

The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**

# Tatmadaw families complete 43 tree-growing ceremonies in 2011-2025

Families of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy, and Air) participate in 2<sup>nd</sup> monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2025.

Families of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy, and Air) and all military commands have been holding monsoon tree-growing ceremonies yearly since 2011 with the aim of conserving the natural environment, contributing to climatic conditions, sustaining shade in society and supporting the State economy on one hand.

Yesterday, families of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy, and Air) held the second monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2025 near Yezin Dam in Zeyathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw, attended by State Administration Council Chairman, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who planted a teak sapling.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla led the ceremony by growing a teak sapling. SAC Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Kyaw Swa Lin and his wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and his wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and his wife, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Tatmadaw members and families planted saplings at the designated places.



The Senior General, his wife and party viewed the participation of Tatmadaw members and families in the tree-growing activities.

Also, present at the ceremony were Union-level dignitaries and their wives, senior officer trainees from the National Defence College, Tatmadaw members from offices and departments under the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and families.

At the ceremony, they grew 900 teak saplings, 600 ironwood saplings, 300 gum-kino saplings and 600 mahogany saplings, totalling 2,400.

They have planted 206,025 saplings of teak, perennial crops and windbreaks 43 times from 2011 to the second ceremony in 2025 in order to conserve the environment of Yezin Dam and its ecosystem.

At the same time, 12 military commands organized the monsoon tree-growing ceremonies to plant 137,186 saplings in total, including the saplings planted by families of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy, and Air). — MNA/TTA

State Administration Council Chairman, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing grows the teak sapling during the second monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2025 near Yezin Dam in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

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# NATIONAL

## All citizens urged to unite in safeguarding independence and sovereignty

- Since protecting and preserving the independence and sovereignty of the state is the inherent responsibility of every citizen of the Union, “we strongly urge all citizens to unite in this effort, drawing on the spirit of the Union”.

(An excerpt from the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the ceremony to mark the 77<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Independence Day on 4 January 2025)

### Myanmar Gazette

## Confirmation, appointment of Heads of Service Organizations

- The State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of Director-General U Tin Zaw Myint of the Department of Oil and Gas Planning under the Ministry of Energy on expiry of the one-year probation period.
- The State Administration Council has appointed Deputy Director-General Dr Tun Tin of the Department of Public Health (Natural Disaster) under the Ministry of Health, as Rector of University of Community Health (Magway) of the Department of Human Resources for Health on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Saturday 5 July 2025)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and strong elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 6 July 2025:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Magway and lower Sagaing regions and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Mandalay Region, northern Shan State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Rakhine and eastern Shan states. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD:** The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Yangong, Mandalay, Bago, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Occasional squall with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 11-13 feet in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about seven-nine feet in the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of increase of rain in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Chin and Rakhine states.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 July 2025:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 July 2025:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 July 2025:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

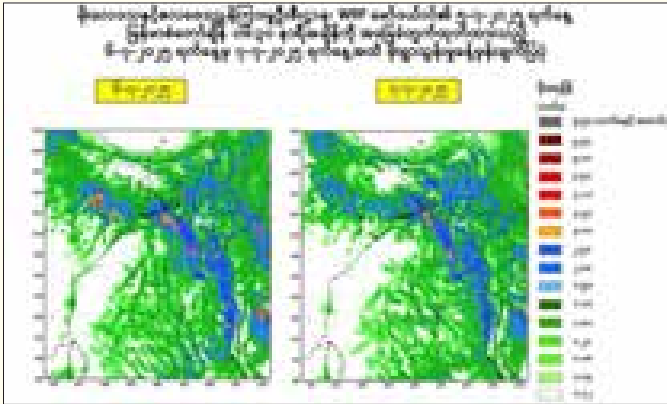
## Special Weather News

Issued at 7 pm MST on 5 July 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the easterly waves and westerly waves, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing regions and Kayah State, fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states with regionally and isolated heavy falls during to night to 7 July 2025. Occasional squall with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 11-13 feet in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about seven to nine feet in the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

### Advisory

People should be aware of natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strik, 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



## Mandalay earthquake damages intangible heritage: Field surveys



This photo captures officials collecting on-ground records on damage to intangible cultural heritage.

THE Department of Archaeology and National Museum has conducted field surveys and documented damage to the intangible cultural heritage in the Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, and Shan State, resulting from the Mandalay earthquake.

Employing a globally standardized methodology, a team led by an assistant director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum conducted field surveys and documentation that produced an inventory of damage

to intangible cultural heritage, collecting ten works.

In Mandalay Region, documented elements of intangible cultural heritage include the Mahamuni Buddha Image Festival, Shinmalae Pagoda Festival, Waso Cane-ball Festival, weaving and dyeing traditions, the Yadanagu Nat Festival, the Paleik Mwayphaya Festival, Mingala-cart decoration, and grass-mat weaving, while the remaining heritage items are still being inventoried.

In addition, the Department of Archaeology and National Museum recorded and documented damage to intangible cultural heritage research projects in the Inlay area, Shan State, from 10 to 12 May. — ASH/TH



# 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)*



SAC Vice-Chair Deputy C-in-C of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win grows the teak tree at the second monsoon tree-growing ceremony yesterday. (News on page 1)



Tatmadaw members and families participate in growing saplings at the second monsoon tree-growing ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

## MoPF holds 2025 monsoon tree-planting event

THE Ministry of Planning and Finance held its 2025 monsoon tree-planting event yesterday within the Ministry compound, aiming to inspire public participation in environmental conservation, improve climate balance, and promote tree planting.

The event was attended by the Deputy Prime Minister, Union Minister U Win Shein for Planning and Finance, the deputy ministers, departmental heads, officials, and staff.

The Deputy Prime Minister

first planted a teak tree at the designated location. The deputy ministers, along with departmental heads, officials, and staff, then collectively planted teak trees at their assigned spots as part of a national movement. Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister U Win Shein observed and offered encouragement.

The Ministry of Planning and Finance planted over 1,000 teak trees during this year's monsoon tree-planting event.

— MNA/MKKS



Deputy Prime Minister, Union Minister U Win Shein plants a teak tree in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

NATIONAL

Myanmar marks 103<sup>rd</sup> International Cooperative Day

THE 103<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the International Cooperative Day ceremony was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development yesterday morning.

Union Minister U Hla Moe said the Cooperative Department sets its visions, missions, policies, procedures and nine Action Plan to promote the socioeconomic status of the people, organize with those want to want to work and same businesses to create job opportunities and the old units are also reformed with those want to run practically, and so there are 38,638 cooperative societies to date.

Moreover, the department also searches for fine seedlings, provides agrochemicals, conducts educational programmes, searches the market and ar-



Union Minister U Hla Moe provides combine harvesters at the 103<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of International Cooperative Day ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

ranges to purchase animal feed. Accounting Vocational Training Centres were also opened in Magway, Mandalay, Mawlamyine and Patheingyi townships start-

ing from the 2022-2023 academic year.

He also urged the attendees to follow the theme “Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World”.

The Central Cooperative Society Limited chairperson remarked, and one of the directors read out the message sent by the International Cooperative Federation. The celebration featured a song dedicated to International Cooperative Day and a video showcasing various cooperative activities.

The Union minister and party presented cash assistance for Thattant Young Project agriculture and livestock breeding, machines and State Economic Promotion Fund to the relevant officials, and observed the booths. — MNA/KTZH

MAI moves Phnom Penh flights to Techo Airport from 9 Sept



The new Techo International Airport - interior and exterior features.

MYANMAR Airways International (MAI) will shift its services for Phnom Penh flights to the new Techo International Airport starting from 9 September 2025.

All boarding and departure flights to Phnom Penh will be

transferred to the new airport (KTD), in place of Phnom Penh International Airport (PNH).

For a smooth check-in and boarding experience, passengers will need to arrive at least 3 hours early and thoroughly read the terminal signage, it

said.

As of late October this year, MAI will extend the flight schedule to Hanoi, Chiang Mai, Da Nang, Kolkata, Chennai and Guangzhou in accordance with the approval by the respective authorities. — MT/ZS

Human traffickers face legal action

COURTS have sentenced human traffickers to 10 years in prison for their role in trafficking Myanmar girls to China, where they were intended to be married to Chinese men.

Nam Kham Li, from Tangyan Township, persuaded two young girls from Tangyan with the promise of earning K21 million by becoming brides for Chinese men. She then sent the girls to Ma Aye Pee in Pangsang. Tangyan Myoma Police

Station filed a case under Sections 35 and 44 of the Prevention and Protection of Trafficking in Persons Law, and the Tangyan District Court sentenced Nam Kham Li to 10 years in prison under Section 35 on 4 June.

Similarly, it has been reported that a warrant has been issued for the absconding accused, Ma Aye Pee, under Sections 87 and 88 of the Criminal Procedure Code. — MNA/MKKS

Gold Market Rate as of 5 July 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,890,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

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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

Weekly Roundup

**29 June**  
**Myanmar, Buryatia to boost future cooperation**  
State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing highlighted that Myanmar and Buryatia have also been cooperating in areas such as science and technology, industrial technology, and various other sectors in addition to religious relations, at the honorary dinner hosted by the Head of the Republic of Buryatia.

**30 June**  
**High-level Myanmar delegation concludes visits**  
Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing left Baikal International Airport from Ulan-Ude of the Republic of Buryatia by special aircraft for Myanmar and arrived back at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport. The Senior General-led high-level Myanmar delegation were welcomed back by SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Council Secretary General Aung Lin Dwe and his wife, SAC members, Union ministers, senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives, the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Myanmar and officials from the embassy and the office of the Military Attaché.

**High-level Myanmar delegation tours landmarks in Buryatia**  
Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party visited the Baikal Lake and the Ulan-Ude Locomotive and Carriage Repair Plant (LVRZ) in the Republic of Buryatia.

**Myanmar and Buryat Heads meet media**  
State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and the Head of the Republic of Buryatia replied to questions raised by local media, including Arigus, ATV and Tivicom.

**2 July**  
**Costume show and concert hail Myanmar Women's Day**  
The Costume Show with the title Polite Myanmar, wearing traditional costumes in conjunction with the music concert, took place at Thiri Yadana Hall of the head office of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw, attended by MWAH Honorary Patron Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, the wife of the State Administration Council Chairman, Prime Minister.

**3 July**  
**National Economic Development Coord meeting held**  
MSME support aims to boost the national economy and export volume, said Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the National Economic Development Coordination meeting at the SAC Chairman's Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

**SAC confers honorary titles and medals**  
The State Administration Council issued Notifications 94/2025 and 95/2025 to confer honorary titles and medals on outstanding women for their gallantry and performance activities.

**4 July**  
**International Conference on Intellectual Property commences**  
Universities, research labs and MSME businesses collaborate to drive innovation, said Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening of the International Conference on Intellectual Property (2025) held in Nay Pyi Taw.

**Video message sent to Myanmar Women's Day celebration**  
Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing urged all citizens, including women, to come together

er in greater solidarity and active participation than ever before for the development and future of the nation, in his video message sent to the Myanmar Women's Day 2025.

**Myanmar rejects UN report on children and armed conflict**  
The Committee on Prevention of Grave Violations against Children in Armed Conflict, Myanmar, stated on 3 July 2025, stating that although Myanmar had made a firm commitment to adhering to international standards for the prevention of children and armed conflicts. The UN's report showcased the distorted figures and baseless accusations. Therefore, Myanmar strongly urged the United Nations to adopt a balanced, credible, and constructive approach towards member states while issuing reports.

**5 July**  
**Road repairs inspected in Nay Pyi Taw**  
Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, inspected the upgrading of Yazahtani Road in Nay Pyi Taw with the use of the regulating course mix design.

**SAC urges armed groups to participate in electoral process**  
The Information Team of the State Administration Council issued an invitation which aimed to serve the Union, urging the armed groups, including those operating under the name PDF, to see the emergence of a Union based on democracy and a federal system, and if they choose to legally establish themselves within the framework of the law and cooperate hand in hand with the government and the Tatmadaw to serve the interests of the State and the regions, the government and the Tatmadaw will welcome and accept this. — GNLM/TTA

Rehab efforts continue in quake zones

PEOPLE, together with members from relevant organizations, participate in rehabilitation efforts in damaged areas caused by the Mandalay earthquake.

Yesterday, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw and Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) observed the clearing of debris at the religious sites and the basic education middle school (branch) Zeyar in Sagaing.

Likewise, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and relevant officials inspected the renovation and removal of damaged parts of collapsed religious buildings at Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay.

They also oversaw the removal of collapsed buildings in Mahaangmyay township. — MNA/KTZH



Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw and Lt-Gen Thet Pon observe debris removal works at the Zina Marnaung Lawka Chamtha Pagoda.

# NATIONAL

## Historic Sagaing pagoda & cave renovations complete

THE Kyaiklat Chaung Pagoda and Tilokaguru Cave have been restored in Sagaing Township, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum.

With work on Tilokaguru Cave completed, the Department's Bagan and Sagaing branches are now preserving the interior murals of Kyaiklat Chaung Pagoda.

After the "Heart of Bagan" group photographed earthquake damage at both sites, it requested permission from the Department to carry out restoration and maintenance before the rains, and the Department's Engineering Division launched the work after receiving a cash donation.

The renovated Kyaiklat Chaung Pagoda preserves Pinya-period mural paintings, while Tilokaguru Cave contains murals from the Nyaungyan era.

Of the 1,641 ancient pagodas, caves, and other religious structures damaged by the Mandalay earthquake,



This photo shows recently renovated Kyaiklat Chaung Pagoda in Sagaing Region.

Kyaiklat Chaung Pagoda and Tilokaguru Cave are the first to be restored ahead of the monsoon season. — ASH/MKKS

## Seoul ME: Collect tax receipts at embassy within transfer month

THE Embassy of Myanmar to the Republic of Korea has issued a notice to tax-paying Myanmar nationals to withdraw proof of income tax payment within the month of transfer to the embassy's bank account.

If the document is not retrieved within a month, the tax receipt will not be issued, and the embassy will not be held responsible for the bank account payment.

The system of paying tax first directly to the bank account and withdrawing the receipt later has been launched since 12 May, and some people were found to be failing to fetch the receipts at the embassy, even for more than one month. 17 people were reported to have failed to collect the receipts — four in May and 13 in June.

Those 17 persons need to collect



146 newly recruited Myanmar workers sent under EPS to work in the Republic of Korea arrive at Incheon International Airport on 28 May.

their payment receipts at the embassy by 18 July (Friday), and failing this, the embassy will not process the issuance of payment receipts.

For transfers less than or more than the due tax amount, it creates

unnecessary office operations, delaying normal process work. Therefore, taxpayers are advised to take great care when making payments to ensure exact figures are provided, it said. — MT/ZN

## Film production donates K700,000 to support MMPO children



U Kyi Soe Htun, Chair of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization accepts the K700,000 donation from U Sithu Aung of Aung Khit Min Film Production.

AUNG Khit Min Film Production donated K700,000 to the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization on 3 July to support a programme that will provide school uniforms and stationery to the children of MMPO members, according to MMPO Vice-Chair U Aye Kyu Lay.

The initiative aims to assist children of association-affiliated film industry personnel who are in need of school supplies. All eligible members from various departments within the organization may apply for the support.

"This year, like in previous years, we are preparing to provide full sets of school uniforms, exercise books, pencils, pens and more to the school-age children of film industry members, with the cooperation of donors and the association. The distribution ceremony is planned for this July. Today, U Sithu Aung and Dr Khin Thidar Yi from Aung Khit Min Film Production contributed K700,000 for this cause," said U Aye Kyu Lay.

To receive support, association members with school-age children have been invited to apply within July by submitting copies of their membership card and household list, along with recommendation letters from their respective primary schools. — ASH/KZL

## 11,203 insured workers receive 40% quake compensation payout

THE Social Security Board of the Ministry of Labour has disbursed 40 per cent of the family assistance fund (over one billion kyats) for 11,203 insured workers affected by the Mandalay earthquake out of 27,267 insured workers of 1,097 departments in Nay Pyi Taw.

Following the Central Bank of Myanmar's online payment system, those benefits were transferred to the

respective private banks through the Myanma Economic Bank. They can claim them through digital platforms such as KBZ Pay, AYA Pay, Wave Pay, UAB Pay, and Mytel Pay as well.

The Social Security Board is verifying the data to disburse the payouts to other eligible insured workers. — ASH/KK



A handover ceremony of family assistance funds for insured workers, who were impacted by the Mandalay earthquake.



# CBM sells over US\$578K, CNY900K on 4 July

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$1.75 million to cooking oil importing companies and over \$481,540 to commodities-importing companies on 4 July, in addition to an injection of \$578,542 and 900,000 yuan into the financial market.

CBM sold \$678,000, 1.24 million yuan and 2.94 million baht on 3 July. CBM sold \$3.346 million to edible oil-importing companies, over \$578,400 to commodities-importing countries on that day.

CBM announced on 2 July that it would sell 10 million yuan to importers. CBM sold over \$1.593 million to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 1 July that it would pump \$33 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold over \$1.15 million, which was purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold 643,634.29 to commodities-importing companies and \$377.362.5 to edible oil companies on 30 June after injecting 500,000 baht into the market.

CBM \$500,000 to commodities-importing companies on 27 June, in addition to a 400,000-



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw.

yuan injection into the market and \$845,000 purchased from CMP companies into the edible oil industry.

CBM sold \$1 million to commodities-importing companies after the injection of 160,000 yuan into the market on 26 June. Furthermore, CBM sold \$400,000 to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM made \$1.479 million injection from foreign currencies purchased from the CMP businesses into the edible oil-importing sector on 25 June

CBM sold over 700,000 yuan on 24 June. Furthermore, CBM sold \$870,000, which was purchased from the CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 23 June to pump \$30 million into the fuel

oil sector. CBM sold \$464,500 to edible oil-importing companies and over \$496,000 to commodities-importing companies on that day after the injection of over 16,540 yuan into the market.

CBM sold over \$600,000 and 387,000 yuan on 20 June. Furthermore, it sold \$800,000 to edible oil-importing companies and over \$503,000 from its designated injection to commodities-import-

ing companies.

CBM pumped over \$577,000 out of its designated \$10 million injection to commodities-importing companies on 19 June.

Moreover, CBM sold \$1.524 million from the companies working on a Cut-Make and Pack basis to edible oil-importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold over \$1 million out of the designated \$10 million injection to commodities-importing companies on 18 June 2025. Furthermore, CBM also sold \$1.68 million from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

## Gold shops must now use standard digital scales

THE Federation of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association (FMGEA) stated that gold shops need to switch to a digital scale measurement system with 16.329325 grammes per tical of pure gold. Failing to do so is subject to strict action. Gold Market Steering sub-committee members instructed Aung Satt Kyar Digital Scale and bill counter distribution (panda company), Shinpo digital gold scale trading (Pyae Sone Hein Group of Companies), Centra Digital Scale Trading (AD Mya Pan Wah Company) to comply with the rules during a meeting held at the Meeting Hall of the No 2 Mining Enterprise of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation on 3 July 2025.

Additionally, authorities will conduct inspections in each township soon. Therefore,



This photo showcases gold ingots.

gold traders are encouraged to buy scales from the companies recognized by the FMGEA. At present, gold shops make transactions with a measurement of 16.329325 grammes per tical of pure gold.

The Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee set the pure gold reference prices at K5.89 million per tical (16.329325 grammes) with 19.25 grammes of the density of gold at present. On 12 June, the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association also requested owners of gold shops to strictly adhere

to the instructions. Otherwise, they will face legal actions upon non-compliance during inspections.

YGEA also asked gold refineries, shops and online traders to seek mandatory gold trading licences.

Gold shops are compulsory to obtain a mineral (gold) trading licence, a business licence granted by the respective municipal office, a precious gold trading registration and the relevant business licence for gold refineries, traders or gold transaction service providers. Licences can be sought through [www.ecommerce.gov.mm](http://www.ecommerce.gov.mm).

Gold trading online, gold sales through the tally system and lottery system are prohibited. Gold shops are notified to seek licences and stick to the reference prices to stabilize gold prices. — NN/KK

### TTI launches export business startup course (batch 12)

THE Trade Training Institute (TTI) of the Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce will conduct intensive training on how to start export business (batch 12) from 9 am to 4 pm on 14-18 July 2025.

The institute is located at 228/240, the corner of Strand Road and Shwebontha Street. The maximum number of trainees is 50. Trainees can register at the institute, providing an application form, three licensed photos, a bachelor's degree certificate, a matriculation pass certificate, a citizenship scrutiny card and other related documents.

Individuals can enquire about details through the contact numbers of the Institute at 01 8250871, 09 795308195, and 09 442134380. — NN/KK



OPINION

Initiate the improvement of IP rights for the interests of people

INTELLECTUAL property issues have become increasingly prominent and essential in areas such as foreign trade, foreign investment, and scientific and technological cooperation. Therefore, the existence of a robust intellectual property system will greatly contribute to building the nation into a modern and developed state, promoting industrial development, and attracting higher levels of foreign investment.

Myanmar, as a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), is obligated to implement the

As such, it is necessary to make utmost efforts to strengthen the intellectual property ecosystem in Myanmar that supports and promotes innovation, economic development, and cultural preservation. As a result, the entire population of the nation can enjoy the fruits of intellectual property rights so as to improve their socioeconomic life.

innovation, the Trademark Law, Industrial Design Law, and Copyright Law were enacted in 2023, and the Patent Law was enacted in 2024. These laws are now being implemented as special laws.

Currently, the government is implementing the ASEAN Regional Intellectual Property Action Plan under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), and ASEAN member states, along with other countries in the region, are already putting into practice and adhering to similar standards in intellectual property matters.

As a nation, Myanmar is actively participating alongside other countries in the region in implementing the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition, Myanmar is also implementing its own Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) 2018–2030, which aims for inclusive, balanced, and long-term sustainable development at the national level. Since intellectual property plays a role in these development plans, applying the intellectual property system can significantly support innovation and the establishment of sustainable and long-lasting industries across all sectors.

As such, it is necessary to make utmost efforts to strengthen the intellectual property ecosystem in Myanmar that supports and promotes innovation, economic development, and cultural preservation. As a result, the entire population of the nation can enjoy the fruits of intellectual property rights so as to improve their socioeconomic life.

Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement). Similarly, as a member of ASEAN, Myanmar is also required to participate in the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Intellectual Property Cooperation among Southeast Asian countries.

Section 37 (c) of the Constitution states, “The Union shall permit citizens’ right of private property, right of inheritance, right of private initiative and patent in accord with the law.” Moreover, Section 372 mentions “The Union guarantees the right to ownership, the use of property and the right to private invention and patent in the conducting of business if it is not contrary to the provisions of this Constitution and the existing laws.”

In order to effectively protect the interests of the public and encourage creativity and



Book Title	-	Pone Kwe Nay Tae Thahazata Phyt Hmu (The Hidden Harmony by OSHO)
Translator	-	Casper Zaw
Publishing House	-	Country Road
Publishing Date	-	August 2024 (1 <sup>st</sup> Edition)
Price	-	K19,000

Pone Kwe Nay Tae Thahazata Phyt Hmu (The Hidden Harmony By OSHO)

THIS week, we bring a book, which says, “Shankara, Vedanta, and Hindus say that this world is an illusion-like a dream realm (Maya). In a dream, you never ask yourself, Am I dreaming? But, at the moment, when doubt arises, the rules of the dream collapse. You suddenly wake up, and the dream disappears. Likewise, this world is also a kind of dream. Unless you begin to doubt, you won’t realize it’s a dream. Only when you awaken will the dream vanish suddenly, and you’ll find yourself in the realm of true reality.”

Myanmar author Saya Casper Zaw translated The Hidden Harmony by OSHO into Myanmar. This book is a fascinating and insightful modern interpretation of the ancient Greek phi-

losopher Heraclitus’s ideas. In this book, OSHO explores Heraclitus’s famous concept: Everything Flows—that all things are in constant change and from this idea, he uncovers the hidden beauty and mystery of life, often referred to as the Hidden Harmony.

The quote by OSHO is also a speech based on the philosophical concepts of Heraclitus. OSHO portrayed Heraclitus not only as a philosopher but also as someone capable of transforming life experiences. It is a translation that opens the mind and touches the heart, impermanence, paradox, and the fixed existence.

In this book, Heraclitus’s complex ideas are presented in a clear and simple way, making them easily understandable for

readers. It offers a new perspective on life, like one that sees change not as something to be feared, but as something beautiful to embrace. As a path to inner peace, the book encourages readers to discover the hidden harmony that exists amid life’s conflicts and contradictions.

As Heraclitus once said, “You cannot step into the same river twice.” Life is a flowing river. Who you were yesterday is no more, and who you will be tomorrow has not yet come to be. You exist only in this very moment. When this truth is understood, life becomes more beautiful, like something worthy of full attention and presence.

The readers can read the statement, such as “In nature,

opposites are not in conflict with each other, but they are merely different notes of the same chord. Just as the darkness of night and the light of day are parts of a single harmony, so too are the losses and successes in life simply necessary elements of a greater balance.”

Moreover, the readers can read Heraclitus’s quote, “Nobody else will be able to walk on the same path twice. But, most people keep repeating the same mistakes from their past. True liberation is freedom from the fear of change”.

All in all, The Hidden Harmony by OSHO reflects the views of Heraclitus. It highlights the truths that most people are unaware of within society while seeking the hidden harmony. It also states that truths can be found within one’s mind, not from external appearances or circumstances.

This book is especially suited for those who are afraid of the changes of life, and for seekers of philosophy and the deeper meaning of life. In the signature style of OSHO’s insightful discourse, it not only stimulates thought and renews the reader’s inner energy but also encourages the acceptance of transformation. It is also a must-read for anyone who wishes to embrace change and uncover the beautiful mysteries of life.



Book Title	-	Contemporary Indian Philosophy by Basant Kumar Lal
Translator	-	Win Aung (Philosophy)
Publishing House	-	Tet Luu Kyaw
Publication Date	-	January 2025 (1 <sup>st</sup> Edition)
Price	-	K18,000

Contemporary Indian Philosophy by Basant Kumar Lal

WIN Aung translated excerpts from the “Contemporary Indian Philosophy” by Basant Kumar Lal, featuring philosophies of Swami Vivekananda, Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi and S Radhakrishnan.

The original writer, Basant Kumar Lal, is a Professor of Philosophy at Magadh University. He wrote Contemporary Indian Philosophy by examining the philosophies of the prominent Indian reformers and thinkers in an academic framework. Indian philosophy approaches problems from different perspectives: religion, metaphysics, epistemology, logic, ethics, and aesthetics.

This book is a masterpiece

that delves deeper into the transformation of Indian Philosophy in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. This book highlights how Indian philosophers combined Eastern traditional concepts and Western philosophies and pioneered a novel philosophical framework, organized thematically rather than chronologically. Consequently, it breaks it down for both the readers and philosophers to comprehend the complex idea.

The book compares the works of philosophers: S Radhakrishnan, J Krishnamurti, BK Matilal and Daya Krishna.

The book explores a systematic compilation of ideas and concepts of the renowned Indian philosophers from the

and Epistemology. Deep philosophical questions about the fundamental nature of reality, existence and consciousness were bridged by classical philosophy with modern scientific approaches. Contemporary philosophical debates are closely tied to societal challenges and the downsides and potential alienating effects of immersion in a high-tech world. The author masters the art of lucid writing, illustrating abstract concepts through clear and concise phrasing and relatable examples.

The book explores a systematic compilation of ideas and concepts of the renowned Indian philosophers from the

late 19<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The prominent philosophers included in the book are Swami Vivekananda, Mahatma Gandhi, Sri Aurobindo, Rabindranath Tagore, Dr S Radhakrishnan, Jawaharlal Nehru, Jiddu Krishnamurti, Mohammad Iqbal, and Vinoba Bhawe.

The book delves into the dedicated chapters on the individual’s famous concept, practices and impacts on society.

Gandhi’s doctrine of “Truth is God” sheds light on all morality and justice that inspires political changes.

Aurobindo’s Integral Yoga focuses on psychological and spiritual evolution.

Krishnamurti’s advocacy for a free mind emphasizes learning being open to others’ beliefs and the importance of liberation from psychological conditions, past experiences and societal pressures to live a truly intelligent and compassionate life.

To sum up, this book will help you realize the spiritual values of modern India and develop critical thinking skills in light of modern challenges.

It is a must-read for those who seek a unique perspective to integrate the wisdom of classical Indian traditions and thoughts with the new insights and challenges of the modern world.

Shielding Rain

With the clouds veiling the sky above,  
the wild winds swirl and stir;  
to the extent of growing fierce.  
Lest she gets wet with rain showers,  
I bend my grip-hold towards her,  
to shield under the shared umbrella.

By Chit Ko Pe

ထီးကူမိုး

အာကာခွင်တိမ်လွှမ်းလို့  
လေကြမ်း ရော့ရှက်မွေ  
စိမ်းကားမာန်မပြု  
ကျမိုးစက်ရေ  
သက်ကြွေ့တိုး။  
မလွှဲတလုံ ဘယ်သို့ရယ်  
သူ့ရိုးညှိ ထီးကူညွတ်တယ်  
စို့စွတ်မှာစို့။

ချစ်ကိုဖေ



Don't Despair

by Mya Thae (Research)

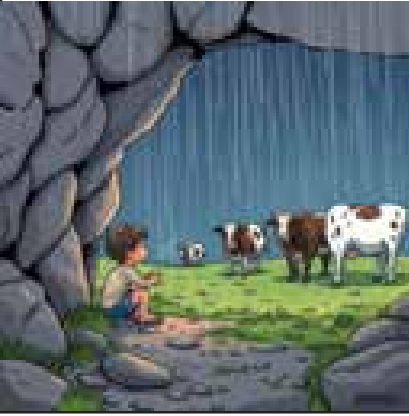
Don't despair when you encounter troubles.  
You have the bravery and courage to struggle.  
Life is too short to stay.  
So throw the worry away.  
Live with happiness and a joyous heart.  
Thus, your life became amazing,  
peacefully and smartly.



တကဝဲ မဲလိုက်ပါတဲ့ ရွှေမိုးပွားညို

တကဝဲ မဲလိုက်ပါတဲ့ ရွှေမိုးပွားညို  
မညာတာ အာကာလုံး ကို ကွယ်၊  
ဖုန်းတော့ မလို့။ ။  
ခြောက် အဆင်းမှာတော့ နွားပြောက်တယ်  
သူငယ်ဖျို၊ မိုးပန်းခိုမည့်ကြံတုံး။  
လေကြမ်းငယ်ဆင်  
တောင်ခြောက် ဘယ်မြင်တဲ့ပြင်  
တချင်ချင် ကိုဒေဝေါမှာ  
ဒေါသနှင့်ချိုး။

မင်းသုဝဏ်



The cussedly darkening golden cloud

By Minthuawun  
Translated by Myint Zan

unmercifully you act as though  
the whole sky is covered with your clouds

while looking out for the cattle  
the lad (cow herd) is  
taking refuge from the rains in a crevice

the rough winds blow:  
cannot see north and south  
the rain-god makes tingling sounds:  
in fury, the thunder booms

This poem by Sayagyi Minthuawun (10 February 1909-15 August 2004) was composed on 1 June 1927 when he was 18 years old. At the time of the composition of the poem, the poet had not taken the pen name or pseudonym Minthuawun as yet. It is reproduced in the booklet Minthuawun ma phyt khin ga Minthuawun ei Gabyar (Poems of Minthuawun before becoming Minthuawun) (Published February 2012).  
Translated on 4 July 2025.



# NATIONAL

## Entertainment



**Khine Htoo**  
UPCOMING 9 August is the eighth anniversary of the demise of famous singer-song-composer Khine Htoo, a well-known figure in the stereo music world. To mark this memorable day, his loyal fans who still remember and love him have planned a special tribute event. The event will be held on 9 August at the Eighty Seven Restaurant, located on Yadana Road in South Okkalapa Township, from 3 pm to 8 pm. During the event, Khine

Htoo's fans will sing his songs with heartfelt emotion to honour him. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the performances.

**Maung Myo Min (Yindwin Phyt)**

FAMOUS director Maung Myo Min (Yindwin Phyt) talked about the behind-the-scenes situation of the film industry. He stated, "Actors dislike directors who get angry easily, and they don't like even more the kind of director who never clearly says what they dislike. In the same way, directors dislike actors who give up easily and say, "I can't do it," even when the director is helping them. Worse than that is when an actor is putting on makeup or not paying attention while the director is handing down dialogue. In situations like that, the whole shooting team looks disappointed. It's important to know that".



**Moe Hay Ko**  
THE most popular news among boxing fans this week is about UFC fighter Joshua Van, who had a surprise video call and conversation with actress Moe Hay Ko. Van, the fighter, was excited to talk to his idol, Moe Hay Ko. During the call, he asked her to cheer for him in his next fight. Moe Hay Ko responded that she always supports him and will cheer for his upcoming match as well.

**Khun Naychi Cho**  
SUPPORTING actress Khun Naychi Cho, who became famous for the MRTV-4 series, posted her photos of her characters and asked her fans which one is their favourite. Her fans voted for her 'Mi Khine' character in the 'Wipaka' film. The actress portrayed the 'Thiri' character in the 'Ahit Hmar Apyit Shi Thi' film, currently being streamed on the Maha Application.

# CELEBRITY

## BRIEF



**Min Ta Khit**  
WRITER and scriptwriter Min Ta Khit recently donated a total of 185 books worth K647,500 to the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization under the theme For Young Readers. The donation was made to support the children of organization members by helping with school supplies and educational assistance. Min Takhit is the founder of the publishing house called Khit, which published not only works by famous writers but also 40 novels written by him.



**Poe Mamhe Thar**  
THE movie 'Magical Rain', which is currently screening in cinemas, held a special fan Show on the evening of 1 July before its official release. Around 150 fans attended the event, and they were selected by voting from the fan bases of Sai Sai Kham Leng, May Toe Khine, and Po Mamhe Thar. During the event, actress Po Ma Mamhe Thar expressed her gratitude by saying, "I want to thank all my lovely fans who took the time to come, whether from near or far. I also truly appreciate my dear supporters who even brought gifts." In the 'Magical Rain' film, Po Mamhe Thar portrayed a character named Moe Swut Pann. — Htun Htun/KTZH



WORLD

India announces to issue OCI cards up to sixth generation of Indian diaspora of Trinidad and Tobago

Both PM Modi and PM Kamla Persad-Bissessar emphasized the significance of Nelson Island for Cultural Tourism.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Trinidad and Tobago announced the decision to issue Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards up to the sixth generation of the Indian diaspora of Trinidad and Tobago, as noted in the joint statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs.

The joint statement on PM Modi’s official visit to Trinidad and Tobago underlined how 30 May 2025 marks the 180<sup>th</sup> arrival

anniversary of the first Indian immigrants to Trinidad and Tobago.

Both PM Modi and PM Kamla Persad-Bissessar recognized the importance of Nelson Island as a location for Cultural Tourism and the need for Digitisation of Indian Arrival and other Records at the National Archives.

“Prime Minister Modi also announced a decision of the Government of India to issue Over-

seas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards up to the sixth generation of the Indian diaspora of Trinidad and Tobago”, MEA noted.

Significantly, PM Modi also welcomed Trinidad and Tobago’s decision to join the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and the Global Biofuel Alliance, reflecting their shared commitment to climate action, resilience building, and sustainable development. — ANI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Trinidad and Tobago announced the decision to issue Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) cards up to the sixth generation of the Indian diaspora of Trinidad and Tobago. PHOTO: ANI

Death toll of building collapse in Pakistan’s Karachi rises to 17



Up to 100 people had been living in the building, senior police officer Arif Aziz told AFP. PHOTO: AFP

THE death toll from the collapse of a residential building in Pakistan’s southern port city of Karachi rose to 17 as more bodies were recovered from the debris, a spokesperson of the state-owned rescue organization Rescue 1122 told Xinhua on Saturday morning.

“The life detection equipment indicates that at least 10 people are still alive under the rubble. We’re working urgently but carefully to rescue them,”

Hassaan Ul Haseeb Khan, the operation’s spokesperson, told Xinhua from the site.

Rescue teams, equipped with five disaster response vehicles, two snorkels, several ambulances, cranes, and lifters, reached the site shortly after receiving distress calls, and over 100 personnel are actively participating in the operation to locate and retrieve victims from the debris, he added.

He said the operation,

which has continued for over 20 hours, may require another seven to eight hours to complete.

Talking to Xinhua, Mayor of Karachi Murtaza Wahab said that they had previously declared the building “dangerous”, directing the residents to evacuate it.

The five-storey structure, located in the densely populated Lyari area, collapsed on Friday, causing scenes of panic and distress. — Xinhua

Rallies held across US on Independence Day against Trump policies

PROTESTS took place across the United States on Friday as thousands of demonstrators took the opportunity of the Independence Day holiday to rally against President Donald Trump, his immigration enforcement policy, and his “big, beautiful bill” — a new tax and spending bill.

The protests, held in major cities like Los Angeles, New York and Chicago, demonstrated growing public opposition to the country’s direction, particularly regarding aggressive immigration enforcement and

fiscal policies viewed as favoring the wealthy at the expense of social services.

The demonstrations, part of the “Free America” march, were organized primarily by the 50501 movement. In a statement, the group accused Trump of attempting to “turn the country into a dictatorship”.

In downtown Los Angeles, hundreds skipped traditional barbecues and fireworks to protest against immigration raids that have intensified in the region over the past month. — Xinhua

Hamas says gives positive response to Gaza ceasefire proposal

HAMAS said in a statement on Friday night that it has delivered a “positive” response to mediators over a Gaza ceasefire proposal.

“ Hamas has completed its consultations with Palestinian factions and forces on the mediators’ latest proposal to stop the aggression against our people in Gaza. The movement has delivered its response to the mediators, which was positive,” the statement said.

“The movement is seriously prepared to immediately enter into a round of negotiations on the mechanism for implementing this framework,” it added. Meanwhile, a source familiar with the matter told Xinhua that “the response presented by Hamas is generally aligned with the most recent Qatari- and Egyptian-mediated version of the proposal, known as the modified (US Special Envoy to the Middle East Steve) Witkoff plan.” — Xinhua



# SCO countries strengthen push for green growth

*These agreements signify a collective commitment to advancing sustainable development through cooperation and knowledge sharing among the SCO members.*



A view of North China's Tianjin Municipality. PHOTO: VCG/GLOBAL TIMES

STROLLING through the streets of Tianjin, a bustling port city in north China, Viktor Galanov, deputy minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus, was visibly impressed by its cleanliness, scenic charm and vibrant atmosphere.

Tianjin's development is remarkable, demonstrating the harmony between ecology and urban life, Galanov said, noting that these qualities also reflect China's significant efforts in preserving urban ecosystems.

He was in Tianjin to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Environmen-

tal Ministers of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States, held on Thursday.

Centred on the theme of cooperation for green, sustainable and low-emission development among SCO member states, the meeting brought together representatives to discuss ecological collaboration and strategies for sustainable growth.

Attendees signed the Joint Statement of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Environmental Ministers of SCO Member States and adopted the Initiative of SCO

Member States on Strengthening Cooperation for Sustainable Development. These documents commit SCO members to sharing environmental expertise and practices to advance sustainable development.

Shri Janesh Kain, deputy secretary-general of the SCO Secretariat, emphasized that the two agreements would bolster cooperation among member states, which will not only help address shared environmental challenges but also positively impact global green development. — Xinhua

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Eight OPEC+ alliance members move towards output hike at meeting

KEY members of the OPEC+ alliance are expected to approve another oil output hike on Saturday, continuing a push led by Saudi Arabia to prioritise market share over price stability.

Saudi Arabia, Russia and six other key members of the OPEC+ alliance will discuss crude production on Saturday, with analysts expecting the latest in a series of output hikes for August.

The wider OPEC+ group — comprising the 12-nation Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies — began output cuts in 2022 in a bid to prop up prices.

But in a policy shift, eight alliance members spearheaded by Saudi Arabia surprised markets by announcing they would significantly raise production from May, sending oil prices plummeting.

Oil prices have been hovering around a low \$65-\$70 per barrel.

Representatives of Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Algeria and Oman will take part in Saturday's meeting, expected to be held by video. — AFP

### Australian PM identifies stimulating growth, productivity as economic priorities

AUSTRALIAN Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has identified stimulating growth and productivity as key economic priorities of his government's second term in power.

In a major speech delivered on Friday in Sydney outlining his second-term economic vision, Albanese said that the Australian economy is "turning a corner", prompting a shift in his Labour Party government's primary focus from bringing down inflation to boosting growth and productivity.

Australia's annual rate of underlying inflation fell to a four-year low in May, while productivity and gross domestic product growth have stagnated.

The prime minister said that productivity challenges have been over a decade in the making and that turning them around would take time.

He said that his government wants the private sector to resume its "rightful place" as the primary source of economic growth.

The government will, in August, host leaders from businesses, trade unions and civil society as well as experts for a landmark three-day economic reform roundtable at Parliament House in Canberra. — Xinhua

## South Korea to roll out nationwide cash handouts from 21 July

THE South Korean government announced it will begin distributing cash handouts to all citizens from 21 July as part of a major effort to revitalize domestic consumption amid global economic uncertainties, the Korea Herald reported.

The initiative follows the passage of a 31.8 trillion-won (US\$23.3 billion) supplementary budget by the National Assembly.

The move marks a central pillar of the Lee Jae Myung administration's first economic

relief package.

The South Korean English daily reported that under the plan, every South Korean citizen residing in the country as of 18 June — the day before the policy was unveiled — will receive a one-time payment of 150,000 won (approximately US\$110).

The handouts, referred to as "consumption coupons", are aimed at driving spending in local economies and will be distributed over an eight-week period until 12 September. — ANI



The handouts, referred to as "consumption coupons", are aimed at driving spending in local economies and will be distributed over an eight-week period until 12 September. PHOTO: PIXABAY

# China issues final ruling of anti-dumping probe into EU brandy imports



CHINA'S Ministry of Commerce on Friday announced the final ruling of its anti-dumping investigation into brandy imports from the European Union (EU), saying that it will impose anti-dumping measures on these imports for a period of five years, effective Saturday.

The investigation found that brandy import-

The investigation found that brandy imported from the EU involves dumping, posing an actual threat of damage to the domestic brandy industry.

PHOTO: XINHUA

ed from the EU involves dumping, posing an actual threat of damage to the domestic brandy industry, according to the ministry. There is a causal relationship between the dumping and the threat of damage, the ministry said.

According to the ministry, the final ruling determined dumping margins ranging from 27.7 per cent to 34.9 per cent.

The ministry said it has accepted price undertakings submitted by relevant EU industry associations and enterprises, and will not impose anti-dump-

ing duties on imports that comply with the terms of the undertakings.

The decision followed an extended investigation that began in January 2024. A preliminary assessment was issued in August 2024, and temporary anti-dumping measures were imposed in October of the same year.

The anti-dumping investigation examined EU-produced brandy in containers holding less than 200 litres imported to China from 1 October 2022, to 30 September 2023, the ministry said. — Xinhua

## Hindustan Copper shifts to underground mining, plans to double output

IN a significant development for India's mining sector, Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) has successfully transitioned its flagship Malanjkhand mine from open-cast to fully underground operations.

The announcement was made during a site visit on Saturday, where HCL Chairman and Managing Director Sanjiv Kumar Singh laid out the company's ambitious roadmap for copper production.

"For the year 2024-25, our entire production from Malanjkhand has come from underground mining," said CMD Singh. "We are currently producing around four million tonnes, and we aim to double this to nearly 12 million tonnes – within the next six years," he said.

HCL, a Government of India enterprise, is undertaking this expansion to meet the growing domestic demand for copper, which has seen a sharp rise with the emergence of artificial intelligence and data centers. — ANI

## Cambodia sees 16% rise in intl air passengers in first half of 2025

CAMBODIA has recorded a total of 3.42 million international air passengers in the first half of 2025, a year-on-year increase of 16 per cent, said an official report on Saturday.

Released by the State Secretariat of Civil Aviation (SSCA), the report said that during the January-June period this year, most air travellers to the kingdom were from China, Thailand, Vietnam, South Korea, and Japan.

SSCA's Secretary of State and spokesperson Sinn Chanserey Vutha said the kingdom is forecast to handle about 7.5 million air passengers in the entirety of 2025, an expected increase of 20 per cent from 6.24 million in 2024. — Xinhua

## 70% of shops hit by massive Noto quake see no prospects of rebuilding



Retsuko Hirata displays products at her shop at a provisional facility in Wajima, Ishikawa Prefecture, on 3 June 2025.  
PHOTO: KYODO

SEVENTY per cent of shops and restaurants currently operating from temporary facilities in the earthquake-hit Noto Peninsula in central Japan have no prospects of returning to their original locations, a Kyodo News survey showed.

Nearly half of the 46 businesses facing difficulties cited a lack of funding as the main obstacle, amid

falling customer numbers and sales following the magnitude-7.6 quake that struck Ishikawa Prefecture on New Year's Day last year.

The survey was based on interviews conducted in early June with 64 of some 70 businesses operating in 15 makeshift spaces or buildings offered rent-free in the region. More than 40 per

cent of the respondents saw their shops completely destroyed in the disaster.

Of the respondents, 40 said their income fell, with 33 of them citing fewer customers. Asked about their current concerns, 44 cited declines in customers and revenues, while 23 were worried about securing funds for restarting.

Retsuko Hirata, who runs a shop selling Japanese sake and clothing items at an arcade in Wajima, said revenue has dropped by 20 per cent from before the quake.

"I am worried whether I can carry on my business as the number of tourists has dropped and the population continues to decline," she said. — Kyodo



# WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



The New Development Bank (NDB) is a multilateral development bank established by the BRICS nations to finance infrastructure and sustainable development projects. **PHOTO: NDB**

JULY 5

## Total volume of financial assets of BRICS reaches \$60T

THE total volume of financial assets of BRICS countries reaches \$60 trillion, Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov said on Friday.

“The total volume of financial assets [of the BRICS countries] has reached about more than \$60 trillion, that is, more than 50 per cent of the world level,” Siluanov said at the opening ceremony of the Board of Governors of the New Development Bank in Rio de Janeiro.

In these conditions, the model of the New Development Bank is also being transformed, Siluanov added.

“From the Bank of the BRICS countries to the bank of the Global South... It is expanding its geography, new countries are joining the bank. We welcome Algeria, Uzbekistan, and Colombia,” Siluanov said. — SPUTNIK

JULY 4

## Singapore penalizes banks for money laundering

SINGAPORE’S central bank has penalized several major financial institutions, including Citibank and UBS, for breaches related to the island’s largest money laundering case, involving Sg\$3.0 billion (US\$2.4 billion).

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) imposed fines totalling Sg\$27.45 million on nine banks for inadequate anti-money laundering safeguards. Investigations revealed failures in customer risk assessments and the inability to detect suspicious transactions.

The convicted money launderers, originally from China, laundered illicit proceeds through Singapore’s financial system, raising concerns about the country’s reputation as a global financial hub.

The MAS also banned several individuals from the industry for up to six years. — AFP

JULY 3

## Colombia seizes unmanned narco-submarine

THE Colombian navy announced its first seizure of an unmanned narco-submarine equipped with a Starlink antenna off the Caribbean coast. Although empty, the vessel is believed to be a trial run by the Gulf Clan, Colombia’s largest drug trafficking group.

This marks a shift towards more sophisticated, unmanned systems for transporting cocaine, complicating detection efforts. The use of such technology reflects the increasing sophistication of drug cartels, making it harder for authorities to track shipments and apprehend traffickers.

Cocaine production and seizures have reached record highs in 2023, driven by surging global demand. — AFP

JULY 2

## Starmer’s welfare reforms face rebellion

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer narrowly avoided a parliamentary defeat on welfare reforms after making last-minute concessions to appease rebellious Labour MPs.

Following significant backlash against proposed cuts to disability and sickness benefits, Starmer delayed cuts planned for 2026, ensuring the bill passed with 335 votes in favor.

Critics labelled the revised legislation as ineffective, arguing it fails to control spending or assist those in need. Starmer’s first year in office has been marked by U-turns and challenges in boosting economic growth, raising questions about his leadership and the government’s direction.— AFP

JULY 1

## EU trade deal with South America

THE European Commission will soon present the final legal version of a trade deal with South American nations, including Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

This agreement, 25 years in the making, aims to create a free-trade area for 700 million customers. However, it faces opposition from France, concerned about cheaper agricultural imports impacting local farmers.

The deal must be signed by EU member states and parliament before implementation. EU officials indicated that discussions among member states will follow the submission of the deal, which is expected shortly.

The 27-nation EU concluded a similar agreement with the Mercosur countries in December 2024 after 25 years of negotiations. However, the agreement still has to be ratified by the parliaments of all the member states.

Farmers in Spain and France have protested against it because they fear cheaper competition. — AFP

JUNE 30

## Migrant smugglers sentenced for tragedy

A French court sentenced seven Afghans and two Iraqi Kurds to seven to eight years in prison for their roles in a deadly migrant boat capsizing in December 2022.

The boat, carrying individuals from various countries, sank near the English coast, resulting in four deaths and four missing persons. Rescuers saved 39 survivors.

The court identified an Afghan mastermind and sentenced two brothers for financing the operation. This incident was one of the deadliest Channel crossings, with rising fatalities reported in recent years.

A British court has already sentenced a Senegalese minor to nine years in prison for navigating a dinghy deemed “completely unsuitable for high seas”, according to French prosecutors. — AFP

JUNE 29

## Newsom sues Fox News for defamation

CALIFORNIA Governor Gavin Newsom filed a defamation lawsuit against Fox News, seeking \$787 million in damages. The suit claims Fox misrepresented a phone call with former President Trump regarding protests in Los Angeles.

Newsom refuted Trump’s claims about the call, stating there was no communication. Fox News hosts accused Newsom of lying, prompting the lawsuit, which argues that the network aimed to harm his political career.

Fox dismissed the lawsuit as a publicity stunt, comparing it to a previous case involving Dominion Voting Systems. — AFP

# Myanmar crush Bahrain 6-0 in Asian Cup qualifier finale

MYANMAR'S women's national football team earned a resounding 6-0 win over Bahrain in their final Group C match of the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 qualifiers, held on 5 July at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon.

Despite being eliminated from qualification after their earlier 1-2 loss to Bangladesh, the hosts finished their campaign with a dominant performance.

Head coach Yuki reintroduced key striker Win Theingi Tun into the starting line-up, supported by Phyu Phyu Win, Khin Mo Mo Tun, May Htet Lu and San Thaw Thaw. Myanmar dominated possession from kick-off but opened the scoring only in 39 minutes. The team netted three goals



Action from the match between Myanmar and Bahrain. **PHOTO: MFF**

in each half.

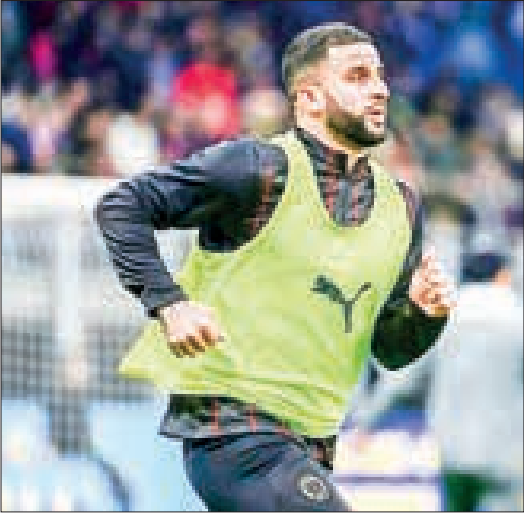
Goal scorers for Myanmar were Shwe Yi Htun in 39 minutes and 42 minutes, Khin Mo Mo Tun in 45+5 minutes, Win Theingi Tun in 52 minutes, May Htet Lu in 58 minutes, and Win Win in 73 minutes.

In the group's other

match, Bangladesh crushed Turkmenistan 7-0 to top Group C with nine points and secure qualification. Myanmar finished second with six points, while Bahrain and Turkmenistan ended with just one point each and failed to advance. — Chit Ko Ko/KZL

# Man City defender Walker joins Burnley

ENGLAND defender Kyle Walker has signed a two-year deal with newly-promoted Premier League club Burnley for a reported fee to Man-



England defender Kyle Walker has signed for Burnley. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

chester City of £5 million (\$6.8 million).

The England international, 35, has made 410 appearances in the Premier League and won the competition six times with City, as well as the Champions League.

He spent the second half of the 2024/25 season on loan at Serie A side AC Milan, who did not exercise their right to buy him.

Walker's contract at City, whom he joined in 2017, was due to expire at the end of the 2025/26 season.

"I'm delighted to be here," the right-back said in a Burnley statement on Saturday.

"When I spoke to (manager) Scott Parker and heard about his plans for next season, it was an opportunity I jumped at.

"He's done an amazing job here, guiding the club back to the Premier League with a 100-point haul, and now we're looking forward, together, at being back in the greatest league in the world". — AFP

# Hat sales spike at sunny Wimbledon

SCORCHING temperatures at this year's Wimbledon have led to a spike in hat sales while the tournament's famous towels are top of players' shopping lists.

The grass-court Grand Slam, often known for its soggy conditions, began in roasting

weather and the sun has mostly shone ever since.

Dan Ashmore, head of retail, merchandise and licensing, said baseball caps were flying off the shelves, with more than 45,000 sold so far compared with 75,000 over the whole two weeks of the cham-

pionships last year.

Baseball caps are priced at £35 (\$48), with Panama hats (£120) and raffia hats (£70) also selling well.

"Days one and two this year were a scorcher," said Ashmore. "Baseball caps were selling very, very quickly.

"We're about 25 per cent further ahead on baseball cap volume than we were at this time last year". — AFP

# Team Myanmar jets off for Badminton Asia Champs (Cambodia)

YOUTH players selected by the Myanmar Badminton Federation left for Cambodia yesterday morning via Yangon International Airport to compete in the Badminton Asia Regional Championships 2025 (Southeast Asia) – mixed team and individual events, which will take place from 7 to 12 July in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Myanmar Badminton Federation officials saw the team off at the airport. The team in-

cludes Federation President U Aung Paing, officials, coaches, and a squad of six male and six female youth players, making up a 17-member delegation.

The Myanmar youth players will compete in the Under 15, Under 17 and Under 23 age categories. Participating countries include host Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Timor-Leste and Brunei, according to the federation. — Arkar Linn/KZL



Myanmar Badminton Federation officials see off Myanmar youth badminton players at the Yangon International Airport yesterday.

# Shan United drawn against Laos' EZRA in ASEAN Club qualifiers

THE lot-drawing event for the group stage and qualifying round of the 2025-2026 ASEAN Club Championship took place in Thailand on 4 July, with Myanmar's Shan United club drawn to face Lao club EZRA in the qualifying stage.

According to the ASEAN Football Federation (AFF), four clubs will compete in the qualifying round. The two winners will join the main tournament, which will feature a total of 12 teams – 10 direct entries and two from the qualifiers. Initially, the AFF had planned for a 14-club tournament, but the withdrawal of two Indonesian clubs led to a return to the 12-club format used last season.

In the qualifying draw, Shan United (Myanmar) will play against EZRA (Laos), while Cebu FC (the Philippines) will face Kasuka FC (Brunei). The

AFF will announce match dates for the qualifying round soon.

If Shan United advances, they will be placed in Group B of the main tournament, alongside league champions from across the region. According to the draw, Group A features defending champions Buriram United (Thailand), BG Pathum United (Thailand), Selangor FC (Malaysia), Cong An Ha Noi (Vietnam), Tampines Rovers (Singapore), and the winner between Cebu and Kasuka.

Group B includes Bangkok United (Thailand), Johor Darul Ta'zim (Malaysia), Nam Dinh FC (Vietnam), Lion City Sailors (Singapore), Svay Rieng (Cambodia), and the winner between Shan United and EZRA.

Shan United is making its second consecutive appearance in the ASEAN Club Championship. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



## Japan's Michael Jackson impersonator helps tackle overtourism woes

A Michael Jackson impersonator, known as “Michael Jackton”, is leveraging his social media fame to address issues of overtourism in Osaka, Japan. With nearly 13 million TikTok followers, he performs in the bustling Dotombori district, captivating tourists while promoting less crowded attractions. In May, he was seen dancing and encouraging visitors to explore quieter areas, while also picking up litter to raise awareness about cleanliness. The Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau reported that the city welcomed 14.59 million visitors in 2024, leading to concerns about overcrowding.

Jackton aims to enhance tourist satis-

*Michael Jackton uses his fame to combat overtourism and promote cleaner, less crowded areas in Osaka.*

faction by showcasing lesser-known local customs and attractions, helping to alleviate congestion in popular areas.

“We are exceeding our capacity to accept (tourists),” a bureau official said. “Drawing people to less crowded areas is a big challenge, so we’re grateful for the support of influencers”. — Kyodo



Michael Jackton is pictured interacting with foreign tourists in Osaka on 30 May 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**



France recorded its second-warmest June since records began in 1900. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Seine reopens to Paris swimmers after century-long ban

MORE than a century after it was declared off-limits, the River Seine has officially reopened for public swimming in Paris, marking a historic revival of urban life along its iconic banks. The River Seine reopened to swimmers on Saturday morning in Paris, allowing people to take a dip in the French capital’s iconic waterway for the first time since 1923.

Parisians and visitors looking to cool off this summer can dive in — weather permitting — at three bathing sites, including one a stone’s throw from the Eiffel Tower.

A few dozen people arrived ahead of the 8:00 am (0600 GMT) opening on Saturday at the Bras Marie zone in the city’s historic centre, diving into the water for the long-awaited moment under the watchful eyes of lifeguards wearing fluorescent

*The River Seine’s reopening for swimming enhances urban life.*

yellow T-shirts and carrying whistles.

The seasonal opening of the Seine for swimming is seen as a key legacy of the Paris 2024 Olympics, when open water swimmers and triathletes competed in its waters which were specially cleaned for the event.

The swimming zones are equipped with changing rooms, showers, and beach-style furniture, offering space for 150 to 300 people to relax, lay out their towels, and unwind from the city’s hustle and bustle. — AFP

## Record cold grips Argentina, Chile and Uruguay

*A polar air mass has caused record low temperatures in South America, resulting in 15 deaths.*

A polar air mass has brought record low temperatures to Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, causing at least 15 deaths and forcing governments to restrict gas supplies and activate emergency shelters.

The three South American countries have all recorded sharply below-zero temperatures as the polar air originated from Antarctica and swept across the region.

In Argentina, at least nine homeless people have died from the cold this winter, according to NGO Proyecto 7.

The capital Buenos Aires recorded its lowest temperature since 1991 at -1.9 degrees Celsius (28.6 Fahrenheit) on Wednesday, while the coastal city of Miramar saw snow for the first time in 34 years. Further south, the town of Maquinchao recorded -18C on Tuesday.

Electricity demand

caused cuts across Buenos Aires, leaving thousands without power for over 24 hours in some areas. The government suspended gas supplies to industries and petrol stations Wednesday to ensure household supplies, and removed price controls on gas cylinders Thursday.

Uruguay declared a nationwide “red alert” after six people died, allowing President Yamandu Orsi’s government to

forcibly move homeless people to shelters.

Montevideo recorded its lowest maximum temperature since 1967 at 5.8C on 30 June according to meteorologist Mario Bidegain.

Chile also activated homeless shelter plans during the coldest days. The city of Chillan, 400 kilometres (250 miles) south of Santiago, hit -9.3C, according to the Chilean Meteorological Directorate. — AFP



The three South American countries have all recorded sharply below-zero temperatures. **PHOTO: AFP**