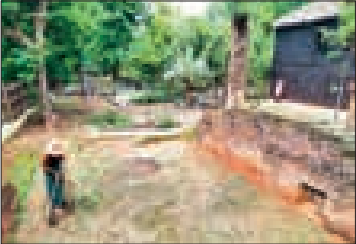


The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**



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Natmauk museum prepares for Martyrs' Day exhibition



NATIONAL PAGE 10

Labour Dept: Beware of OWIC application scams by brokers

OPINION
Carefully do the daily routine to prevent respiratory diseases **PAGE 8**

MRPTA to expand affordable rice sales

The Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders' Association (MRPTA) announced that it will make arrangements to expand the sale of rice at affordable prices at the Wahdan Rice Commodity Depot in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon Region, as well as at markets managed by the Yangon City Development Committee's Markets Department.

As part of this initiative to sell rice at reduced prices, Shwebo and Ayeyawady Pawsan varieties, as well as Aemahta rice varieties, are being sold at discounted rates. Since 12 June, distribution and sales have been taking place every Wednesday and Thursday at the Wahdan Rice Commodity Depot, and every Friday and Saturday at markets managed by the Yangon City Development Committee's Markets Department.

"Currently, Shwebo Pawsan (5-Pyi) is being sold at the Wahdan Commodity Exchange for K31,000 per bag, Ayeyawady Pawsan (5-Pyi) for K24,000 per bag, and Emahta (5-Pyi) for K13,500 per bag. On days when rice is sold at the Wahdan Rice Commodity Depot, between 150 and 200 people come to purchase it. The rice is also available at YCDC-managed markets and through mobile grocery vans. In the mobile grocery vans, Shwebo Pawsan (5-Pyi) is sold for K32,000 per bag, Ayeyawady Pawsan (5-Pyi) for K25,000 per bag, and Emahta (5-Pyi) for K14,000 per bag. We plan to expand sales to additional locations through these market trucks," said an official from the Wahdan Rice Commodity Depot.

The sale of rice at this reduced price does not have a specific time frame and is conducted following the guidelines of the Myanmar Rice Federation and the Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders' Association. — ASH/TH



This photo showcases rice being sold at a cheaper price at the Wahdan Rice Commodity Depot.



Stevedores diligently load export rice bags onto an overseas-bound merchant vessel at Yangon Port.

Myanmar earns US\$214M from 614,000-tonne rice exports in Q1

The Ministry of Commerce is collaborating with major trade associations to hit monthly export targets and streamline the export process.

Myanmar shipped over 614,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign trade partners in the first quarter of the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, bagging US\$214 million, Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF)'s trade chart showed.

Myanmar exported 142,788 tonnes of rice and broken rice (\$52 million) in April, 529,501.3 tonnes (\$91 million) in May and 212,415 tonnes (\$71 million) in June.

MRF aims to reach three million tonnes of rice exports in the current financial year.

Myanmar bagged over US\$1.129 billion from 2.48 million tonnes of rice and broken rice exports in the financial year 2024-2025 (1 April-31 March). The federation aims to achieve 2.5 million tonnes of rice exports in the FY 2024-2025.

The Ministry of Commerce is working together with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Rice Federation, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, Myanmar Industries Association, Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association, Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association to meet monthly export targets and facilitate exports. — NN/KK

NATIONAL

People-Tatmadaw unity highlighted as pillar of national defence

TATMADAW is a military force born of the people and is committed to protecting the nation. The unity between Tatmadaw and the people serves as a cornerstone of national defence.

(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 77th Independence Day which falls on 4 January 2025)

Public notice for those coming to Martyrs' Mausoleum on Martyrs' Day

- Any kind of ballpoint pens, mobile phones, flags, handbags, cameras, lighters, flower wreaths/ flower bouquets/flower baskets, vinyl, bottles, sticks, and pipes that are used in carrying flags are not allowed to be brought into the compound of the Martyrs' Mausoleum.
- All the visitors are required to wear masks systematically without fail.
- All must enter after washing their hands thoroughly at the designated places and using the hand sanitizers provided there.
- It is required to bring Citizenship Scrutiny Cards, or employee card or student ID card or any other card to identify the personal data while mentioning the personal information, including name, ID card number, address and phone number for temperature screening and medical checkups at Link Road in Bahan Township.
- Visitors will have to queue at least six feet apart from each other to follow the social/physical distancing set by the Ministry of Health.
- If any suspicious symptoms, including high body temperatures (38 degrees Celsius or 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit), cough, difficulty breathing, or fatigue, are detected, visitors have to follow the recommendations of the relevant authority.
- They have to follow the arrangements of those serving duties at the mausoleum.
- Those paying tributes will have to queue at least six feet apart from each other, and only 10 persons will be allowed to pay tributes to the martyrs each time, and they also must keep six feet apart while inside.
- All the visitors must strictly follow the COVID-19 health notices and information released by the Ministry of Health.
- Elderly people and those with chronic illnesses are not allowed to visit.
- Those suffering from fever, cough, difficulty breathing or fatigue are not allowed to visit.
- For group tributes, a time limit of no more than ten minutes is recommended.

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations transferred and appointed

THE State Administration Council has transferred and appointed the following persons as the Heads of Service Organization, shown against each of their names from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
1. U Zaw Min Aung Director-General Office of the Union Chief Justice Supreme Court of the Union	Director-General Office of the Supreme Court of the Union Supreme Court of the Union
2. U Aung Maw Director-General Office of the Supreme Court of the Union Supreme Court of the Union	Director-General Office of the Union Chief Justice Supreme Court of the Union
3. Dr Nay Win Oo Rector East Yangon University Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education	Rector Mandalay University Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education

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.

Natmauk museum prepares for Martyrs' Day exhibition

TO mark the upcoming 78th Martyrs' Day on 19 July, preparations are carried out at the Bogyoke Aung San House Museum in Natmauk, Magway Region, according to Daw May Myintzu, the curator.

She said that schoolchildren, students and the public

are expected to visit the museum on Martyrs' Day and various exhibits are readied for the occasion. These include historical photos and personal belongings of Bogyoke Aung San's parents, U Pha and Daw Su, as well as childhood photos of Bogyoke, images from his university days and records

of his activities as a national leader. The museum is also preparing to showcase key excerpts from his speeches.

Artworks and essays that win prizes in the Martyrs' Day commemorative competitions will also be displayed on boards for public observation. — Hla Win/KZL



A preview of preparations at the Bogyoke Aung San House Museum in Natmauk, Magway Region.

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Kitchen appliances provided to quake-hit staff

THE handover ceremony of kitchen utensils and electronic devices for staff and families who lived in the collapsed ground floors of staff housing in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant said the staff who were living in the collapsed ground floors of the staff housings were provided with kitchen utensils

and electronic devices such as refrigerators, TV, cooker, kettle, cooking pot and iron following the guidance of the Head of the State to facilitate their daily life using the National Disaster Management Fund.

The Union minister and relevant officials then handed over the kitchen utensils and electronic devices to 29 staff families. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Myo Thant presents kitchen appliances for staff families.

Donations for Mandalay earthquake victims

THE Russian company JSC Rosoboronexport donated K906.25 million to support relief and rehabilitation efforts for the Mandalay earthquake sur-

vivors. The donation was made yesterday at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Union Minister Dr Soe

Win accepted the donation, expressing his appreciation before presenting a certificate of honour to the donor. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister Dr Soe Win accepts cash donations from the Russian company JSC Rosoboronexport yesterday.

Taking drones to the Martyrs' Mausoleum, the Bogyoke Aung San Museum and the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office) and flying them around these areas is strictly prohibited.



"Notice for those who come to Martyr's Mausoleum"

You are respectfully requested not to carry along the following items into the Martyr's Mausoleum, the Bogyoke Aung San Museum and the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office).

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Mobile Phones | | Flower bouquets, Flower Wreaths and flower baskets | |
| Various kinds of Flags | | Vinyl | |
| Various kinds of Bags | | Bottles and Cans | |
| Cameras | | PVC and Steelpipes used as Poles for Flags | |
| Matches / Matchboxes | | Ballpoint Pens | |

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NATIONAL

Government to pursue positive engagement on US tariffs

STATE Administration Council Information Team Leader Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun clarified the message from US President Donald Trump to State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing regarding trade relations.

He said: "I will explain matters related to the message/letter on trade relationship sent by President of the United States of America Donald Trump to Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, as part of responding to the queries raised by the media."

He continued: "The letter



mentions the intention to engage in trade with Myanmar and notes that there are financial interests related to trade. In summary, it states that the United States will impose a 40 per cent tariff on imports from Myanmar. It also mentions that the US has requested Myanmar to consider reducing tariffs on imports from the United States. Furthermore, the letter highlights that Myanmar would be allowed to put investments in the US. It also indicates that

SAC Information Team Leader
Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

there is room for negotiation regarding tariff rates. We have positively received this letter. In terms of trade volume between Myanmar and the US, during the 2023-2024 financial year, the trade value was approximately US\$701.9 million. In the 2024-2025 FY, it amounted to around US\$588.3 million. Regarding the Myanmar government's stance on the letter, the first point is that the government will proceed with positive engagement and negotiation efforts to adjust this letter. The second point is the hope that these negotiations will lead to mutually beneficial outcomes for both sides. Thank you all."

Eastern command opens Myanmar Thaing tournament in Bahtoo

THE Eastern Command opened its 2025 Commander's trophy Thaing (Myanmar's Martial Arts) Men's and Women's Tournament yesterday morning at the gymnasium of the training depot in Bahtoo.

Commander Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt and officials, military personnel, family members, participating athletes, referees and invitees attended the opening ceremony.

The commander deliv-

ered a speech before attendees observed demonstrations and competitions, including Bando attack (Men's, Class B, 49-53 kilogramme), Pancak Silat (Women's, 50-55 kilogramme), and Single Sword (Men's, 50-55 kilogramme) events.

The tournament is held under the supervision of the Eastern Command, with seven male and female teams from various battalions and units competing until 14 July. — MNA/KZL



The launch of the Myanmar Thaing tourney underway yesterday in Bahtoo.

Myanmar, Russia hold workshop to cut maternal and newborn deaths



The inaugural event of the scientific and practical workshop on reducing maternal and neonatal mortality in progress on 7 July in Yangon.

THE opening ceremony of the scientific and practical workshop on reducing maternal and neonatal mortality, jointly organized by the Ministry of Health of Myanmar and the Ministry of Health of Russia, was held on Monday at the Lotte Hotel in Yangon.

Rector Dr Kyaw Shwe of the University of Medicine 1 made a greeting speech.

Dr Khamatkhonova Elizaveta, head of the Russian Department to Educational

Simulation Technologies in Medicine, National Medical Research Centre for Obstetrics, Gynecology and Perinatology named after V I Kulakov, highlighted the bilateral cooperation in maternal and child healthcare medical services between the two countries, invitation to Myanmar specialists for training courses, and played the video clip featuring healthcare services of V I Kulakov Centre.

The workshop will be held for five days in Yangon, and an-

other five days via videoconferencing in Russia in October. The event will be joined by the experts of the V I Kulakov centre and the specialists of the Ministry of Health.

The opening ceremony was attended by rectors, professors, department heads of the University of Medicine 1 and 2, representatives of the Russian Embassy, the Ministry of Health and eight Russian experts and 31 Myanmar specialists. — 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



The launch of healthcare services for monks and locals in Kawhmu Township underway yesterday.

Medical team offers healthcare to monks, locals in Kawhmu

THE mobile medical team from the Yangon Command gave healthcare services yesterday morning to monks and residents from Wablauthaut Village and surrounding villages in Kawhmu Township, Yangon Region. The healthcare activities took place at the Mula Ywale Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha Monastery in the village.

The medical team conducted consultations and treatments for a range of con-

ditions, including orthopaedic issues, surgical needs, paediatric illnesses, eye diseases, ENT conditions, dental and oral problems, obstetric and gynaecological cases, and general illnesses. A total of 15 monks and 148 residents received medical attention.

Officials from Dala also visited the site to observe the activities and helped coordinate the necessary support. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar extradites 22 undocumented entrants, detains 23 telecom fraud suspects

MYANMAR deported 13 Indonesians, eight Indians and one Cambodian, totalling 22 individuals, involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday. In addition, the authorities detained another 23 foreigners: 17 Indonesians, three Ethiopians and three Indians, on the same day.

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

Between 30 January and 8 July 2025, a total of 9,222 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 9,009 individuals have

already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 213 individuals. These individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

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

Immigration processes underway for the deportation of foreign undocumented entrants yesterday.



Public notice for those coming to Bogyoke Aung San Museum

1. Any kind of ballpoint pens, mobile phones, flags, handbags, cameras, lighters, flower wreaths/ flower bouquets/flower baskets, vinyl, bottles, sticks and pipes that are used in carrying flags are not allowed to be brought into the Bogyoke Aung San Museum.

2. All the visitors are required to wear masks systematically without fail.

3. All must enter after washing their hands thoroughly at the designated places and using the hand sanitizers provided there.

4. The inspection on ten prohibited items and Body search will be conducted at the junction of Natmouk Road and Bogyoke Museum Road in Bahan Township
- and it is required to bring Citizenship Scrutiny Cards or employee cards or student ID cards or certain cards to identify the personal data while mentioning the personal information including name, ID card number, address and phone number for temperature screening and medical checkups.

5. Visitors will have to queue at least six feet apart from each other to follow social/physical distancing set by the Ministry of Health.

6. If any suspicious symptoms, including high body temperatures (38 degrees Celsius or 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit), cough, difficulty breathing, or fatigue, are detected, visitors must follow the recommendations
- of the relevant authority.

7. They must follow the arrangements of those serving duties at the museum.

8. All the visitors will have to queue at least six feet apart from each other in line with the set numbers, and stay at least six feet apart from each other.

9. All the visitors have to strictly follow the COVID-19 health notices and information released by the Ministry of Health in a timely manner.

10. Elderly people and those with chronic illnesses are not allowed to visit.

11. Those suffering from fever, cough, difficulty breathing or fatigue are not allowed to visit.

NATIONAL

Over 3.5M visit Shwedagon in first half of 2025

A total of over 3.5 million pilgrims, both domestic and international, visited the Shwedagon Pagoda from January to the end of June 2025, according to the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees.

“During these six months, more than 600,000 monks, 37,000 nuns, 1.5 million men, and 1.8 million women visited the pagoda. Among the visitors, nearly 18,000 male and over 20,000 female tourists were recorded. On weekdays, at least 10,000 pilgrims visit the pagoda, and the number increases on weekends and holidays,” said U Bo Thin.

In addition, during the Lent from the full moon day of Waso to the full moon day of Thadingyut, Buddha Pujaniya and precept ceremonies will be held at the Shwedagon Pagoda. On the full moon day of Waso, Dhammacakka Day will be celebrated with the Waso Golden Lotus Robe offering



Devotees throng on the platform of the Shwedagon Pagoda.

ceremony, the Metta ceremony, the offering of 84,000 flowers, the Garu Dhamma Day ceremony, the Thadingyut Lighting Festival, and the Abhidhamma Day celebrations.

Commencing on 21 June 2024, the Shwedagon Pagoda is open daily from 4 am to 10 pm, allowing pilgrims to enjoy the peaceful environment. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar film museum reopens on weekends, holidays from 5 July

THE Museum at the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization has been open since 5 July with six halls from 10 am to 3 pm on weekends and public holidays, according to second joint secretary U



The reopened Myanmar Motion Pictures Museum.

Chantha Kyi Soe.

Six halls are the silver gallery, the gold gallery, the diamond gallery, the centenary gallery, the academy gallery and the machinery gallery.

“Myanmar film industry has completed 100 years. The museum has been around for 75 years for the next generation to learn. It aims for researchers and media personnel to get the right information, and to honour those in the film industry and to return benefits to them,” he said

The silver gallery features a collection of well-known films made between 1920 and 1945, with the gold gallery showing posters and memorabilia of films made between 1945 and 1970, the diamond gallery exhibiting information about the films made from 1970 to 1995, the centenary gallery showcasing information about the films made from 1995 to 2020, the academy gallery showing photos of the winners, and the machinery gallery showing machines used 25 to 50 years ago.

Entrance fees are K1,000 per person for Myanmar nationals, a 50 per cent discount for associations and schools, and kyats equivalent to US\$2 for foreigners. Built in 1996, reopened once in 2022 and attempted to reopen in 2023, the museum has been closed since then for various reasons and is now open. — MT/ZN

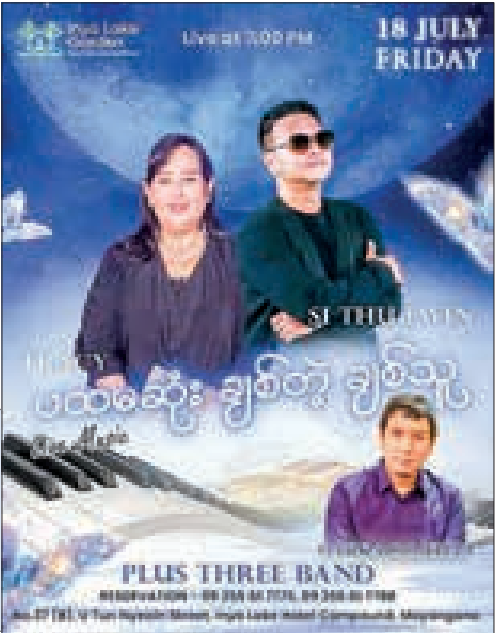
First Love concert to be staged by popular duo

MYANMAR vocalists Sithu Lwin and Tracey will hold their first-ever duet concert titled First Love on 18 July at The Heart of Rangoon – THOR Bar, located in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon.

“We’ll be performing at THOR Bar on 18 July. Tracey has been one of the voices from our early Harmony era when we first started on stage. We want to revive those special memories with beautiful love songs, performed in a soothing and calm mood for everyone to enjoy,” Sithu Lwin said.

Their performances will be backed by the renowned Plus Three band, and audiences can expect quality musical arrangements from band leader Okka Oo Tha.

— ASH/KZL



Vocalists Sithu Lwin, Tracey and musician Okka Oo Tha are seen on the concert poster.

Gold Market Rate as of 8 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.

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Office of the State Administration Council
https://sacoffice.gov.mm | 4. Ministry of Information
https://www.moi.gov.mm |
| 2. Ministry of Defence
https://www.mod.gov.mm | 5. Myawady Webportal
https://myawady.net.mm |
| 3. Ministry of Legal Affairs
https://www.mlis.gov.mm | 6. Myanmar National Portal
https://myanmar.gov.mm |

MRF to continue working on solar energy project for rice mills

MYANMAR Rice Federation says it will continue working on its solar energy project as there are further rice mills proposed for using the sustainable energy source.

“We will continue this plan as there are further proposals,” MRF responded to the Global New Light of Myanmar concerning the solar energy project.

As of March 2025, prior research and installation have been carried out for 28 rice mills that have suggested for solar energy in capacity of 41.9 megawatts. For some rice mills, the operation cost is millions of kyats but the solar energy can minimize it relatively.

Using the solar power for rice mills can help the government to provide more to the



MRF Rice Export Exchange emphasizes the sustainable rice production by solar energy or renewable energy.

other sectors which have electricity demand, MRF said in a seminar on MRF Immersion Day 2025 held at the Union of

Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry. MRF has already signed memorandum of understanding

with 17 solar energy companies, aiming to boost the use of solar power for rice mills which engage in rice export — MT/ZS

YUOE to offer master’s and diploma courses

YANGON University of Economics (YUOE) will conduct master’s and post-graduate diploma online and on-campus courses for the 2025-2026 Academic Year.

Applications can be submitted starting from 7 July 2025 for Master of Business Administration - MBA (Campus), Executive Master of Business Administration - EMBA (Campus), Executive Master of Business Administration – EMBA (Online), and Master of Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation - MSESI (Online), Post Graduate Diploma in Management Administration - PGDMA (Online), Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management - PGDHRM (Online).

Those who want to join master’s and post-graduate diploma courses must hold a degree from a recognized and accredited university. They must not attend another course offered by the state-owned university simultaneously. They must complete the course in the prescribed timeline. Those who want to attend master classes must take entrance written and oral tests, while those aiming for diploma courses must sit for an interview only.

The criteria for the EMBA (Campus/Online) course are eight years of working experience for civil servants and at least eight years of working experience for those working executive level for non-governmental institutions or private businesses. They must be



The signage of the Yangon University of Economics.

30 years old or older. For MSESI (Online), applicants must be older than 25 years with two years of working experience.

Regarding the PGDMA (Online), they must be working for the government, private or NGO with a middle-level management position and those with a Human Resource Management background will be prioritized to join the PGDHRM (Online)

Master’s courses last two years, while the PGDMA is a one-year course, and PGDHRM is a nine-month course.

Course timetables are set from 7 am to 9 am from Monday to Friday and 7 am to 2 pm on Saturday for the MBA course, 6 am to 8 pm from Monday to Friday and 2 pm to 4 pm on Saturday for the EMBA course, 6 pm to 8 pm from Monday to Friday for MSES, from 7 am to 9 am on Monday to Friday for

PGDMA and PGDHRM courses respectively.

Applicants must provide application form along with certificate of a bachelor degree, matriculation pass certificate, citizenship scrutiny card, reference letter from employer and three passport sized photos to the administration department (Padamyia Building/Hlaing) by 29 August 2025 for MBA (Campus) and EMBA (Campus), by 10 October for EMBA (online), by 20 November for MSESI (Online), by 10 October for PGDMA (Online) and PGDHRM (Online).

Entrance exams (written test) are scheduled to take place on 7 September for MBA (Campus) and EMBA (Campus), 19 October for EMBA (Online) and 30 November for MSESI (Online).

Individuals can enquire about details through YUOE at 01 86646864. — NN/KK

CBM sold US\$1.8M, CNY1.3M on 7 July

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$1.8 million and 1.3 million yuan on 7 July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.87 million to edible oil companies and over \$912,150 to commodity importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold \$1.75 million to edible 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 that purchased from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold \$8.4 million, 13.9 million baht and 5.2 million yuan in June 2025, in addition to an injection of \$14.9 million that was purchased from the CMP enterprises into the financial market.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

Carefully do the daily routine to prevent respiratory diseases

THE rainy season is a time when respiratory infectious diseases such as seasonal influenza and COVID-19 tend to spread more easily. COVID-19 is no longer classified as a global pandemic, but rather as a locally occurring seasonal infectious disease similar to the flu. To prevent the spread of these diseases and reduce mortality, the public has to follow the guidelines regularly issued by relevant government organizations and ministries, as respiratory diseases are typically transmitted through the air.

The public is advised to avoid going to crowded places whenever possible. If it is necessary to go to such areas, a face mask must be worn properly. If not wearing a mask, one should cover their mouth and nose with a tissue or the inside of the elbow when sneezing or coughing. If symptoms become severe, one should immediately consult the nearest clinic or healthcare facility and receive appropriate medical treatment.

Although COVID-19 vaccines are now being produced in Myanmar, for people living in remote areas where travel is not easy, the best approach remains taking personal preventive measures. Being consistently alert - without forgetting, neglecting, or being careless - can help prevent infection. It is also essential to stay informed about the health guidelines regularly issued by the Ministry of Health regarding daily routines and safe practices. People have to emphasize the importance of prevention and preparedness in order to effectively reduce the spread of respiratory diseases, including new variants of COVID-19.

As heavy rains are currently falling and new COVID-19 variants are spreading internationally, it is becoming increasingly important for the public to remain vigilant. The best way to protect one's life is to take personal precautions against respiratory infections. If it is necessary to go out in the rain, one should promptly dry wet clothes, thoroughly dry off any rainwater on the body, and stay warm immediately after returning. Taking these actions is essential for maintaining good health.

Although COVID-19 vaccines are now being produced in Myanmar, for people living in remote areas where travel is not easy, the best approach remains taking personal preventive measures. Being consistently alert - without forgetting, neglecting, or being careless - can help prevent infection. It is also essential to stay informed about the health guidelines regularly issued by the Ministry of Health regarding daily routines and safe practices. People have to emphasize the importance of prevention and preparedness in order to effectively reduce the spread of respiratory diseases, including new variants of COVID-19.

The Importance of Civil Service Academies from a National Development Perspective

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

A NATION'S progress pivots not only on its natural resources and economic policies but also on the quality and efficiency of its civil administration. In this regard, the upper and lower Civil Service Academies (CSAs) under the Union Civil Service Board play a pivotal role in shaping a competent, ethical, and visionary cadre of public servants who are instrumental in driving national development. The following are key points of the importance of CSAs for national development.

❖ **Capacity Building and Professional Excellence:** At the heart of a civil service academy is its mandate to cultivate professional excellence. Trainees are equipped with in-depth knowledge of governance, public policy, law, economics, and administrative skills. This formal training is vital to ensure that civil servants

are not only academically prepared but also attuned to the complexities of contemporary public administration.

❖ **Promotion of Ethical Governance:** Civil Service Academies emphasize integrity, accountability, and transparency - values critical for ethical governance. Through modules on leadership ethics, anti-corruption strategies, and public accountability, these institutions instil a strong sense of duty and moral responsibility in trainees. In countries plagued by systemic corruption or bureaucratic inertia,

this focus becomes essential to restore public trust in government institutions.

❖ **Bridging Policy and Implementation:** One of the most significant challenges in governance is the disconnect between policy formulation and implementation. Civil Service Academies help bridge this gap by exposing trainees to practical simulations, case studies, and fieldwork. Officers trained in these academies gain firsthand insights into ground realities, enabling them to adapt policies to local contexts and ensure effective delivery of

public services.

❖ **Fostering National Unity and Inclusivity:** Given the diversity in ethnicity, language, and socioeconomic conditions in many nations, civil service academies play a critical role in fostering national unity. Training programmes often emphasize the importance of inclusive governance, social justice and the protection of minority rights. Moreover, by bringing together recruits from diverse backgrounds, these academies encourage mutual understanding and national integration. By bringing together civil servants

from different regions and departments, a Civil Service Academy promotes unity and cooperation within the government. It also helps to establish consistent standards and procedures across ministries, ensuring smoother communication and coordination among various sectors of the public administration.

❖ **Driving Sustainable Development:** Civil servants are key actors in planning and executing development programmes related to education, health, infrastructure, environment, and social welfare. Civil Service Acad-

emies, by integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their curriculum, empower officers to think beyond immediate administrative tasks and adopt a long-term, sustainable approach to development. This strategic orientation is vital in achieving national and global development targets.

❖ **Innovation and Adaptability:** In an era of rapid technological change, civil service academies help future administrators stay updated with digital tools, e-governance platforms, and data-driven decision-making processes.

Training in these areas enhances the efficiency of public administration and enables governments to respond proactively to emerging challenges like climate change, urbanization, and digital transformation.

❖ **Supporting National Development and Policy Implementation:** A trained civil service is essential for the successful implementation of national development plans. Whether in education, healthcare, infrastructure, or environmental protection, civil servants are the ones who put policy into action. A Civil Service

Academy ensures that these individuals understand national priorities, can solve real-world problems, and are committed to public welfare. In this way, the academy contributes directly to a country's progress and stability.

Moreover, Civil Service Academies are not merely training institutions; they are vital nation-building pillars. By nurturing skilled, ethical, and visionary leaders, they significantly contribute to good governance and national development. It ensures that civil servants are not only knowledgeable but also ethical, committed, and capable of serving the people with excellence.

References
Lecture notes from the Management Course for Executive Officials No 9, Civil Service Academy, Upper Myanmar

I Say What I See:
“One Size Fits All?” Navigating Flexibility from Newsroom to Nautical

By @Editor

ONCE watched a burly seaman wrestle his shoulders into a life vest labelled “free size”. The vest, meant to accommodate all, squeezed and creaked against his frame like a reluctant hug. Not far from him, a wiry junior crewmate swam in the same gear, straps flapping, form adrift. The manufacturer’s promise of universal fit lay scattered on the deck, undone by the reality of human variation.

Years later, in the cool hum of a newsroom, I encountered another “free size” notion: the rigid memos outlining editorial norms. Style guides are issued in a one-size-fits-all fashion, with sweeping assumptions that prose behaves identically across cultures, personalities, and purposes. But prose, like people and like sailors, deserves better than prescriptive uniformity.

“One size fits all” is a comforting phrase, but a dangerous illusion. Beneath it lurks a denial of individuality, context, and nuance. And in both the sea and the sentence, flexibility isn’t just an

option – it’s often the only thing keeping us afloat.

The Illusion of Universality
Whether aboard a vessel or behind a desk, systems thrive on standardization. Ships have procedural language, uniform drills, and gear cut to spec. Editorial offices possess their own codes: templates, deadlines, house styles handed down like maritime charts.

These systems simplify, yes. They ensure safety and consistency. But they falter at the edges when the wind shifts suddenly, or when a writer’s voice refuses to sail in neat lines. A foul-weather jacket might protect the average sailor, but it fails to shield a smaller frame from the piercing salt spray. A boilerplate lede may catch a reader’s attention, but suffocate a poignant truth behind formulaic turns.

Universality seduces with promises of efficiency. But it forgets that humanity is rarely average. We are shaped by deviation and defined by exception. Uniform solutions may work, but they often

fit no one especially well.

The Elastic Virtue: Flexibility as Philosophy

If standardization is a chart, then flexibility is the compass. It doesn’t reject direction, but adapts to it. On deck, it’s the captain who revises the course mid-storm. In editorial life, it’s the editor who preserves a writer’s rhythm even when it skips past prescribed beats.

Flexibility isn’t laxity. It’s listening. It’s the act of responding, not imposing. When language trembles with emotion or truth, good editing makes space for those tremors, even if it means stepping outside the grammar manual.

On shipboard, too, flexibility saves lives. I recall a tense moment in the Strait of Malacca when our radar failed amid an incoming squall. The manual’s solution was to remain silent and wait. But an old crewmate – more seasoned than cautious – improvised a relay with flashlight signals to a nearby vessel. It wasn’t textbook. It was human.



Perhaps “one size fits all” was never meant to be a solution **ILLUSTRATION: CONCEPT ART**

Flexibility, in truth, is responsibility. It asks us to weigh context, honour voices, and discard rigidity when empathy demands it.

The Elastic Thread of Friend-

ship

Still, no policy – flexible or fixed – can substitute for genuine connection. Friendship, in both my seafaring and editorial lives, has been the quiet thread holding the

patchwork together.

At sea, friendship softened hierarchy. I remember the first time I botched a rope knot and nearly delayed departure. A crewmate, rather than chastising, patiently

showed me an alternate grip, his variation. Later, he admitted that he’d learned it from an old Burmese fisherman, not any manual. In that moment, instruction flowed not from authority, but trust.

In the newsroom, I’ve seen style guides bent gently, not broken, to honour intention. A junior writer, fresh with poetic fire, submitted an article bursting with adjectives. My instinct was to prune. But another editor suggested we preserve the voice and shape the cadence instead. We did. And it became one of our most-read pieces that month.

Friendship fosters flexibility not just through kindness but through courage. It allows for deviation because someone is willing to vouch for the truth behind it. In this sense, friendship becomes the unseen editor; quiet, loyal, and indispensable.

Flexibility and Editorial Ethics

Of course, freedom without discipline is drift. A ship must steer; a sentence must hold shape. Flexibility must cohabit with ethics. As an editor, I’ve had to reject pieces that misrepresented facts, even if the prose gleamed with literary flair. As a journalist committed to peace storytelling, I believe that empathy must never obscure accuracy.

Ethical flexibility listens, but does not compromise truth. It

adapts style, not substance. And this distinction between what can be bent and what must stand firm is the heart of editorial integrity.

Navigating the Middle

Ultimately, the best fit is neither rigid uniformity nor shapeless elasticity. It’s a purposeful adaptation. The sail that adjusts to the wind, yet remains tethered to the mast.

In my journey from the deck to the desk, I’ve come to appreciate standards not as final forms, but as starting points. And I’ve come to respect friendship not just as sentiment, but as structure, a kind of moral scaffolding that helps shape choices when rules falter.

Perhaps “one size fits all” was never meant to be a solution. Perhaps it was always meant to provoke the question: what do we lose when we stop adjusting?

So, I write, and I edit, and sometimes, I still reach for the metaphorical vest labelled “free size”. But I’ve learned to alter the straps, reshape the seams, and – when needed – borrow a crewmate’s flashlight.

Because the sea shifts. And so does language. And the best we can do is keep listening, keep adapting, and keep each other afloat.

The sail adjusts, the ship stays on course. That is the quiet triumph of flexibility, not against structure, but alongside it.

NATIONAL

Public notice for those coming to Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office)

1. Any kind of ballpoint pens, mobile phones, flags, handbags, cameras, lighters, flower wreaths/flower bouquets/flower baskets, vinyl, bottles, sticks and pipes that are used in carrying flags are not allowed to be brought into the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office).

2. All the visitors are required to wear masks systematically without fail.

3. All must enter after washing their hands thoroughly at the designated places and using the hand sanitizers provided there.

4. The inspection will be conducted not to bring ten prohibited items at the junction of Maha Bandoola Road and the junction of Theinbyu and Anawrahta Roads in Botahtaung Township,

and it is required to bring Citizenship Scrutiny Cards or employee cards or student ID cards or certain cards to identify the personal data while mentioning the personal information including name, ID card number, address and phone number for temperature screening and medical checkups at the entrance of the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office).

5. Visitors will have to queue at least six feet apart from each other to follow the social/physical distancing set by the Ministry of Health.

6. If any suspicious symptoms, including high body temperatures (38 degrees Celsius or 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit), cough, difficulty breathing, or fatigue, are detected, visitors have to follow

the recommendations of the relevant authority.

7. They have to follow the arrangements of those serving duties at the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office).

8. All the visitors will have to queue at least six feet apart from each other in line with the set numbers, and stay at least six feet apart from each other while inside.

9. All the visitors have to strictly follow the COVID-19 health notices and information released by the Ministry of Health in a timely manner.

10. Elderly people and those with chronic illnesses are not allowed to visit.

11. Those suffering from fever, cough, difficulty breathing or fatigue are not allowed to visit.

IFRC urges global donors to support quake-hit Myanmar beyond short-term aid

AS media coverage of the earthquake wanes, international donors should look beyond the short-term relief efforts and not forget the quake-stricken people of Myanmar, said an official from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua, Nadia Khoury, the IFRC's representative for Myanmar, spoke about the situation where many people are still living in rescue camps after more than a hundred days since a 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck central Myanmar

on 28 March.

"Rehabilitation has a long way to go. We want to do everything possible to provide assistance to needy families and help these individuals regain their livelihoods, becoming healthy and contributing members of the community. We understand that rehabilitation has a cost. It takes a long time. For the next hundreds of days and several months, international aid is essential," she said in the interview.

To meet these needs, the IFRC has urgently requested 100 million Swiss francs (approximately US\$125.9 million)

to fund rehabilitation efforts over the next two years, according to Xinhua.

State Administration Council Member, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Communications, General Mya Tun Oo, along with officials, visited the construction sites for container houses, including the Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station, on 6 July and inspected the finalized installation of container houses to accommodate earthquake-hit employees and their families, relocation, and arrangements for water and electricity. — Htun Htun/ZN



This photo reveals the installation of 150 container houses for earthquake-impacted employees in Mandalay in May.

Labour Dept: Beware of OWIC application scams by brokers



A glimpse of the OWIC issuance department (Mayangon).

THE quota of OWIC applications has been expanded, and at the same time, some brokers have taken advantage of it and asked for a large amount of money, said the Department of Labour.

The department has now expanded the eligible OWIC worker population in order not to have difficulty for the public; however, brokers have asked money a lot for it, saying there are charges paid to the department's staff.

The OWIC applications have been granted by the registration system, and the application form sample has been published on its Facebook page

and with no extra charges, a permit can be available in a short time if workers prepare the required documents by themselves, it said.

Therefore, either skilled workers or workers on leave should do the process by themselves, so that they can save the cost and avoid misunderstanding their staff, it said.

Through the Safe Migration Facebook page, the Ministry of Labour makes announcements on the list of eligible trainees and OWIC permits for those who want to go abroad to work as skilled labour on their own. — MT/ZS

Evolving Thai cuisine dominates China’s Southeast Asian dining scene

FROM bustling street stalls to upscale shopping malls, the Thai culinary scene in China is undergoing a remarkable transformation.

Once confined to metropolises, Thai restaurants are thriving in smaller cities, evolving from niche eateries to social media sensations with long queues. This ascent positions Thai food as the leading Southeast Asian cuisine in China and a cultural gateway for youth seeking global flavours.

In Taiyuan, capital of north China’s Shanxi Province, families like Ms Liu’s frequent refined Thai restaurants in premium venues.

With elegant Thai-themed

decor and per capita consumption exceeding 100 yuan (about US\$14), one of their favourite Thai restaurants offers sophisticated dining — a far cry from early stereotypes of cluttered street fare. The restaurant’s seven-year tenancy within a popular mall, with high competition for space, underscores Thai cuisine’s sustained appeal.

Meanwhile, another restaurant under the name of “Blooming” near the city’s Jinyang Lake Park combines photogenic settings with tailored flavours.

This restaurant isn’t large in size, with about 20 indoor tables and over 10 outdoor seats, all decorated with various plants and flowers. Hu Yani, the restaurant manager, said that weekday evenings see a 90 per cent occupancy rate, and weekends often have queues waiting for seats.

Hu said that since its opening over three years ago, the establishment has continuously refined its menu based on customers’ tastes and preferences. “Compared to traditional Thai cuisine or dishes from Thailand itself, we’ve slightly adjusted the proportions of spices used and toned down the sourness and spiciness,” she added. — Xinhua



People dine at a Thai restaurant in Nanning, south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, 8 September 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

“Jurassic World Rebirth” tops N American box office on opening weekend



American actress Scarlett Johansson attends a red carpet event to promote the film “Jurassic World: Rebirth” in Seoul on 1 July 2025. PHOTO: AFP

UNIVERSAL and Amblin’s science fiction film “Jurassic World Rebirth” dominated the North American box office with an estimated three-day total of US\$91.5 million on its opening weekend, according to data released Sunday by measurement firm Comscore.

The dinosaur film has grossed \$147.3 million in North America since it was released

Wednesday. Overseas, it debuted with \$171 million in 82 markets, bringing its global total to \$318.3 million.

“Jurassic World Rebirth” is the fourth Jurassic World film and the seventh instalment in the Jurassic Park franchise. Directed by Gareth Edwards, the film stars Scarlett Johansson, Mahershala Ali and Jonathan Bailey, among others. — Xinhua

Animated video series tells stories of 5,000-year-old Liangzhu civilization

A five-episode animated short video series themed around China’s 5,000-year-old Liangzhu civilization was released globally on Monday.

Titled “The Quintet of Liangzhu Civilization,” the animated series consists of five episodes: “Pottery,” “Jade,” “Stone,” “Agriculture,” and “Fire,” each focusing on a key element of the Liangzhu culture. Drawing from extensive research, the series vividly portrays life during the Liangzhu period through character-driven stories.

The animation features



A tourist views an exhibit at Liangzhu Museum in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, 5 October 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

five different artistic styles: watercolour, coloured pencil, printmaking, ink painting, and paper-cutting. According to its creators, the animation was hand-drawn, with intricate details such as characters’ headgear and housing reflecting the unique charm of the culture.

The series was jointly presented by the China Centre for International Communication

Development and the management committee of Hangzhou Liangzhu archaeological site management district, and was produced by the Central Academy of Fine Arts.

Located in east China’s Zhejiang Province, the Liangzhu ruins gained UNESCO World Heritage status in 2019 as a testimony to the existence of Chinese civilization at least 5,000 years ago. — Xinhua

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ECONOMY WORLD

BYD delivers 90,000th NEV in Thailand, marking first anniversary of local plant

CHINESE carmaker BYD on Monday celebrated the delivery of its 90,000th new energy vehicle (NEV) in Thailand and the first anniversary of operations at its production facility in the country's Rayong province.

Wang Chuanfu, chairman and president of BYD Co Ltd officially delivered the 90,000th NEV to Nualphan Lamsam, president of the Football Association of Thailand.

The company also unveiled the first locally produced BYD SEAL 5, a plug-in hybrid model manufactured at the Rayong factory. "BYD's success in Thailand highlights the country's commitment to developing its electric vehicle industry," said Sumet Tangprasert, acting governor of the Industrial Estate Authority

of Thailand (IEAT).

Liu Xueliang, general manager of BYD's Asia-Pacific Auto Sales Division, said the company aims not only to provide advanced technology and quality products to Thai consumers but also to promote people-to-people connectivity through employment, disaster relief efforts, and energy support initiatives.

Entering the Thai market in 2022, BYD has rapidly grown into one of the country's leading EV brands. The company's Rayong factory now employs over 6,100 Thai workers, with local employees accounting for more than 90 per cent of the workforce. The plant is capable of producing 150,000 units annually and has realized full-process localized production. — Xinhua



Workers operate at an assembly line of BYD's new plant in Rayong province, Thailand, on 4 July 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Thai acting PM wants 'better deal' than Trump threatened tariff

THAILAND'S acting prime minister Phumtham Wechayachai said Tuesday he wanted a "better deal" than the 36 per cent tariff Donald Trump threatened to impose in a letter to the country.

Bangkok was hit with the same rate when the US president announced his initial wave of levies at the start of April, but has been paying a 10 per cent standby rate as negotiators raced for a deal before a 9 July

deadline.

Trump sent letters to more than a dozen countries on Monday, renewing his threat of high tariffs but extending the negotiation deadline to 1 August.

"The most important thing is that we maintain good relations with the US," Phumtham told reporters in Bangkok. "Once we reassess the situation, I hope we can secure a better deal." — AFP

China's giant vessel makes floating salmon farm a reality



A staff member arranges harvested Atlantic salmon on a salmon processing vessel at a fish farming experimental area of Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, 8 June 2022. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA has recently launched the world's first self-propelled ship for salmon farming, marking a milestone in the country's quest for high-quality development in the modern marine fisheries industry.

This "floating factory", with a displacement of 132,000 tonnes, is able to raise 8,000 tonnes of fish annually in sealed smart tanks, said its builder, China State Shipbuilding Co-

operation Limited (CSSC).

The vessel, named Su Hai No 1, was officially delivered on 26 June at a port in Nansha, south China's Guangdong Province, CSSC confirmed to Xinhua on Tuesday. This advancement marks China's entry into a new era of deep-sea salmon aquaculture, and is expected to reduce domestic reliance on imported salmon, CSSC said.

The vessel measures 249.8

metres in length, 45 metres in width and 21.6 metres in depth -- with total aquaculture water volume of 83,000 cubic metres.

It is equipped with four 2,800-kilowatt main generator sets to meet various power distribution needs for anchorage and migratory farming. It has a maximum speed of 10.3 knots, a range of 20,000 nautical miles and can support a crew of 50 for up to 90 days. — Xinhua

Bad loan burden grows for German banks in 2024 amid spike in insolvencies

NON-PERFORMING loans (NPLs), also known as "bad loans", rose sharply in Germany in 2024 due to a surge in corporate insolvencies, according to a study by the consulting firm BearingPoint published on Monday.

Among all European countries, Germany recorded the steepest increase in NPLs, rising by 24.9 per cent in 2024. By contrast, the average NPL increase among the 163 European financial institutions examined

was just 1.1 per cent, the study found. According to the European Central Bank (ECB), a loan is classified as non-performing when the borrower is likely to be unable to meet repayment obligations on time.

These loans, often referred to as "bad loans", pose a significant risk to banks when borrowers fail to make scheduled payments despite initially appearing financially stable.

The sharp rise in NPLs in Germany was primarily at-

tributed to a spike in corporate insolvencies, as well as significant losses and defaults in commercial real estate lending, BearingPoint said.

More than 21,900 German companies filed for insolvency in 2024, marking a 23.1 per cent year-on-year increase, according to figures from CRIF, a global provider of credit information and risk management solutions. This represents the highest number of insolvencies in Germany since 2015. — Xinhua

Tariff concerns cast shadow over US consumer spending in summer

AMERICANS may have to think twice before they travel, dine out or shop this summer — a season typically defined by spending, as tariff concerns weigh on consumer sentiment, multiple surveys have shown.

US President Donald Trump on Monday announced new tariffs ranging from 25 to 40 per cent on 14 countries and signed an executive order to extend the pause on “reciprocal tariffs” to 1 August.

According to a Yahoo Finance/Marist poll released Monday, 81 per cent of the 2,011 adults surveyed said they are concerned to varying degrees about the impact of tariffs on their personal finances, while 60 per cent fear the tariffs’ negative impact on the broader economy.

Asked where they would cut back first, 48 per cent cited entertainment and 45 per cent pointed to clothing. Meanwhile, 52 per cent said they are already eating out less frequently.

“We’re seeing a real-time recalibration of spending habits because of both higher prices and growing uncertainty about what’s coming next,” the poll said.

Such a trend has begun to show up in retail sales. Core retail sales rose only 0.23 per cent in May from April, according to the CNBC/National Retail Federation (NRF) Retail Monitor released on 13 June. A month earlier, the same gauge jumped as households rushed to buy imported goods before tariffs took effect.



Customers shop at a Walmart store in Los Angeles County, California, the United States, 20 May 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

“The data for May indicates that the pull-forward in consumer demand ahead of tariffs is likely dissipating,” said NRF Pres-

ident and CEO Matthew Shay.

Electronics and appliance sales slipped down 1.98 per cent month over

month in May, echoing the Yahoo Finance/Marist poll that found 34 per cent of households chose to postpone big-ticket purchases.

Consumer sentiment indicators underscored the unease. The Conference Board’s Consumer Confidence Index for June fell 5.4 points to 93.0 as tariffs and inflation remain on top of consumers’ minds.

Economists warned that a prolonged pause in discretionary outlays could reverberate across industries that depend on a seasonal influx of consumers in summer. Some businesses are already adjusting. Major cinema chains extended “budget Tuesdays” to three days a week, while national grocers promoted store-brand picnic kits.

Rising costs mean retailers have limited room to cut prices without eroding margins, according to Oxford Economics notes dated 1 July. — Xinhua

Samsung Electronics’ preliminary operating profit more than halves in Q2

South Korea’s tech giant Samsung Electronics saw its second-quarter preliminary operating profit more than halve from a year earlier, the company said Tuesday.

The preliminary operating profit tumbled 55.94 per cent to 4.6 trillion won (US\$3.4 billion) in the April-June quarter compared to the same quarter of last year.

It missed market expectations of about 6 trillion won (\$4.4 billion). Preliminary revenue edged down 0.09 per cent to 74 trillion won (\$54 billion) in the cited quarter. — Xinhua

New Zealand releases first national AI strategy to drive economic growth

NEW Zealand has launched its first national Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy, aiming to boost productivity and drive economic growth.

Science, Innovation and Technology Minister

Shane Reti announced the initiative on Tuesday, highlighting that AI could contribute up to 76 billion NZ dollars (US\$45.76 billion) to New Zealand’s GDP by 2038.

However, the min-

ister noted that the nation is currently lagging behind other advanced economies in AI readiness, with many businesses yet to embrace the technology.

The government’s

approach is designed to foster AI adoption by reducing regulatory barriers, offering clear guidance, and encouraging responsible innovation, Reti said. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (349W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (349W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-7-2025** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB528R)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB528R)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-7-2025** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (945N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (945N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Trump sends tariff notices to 14 countries, including Myanmar



ON 7 July, US President Donald Trump sent letters to 14 countries, including Myanmar, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Kazakhstan, Tunisia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, South Africa, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Serbia, Cambodia, Thailand, and Laos, announcing plans to raise import tariffs.

According to reports, in a letter sent to Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister of Myanmar, US President Donald Trump acknowledged a trade deficit with Myanmar but affirmed that trade relations would continue. The letter highlighted

the US commitment to fair and balanced trade and announced a 40-per-cent tariff on all exports from Myanmar to the United States. It also noted that Myanmar companies would be permitted to invest in US-based industries and indicated openness to negotiations on trade tariffs. — GNLM

Japan regrets Trump’s tariff, aims for deal by new 1 Aug deadline



Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba speaks to reporters at his office in Tokyo on 8 July 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPAN on Tuesday aired its regret over US President Donald Trump’s decision to impose a 25 per cent tariff on the longtime Asian ally, but its chief negotiator pledged to ramp up bilateral negotiations to reach a mutually beneficial “package” deal by the extended deadline of 1 August.

After Trump’s intention was conveyed to Japan in a letter, Ja-

pan’s top negotiator Ryosei Akazawa spoke by phone with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and expressed his country’s disappointment. The two negotiators had candid and in-depth discussions for over 40 minutes, Akazawa said.

Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba, who described the latest US move as “truly regrettable”, said Japan will

not waiver in its defence of national interests in future rounds of talks, pledging to do all it can to mitigate the impact of the imminent tariff hike on the export-oriented Japanese economy.

“We will continue to engage in negotiations with the United States to explore the possibility of reaching a mutually beneficial deal while protecting our national interests,” Ishiba told a government task force on US tariffs.

Both Ishiba and his close aide Akazawa maintained that the recent rounds of negotiations had prevented an even higher tariff, as Trump previously hinted at rates of 30 per cent or 35 per cent.

The US president’s move came shortly before a three-month pause on part of the “reciprocal tariff” was due to end on Wednesday.

The newly set rate of 25 per cent, slightly higher than 24 per cent initially announced for Japan, is set to take effect on 1 August, with Trump leaving the door open for a revision through negotiations. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

Travellers in Japan asked to keep power banks within reach on flights

THE Japanese government on Tuesday began urging travellers to keep power banks within reach on airplanes following a series of incidents of mobile batteries catching fire on flights.

Airline staff at airports across the country began asking flyers for their cooperation, with staff of All Nippon Airways group at a boarding point at Tokyo’s Haneda airport urging against stowing power banks in overhead compartments onboard the aircraft.

“For safety, we would like to ask for understanding and cooperation,” one staff member said.

Lithium-ion batteries, commonly used in power banks, can ignite upon physical impact or due to gradual degradation, according to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

Mobile batteries are not allowed in checked baggage, and there are limits on the number and capacity permitted in carry-on luggage. — Kyodo

Second Red Sea cargo ship attacked off Yemen: monitors

TWO crew members were injured and two others were missing after a commercial ship was attacked Monday off the coast of Yemen’s Hodeida, monitors reported, the second vessel attacked in the Red Sea in about 24 hours.

Yemen’s Huthi rebels earlier claimed responsibility for an attack on Sunday, in which gunmen on skiffs opened fire on a commercial vessel in the Red Sea, forcing the crew to abandon ship after being hit by rocket-propelled grenades and other weapons.

That incident marked the first Huthi attack on commercial shipping along the vital maritime route in months. In May, the rebels agreed to a ceasefire with Washington, ending weeks of intense US strikes.

UK-based security firm Ambrey said on Monday a “Liberia-flagged bulk carrier was approached and attacked by two skiffs and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) while transiting northbound in the Red Sea.” — AFP

Bulgaria becomes 21st member to adopt euro after EU green light

EU ministers gave the final green light on Tuesday for Bulgaria to adopt the euro on 1 January 2026, making it the single currency area’s 21st member. Bulgaria’s switch from the lev to the euro comes nearly 19 years after the country of 6.4 million people joined the European Union.

“We did it!” Bulgarian Prime Minister Rossen Jeli-zkov said.

“We thank all institutions, partners and everyone whose efforts made this landmark moment possible. The government remains committed to a smooth and effective transition to the euro in the interest of all citizens,” Jeli-zkov said on X. In adopting the legal texts necessary for the move, EU finance ministers officially set the euro at 1.95583 Bulgarian lev. “Joining the euro area is much more than just about replacing lev with euro. It is about building a brighter and more prosperous future for Bulgaria and its citizens at the heart of Europe,” EU economy chief Valdis Dombrovskis said after the approval. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar striker Than Paing joins Thai League II side Trat FC

MYANMAR national team striker Than Paing has joined Trat FC, a club competing in Thai League II.

Following the expiry of his contract with Kanchanaburi Power FC at the end of last season, Than Paing has now made the move to Trat FC. This marks his fourth club in Thailand since beginning his overseas career in 2022.

Than Paing previously played for Kanchanaburi City FC in the 2022–2023 season, Chiangmai

United FC in the 2023-2024 season and Kanchanaburi Power FC in the 2024-2025 season.

A product of Myanmar's U20 squad that qualified for the 2015 FIFA

U20 World Cup, Than Paing scored the decisive goal that earned Myanmar its historic spot in the tournament. He has also been part of the Myanmar senior national team setup since 2014. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar women's squad to compete in 2025 ASEAN Women's Championship

THE Myanmar women's national football team is set to compete in the 2025 ASEAN Women's Championship, which will be held in Vietnam from 6 to 19 August.

Following a short training break after the AFC Women's Asian Cup qualifiers, the team is scheduled to resume training on 10 July. Japanese coach Uki Tetsuro will continue to lead the team, relying on the core group of players who participated in the recent qualifiers.

As part of their tour-

namment preparations, the team will travel to China from 19 to 30 July for a training camp. Dur-

ing the camp, Myanmar will play three friendly matches against China U20 and Chinese wom-

en's club teams.

A total of eight teams will take part in the tournament. Group A includes hosts Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia and Cambodia. Myanmar is in Group B alongside defending champions the Philippines, Australia and Timor-Leste.

Myanmar will face Australia on 7 August, Timor-Leste on 10 August and the Philippines on 13 August in the group stage of the 2025 ASEAN Women's Championship. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



The Myanmar women's national team is seen during the AFC Women's Asian Cup qualifiers. PHOTO: SOE NYUNT THAW

Szczesny signs new 2-year contract with FC Barcelona

WOJCIECH Szczesny has signed a two-year contract extension to keep him at FC Barcelona until the end of June 2027, the club announced on Monday.

The news means the 35-year-old remains part

of the Barcelona squad after his previous deal expired at the end of June.

The former Arsenal, Juventus and Roma goalkeeper came out of retirement to join Barcelona early last season after Marc-Andre ter Stegen

tore his cruciate knee ligament, leaving Inaki Pena as the only fit goalkeeper in the Barca squad.

Although he needed time to get fully match fit, Szczesny made his debut in the Copa del Rey third round tie away to lower

league Barbastro on 4 January and quickly established himself as first choice, finishing the season with 2,726 minutes in 30 games, playing a key role in Barca's La Liga and Copa del Rey double. — Xinhua

Obituary

Announcement of Cremation Completion
Thant Zin Hein (a) Phoe Thar
aged 43

Thant Zin Hein (a) Phoe Thar, son of U Mya Thaung and Daw San San Win, who lives in Hlaing Township, Yangon Region, the youngest brother of U Aung Kyaw Kyaw and Daw Su Su Mar, U Aung Thein (a) Edward Lu and Daw Myat Maw Htwe, who are currently living in the USA, passed away at 2:30 am on the 7th July of 2025. The cremation ceremony already took place at Amoene Cemetery, Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region, on the 7th July of 2025.

Bereaved Family

Dimitrov injury sends Sinner into Wimbledon quarters, Djokovic also through



Novak Djokovic hits a return during the men's singles fourth round match against Alex de Minaur on 7 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

MEN'S top seed Jannik Sinner advanced to the Wimbledon quarterfinals under unfortunate circumstances on Monday after Grigor Dimitrov was forced to retire due to right pectoral injury while leading their fourth-round clash by two sets.

Dimitrov was ahead 6-3, 7-5, 2-2 when he fell to the court following an ace. The visibly emotional Bulgarian, unable to lift his right arm, was forced to retire, handing Sinner passage to the next round.

Sinner will now face American Ben Shelton, who advanced with a 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (1), 7-5 win over Lorenzo Sonego.

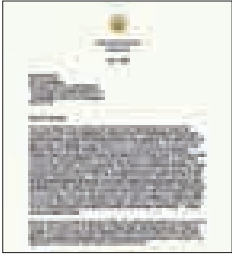
"I don't take this as a win at all, this is just an unfortunate moment for

us to witness," Sinner said following the match.

"He has struggled in Grand Slams with injuries a lot, so seeing him again with this injury is very tough. We all saw by his reaction how much he cares about the sport and he is one of the hardest working players on tour," the Italian said.

"This is not the end we wanted to see and it's very sad," he added.

Elsewhere, seven-time champion Novak Djokovic rallied from a set down to defeat Australia's Alex de Minaur 1-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4. The Serbian star will meet Italy's Flavio Cobolli in the quarterfinals after Cobolli ousted Marin Cilic 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (3). — Xinhua



WORLD



Leaders from BRICS members and partner countries, guest countries, as well as representatives of international organizations, pose for a group photo in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 7 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

BRICS moves to expand Global South cooperation for inclusive, sustainable global governance

LEADERS of BRICS countries, gathering here on Sunday and Monday for the 17th BRICS Summit, reiterated their commitments to reforming and improving global governance by expanding Global South cooperation.

The meeting adopted the Rio de Janeiro Declaration, which calls for strengthening multilateralism and reforming global governance, promoting peace, security and international stability, as well as deepening international economic, trade and financial cooperation.

Addressing the summit's plenary

session themed "Peace and Security and Reform of Global Governance" on Sunday, Chinese Premier Li Qiang called on BRICS countries to strive to become pioneers in advancing the reform of global governance, safeguard world peace and tranquility, and boost the peaceful settlement of disputes. In 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the global governance vision of extensive consultation and joint contribution for shared benefit, offering China's solution to the global governance challenge. Ten years on, the vision has gained growing global influence as trans-

formations unseen in a century are accelerating in the world.

"The world has entered a new phase of major turbulent changes, and the international order is undergoing a significant reorganization. Following its expansion, the BRICS mechanism will unite efforts to promote common development, defend multilateralism and contribute more to building a more equitable global governance system," said Boris Guseletov, a senior researcher at the Institute of European Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences. — Xinhua

Report says AAIB submits preliminary report into Air India crash

INVESTIGATORS from the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) have submitted a preliminary report on the recent Air India deadly crash to the federal ministry of civil aviation, a local news agency Asian News International (ANI) reported Tuesday.

"AAIB submits its preliminary report on the AI 171 plane crash to the ministry of civil aviation and the concerned authorities. The report filed is based on the initial findings of the probe," ANI quoting its top sources said. While the contents of the preliminary report are unknown, it is believed that it will give critical information about what caused the crash. The London-bound Air India aircraft, a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, crashed on 12 June shortly after takeoff from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport in Ahmedabad, about 17 kilometres south of Gandhinagar, the capital city of India's western state of Gujarat, killing all but one of the 242 people on board.

The accident also killed 19 people on the ground after it crashed at the premises of B J Medical College in the Meghaninagar area, causing severe damage to the buildings. The black boxes of the plane, the cockpit voice recorder (CVR) and flight data recorder (FDR), which were recovered following the crash, were sent to the AAIB lab in Delhi for analysis. — Xinhua

Gaza ceasefire talks resume as Trump upbeat on deal

INDIRECT Gaza ceasefire talks resumed Tuesday in Qatar, while Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited Washington to meet US President Donald Trump, who expressed optimism about a possible breakthrough.

Qatar, a mediator along with the United States and Egypt, said the meetings were focused on a "framework" for

the talks. "Indirect negotiations are continuing this morning in Doha, with a fourth meeting being held... the discussions are still focused on the mechanisms for implementation, particularly the clauses related to withdrawal and humanitarian aid," a Palestinian official close to the talks told AFP. "No breakthrough has been achieved so far, and the negotiations are ongoing," another

Palestinian official said.

On the ground, five Israeli soldiers were killed in combat in northern Gaza — one of the deadliest days this year for Israeli forces in the Palestinian territory.

Israel and Hamas began the latest round of negotiations on Sunday, with representatives seated in separate rooms within the same building. — AFP



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (R) hands over a letter to US President Donald Trump as they meet at the Blue Room of the White House in Washington, DC, on 7 July 2025. PHOTO: AFP