

NATIONAL

Agro and Livestock Industries: Driving Regional and National Development

THE growth of agriculture and livestock-based industries plays a crucial role in regional and national development.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with Magway Region government and district-level departmental officials on 24 May 2024 to talk about regional development)

Measures enforced against construction material price hikes

1. The Mandalay earthquake occurred on 28 March 2025, causing damage in six regions, such as the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Magway regions, as well as Shan State.
2. The people and departmental officials in quake-stricken areas are now conducting reconstruction processes, and the rapacious businesspeople have increased their construction material prices for their own interests. Therefore, authorities met with the officials of companies and shops that distribute construction materials from 5 to 12 April, and warned them not to increase the prices or store the products, and made them sign the pledge.
3. However, some businesspeople failed to follow and continued to increase the prices drastically. Therefore, the officials conducted field studies at the construction material shops, warehouses and import companies in some townships, including quake-hit areas, on 23 April.
4. According to the inspections, it was found that 62 shops raised their prices significantly, and cases were filed to take action against them under the existing laws.
5. Therefore, construction material shops, foodstuffs and commodity shops should not raise their prices while people are facing difficulties, and people can report to authorities if they become aware of any price increases.



The documentary photo of combined teams including departmental officials inspecting construction material shops and warehouses on 23 April 2025.

Public Notice

THE companies that participated in the construction of offices and departmental buildings, special buildings, staff housing, administrative buildings and other construction projects included in the Nay Pyi Taw Construction Special Development Project shall contact the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee via the following persons: -

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Address

City Hall, Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee
Buildings Restoration, Utilization, and New Buildings Construction Supervision Committee

Weather Report

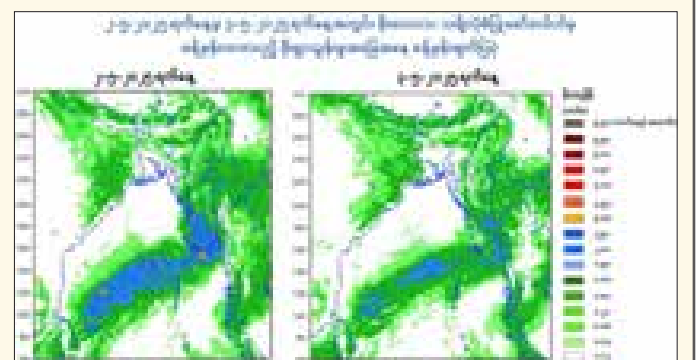
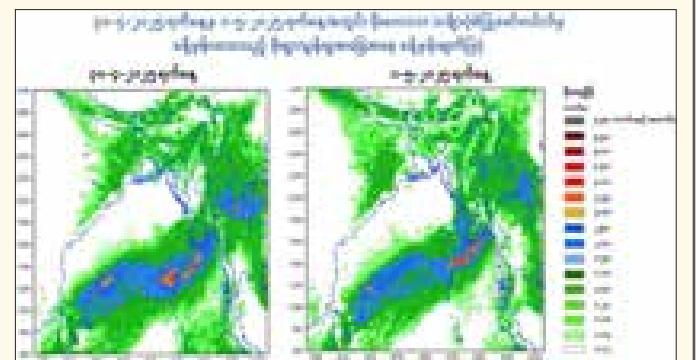
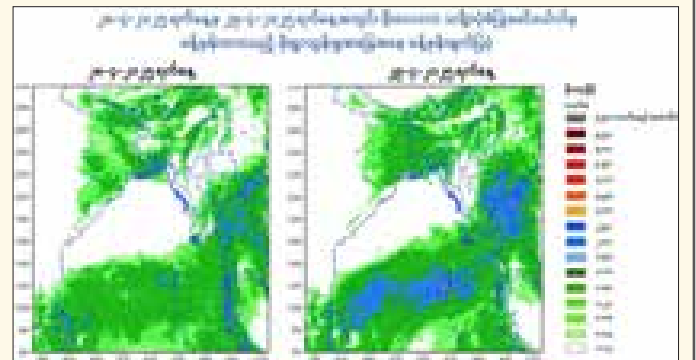
Untimely Rainfall Warning 25

Issued at 6 pm MST on 26 April 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, due to the western disturbances and the eastern disturbances, the convergence of warm air from the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and cold air from the China high pressure system, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered to fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states and with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls during 28 April 2025 to 3 May 2025.

Advisory

People should be aware of untimely rainfall accompanied with strong wind, thunder, lightning, hails and landslide. — DMH



NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Thai medical and rescue teams depart from Mandalay

MANDALAY Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung met a 21-member Thai rescue team led by Colonel Thoetsak Jai-aree and a 27-member Thai medical team led by Dr Pathaphong Pracijasontikul at the Ibis Style Hotel Mandalay Centre in Chanayethazan Township yesterday morning.

During the meeting, Chief Minister U Myo Aung expressed sincere gratitude for the essential healthcare services, moral support, humanitarian aid, and ongoing efforts provided to those affected by the earthquake. Participants exchanged views on humanitarian assistance related to the Mandalay earth-



Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung (centre right) meets Thai rescue and medical teams at the Ibis Style Hotel in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay yesterday.

quake and shared souvenirs. Chief Ministers and officials from the Mandalay Region Government attended the meeting. — MNA/MKKS

ERRATUM

PLEASE read "... internal and international well-wishers donated more than K115.876 billion, ..." in place of "... internal and international well-wishers donated more than K115,876 billion, ..." in the fourth column of the cover news story headlined "Plans underway to allocate household funds based on averages" of The Global New Light of Myanmar daily on 26 April 2025. Errors are regretted. — Ed.

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.

Two-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K408M

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade are continued effectively by the law.

On 23 and 24 April, the combined teams impounded two trucks (estimated value of K71 million), heading to Yangon from Myawady, carrying 15 kinds of industrial materials worth K32.366 million without official documents in front of Bago University, a Mitsubishi Fuso truck (approximately K35 million), travelling from Mawlamyine to Yangon, carrying two kinds of industrial

materials valued at K17.154 million without official documents on the Bago detour and three tractor heads with three trailers (approximately K210 million), travelling from Mawlamyine to Yangon, carrying eight kinds of industrial materials worth K43.189 million near Shwethanlwin tollgate in Phayagyi. The action was conducted as per Customs procedures.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 13 arrests on 23 and 24 April, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K408 million. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal items and vehicle carrying illegal items across regions and states.

NATIONAL

Rescue & reconstruction efforts ongoing in quake-affected areas in Sagaing, Mandalay



Lt-Gen Thet Pon visits the quake-stricken Mashikhana Pagoda clearup site in Sagaing.

FOLLOWING the powerful earthquake in Mandalay, Tatmadaw members, Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade, foreign rescue teams, departmental staff, social organisations and locals are working together in the affected regions to conduct rescue and reconstruction.

Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials visited damaged religious buildings and public infrastructure in Sagaing, including Rajamani

Cula (Kaunghmudaw) Pagoda, Sagaing Technological University, Zanakarama Monastery, Laykyun Manaung Pagoda and many more. They inspected clearing works and coordinated necessary assistance yesterday.

In Mandalay Region, Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and Central Command Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Ko Htike inspected the clearing of debris at Royal city wall area, repairs at Mandalay International



Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung encourages a quake-affected family after rebuilding their house in TadaU, Mandalay Region, yesterday.

Airport, and the resumption of regular flights. They also visited areas in TadaU, inspecting reconstruction progress at collapsed structures and meeting with local families, providing them with food supplies.

Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials also visited religious sites such as Chanthagyi Pagoda and Mahamuni Buddha Image in Mandalay, checking on ongoing reconstruction works and donat-

ing cash and offerings to senior monks.

Similarly, Lt-Gen Myo Thant Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials visited Pylonenaing Ward in Kyaukse, where they inspected the clearing of hazardous buildings using heavy machinery. They instructed teams to systematically carry out the operations to ensure workplace safety and coordinated with officials to address additional needs based on reports presented at the site.

In Kyaukse District, inspection teams were formed to assess earthquake-affected buildings using the SOP. As of today, inspections have been completed on 2,152 buildings. Of these, 1,904 buildings were found to be repairable, while 248 buildings were identified as dangerous structures that must be prioritized for demolition. Among the dangerous structures, 174 buildings have already been cleared, and 74 buildings remain to be addressed. Necessary repairs and clearances are systematically carried out according to the findings.

They also visited the ongoing repairs at the Cement Silo of the Sinmin Cement Factory, as well as the soil testing operations. After reviewing the situation, they instructed that electricity be restored promptly to the facility. They emphasized the importance of completing the repairs swiftly to ensure the resumption of operations and coordinated necessary actions based on the reports from the responsible officials. — MNA/KZL

Rescue, relief efforts ongoing for Myanmar quake survivors

AS of 26 April, six regions and states affected by the Mandalay earthquake reported 3,769 fatalities, 5,106 injuries, and 107 missing persons.

Search and rescue teams from the Myanmar Fire Brigade, alongside domestic and international responders, have been conducting rescue missions in the affected areas. These efforts have successfully rescued 653 survivors trapped under collapsed buildings and recovered the bodies of 776 deceased individuals.

Local donors have provided financial support and essential supplies to those affected, while international communities, organizations, and individual contributors have extended additional assistance. Between 8:10 pm on 25 April and 5 pm on 26 April, medical supplies donated by China, totalling 5.97 tonnes, arrived at Yangon International Airport.

These relief supplies are being distributed swiftly to earthquake victims to ensure timely support. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar extradites one Laotian amid telecom fraud crackdown

MYANMAR deported one Laotian for involvement in telecom fraud and destructive actions via the Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge II yesterday.

Myanmar authorities officially handed the deportee the necessary legal documents to ensure a smooth repatriation.

Between 30 January and 26 April 2025, a total of 9,040 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 7,312 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 1,727 individuals. These individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down



The handover event of a Laotian entrant in progress on 26 April.

on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with international countries, including neighbouring countries, especially through the Myanmar-China-Thailand Trilateral Cooperation, and systematically transferring the foreigners involved in these operations. — MNA/KTZH

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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

One-month memorial ceremony planned for Mandalay quake victims

A merit-sharing one-month memorial ceremony will be held for the victims of the Mandalay earthquake, according to organizers.

It is scheduled on 28 April, and prominent monks including Sitagu Sayadaw, Moekaung Sayadaw (Hinthada), Myazedi Sayadaw (Mawlamyine), Myak-yauk Sayadaw (Yankintaung), Rector of Mandalay Sangha University, Myanan Sayadaw, Hitadhara Sayadaw, Shwesannpin Sayadaw and Shwesannwe Sayadaw will preside over it at the Sitagu Samvejaniya Dhamma Hall in Sagaing.

All Myanmar nationals are encouraged to hold such memo-

rial and praying ceremonies at their convenient places along with the Venerable Sayadaws in this event, for those who died in the earthquake.

Since this event was made possible by many people, those who contributed large or small alike are also advised to pour symbolic water to share their good deeds.

The Myanmar Fire Brigade continues to carry out the clearing and recovery of buildings in Mandalay, and they recovered two male bodies from the Golden City Hotel and one female body from the Mercury Guesthouse building on 26 April. — Htet Oo Maung/ZN



Bodies were recovered from collapsed buildings on 26 April.

Affordable food prices offered at staff housing in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, and Mandalay



Nay Pyi Taw residents are seen buying foodstuffs at affordable prices from a market truck yesterday.

IN collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), seven market trucks are selling food items such as rice, oil, salt, beans, fish paste, and other commodities door-to-door in the towns of Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, and Mandalay at competitive prices. This initiative reached its 27th day yesterday.

From 30 March to 26 April, food items were sold at various staff housing locations, including Yezin Agricultural University, Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station, Locomotive Shed, Staff Housing, Nursing Training School, Ottarathiri Hospital Staff Housing, Padauk Housing, Gantgaw Housing, the respective Ward Public Rental Housings, Education Personnel Housing, Consumer Affairs Department,

Office No 52, Ministry of Home Affairs, Zeyathiri District General Administration Department, Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV), Ministry of Information, Pobbathiri Township, Agriculture Department, and General Administration Department. Similarly, four market trucks each in Mandalay and Sagaing are offering food items daily and will continue to do so regularly. — MNA/MKKS

Apache Cement priced at K17,000 per bag



This photo showcases Apache Cement bags, which are distributed at the factory price.

SHWE Taung Cement Company said it has sold Apache Cement at the factory price of K17,000 per bag, as much as what consumers need.

Starting 28 March to date, Shwe Taung company has generated 60,000 tonnes of cement and sold its product at this reasonable price for people who need to reconstruct their

quake-affected houses and to fulfil the domestic demand when the cement has been in short supply and prices are astonishingly climbing up.

Shwe Taung's Apache Cement Factory (Pyin Nyaung) has received an order for more than 5,100 tonnes from the regional governments of Mandalay, Sagaing and Bago, and will

sell at the factory price.

Cement price rose to K25,000, even K37,000- K46,000 per bag in mid-April, but people can't find as much as they need, said Pynmana residents.

"Cement prices rose further after the quake. It surged dramatically to K38,000 before Thingyan and even K40,000-K43,000 during Thingyan, but the brands are not popular," he said.

Local authorities carried out a raid on 320 construction materials supply shops in Yangon, Mandalay, Bago and Sagaing regions and Shan State on 23 April, aiming to prevent from raising in prices amid the high cement demand gets high. During the raid, 62 shops were found raising the price by 10-15 per cent or even above 15 per cent, and legal actions will be followed. — Htun Htun/ZS

Heavy rain, landslide and flood risks forecast for quake-hit regions in late Apr

IN the northern Mandalay Region and northern Shan State, rain is forecast to be high from 28 to 30 April; these are quake-hit areas, and people will need to be aware of landslides and floods, warned meteorologist U Win Naing.

At the end of April and early May, cloud formation has been strong in the south of the Andaman Sea and due to strong south, southwest and west winds and clouds entering along the Bago Mountain Range between 28 and 30 April, there is the possibility of rain in central Myanmar.

Under forecasts, the ECMWF model shows rain will be high in the northern Mandalay Region while the ICON model shows a similar forecast in northern Shan State, and as the two locations are quake-hit regions, people will need to be cautious about landslides and floods at temporary camps, he said. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL

Weekly Roundup

20 April

SAC Chair meets departmental officials in Sagaing and Mandalay

At the separate meetings with departmental officials in Sagaing and Mandalay, Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented K50 billion for rehabilitation in Sagaing Region and K60 billion for Mandalay Region through officials.

21 April

PyinOoLwin to get water supply in long-term plan

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, on his tour of PyinOoLwin Township, stressed the need to adopt long-term plans for sustaining water sources to supply drinking water and agricultural water for residents and farmlands, as the population of PyinOoLwin is on the rise year by year.



Vice-Senior General Soe Win visits Naypyitaw State Academy

Buildings must withstand up to magnitude 8 on the Richter scale per the newly revised design by the Construction Ministry, said Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win on his inspection tour of Naypyitaw State Academy.

23 April

Head of State sends message of condolence on passing of His Holiness Pope Francis

His Excellency Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, sent a Message of Condolences to His Eminence Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State of the Vatican, on the demise of His Holiness Pope Francis, Supreme Pontiff of Vatican City.

Temporary ceasefire term extended

Tatmadaw stated that the temporary ceasefire period was extended from 23 to 30 April 2025 to ensure peace and stability, aimed at continuously accelerating reconstruction and rehabilitation measures in the quake-affected areas, promptly implementing the interests of the State and all citizens, and initiating durable and genuine peace.

26 April

National Disaster Management Committee meets

Myanmar's recovery and reconstruction efforts will be carried out successfully, with their effectiveness depending on the availability and allocation of resources, said SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the meeting 3/2026 of the National Disaster Management Committee. — GNLM/TTA

MRCSS delivers essential supplies to displaced households in Hpa-an



Photos capture Red Cross volunteers carrying and checking the supplies to be provided.

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCSS) has distributed essential supplies to 710 people from 181 temporarily displaced households in Hpa-an Township, Kayin State, according to its headquarters.

The 181 displaced households are currently residing

in Tawya Monastery on Khaye Hill and Khaye Kanna Monastery in Hpa-an. They have received 154 kits of personal hygiene items, 200 mosquito nets, and 10 sheets of tarpaulin.

This assistance was provided by the Kayin State Red Cross Supervisory Committee and

Red Cross volunteers from Kawkareik Township.

MRCSS provides humanitarian assistance to those affected by various causes, including natural disasters, in alignment with the Red Cross principles, according to the organization. — ASH/TH

17 Strokes art exhibition opens at Artistic Space

THE Group Art Exhibition titled "17 Strokes" is ongoing at the Artistic Space Art Gallery, located in Botahtaung Township, Yangon Region, starting from 26 April until 30 April.

The exhibition features a collection of paintings by 17 male and female artists, displaying a variety of artistic styles, vivid colours and diverse themes.

A gallery representative remarked, "At Artistic Space Art Gallery, we are currently presenting the '17 Strokes' Group Art Exhibition,

featuring the works of 17 artists. The exhibition is open daily from 10 am to 5 pm, and we warmly invite art enthusiasts to visit and appreciate the artworks".

The participating artists include Moe Myint, Aung Myo Myat, Kyaw Ye Moe, Ye Thway Naung, Khaing Mon Soe Lwin, Lin Pyae Myat Aung, May Phue Zin, Hnin Nandar Zaw, Shwe Moe Kha, Thant Moe Nwe, Khin Khin Soe, Win Win Mar, Khin Khin Htwe, Thin Su Su Nyein, Amara, Thet Hnin Khaing and Ni Wah Soe. — ASH/KZL

UN Myanmar to act swiftly against sale of WFP-fortified biscuits



This photo shows packs of fortified biscuits provided by the WFP.

ACTION will be taken against those who sell fortified biscuits provided by the World Food Program (WFP), according to the UN Myanmar.

Social media networks mention fortified biscuits provided by the WFP are sold in Nay Pyi Taw, but such sales cannot show any evidence.

Such kinds of biscuits were provided by the WFP on 1 April in Nay Pyi Taw. In this regard, WFP noted that the biscuits supplied as humanitarian aid should not be resold. The organization is monitoring similar expressions on social media networks, and immediate action will be taken against the sale of fortified biscuits.

Fortified biscuits are produced for the urgent consumption of individuals in emergencies when it is impossible to consume regular foodstuffs and cooked meals.

Reportedly, WFP prohibited feeding fortified biscuits to children under six months. But, children above six months can be fed the biscuits after they have been breastfed. Moreover, adults can consume some five packets of fortified biscuits a day. — ASH/TTA

Myanmar exports over 2M tonnes of maize in FY2024-25

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Corn Industrial Association, Myanmar has exported over two million tonnes of maize to foreign trade partners so far in the 2024-2025 financial year.

Thailand is the top importer of Myanmar's maize, which is also exported to China, India, the Philippines and Bangladesh.

At present, Myanmar's maize is flowing into Thailand under a zero-tariff benefit. Thailand gives the green light for maize imports under zero tariff (with Form-D), between 1 February and 31 August. However, Thailand imposes a maximum tax rate of 73 per cent on maize imports to protect the rights of their growers if the maize is imported during the maize season

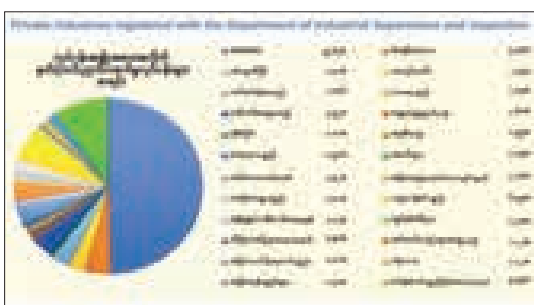
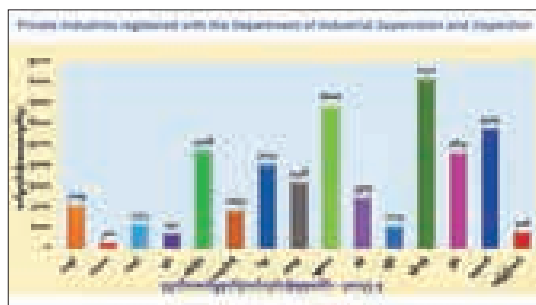


Farmers keep piles of corn in the sun before plucking kernels from cobs.

of Thailand.

Additionally, China has been purchasing Myanmar's maize through cross-border trade under the alternative development programme. Legitimate maize trade between Myanmar and China commenced at the end of 2022. A total of 112 Myanmar companies have been permitted for maize exports. Myanmar ships over two million tonnes of maize to foreign trade partners yearly. The maize is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three maize seasons – winter, summer, and monsoon. Myanmar's annual maize output is estimated at 2.5-3 million tonnes. — NN/KK

Private industries registered with DISI hit 48,134 by end-Jan



A total of 48,134 private industries have been registered with the Directorate of Industrial Supervision and Inspection as of January 2025, the Ministry of Industry's data indicated.

The registered private industries grew to 47,609 in the previous financial year 2023-2024. A total of 525 industries were officially listed in April-January of the past FY 2024-2025.

Almost 50 per cent of the registered private industries are engaged in the food group. The lists of registered private industries are classi-

fied into 24 business groups; food, tobacco, clothing, wood and finished wood slabs, printing, chemical, rubber and plastic, basic mineral, computer and electronic device, unclassified machine, beverage, fabric, leather, paper and paper products, charcoal fuel, pharmaceuticals, non-metallic minerals, metal refining equipment, electronics, vehicle and trailer, furniture and machines and equipment repair and installation.

With the private industries growing domestically, the DISI is providing ser-

vices for small and medium enterprises to get access to technical assistance and funding, explore markets, register the private industrial enterprises in accordance with existing laws and conduct safety inspections of boiler and electrical usage at worksites and environmental impact assessment.

Yangon Region, a commercial hub of Myanmar, is home to the private industries with 8,201 registered businesses, followed by Mandalay Region with 6,888 and Ayeyawady Region with 5,784. — KK

CBM invites bids for facility construction and operations

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) called for interested suppliers to submit a bid to provide building facilities, office furniture and equipment and IT service for ongoing operations, the Tendering Committee reported.

The tender form is sold between 28 April and 12 May at the CBM in Nay Pyi Taw (Office 55). The tender form for building facilities and office equipment must be submitted at 10 am by 15 May 2025. Submission of the tender form for the procurement

of Office furniture and IT services will close at 10 am on 16 May 2025. Tender evaluation will be held on the same day as the closing date at the CBM in Nay Pyi Taw.

Individuals can enquire about tender regulations, forms and details through the Engineering Department at 067 3413293 for building facilities and office equipment, Goods Division 1 at 067 3418590 for office furniture, and at 067 418765 for IT services procurement. — NN/KK

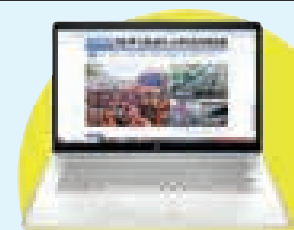


Aerial view of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM).

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.

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OPINION

BOOKRACK POEM

Efficiently use valuable doses of vaccine for humans

A STATEMENT issued by the World Health Organization mentioned that during the last five decades, essential vaccines saved at least 154 million lives. It shows that these vaccines can save six lives a minute.

Although varieties of diseases kill not only children but also adults, scientists and medical specialists have been saving lives around the world over the years. Those experts produce better and better vaccines to fight different varieties of diseases. On the other hand, people need to enhance their health awareness on how to live free from disease infections of viruses and how to build a safe family.

Since yore, different varieties of diseases have been leading to outbreaks of pandemics across the world, leaving numerous fatalities. But humans never gave up on these diseases. They conducted

Public participation is crucial for the successful implementation of the immunization project taking place from 24 to 30 April. Collaboration between community members and health workers will ensure the project's success, particularly through vital efforts to protect children against various diseases. So, everybody needs to recognize that healthy children are the foundation of a strong and prosperous future nation.

creation and innovation to produce potent medicines to save the lives of people. Thanks to their endeavours, children and adults could be provided with vaccines. In this regard, it can be found that immunization could save the lives of children.

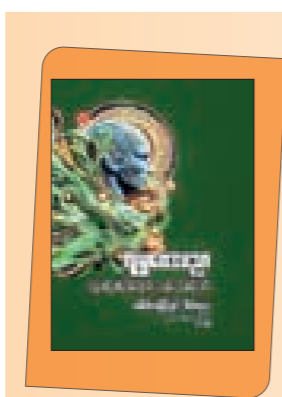
During the past 50 years, vaccination accounts for 40 per cent of the improvement in infant survival, and more children now live to see their first birthday and beyond than at any other time in human history. The measles vaccine alone accounts for 60 per cent of those lives saved, according to the World Health Organization.

Under the banner, 'Immunization for All is Humanly Possible', World Immunization Week 2025 aims to ensure even more children, adolescents, adults, and their communities are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. A global theme, "A Dose of

Good News", has been set for the campaign, which highlights the life-saving power of vaccines and their role in protecting children from preventable diseases.

Myanmar's Ministry of Health is striving to enhance immunization programs despite various challenges. Health staff and local authorities organize Immunization Day each year. Moreover, they implement catch-up immunization programmes for children who missed their scheduled vaccinations, alongside the regular annual immunization programmes. These efforts aim to ensure children receive necessary vaccines and are protected from preventable diseases.

Public participation is crucial for the successful implementation of the immunization project taking place from 24 to 30 April. Collaboration between community members and health workers will ensure the project's success, particularly through vital efforts to protect children against various diseases. So, everybody needs to recognize that healthy children are the foundation of a strong and prosperous future nation.



Book Title	-	Sociology: Exploring the Study of People in Society
Author	-	Dr Myint Lwin (Psychology)
Publishing House	-	Su Young Sin
Publication Date	-	February 2025 (2 nd Edition)
Price	-	K40,000

Sociology: Exploring the Study of People in Society

WRITER Saya Myint Lwin (Psychology), specializing in sociology and psychology, sheds light on a comprehensive exploration of sociology through the second edition of this book.

The book titled "Sociology" offers a scientific study and detailed description of human society, social interactions and group behaviour. This book will emphasize on evolution of human societies, how material culture and non-material culture arise, the formation of social stratification and its impact on people, causes of crime, moral indiscipline and

deviance, the emergence of family, economy, education, religion and governmental institutions, demography and impacts on humans, urbanization and global dynamics, global power hierarchy, and the rise of conflicts and revolutions through sociological perspectives.

Moreover, this book points out how social behaviours and interactions can affect individuals or organizations, shaping individual development and influencing organizational performance.

Sociology and Psychology differ primarily in their scope

of analysis. Sociology examines how society evolves, functions and influences individuals and organizations, unlike psychology, which focuses on individual behaviour. Sociology involves studying large-scale social structures, institutions and processes and how they impact individuals and communities.

For instance, psychology considers that childhood trauma might be linked to addiction and mental disorders. In Sociology, how external factors within societies and societal pressures (pressure to achieve success de-

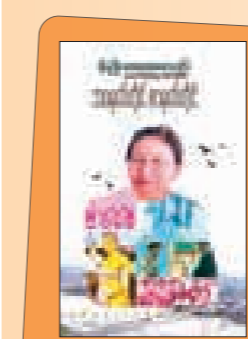
spite lack of opportunities, to conform to social norms) can cause an individual's vulnerability to self-destructive behaviours, including drug addiction, mental health, low self-esteem, and social isolation. Sociology studies the root cause of social issues in large-scale patterns.

They prefer observations through macro-level analyses focusing on larger social structures or cultural trends. In contrast, psychology provides insight into individual behaviours and human interactions by examining specific actions and micro-expressions.

Macro-level approaches include surveys and participant observations, unlike small-group experiments, the writer stated.

Sociology is an independent science related to other social sciences, not studied as a branch of any other social science. It defines a systematic study of society and social interaction from different approaches and aspects.

It is a must-read for students and individuals entering society. Psychology students can gain broader insights into human behaviour by pairing psychology majors with a minor in sociology. This book includes 700 pages with four parts and 17 chapters.



Book Title	-	Life's Literary Milestones
Author	-	Monyo-Aye Aye Thuang
Publishing House	-	Nay La
Publication Date	-	April 2025 (1 st Edition)
Price	-	K15,000

Life's Literary Milestones

LIFE'S Literary Milestones by Monyo-Aye Aye Thuang is a moving and inspiring collection of essays that invites readers to reflect on life's deeper meanings through kindness, compassion, joy, and equanimity. Drawing from the teachings of the four Brahma-viharas – Metta (loving-kindness), Karuna (compassion), Mudita (sympathetic joy), and Upekkha (equanimity) – the book highlights how practising impartial loving-kindness (Pali's Appamanna) can lead to a more peaceful and harmonious society.

Monyo-Aye Aye Thuang, a veteran author and officer at the Ministry of Construction's Bridges Department, shares her wisdom gained from real-life experiences and years of active engagement in social and religious activities. Deeply rooted in Buddhist values,

her writing shines with sincerity and heartfelt emotion, offering readers a glimpse into a life dedicated to service, reflection, and spiritual growth.

Life's Literary Milestones brings together 25 thoughtfully curated essays, organized into four chapters: The Miraculous Power of Pagodas, Profound Wonders, The Aesthetics of Social Life, and The Radiance of the Dhamma. Each essay is a gem, offering insights into the spiritual, cultural, and everyday beauty of Myanmar and beyond.

In her touching preface, the author shares that writing and reading have brought her as much joy as a delicious meal. Guided by the Buddha's teaching that a single day of meaningful living is worth more than a long life spent aimlessly, Monyo-Aye

Aye Thuang hopes her words will leave a lasting legacy of goodwill and wisdom for future generations.

Fellow writer Saya Nwe Oo Hlaing notes the tremendous dedication that went into crafting these essays. Sayama (the author) invested not just time but physical strength, emotional resilience, and financial resources, driven by the hope that her readers would find knowledge, inspiration, and spiritual merit through her work. This hope makes the book itself a significant milestone in her literary journey.

One standout essay, "The One Who Beautifies the Eight Vicissitudes with Heart", tells the inspirational story of Ma Aye Aung, a young woman born without arms and legs who, despite her physical limitations,

supports her parents through her small home business and saves diligently for acts of charity. Her courage and generosity embody the spirit of resilience and faith that the author celebrates throughout the book.

Another memorable essay, "When Blood Speaks", recounts the sacrifice of Red Cross members injured during the 2015 Kokang conflict, and honours the founding of the Red Cross by Henry Dunant. Through vivid storytelling, Monyo-Aye Aye Thuang brings to life the values of compassion, bravery, and selflessness that inspire humanity at its best.

Beyond personal stories, readers are treated to rich descriptions of Myanmar's ancient pagodas, rare magical phenomena, and the profound teachings of revered Buddhist monks. Every page offers an opportunity to discover, reflect, and reconnect with the timeless values that make life truly meaningful.

Life's Literary Milestones is more than just a book – it's an invitation to walk the path of compassion, to find joy in service, and to embrace the beauty in every challenge life presents. Thoughtful, moving, and profoundly inspiring, this collection is a must-read for anyone seeking a deeper, more compassionate understanding of the world.

Jasmine Flower

By Chit Ko Pe

On the creepy stems and stalks, jasmine flowers bloom and develop. Donning the festoon in a braid, a damsel presents a pretty sight.

ပန်းစံပယ်

ပန်းစံပယ်
လင်နွယ်နို့ပွင့်
လှမငယ်
ဆံလယ်ထုံး
သီကုံးလှတင့်၊
ချစ်ကိုပေ



Cold Thingyan

By Mya Thae (Research)



- Because of ill luck, dreadful earthquakes appeared so much.
- We encountered worries, depression and broken hearts.
- We celebrated the 'Aye' (cold) Thingyan Festival to acquire good luck.
- In Myanmar we wished to achieve peace and shine, we splashed Atar water with unity so kind.
- Myanmar will achieve good luck in future if we work hard this New Year.

အိခဲမာန်စွဲ

မသက်မသာကြား
မစာနာဝင်ကာသွား
လေမိုးငလျင် ဝေရာရှား။
သံသရာမှာ ကြုံကြသား
လောကခံကို ရင်ဆိုင်ထား
ရှင်သန်မွေးမြူ ဘဝများ။
အကြိတ်တင်းကာ ရင်ဆိုင်ငြား
တာရှည်ကျတော့ အခက်သာ။

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မန်မြန်ပြည်။

Building fortitude and cultivating pride

By Aung K Moe, Translated by Myint Zan

in the midst of intense inconvenience there is also a lack of consideration and sympathy: let the wind, the rain and the earthquake be far away

in Samsara, we have to face such hardships and vicissitudes of life we have to cultivate fortitude in our lives

even though one grits one's teeth to face (such 'outrageous fortune') 'tis difficult to maintain it in the long run

Composed on 15 April 2025
Translated on 27 April 2025



NATIONAL Entertainment

Aye Chan Maung

ACADEMY Aye Chan Maung's fans participated in the premiere show of the 'Play' film and gave presents to the actor. Regarding the eyebrow and lower lip piercings, the actor said, "This is my very first piercing on my face for my character. I don't like such things, but I just think about my character. Some think I want to be more good-looking. All will know when the film comes out".



Tun Tun

ALTHOUGH Manchester United is nearing the relegation zone in the Premier League, their fans remain loyal and continue to support the team with unwavering spirit. Among those fans is singer and actor Tun Tun, a devoted Manchester United supporter. Speaking at the announcement event where he was appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Glory Sport, Tun Tun expressed his loyalty by saying, "Just as we celebrated during the time we won trophies, let's also stand together through these tough times".



Yadana Mai

VETERAN SINGER DAW MAI, her daughter Yadana Mai and son-in-law Ko Myo Kyaw organized a novitiate ceremony dedicated to the deceased U Maung Yin on 24 April at Panya Tagun monastery in Mingaladon Township, Yangon. - Htun Htun/KTZH



Kyaw Htet Aung

AFTER the Mandalay earthquake, Kyaw Htet Aung donated to the quake-stricken areas. "All made predations with the quake. It depends on personal intuition. I want all to wait for the release of experts. Stay strong for rehabilitation. And we are also here," he urged.



CELEBRITY BRIEF

Mi Sandi

SINGER Mi Sandi posted a motivational speech on her Facebook page saying, "Sometimes, one has to encounter unexpected cases... sometimes... although it has not happened as expected, don't give up your expectations. People live with expectations. May we endure all the hardships we face with resilience, and may we rise again every time we fall - just like our traditional Myanmar toy, the 'Pyit Taung Htaung' that always stands back up when knocked down".



Aye Myat Thu

ACTRESS Aye Myat Thu has made a return with new films. The launching ceremony of the 'Kan Set Kan' film, in which she takes the main lead, was organized at Kyaikkasan Pagoda in Yangon on 25 April. It was directed by director Tun Htet Arkar Bo, and the cast members are Kyaw Su, academy Cho Pyone, academy Khin Moh Moh Aye, Hein Yatu, Wine Shwe Yee, Oakaw Than Thar and other artistes.



'Amone Myit' Myanmar drama series to premiere on 1 May

THE new Myanmar drama series "Amone Myit" will be broadcast on MRTV-4, the HEY Play Application and the HEY Play YouTube Channel on 1 May.

The story and script were created by Phyo Thinzar Kyaw, Iris, Maung Pyone, Maung Kaung and Nway Nway Maung. It was directed by director Thein Han (Phoenix). It is based on a true story about a family case.

It is a family drama series based on a true story, where audiences can witness the conflicts and acts of revenge arising within a family due to hatred, resentment, and rivalry between a mother-in-law and a daughter-in-law with different personalities. Cast members are Academy Myat Kay Thi Aung, Zin Myo, Charlie, Wint Yamone Naing, Nae Thit Aye Aung, Hsu Htet Hlaing, Paing Oak Soe, Thein Lin Soe, May Thin Ko, Hnin Ei Wint Wah, Tayzar Kyaw, Min Khant Ko, Academy Zaw Oo, Daung Wai and other artistes. - ASH/KTZH



Xi urges promoting healthy, orderly development of AI

Emphasis on leveraging national resources, self-reliance, and prioritizing practical applications to advance China's AI sector.

XI Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, has urged efforts to promote the healthy and orderly development of artificial intelligence (AI) in a beneficial, safe and fair direction.

Xi made the remarks while presiding over a group study session of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee on Friday.

Xi emphasized that in the face of

rapidly evolving new-generation AI technologies, China shall give full play to the advantages of the new system for mobilizing resources nationwide, uphold self-reliance and self-strengthening, prioritize application-oriented development, and promote the healthy and orderly advancement of the country's AI sector towards a beneficial, safe and equitable direction.

Zheng Nanning, a professor at Xi'an



A robot performs shooting at the basket during the World Artificial Intelligence Conference (WAIC) 2023 in Shanghai, east China, 6 July 2023. PHOTO: FANG ZHE/XINHUA /FILE

Jiaotong University in northwest China's Shaanxi Province, gave a lecture on this issue and put forward suggestions. Members of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee listened carefully to the lecture and held discussions.

Speaking after these discussions, Xi pointed out that AI, as a strategic technology leading the new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation, has profoundly changed the way humans produce and live. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pakistan warns of full-force response over Indus water diversion

PAKISTAN on Saturday warned of a full-force response to any attempt by India to divert or block its share of water under the Indus Waters Treaty.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, addressing a passing-out parade at the Pakistan Military Academy in Kakul in the country's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, described water as a "vital national interest" and said any interference would meet firm resistance.

"No one should harbour any illusions about Pakistan's resolve," he said. "Any disruption to our water flow will trigger a response proportional to the threat." The warning comes amid Islamabad's concerns over what it describes as Indian efforts to alter the flow of the Indus basin rivers. Signed in 1960 with World Bank mediation, the Indus Waters Treaty allocates control over six rivers between the two neighbours. Pakistan accuses India of undermining the accord by constructing upstream projects in disputed regions. — Xinhua

Trump administration to reverse termination of legal status of intl students

THE Trump administration said Friday that it will reverse the termination of the legal statuses of more than 1,200 international students amid legal challenges. US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was in the process of manually restoring the statuses for individuals whose Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) records were terminated in recent weeks, a government attorney told a federal court in Oakland, California.

A similar statement was made by a government lawyer during a separate hearing in Washington, DC. — Xinhua

St Petersburg holds concert for 80th anniversary of WWII victory

RUSSIA'S city of St Petersburg hosted a China-Russia concert on Friday to celebrate the victory of World War II 80 years ago.

The "Eternal Remembrance" concert, dedicated to commemorating the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression

and the Soviet Union's Great Patriotic War, was co-organized by the Chinese Consulate General in St Petersburg, the city's legislative assembly, and the Russia-China Friendship Association.

Attending the event together with local officials and

veterans, Chinese Consul General Luo Zhanhui highlighted in his speech the profound historical bonds between the two nations, recalling how Chinese and Russian soldiers fought side by side eight decades ago, shedding blood for hard-earned peace. — Xinhua

Iran, US hold new round of high-stakes nuclear talks

THE United States and Iran were expected to start haggling over details of a potential nuclear deal in Oman on Saturday as

they entered their third round of talks in as many weeks.

US special envoy Steve Witkoff and Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi are again leading the discussions, which this time included a technical-level meeting between experts from both sides.

The talks are aimed at striking a new deal that would stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons — an objective Tehran denies pursuing — in return for relief from crippling sanctions.

US President Donald Trump pulled out of an earlier, multilateral deal during his first term in office. — AFP



Iran's top diplomat Abbas Araghchi (C) speaks to Omani Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi (L) at a book signing in Muscat. PHOTO: HAITHAM AL-SHUKAIRI / AFP

ECONOMY WORLD



The London skyline is a breathtaking blend of historic architecture and modern skyscrapers. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXABAY**

UK govt reticent on reported EU youth mobility deal

The first UK-EU summit since Brexit is scheduled for 19 May in London, where economic and security ties are expected to be discussed.

THE UK government on Friday refused to comment on reports that a youth mobility scheme may be part of any deal to “reset” Britain’s ties with the European Union.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer, a strong supporter of staying in the EU during the 2016 referendum, has promised to deepen post-Brexit ties with the continent, and hopes to agree a new deal as

the first UK-EU summit since the country left the bloc looms next month.

Economic and security ties are believed to be on the table for the 19 May London summit, but speculation is rife about what concessions the UK will have to make, particularly in the areas of fisheries and freedom of movement.

More than 60 Labour MPs on Wednesday called for

the government to agree to a youth mobility scheme that would allow British and European 18- to 30-year-olds to travel freely between the UK and EU — reportedly a key European demand.

German ambassador to the UK Miguel Berger told BBC Radio 4’s Today programme: “I am now pretty optimistic that we are moving in a good direction.”— AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lebanon amends banking secrecy law in key reform

LEBANON’S parliament on Thursday granted regulatory bodies greater access to bank account information, a key reform demanded by international creditors before the crisis-hit country can unlock bail-out funds.

Prime Minister Nawaf Salam called parliament’s approval of changes to banking secrecy laws “a necessary step towards the desired financial reform that our government promised to achieve, and a fundamental pillar to any recovery plan”.

Adding that the decades-old culture of financial opacity was no longer the boon to investment it once was, Salam said the reform was fundamental to “restoring the rights of depositors and the confidence of citizens and the international community”.

Lebanon was once a booming regional financial hub dubbed the “Switzerland of the Middle East”, with strict banking secrecy laws a key attraction, but the economic crisis that began in 2019 shredded its fiscal reputation. Since then, authorities have come under local and international pressure to amend the laws amid accusations that influential figures spirited large sums abroad while regular depositors were locked out of their life savings and the local currency’s value plummeted. — AFP

Arms maker Saab posts record sales as Europe rearms

SWEDISH defence group Saab on Friday reported soaring quarterly earnings and record sales as European countries beef up their defence capacities amid geopolitical tensions and uncertainties.

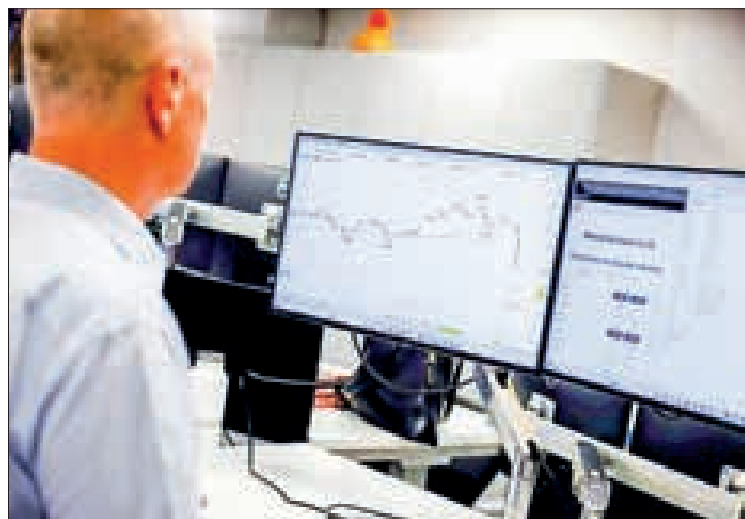
The company noted however that the uncertainties, including those over US President Donald Trump’s tariffs scheme, also “present challenges and make it difficult to predict the future”.

Saab manufactures the Gripen jet fighter, combat weapons systems and submarines among other things.

European countries have ramped up their military budgets since Russia’s 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

Trump is also pressuring NATO members to more than double their defence spending to five per cent of GDP, warning that he could refuse to help protect countries that do not spend enough on their own defence.

Saab saw its net profit soar by 53 per cent in the first quarter from the same period a year ago, to 1.2 billion kronor (\$124 million), while operating profit rose by 22 per cent to 1.5 billion kronor, its strongest first quarter operating profit ever. — AFP



Retaliatory tariffs would also serve to drag on gross export growth. **PHOTO: AFP**

America’s tariffs turn world back to “law of jungle”: Chinese envoy to Australia

AMERICA’S tariffs risk returning the world to the “law of the jungle”, where small and weak countries suffer the most, Chinese Ambassador to Australia Xiao Qian said in an article published in local daily The Australian on Friday.

Recently, the United States has indiscriminately imposed tariffs on all its trading partners, coercing them into initiating so-called “reciprocal tariff

negotiations and demanding each country make significant concessions, Xiao said, calling on the international community to remain highly vigilant against such actions.

“If the US is allowed to act with impunity, the world will revert to the ‘law of the jungle’ where the strong prey on the weak, and all countries will become victims,” Xiao said.

Eighty years ago, in re-

sponse to the devastation of World War II, countries founded the United Nations to prevent war, resolve disputes, and promote global development. Since then, a UN-centred international system based on international law has enabled all nations, regardless of size or power, to engage equally in global cooperation and competition, fostering shared progress, he said. — Xinhua

Hong Kong gears up for Labour Day holiday

AS the Labour Day holiday of the Chinese mainland approaches, it is expected that 840,000 mainland visitors will travel to Hong

Kong during this period, with various units in the city actively preparing to welcome visitors.

This year's Labour

Day holiday runs for five consecutive days, from 1 May to 5 May, during which Hong Kong is expected to become even busier than

usual.

China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government on Friday held a

meeting of the interdepartmental working group on festival arrangements to coordinate and steer the preparatory work of various government departments for welcoming visitors to Hong Kong during

the Labour Day holiday.

The HKSAR government estimated a notable increase in visitor arrivals during the Labour Day holiday and will make good preparations for receiving visitors. — Xinhua

Miffy area to open at Japan's Dutch-themed Huis Ten Bosch resort

Huis Ten Bosch, a Dutch-themed seaside resort in southwestern Japan, will open in June a new area featuring the Miffy rabbit character made famous by author Dick Bruna.

The opening of Miffy Wonder Square on 21 June falls on the 70th anniversary of the character's inception. The area will give visitors the opportunity to take photos with Miffy and also access to an attraction that offers a view of the park, according to the resort operator.

"We want to create a one-of-a-kind place in the world by making the most of the character's charms," said Kotaro Takamura, the president of Huis Ten Bosch Co, at a press conference held recently in Tokyo.

Takamura said it is the largest project in terms of scale and investment since the resort's opening in 1992, and he hopes the project will inject life into the region's tourism industry.

The company also revealed that it plans to open another new facility in the square in the fall to allow visitors to enjoy the world of Miffy as if they are in its storybooks.

While the resort in Sasebo, Nagasaki Prefecture, has proven a draw to visitors in their 60s and over, it seeks to attract younger travellers with the introduction of the character.

Bruna created the Miffy character in 1955 as a story to entertain his young son. — Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HONG JIA 21 VOY.NO. (2512E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HONG JIA 21 VOY.NO. (2512E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-4-2025** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 OCEAN SALUTE SHIPPING PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UVD1S1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0UVD1S1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0346-795N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0346-795N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-4-2025** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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.

Public Notice

Official Statement

Issued on behalf of Myanmar Fiber Optic Communication Network Co., Ltd.

On behalf of our client, Myanmar Fiber Optic Communication Network Co., Ltd. ("MFOCN"), we hereby issue this public statement in response to, and in strong rejection of, the false and misleading public notice published via Myanma Alin Newspaper, Kyaemhone Newspaper and The Global Newlight of Myanmar Newspaper on 24 April 2025 by Myanmar Swat International Security Group Co., Ltd. ("SWAT", Company Registration No. 134577339) and its director, Mr. Duan Zhengli.

Our client, MFOCN, solemnly states as follows:

1. Since the date of its incorporation, MFOCN, including its management team and directors Mr. Huang Xinglong and Ms. Dong He, has never, had any form of contact, communication or relationship—whether direct or indirect—with SWAT or its director Mr. Duan Zhengli. Mr. Duan Zhengli is an entirely unrelated third party to our client. There exists no substantive, potential, or legal relationship of any kind between him (or the entity he represents) and MFOCN. Any claim suggesting otherwise is fictitious, misleading, and categorically denied by our client in the strongest possible terms.
2. At no point in time has SWAT or Mr. Duan Zhengli held any ownership interest, participated in management, or had any commercial or legal engagement with MFOCN. There is no historical collaboration or legal basis upon which SWAT may assert any rights or claims in connection with MFOCN.
3. The so-called "Share Transfer Announcement" issued by SWAT and its director through media channels and newspapers are false and misleading with no basis in fact. It has caused significant reputational damage and legal harm to MFOCN, and MFOCN considers this a defamatory act intended to mislead the public. Such actions represent a flagrant violation of commercial integrity and legal norms. Our client hereby issues its strongest objection and reserves all rights to pursue full legal liability against the responsible parties.
4. MFOCN has never signed, authorized, or entered into any share transfer agreement, board resolution, or any legally binding document or arrangement with SWAT, Mr. Duan Zhengli, or any of their agents, representatives, or affiliates. Any claim made on behalf of MFOCN without authorization is unlawful and constitutes a serious breach of corporate governance and shareholder rights. The nature and severity of such conduct cannot be overstated.
5. These false statements have caused widespread and ongoing misinformation to the public, severely undermining market confidence in MFOCN and inflicting targeted reputational, commercial, and legal harm on its shareholders and directors. Such actions violate public order and legal principles, and such intentional misrepresentation warrants full accountability under the law. MFOCN will hold all responsible parties fully accountable under the law.

These acts constitute a deliberate and grave infringement upon our client's rights to reputation and lawful business operations. MFOCN reserves all rights to pursue civil/or criminal remedies as permitted under applicable law. All resulting legal consequences shall be borne solely by the responsible parties.

MFOCN formally calls upon SWAT and Mr. Duan Zhengli to issue a public clarification and retract the false statements published on 24 April 2025 via Myanma Alin Newspaper, Kyaemhone Newspaper and The Global Newlight of Myanmar Newspaper, in order to prevent further harm to our client's reputation, credit, and operations.

This statement also serves as a formal advisory to all stakeholders, clients, partners, and members of the public:

"We urge all stakeholders to disregard unauthorized claims or statements concerning MFOCN, and to verify directly with the company when in doubt."

This statement is issued for the purpose of safeguarding our client's lawful rights and interests, and to reaffirm our commitment to pursuing full legal accountability against all parties involved in the dissemination of false information.

Issued under delegated authority,

Daw Mya Thway Chel
LLM (SMU), LLB, DIPL
Higher Grade Pleader (51269)

Daw Naw Myat Lay Nwe
LLB, DBL
Advocate (15922)

NK Legal Myanmar

Room 007, No. (37), Gaba Aye Pagoda Road, Mayangone Township, Yangon
Tel: 095000119

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



A photograph taken from St Peter Basilica shows a general view of late Pope Francis' coffin during the funeral ceremony in St Peter's Square, at the Vatican, on 26 April. **PHOTO: AFP**

26 APRIL

Requiem Mass for Pope Francis begins

A Requiem Mass is a special Catholic prayer for the deceased.

THE Requiem Mass for Pope Francis has begun, with the main service starting at 10 am (local time) in Rome. A Requiem Mass is a special Catholic prayer held for someone who has passed away.

World leaders including US President Donald Trump, French President Emmanuel Macron, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, Spain's King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia, German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Italian President Sergio Mattarella and Prime Minister Giorgia Mel-

oni, are attending the funeral.

From India, President Droupadi Murmu, along with Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijju, and Minister of State George Kurian, along with Goa's Deputy Speaker, Joshua De Souza, are attending the funeral.

Earlier on Friday evening, the Vatican formally ended the lying in state of Pope Francis, sealing his coffin during a private religious ceremony inside St Peter's Basilica after three days of public mourning attended by around 250,000 visitors, CNN reported. — ANI

25 APRIL

UK water sector faces £290B upgrade costs

BRITAIN'S water sector will need to pour £290 billion (\$386 billion) into its outdated infrastructure over the next 25 years to meet environmental and supply challenges, the public spending watchdog warned Friday. Water companies, privatized since 1989, have come under fire in Britain for allowing the discharge of large quantities of sewage into rivers and the sea.

This has been blamed on under-in-

vestment in its infrastructure, which dates back largely to the Victorian era.

"The sector now needs to attract an unprecedented amount of investment," the National Audit Office (NAO) said in a report.

A total of £47 billion must be spent on upgrading infrastructure in the next five years, as part of the £290 billion needed to meet government targets over the next 25 years, it added. — AFP

24 APRIL

Trump orders commencement of deep-sea mining

US President Donald Trump has defied international norms and instructed a quick start to deep-sea mining in domestic waters and beyond, sparking an angry warning from Beijing that the move "violates international law".

Washington wants to lead efforts to scoop up mineral-rich deep-sea nodules and other material from the seabed, sidestepping an international regulatory effort and overriding the concerns of environ-

mentalists.

White House aides say it could pump hundreds of billions of dollars into the American economy, and counter Beijing's chokehold on key minerals.

But it would also undermine decades of efforts by global regulators at the International Seabed Authority to devise a level playing field and environmental protections for the industry. — AFP

23 APRIL

Pope Francis' visit to Tacloban: A beacon of hope

FOURTEEN months after Super Typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines, Pope Francis visited Tacloban, delivering a message of hope to a community grappling with immense loss.

The storm had claimed over 7,000 lives, leaving survivors questioning their faith and mourning the loss of loved ones, including many children.

During his visit, the pope reached out to grieving families, offering comfort and blessings. Jenita Aguilar, who lost her son,

felt a renewed sense of faith after the pope clasped her hand.

The event drew 200,000 attendees, who found solace in his presence despite the ongoing struggles. Local priest Father Chris Militante emphasized the importance of the pope's visit, stating it reminded the community that they were not alone in their suffering. As the world reflects on Pope Francis's legacy, many hope for a successor who embodies his compassion and connection with the Filipino people. — AFP

21 APRIL

China expands undergraduate curriculum with 29 innovative majors

CHINA'S Ministry of Education has announced the introduction of 29 new undergraduate majors in response to national strategic needs and the demand for high-quality development.

The updated catalogue includes innovative fields such as carbon neutrality science and engineering, international cruise management, and marine science and technology.

Recognizing technological advance-

ments, new majors like smart molecular engineering and AI education have been added. The ministry has also established a mechanism for rapid curriculum adjustments to align with emerging market trends and national priorities.

Additionally, six universities, including Beihang University, will now offer a major in low-altitude technology and engineering to support the growing low-altitude economy. — Xinhua

22 APRIL

25 tourists killed in gunmen ambush in Pahalgam

AT least 25 tourists were killed and several others wounded Tuesday after unknown gunmen fired at them in the restive Indian-controlled Kashmir, police said.

The attack took place in Pahalgam town, about 89 kilometres east of Srinagar City, the summer capital of the Indian-controlled Kashmir, police said.

The ambush was one of the deadliest attacks in the valley in recent years, the New Delhi-based news portal, The Print,

quoted its sources in India's defence and security establishment as saying.

The Indian government has not disclosed the death toll officially. However, all the key leaders of the government have condemned the attack and condoled.

Immediately after the incident, a police team rushed to the spot, along with army and paramilitary forces, to evacuate the wounded tourists and recover the bodies. — Xinhua

20 APRIL

Trump inauguration raised record \$239 mln

US President Donald Trump raised a record \$239 million for his January inauguration, according to a Federal Election Commission (FEC) filing on Sunday — more than double the amount for his previous swearing-in. The hundreds of donors to the Trump Vance Inaugural Committee included household names like Airbnb, McDonald's and Microsoft, with corporate

giants Amazon, Meta and JP Morgan Chase each donating at least \$1 million.

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman also donated \$1 million for the 20 January inauguration where tech figures took centre stage.

The record amount dwarfs the \$107 million that Trump took in donations for festivities to celebrate his first inauguration in January 2017. — AFP

SPORTS

Singapore Sports Hub Invitational: Myanmar wins 4 gold medals

THE 85th Singapore Sports Hub Invitational Tournament was held on 24 and 25 April, during which Myanmar's athletics team secured four gold medals.

In the competition, Thwe Thwe Moe claimed the gold medal in the women's hammer throw event with a distance of 47.38 metres. Win Win Khaing secured the gold in the women's 10,000-metre race walk with a time of 59:15.60, while Thant Sin Aung won gold in the men's 10,000-metre race walk with a time of 50:36.11. Hein Htet Aung also earned a gold medal in the men's 800-metre race with a time of 1:50.59.

Athletes from Southeast Asian countries participated in the competition. Led by U Kyaw Htoo Aung, General Secretary of the Myanmar Athletics Federation, along with coach U Tint Wai, Myanmar athletes Hein Htet Aung (800 metres), Thant Sin Aung (10,000-metre race walk), Win Win Khaing (10,000-metre race walk) and Thwe Thwe Moe (hammer throw) returned to Yangon yesterday. — Arkar Linn/KZL

The commemorative group photo of the winning Myanmar athletics team.



Albatross and closing birdie lift China's Liu to LPGA Chevron lead

CHINA'S Liu Yan made a stunning albatross and a closing birdie to seize a one-stroke lead when darkness

halted Friday's second round of the LPGA Chevron Championship.

The 27-year-old sank a 15-foot birdie putt at the par-five 18th hole to finish off a level par 72 and grab the lead on seven-under 137 for 36 holes at Carlton Woods in the year's first major women's tournament.

"I'm glad I made that last birdie," she said. "Today I had so many putts so close. Last hole was my first birdie today so I'm very happy".

Liu's most spectacular shot, however, came at the par-five eighth when she holed out her second shot from 170 yards

with a seven-iron.

"There was helping wind and I hit a really solid driver on the fairway," Liu said. "I took my seven-iron and yeah, it was pretty crazy".

It was the first albatross in a women's major

since American Morgan Pressel made one at the 2015 Women's British Open.

Liu hopes to make her first LPGA triumph a major victory but a host of rivals were hot on her heels.

American Lindy Duncan birdied her last three holes to shoot 66 and share second on 138 with compatriot Sarah Schmelzel, Japan's Mao Saigo and South Korean Kim Hyo-joo. — AFP



China's Liu Yan fired a level par 72 to seize a one-stroke lead in the second round of the LPGA Chevron Championship. PHOTO: AFP

Chelsea eye great escape against Barcelona in Women's Champions League

QUADRUPLE-CHASING Chelsea have a mountain to climb as they seek to overturn a 4-1 deficit against Barcelona on Sunday to reach the Women's Champions League final.

Sonia Bompastor's side conceded two late goals in the first leg of the tie in Spain last week — a hammer blow to their hopes.

Ewa Pajor put Barcelona in front at the Estadi Johan Cruyff and Claudia Pina doubled the hosts' advantage with 20 minutes left.

Sandy Baltimore pulled a goal back for the visitors but Irene Paredes struck in the 82nd minute and Pina scored again to put Barcelona in command of the tie. — AFP

5-day summer youth golf training to open

THE second edition of the 2025 Summer Youth Basic Golf Training, organized by Han Golf Masters Golf Academy will be held for free from 5 to 9 May as a five-day programme.

The training aims to teach fundamental golf techniques to beginners aged 10 and above, focusing on correct foundational skills for long-term improvement, according to U Ko Ko Lay, Head Coach and Principal of Han Golf Masters. He said the programme specifically targets youths who have never played

golf before, to ensure systematic growth from the basics.

The course will admit up to 30 participants aged between 10 and 18 and will be conducted by top-level coaches including U Chan Han, U Ko Ko Lay, U Thiha Htay, U Sein Paing and U Aung Myo Hein.

Interested youths must register by 6 pm on 3 May at the Han Golf Masters Driving Range, located at the corner of Okkalapa Road and Airport Road, Mayangon Township. — Myo Min Thura/KZL

Chelsea's troubled season not a failure insists Maresca

ENZO Maresca insists his first season at Chelsea has not been a failure after criticism of the Italian's conservative tactics in the race to qualify for the Champions League.

Maresca's sixth-placed side are in danger of missing out on a top five finish in the Premier League with just five games left.

The Blues have only six wins in their last 17 league games ahead of Saturday's clash with Everton at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea are two points

adrift of fifth-placed Newcastle after coming from behind to beat Fulham 2-1 with two late goals.

Maresca barely celebrated the west London derby victory, leaving the Craven Cottage pitch immediately after the final whistle in a move that was interpreted as a response to mounting criticism from frustrated supporters.

The former Leicester manager's cautious game plans have irked fans, who have jeered Maresca and his players several times this season. — AFP

As AI reshapes Chinese cinema, filmmakers race to adapt

Filmmakers are focused on adapting to AI's influence rather than questioning its role in cinema.

AS China cements its place as the world's second-largest film market, bolstered by global hits like "Ne Zha 2", a new force is rapidly altering the creative and industrial landscape: artificial intelligence (AI).

AI dominated the conversation at this year's Beijing International Film Festival. For filmmakers, the question is no longer whether AI will reshape Chinese cinema, but how to keep up with it. Forums and project showcases revealed an industry scrambling to adapt — embracing AI's possibilities while confronting its challenges.

One of the festival's key early discussions on AI came in a forum titled "AI Film and Television Creation: Opportunity or Trap?" Screenwriter Liu Yi, best known for co-writing the "Wolf Warrior" blockbuster series, described AI as a "ping-pong partner" of creativity, using tools like DeepSeek and Doubao to generate posters, character designs and script prompts. Yet, he cautioned, "The



Members of 15th Tiantan Award jury attend the opening of the 15th Beijing International Film Festival (BJIFF) in Beijing, capital of China, 18 April 2025. PHOTO: ZHANG CHENLIN/XINHUA

real torment of creation — the inception of core ideas — still rests on human shoulders." AI, he argued, boosts efficiency but still falls short of revolutionizing the creative process.

Director Yu Baimei, co-director of 2020 comedy "My People, My Homeland", experimented with video generator Kling

for a short film last year. He likened AI to a "superhuman library" which excels in research but requires human curation. Yet he predicted that within years, AI could evolve beyond being a mere tool to automating higher-level creative decisions — a prospect both thrilling and unnerving.

This tension between opportunity

and disruption resurfaced at the festival's Technology Forum. "AI lacks consciousness but brims with creative potential," said Huang Tiejun, a professor at the School of Computer Science at Peking University, emphasizing AI's role as a collaborative partner rather than a replacement for human creators. — Xinhua

Miho Imada: Pioneering a global sake renaissance with innovative brews and cultural heritage

Sake exports are rising significantly, even as domestic consumption declines.

MIHO Imada, master brewer at Imada Sake Brewing Co, is leading a resurgence in sake's global popularity, with exports rising significantly despite declining domestic consumption.

Inspired by local seafood, her sake has gained international acclaim, particularly after the addition of traditional sake-brewing techniques to UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List. Imada's brewery, established in 1868 in Akitsu, exports to around 20 countries, with 30 per cent of sales coming from abroad.

She has developed a lighter junmai sake designed to complement oysters from the Seto Inland Sea. As a rare female toji, Imada aims to expand into new markets, including Thailand and Africa.

While she embraces diverse drinking customs, she discourages consuming



Japanese sake master brewer Miho Imada speaks at her family's brewing facility in Akitsu, Hiroshima Prefecture, on 13 February 2025. PHOTO: KYODO

sake like tequila. The brewery has also innovated with a new yeast to enhance quality during transport. — Kyodo

Athens inaugurates micro-forest to tackle urban heat

Athens has lost 60 per cent of its surrounding forests to fires, and urban planning has been neglected since the 2004 Olympics.

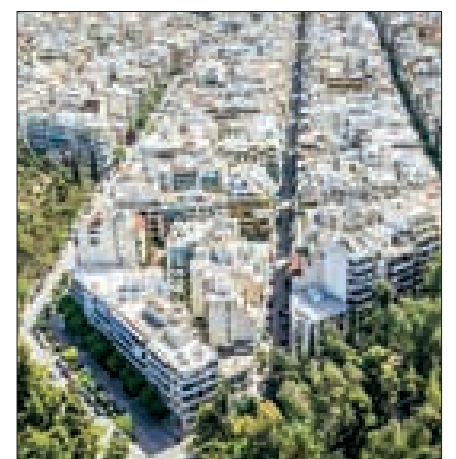
ON a cloudy spring morning, Athens inaugurated its first "micro-forest" in Aleptrypa park, part of Mayor Haris Doukas's initiative to plant 5,000 trees annually to combat extreme heat in the densely populated city.

With summer temperatures often exceeding 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit), experts emphasize the importance of vegetation to mitigate the urban heat island effect exacerbated by climate change.

However, the newly planted saplings will take about a decade to mature, leading some, like architect Katerina Christoforaki, to criticize the effort as "too little, too late".

Athens has lost 60 per cent of its surrounding forests to fires, and urban planning has been neglected, particularly after the 2004 Olympics.

Deputy Mayor Nikos Chrysogelos



An aerial view of the city of Athens on 18 April 2025. PHOTO: AFP

acknowledges missed opportunities to enhance the city's climate resilience. Current green space per resident is only 0.96 square metres, far below the World Health Organization's recommendation. — AFP