurt in 2015 and leading South Korea to the final of the 2022 AFC Women's Asian Cup and qualification for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Under Bell's leadership, Myanmar will seek to strengthen its position in Asian football and pursue a place at the FIFA Women's World Cup. — TWA/KZL



MFF General Secretary U Tun Tun Aung presents a commemorative jersey to new Myanmar women's head coach Colin Bell.

123 athletes compete in Inter-Region/State Lethwei Championship



THE opening ceremony of the 2026 Inter-Region and State Traditional Lethwei Championship was held at Theinbyu Gymnasium in Yangon yesterday morning.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Chairman U Thit Linn Ohn, Deputy Minister for Sports U Nyi Nyi, regional ministers, officials from the Department of Sports and Physical Education and the Myanmar Traditional Lethwei Federation, as well as coaches, athletes and officials from various regions and states, attended the ceremony.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu delivered the opening remarks, followed by an address by Deputy Minister for Sports U Nyi Nyi, who officially opened the championship.

The participating athletes then recited the four sports oaths, after which the chief minister and officials greeted them. U Aung Naing Thu also presented cash awards to the marching band.

The chief minister and officials then watched the opening bout in the men's 51-kilogramme novice category between San Naing Htay of Yangon Region and Kyaw Kyaw Htay of Mon State.

A total of 123 athletes will compete in 107 bouts from 13 to 20 August 2026, with matches scheduled to begin at noon each day. — Bala/KZL

Fabien Barthez joins Zidane's new France coaching setup

WORLD Cup-winning goalkeeper Fabien Barthez will join the staff of new France head coach Zinedine Zidane, the French Football Federation (FFF) announced Thursday.

The 55-year-old, who was Zidane's teammate when France won the 1998 World Cup on home soil, will be responsible for the national team's goalkeepers.

Barthez, who played for Toulouse, Monaco, Marseille and Manchester United, had previously worked as a consultant for the French national team under coaches Raymond Domenech and Laurent Blanc, but played no role during Didier Deschamps' 14-year tenure.

He was briefly part of the Toulouse coaching staff from 2020 to 2021.

The FFF also announced several other appointments to the France coaching staff.

Among them are assistant coaches David Bettoni and Hamidou Msaidie, two close associates of Zidane who worked alongside him during his two spells in charge of Real Madrid.

Another recruit, Gregory Dupont, appointed "Strategy and Performance Advisor" also worked with Zidane at Madrid. — AFP

Swiatek sinks Svitolina to set up Rybakina title clash in Toronto

IGA Swiatek outlasted Ukraine's Elina Svitolina 6-3, 1-6, 6-3 on Wednesday to book a Toronto title showdown with world number two Elena Rybakina.

Australian Open champion Rybakina delivered another gutsy comeback, beating fourth-seeded Coco Gauff 5-7, 6-2, 6-2 to reach Thursday's final in the hard court warm-up for the US Open.

Former world number one Swiatek, seeded seventh, is in her first final of the year, having last lifted a trophy in Seoul almost a year ago.

She improved to 5-3 against Svitolina, who had narrowed their head-to-head record with two wins over the Polish star this year.

In a match delayed more than an hour by rain, six-time major champion Swiatek raced to a 4-0 lead in the opening set.

The Ukrainian made Swiatek work to serve it out, saving a pair of set points in the final game of the first.

Energized, she raced through the second set before Swiatek rebounded in the third, breaking Svitolina to love for a 5-3 lead before holding serve to secure the win. — AFP



Iga Swiatek celebrates match point against Elina Svitolina. PHOTO:AFP

Arteta coy over Lewis-Skelly's Arsenal future after 'emotional' celebration

MIKEL Arteta refused to confirm if Myles Lewis-Skelly will remain at Arsenal after the teenager's "emotional" goal celebration in a friendly against Como.

Lewis-Skelly has been linked with a move to Manchester United and Chelsea after starting just five times in the Premier League last season.

The 19-year-old signed a long-term contract at the Emirates Stadium last year, but his struggle to hold down a regular place in Arteta's side has sparked speculation over his future.

When Lewis-Skelly scored in the 1-1 draw with Como at Emirates Stadium on Wednesday, the England international made a heart gesture towards Arsenal's fans in a move that was interpreted as a potential farewell. — AFP

Milestone for China's
homegrown aircraft with
1st intl commercial flight

PAGE 14



WORLD

Asia-Pacific lawmakers adopt Phnom Penh communique

ASIA-PACIFIC parliamentarians concluded a three-day forum in Phnom Penh on Thursday, adopting a joint communique to advance universal health coverage (UHC) while navigating the challenges of climate change and artificial intelligence (AI).

Supported by the World Health Organization (WHO), the ninth Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum on Global Health drew members of parliament and health experts from 16 countries across the region. In the newly adopted Phnom Penh communique, lawmakers urged regional governments to secure sustainable financing for UHC to expand healthcare access for all, particularly vulnerable populations.

The declaration also

called for responsible AI governance to address ethical concerns surrounding the fast-evolving technology, alongside building climate-resilient health systems capable of withstanding environmental pressures like rising sea levels and air pollution.

The forum highlighted that marginalized groups suffer the most from healthcare gaps. These at-risk populations include people living in poverty, women, children, older adults, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees, and remote or island communities. To protect these citizens from financial hardship, the communique urges policymakers to pass laws that prioritize primary healthcare, prevention, and equity. — Xinhua

President Trump discusses third term laws

UNITED STATES President Donald Trump has acknowledged the constitutional prohibition against seeking a third presidential term in 2028, stating that while he would welcome another campaign, legal boundaries prevent him from doing so.

Interacting with media personnel at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland, Trump addressed direct queries regarding his potential candidacy for a third term following his current mandate.

The US President noted that despite persistent demands from his political base, the law explicitly prevents a chief executive from being elected to office more than twice.

“Everybody asks me that question, and you know that the law is very strong on that,” Trump said.

Expressing his inclination towards another campaign, he added, “I’d love to run, but the law is very strong.”

Trump highlighted that his supporters frequently urge him to run again, referencing an event he attended earlier in Ohio.

“I get asked by everyone, well, even tonight, they’re screaming at the event, ‘2028!’” he stated, referring to the Patriot Games.

He further noted, “No, everybody wants me to do it, but the law is very strong.” — ANI

Russia welcomes Indian oil and gas investments

Russia officially welcomes investments from India in energy sector.

The relationship between the two countries is a strategic partnership, with their leaders in constant contact and mutually beneficial projects actively advancing, Russian Deputy PM Alexander Novak says. Russia officially wants Indian capital in its oil and gas sector, as well as a sales network for Russian companies in India.

India will be the first official partner country of Russian Energy Week (REW) since the forum’s inception—the event takes place in October 2026.



A worker inspecting complex insulated piping and industrial processing equipment at a Gazprom energy facility. **PHOTO: GAZPROM**

This year’s REW exhibition will present all current and future projects, including those jointly implemented by both nations. — SPUTNIK

IMO chief condemns deadly attack on cargo ship in Red Sea

THE International Maritime Organization Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez on Wednesday condemned the attack on a cargo ship

off the coast of Mocha, Yemen.

The Tanzania-flagged and Egyptian-owned MV Tihamah was struck near the Bab

al-Mandab Strait on Tuesday.

The Yemeni government reported the deaths of four crew members and two Yemeni rescuers,

and 10 more were injured, according to Reuters. “It is with sadness and regret to know that, once again, innocent seafarers have lost their lives in an indefensible attack on international shipping,” said Dominguez in a statement. — Xinhua



Vietnamese enterprises significantly increase overseas investments during the first half. Vinamilk globally expands through foreign subsidiaries and agricultural investments. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Vietnamese firms expand overseas investment portfolio

VIETNAMESE enterprises invested more than US\$1.2 billion abroad in the first half of 2026, nearly 2.5 times the figure recorded in the same period last year, local media VnExpress reported Thursday, citing the Ministry of Finance.

The investment flowed into 33 countries and territories, mainly in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, electricity and gas production and distribution and construction, with Laos topping the destinations at US\$324.7 million, followed by Cambodia and Kyrgyzstan, according to the report.

A survey by Singapore-based

United Overseas Bank found that 80 per cent of Vietnamese businesses plan to invest overseas in the next one or two years, with ASEAN markets like Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia among their top targets.

Experts said Vietnamese companies should focus on brand value, intellectual property and local market adaptation rather than competing mainly on price, while artificial intelligence can help them analyze consumer demand and navigate language and cultural barriers in overseas markets, the report added. — Xinhua