

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Critically endangered turtle rescued from fishing net, released in Rakhine

A nearly extinct species of leatherback sea turtle was caught in a fishing net in Myebon Township, Rakhine State, and released by residents, according to local sources. The turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea*, is nearly extinct in the world, and was caught on 16 July on a beach near Shintaung village.

“It was caught in our fishing net. The turtle was very, very big and still alive. The locals have never caught one of this size before. As it also seemed to be a rare species, it has been released,” said a news source from Rakhine State.

Of the seven species of sea turtles in the world, five kinds: hawksbill turtle, green turtle, olive ridley, loggerhead and leatherback turtle can be found in Myanmar, which are considered endangered species. The species is also being killed by accidental catches, and the most common fishing methods involved in these incidents are trawls, long-line nets, gillnets, and trammel/Seine nets, among others.

The leatherback turtle, whose scientific name is *Dermochelys coriacea*, is the world’s largest sea turtle. It has five longitudinal ridges on its body, a thick, flexible back, and a special circulatory system. Its body structure, with a high fat content in its skin, allows it to survive in extremely cold water; and it is an omnivorous animal, with its most common food being jellyfish and squid. — Htet Oo Maung/ZN



This image captures an endangered leatherback sea turtle before it is released.



An aerial drone view of the scenic beauty of the islands in Taninthayi Region, which are popular destinations for tourists.

Taninthayi approves 15 new hotels, welcomes 5,600+ foreign tourists in June

The committee also reported that Kawthoung, the region’s key marine tourism hub, saw 59 foreign yacht visits, over 600 same-day tourist trips across 384 outings, and a total of 5,686 international arrivals.

According to the Taninthayi Region Tourism Coordination Meeting 3/2025 in June, advance approval was granted for 15 hotel development projects in Taninthayi Region, and licences were issued for 17 new hotel and high-standard guesthouse businesses.

The Taninthayi Region Tourism Committee reported that it had approved advance construc-

tion permits for 15 hotel projects, 14 new hotel licences, three new high-standard guesthouse licences, 30 new travel agency licences, three new tour guide licences, 55 new local tour guide licences, extensions of 42 hotel licences and 10 high-standard guesthouse licences, extensions of 36 travel agency licences and 84 local tour guide licences.

In addition, the committee stated that in Kawthoung, the

region’s main marine tourism destination, there were 59 visits by foreign yachts, more than 600 same-day tourist trips with a total of 384 trips, and 5,686 international tourist arrivals. Similarly, tourism remains an essential industry for the region, and measures will be taken systematically through call centres to prevent online fraud gangs from infiltrating the island resorts. — ASH/KNN

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Brazil donates 500,000 BCG doses to support Myanmar’s TB prevention

BUSINESS PAGE 7



DICA: 600 companies fail to file AR in June 2025

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Fisheries Dept plans white shrimp exports to Russia, Belarus

# NATIONAL

## Improving health sector and promoting healthy choices boost national development

- ❖ Since health is fundamental to education and work, it is essential to focus on improving the health sector for the benefit of the population.
- ❖ Reducing the consumption of unhealthy food and drinks, as well as unnecessary spending, will not only benefit individuals and families but also contribute to the country's economic development.

*(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the Union government meeting held on 17 January 2025)*

## MRTV to broadcast live coverage of 78<sup>th</sup> Martyrs' Day ceremony

THE 78<sup>th</sup> Martyrs' Day ceremony will be held at the Martyrs' Mausoleum located in Bahan Township at 8:00 am on 19 July. The ceremony will be broadcast live starting at 7:40 am on 19 July on Myanma Radio and Television's MRTV – HD, MRTV News, MRTV Parliament, MRTV NRC, MITV, and partner channels MWD – HD and MWD Variety HD, as well as on joint television channels MNTV, Up to Date channel, Readers' Channel, M channel, and through the MOI Website, MRTV Website, Myanma Radio, Thazin FM, Star FM, Padam-yar FM, FM Bagan, Pyinsawadi FM, Mandalay FM, Cherry FM, Shwe FM, and the MRTV App. — MNA/TH

## Public Notice for Visitors to Martyrs' Mausoleum on Martyrs' Day

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 compound of the Martyrs' Mausoleum.
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. 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.
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 mausoleum.
8. 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.
9. All the visitors must strictly follow the COVID-19 health notices and information released by the Ministry of Health.
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.
12. For group tributes, a time limit of no more than ten minutes is recommended.

## Thilawa fuel tanks nearly full, tanker arrivals on schedule

ALTHOUGH the local fuel prices are expected to rise in the coming week due to a slight increase in global crude oil prices in the Asia-Pacific region, due to the fall in the domestic foreign exchange rate, it is estimated that the prices will still be K250 per litre less than the prices of early this year. The queues of vehicles were forming at the fuel station last year, but there are no queues this year. The storage tanks at Thilawa are almost full of fuel, and fuel tankers have been arriving continuously, according to the businesspeople. — MNA/KTZH

## Brazil donates 500,000 BCG doses to support Myanmar's TB prevention

AS a gesture of humanitarian support, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) of Brazil donated 500,000 doses of the BCG vaccine, valued at around US\$90,000, to Myanmar for use in the immunization programmes of the Department of Public Health under the Ministry of Health.

The vaccines arrived at Yangon International Airport yesterday afternoon via MAI Airlines. The BCG vaccine needs to be administered to newborns within 24 hours of birth. If it cannot be given within the first 24 hours, it can still be administered either before the infant reaches two months of age or together



This photo depicts the arrival of the donated vaccines.

with other vaccines at the age of two months. This donation will support Myanmar's efforts to implement its tuberculosis prevention programmes successfully. — MNA/MKKS

## Flood Warning

(Issued at 2 pm MST on 17 July 2025)

ACCORDING to the 12:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of Toe River at Maubin is observed as about two inches below its danger level. It may exceed above its danger level at the high tide period during the next one day.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Maubin Township, to take precaution measure and to stay away from the flood-prone areas in time if the water level will rise. — DMH

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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)

35 new projects approved, creating over 9,000 jobs

MYANMAR Investment Commission approved nine foreign investment projects and 26 local ventures yesterday.

These 35 projects cover industry, oil and natural gas, hotels and tourism, service, electric, agriculture, livestock, marine, construction and mining sectors, and the total investment amounts US\$72.865 million and K672,835.265 million, creating 9,220 jobs for locals.

State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister General Mya Tun Oo, who is also Chair of the Myanmar Investment Commission, and commission members attended the meeting.



The meeting of the Myanmar Investment Commission in progress yesterday, presided over by SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo.

As of the end of June 2025, among the 53 investing countries, Singapore, China, and Thailand are the leading countries with the largest foreign investments in the country. Of 12 sectors, the power sector accounts for 28.33 per cent by drawing the most significant investments, followed by the oil and natural gas sector (24.68 per cent) and the industrial sector (14.54 per cent).

The Myanmar Investment Commission oversees and approves investment project proposals from locals and overseas, as well as serving existing investors under the Myanmar Investment Law. — MNA/KTZH

MoBA and Anti-Corruption Commission hold session to promote clean government

A corruption prevention awareness and discussion session was jointly organized yesterday morning by the Ministry of Border Affairs and the Anti-Corruption Commission at the Ayeyawady Hall of the Ministry of Border Affairs.

The event was attended by State Administration Council Member and Union Minister for Border Affairs, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission U Sis Aye, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Phyto Thant, the Permanent Secretary, departmental officials, officers and staff.

The Union minister stated that corruption is an obstacle to the implementation of the country's development objec-

tives. He stressed that to build a good and clean government, all civil servants must carry out their duties free from corruption. In fulfilling the responsibilities of the Ministry of Border Affairs, he urged staff to perform with integrity, diligence, honesty and a spirit of service to the country and the people, and to contribute to national development without engaging in corrupt practices.

Afterwards, the Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission explained that corruption leads to the misuse and mismanagement of the country's resources and harms the basic interests of the people. He emphasized that everyone, starting from individuals in every sector, must participate in the process of eradicating



Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae speaks at the corruption prevention awareness and discussion session yesterday.

corruption.

Following this, the Director-General and officials from the Commission's Investigation Department gave a presentation and discussed matters related to anti-corruption measures and relevant laws.

In the afternoon, a team led by Commission Member U Kyaw Win Thein met the Corruption Prevention Unit (CPU) led by Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Phyto Thant. They exchanged views on the strengths and weaknesses encountered in the implementation of the Unit's activities. — MNA/KZL

# NATIONAL

## Govt to disburse over K600B agricultural loan

THE government disburses low-interest loans using the State Economic Promotion Fund, aiming to promote the agriculture and livestock sectors of the country, said Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Win Shein.

The Union minister, who is also Chairman of the Union Price Stability Committee, said it is also estimated to grant K688 billion agricultural loans for over five million acres in the 2025-2026 financial year, and the low-interest loan using the State Economic Promotion Fund, at the first meeting of the committee yesterday.

Moreover, he highlighted the guidance of the Prime Min-



The first meeting of the Union Price Stability Committee in progress yesterday, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Union Finance & Planning Minister U Win Shein.

ister made at the coordination meeting on national econom-

ic development regarding the high production of foodstuffs

to ensure the proper prices, promotion of agriculture and

livestock-based manufacturing sector and high cultivation of edible oil crops.

He continued that all should supervise not to face a huge impact on prices due to natural disasters, food shortages in the market, high prices and difficulties in trade flows from one region to another.

The vice-chair of the committee and attendees discussed price stability measures, trade flows, mobile food trucks in quake-stricken areas, production rate of rice, cooking oil, meat, egg and kitchen utensils in different regions and states.

The Deputy Prime Minister gave proper instructions and concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

## MoTC Dy Minister receives Russian trade delegation



The Russian trade delegation calls on Deputy Minister U Lu Mon yesterday.

DEPUTY Minister U Lu Mon of the Ministry of Transport and Communications received a delegation led by Mr Konstantin Kanarev, Trade Representative of the Russian Federation to Myanmar, at

the Ministry of Transport and Communications yesterday morning.

They exchanged cordial views on the proposed signing of the draft MoU on radio electronics and digital technologies

between the Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation, as well as on opportunities for bilateral cooperation in these fields. — MNA/MKKS

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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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

Spread democracy!

We must spread democracy and must try to build an independent Myanmar through this system. Only democracy is suitable for independence as it is the only system that supports peace. So, democracy must be our goal!

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Bogyoke Aung San at the fourth State leaders meeting in August 1945)



MoI Union Minister meets publishers to discuss media development

A meeting with newspaper and journal publishers was held yesterday at the meeting hall of the Film Promotion Division, under the Department of Information and Public Relations, in Bahan Township, Yangon, to discuss the development of the news media sector. Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn attended and delivered opening remarks.

The Union minister first addressed the current situation in the country and the need for news media to operate following these circumstances. He also highlighted the importance of reporting in a way that does

not harm the nation's interests or the well-being of the people, and stressed the dangers of fake and false news, as well as the need to disseminate accurate and truthful information.

Afterwards, Myanmar Press Council Second Vice-Chair U Khin Maung Kyaw Din, along with the attending newspaper and journal publishers and responsible personnel, held discussions on the development of the news media sector. The Union minister then provided guidance and coordinated on the points raised during the discussions.

— MNA/KZL



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn holds talks with newspaper and journal publishers in Yangon yesterday.

Myanmar hosts 14<sup>th</sup> online meeting of Lead Committee on Climate Change and Food Security



The 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Lead Committee on Climate Change and Food Security is in progress online yesterday.

AS the host nation, Myanmar convened the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Lead Committee on Climate Change and Food Security yes-

terday morning via an online platform.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Thanda Kyi, Direc-

tor-General of the Department of Planning under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, who serves as My-

anmar's SOM-AMAF leader. Representatives from relevant ministries also attended.

In addition, chairpersons of sectoral working groups under the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF), chairpersons of relevant working groups under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, and representatives from international partner organisations — including GIZ, FAO, SEARCA, RECOFTC and NTFP-EP — as well as delegates from ASEAN member states and officials from the ASEAN Secretariat participated in the meeting.

During the session, participants discussed and presented outcomes and progress from various ASEAN high-level and

sectoral meetings, covering areas such as ASEAN agriculture, research and development, crops, forestry, forestry and climate change, fisheries, livestock, rural development and poverty alleviation, science, technology and innovation, health development, and energy.

They also exchanged views on potential collaborative projects with international partner organisations aimed at enhancing the region's resilience to climate change and strengthening food security. Furthermore, they agreed on the next steps for the ongoing initiatives of ASEAN member states in the fields of climate change and food security. — MNA/KZL

# NATIONAL

## Public Notice for Visitors 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 Natmauk 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.

## Ethnic armed group members, PDFs, return to legal fold

THE State Administration Council is extending an invitation to those involved in various armed groups, including the PDF, to return to the legal fold. Those who do so are being provided with necessary assistance and support. Moreover, individuals who returned to the legal fold with arms and ammunition are being offered specific cash rewards.

Furthermore, some members of terrorist groups under the name of PDF, as well as certain ethnic armed group members who support violence, have carried out terror acts under the pretence of acting for the people, when in reality these actions serve their interests. These include acts of intimidation and killing of civilians, including students and children, as well as planting landmines and bombing public places, schools, hospitals, and roads and bridges. As a result of these terrorist actions, they have lost the support of the public. In addition, internal conflicts such as abuse of power, coercion, and the commission of unlawful acts have become prevalent within their groups. Due to



The ceremony welcoming ethnic armed group members and PDFs back into the legal fold is underway.

these issues, many have become disillusioned and are now willing to return to the legal fold. Tatmadaw, in its efforts to ensure the peaceful livelihood of the people, has been conducting Counter-Terrorism Operations in respective Military Command areas. On 16 July, Tatmadaw was able to regain full control of the Taungkham area and Nawng-hkio, which had temporarily

been occupied by terrorists. As a result, people have expressed renewed trust and confidence in Tatmadaw, showing strong and active support. They have begun providing timely intelligence to nearby Tatmadaw columns, co-operating with Tatmadaw, and rejecting the terrorist acts of the terrorists, who have lost public support. Due to the loss of public support and growing disil-

lusionment with their actions, some members of ethnic armed groups and PDF groups have come to understand and accept the true stance of the State and Tatmadaw. Consequently, they are now contacting nearby Tatmadaw bases and authorities in their respective Military Command areas and are returning to the legal fold.

According to reports, a total

of 14 individuals – 12 men and two women—have returned to the legal fold. This includes four male members from the TNLA, five male members from the DPLA, and three men and two women from the MDY-PDF. These individuals chose to abandon the path of armed struggle due to their desire to live peacefully within the framework of the law and their trust and acceptance of Tatmadaw’s peace initiatives. They returned to the legal fold through nearby Tatmadaw bases and were accepted by responsible officials, who provided the necessary assistance and support. They were then handed over to their respective parents or guardians.

There are still individuals who wish to return to the legal fold. Those who intend to do so are encouraged to promptly contact and report to the nearest district or township administration bodies, Tatmadaw bases, or police stations. They will be welcomed and accepted, provided with the necessary assistance and support, and cash rewards for any arms and ammunition. — MNA/TTA

## Earthquake death toll hits 3,770 as aid and medical supplies arrive

IN Myanmar, the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March severely affected six regions and states, with the death toll reaching 3,770 to date, alongside 5,104 injured and 38 still missing. The Myanmar Fire Brigade continues to carry out clearing and reconstruction efforts, and has so far rescued 653 people alive from collapsed buildings,

while also recovering 848 deceased. Domestic donors continue to support the victims with cash and relief supplies, and similarly, foreign countries, organizations, and benefactors have also been providing monetary and material assistance. Between 5 pm on 16 July and 5 pm on 17 July, a shipment of tuberculosis prevention medicine – donated

by the Brazilian Ministry of Health – arrived at Yangon International Airport. The shipment consisted of 25,000 vials of BCG vaccine powder and 25,000 vials of diluent, weighing approximately 0.605 tonnes. These medicines are being promptly distributed to the affected people through the Ministry of Health. — MNA/MKKS

DICA: 600 companies fail to file AR in June 2025

SIX hundred companies were struck off the register in June 2025 as they failed to file annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA report showed failure of 1,500 companies each in January and February, 900 in March to submit AR. No company lacks to file AR in April. Four hundred companies did not file AR in May.

The DICA notified those companies which failed to file their AR on the MyCO and were struck off the register from the date of the directive, under 430 (F) of the Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA's notification.

A total of 19,000 companies also failed to submit the AR in 2024. The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies



The facade view of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) office in Yangon.

Law 2017.

All registered companies need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the

anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

Under Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and

financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, under Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Compa-

nies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, thousands of companies were suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the Register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000. If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. — NN/KK

CBM sells \$1.2M on 16 July

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$1.2 million that were purchased from companies working on a Cut-Make and Pack basis to edible oil companies on 16 July.

CBM announced on 15 July that it would pump \$33 million into the fuel oil industry. In addition to injection of over 324,360 yuan into the financial market, CBM sold over \$771,290 million to the edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM sold over \$757,230 and 1.426 million yuan on 14 July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.58 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$359,230 to commodities-importing companies as well.

CBM sold over \$1.7 million to edible oil-importing companies on 11 July 2025.

CBM sold over \$1.5 million purchased from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies on 10 July, in addition to the injection of \$621,000 and 600,000 yuan into the financial market.

CBM announced on 8 July that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil importers. CBM also sold \$885,100 that was purchased from the CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold \$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 commodities-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-im-

porting 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

MGMA to launch batch 257 of Basic Sewing Operator Training

THE Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) will conduct the Basic Sewing Machine Operator Training Course (Batch 257) from 21 July to 8 August 2025 at the Myanmar Garment Human Resources Development Training Centre (MGHRDC).

The course will provide practical and technical approaches to sewing machines, different sewing methods, labour laws and practices.

This training will also help those hunting for jobs from regions outside Yangon connect with the garment factories, to



The logo of the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association.

create job opportunities.

Those who wish to attend the training can enrol through the contact numbers of MGHRDC at 09 940858350, 09 450723262, 09 9403912570, 09 784085794, 09 777367771 and 09952802635. — NN/KK

Gold Market Rate as of  
17 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.

OPINION

Support MSME businesses to boost the State economy

**S**UPPORT for MSME businesses: Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises are a key driving force and main pillar for a country's economic stability and growth. If regionally established MSME-based industries can be effectively developed, more local employment opportunities will be created, which will help reduce the need for people to migrate to urban areas or foreign countries for work.

If self-sufficient agriculture and livestock production are widely practised at the regional level, it will first ensure food security and enable surplus production to be exported abroad. As production increases, agricultural and livestock products from the region will also contribute to the growth and development of MSMEs, including small- and medium-scale agro-based industries. MSME products will then not only meet domestic demand but also have the potential to be exported internationally.

Therefore, the development of regional economies is directly linked to the overall economic development of the country. If MSMEs, as well as individual farmers and livestock producers in each region, can effectively contribute to regional economic growth, it will not only strengthen local economies but also significantly support national economic progress. For this reason, the participation of local communities in various regions for MSME development is essential to achieving sustainable national economic growth.

made to ensure adequate and stable access to irrigation water; efficient and systematic use of agricultural inputs, and the improvement of farming practices in a proper and organized manner. If individual farmers and livestock producers in each region adopt systematic and technically sound methods, regional agricultural and livestock-based economies will grow and develop sustainably.

MSME businesses can help reduce poverty and improve living standards. Currently, due to rapid changes and advancements in global politics, economics, and technology, MSMEs increasingly require support in areas such as financial capital, digital technology utilization, access to advanced machinery and technologies, skilled labour, effective management systems, reliable information, and entry into global markets. Alongside these needs, a favourable and enabling business environment is also essential for their success.

Therefore, the development of regional economies is directly linked to the overall economic development of the country. If MSMEs, as well as individual farmers and livestock producers in each region, can effectively contribute to regional economic growth, it will not only strengthen local economies but also significantly support national economic progress. For this reason, the participation of local communities in various regions for MSME development is essential to achieving sustainable national economic growth.

**R**ARE earth elements (REEs) are a group of 17 metals that play a crucial role in modern technology. Despite their name, they are relatively abundant in the Earth's crust but are rarely found in concentrated forms. These elements include lanthanides plus scandium and yttrium. REEs are essential in producing high-performance magnets, batteries, LED lights, and electronics such as smartphones and electric vehicles. They're also used in green energy technologies like wind turbines and solar panels. Mining and refining rare earths can be challenging due to environmental concerns and geopolitical factors, making their supply chain complex. As global demand increases, sustainable methods of extraction and recycling are being explored to reduce environmental impact and secure future availability.

Rare Earth Mining in Kachin State, Myanmar

Kachin State in northern Myanmar has become a major hub for rare earth element (REE) extraction, especially since 2017. The region, particularly areas like Chipwi and Pangwa near the China border, hosts hundreds of mining sites that produce valuable heavy rare earths such as dysprosium and terbium, which are critical for high-tech and green energy industries.

After 2021, mining activity surged dramatically, with Myanmar supplying up to 60-87 per cent of China's rare earth imports during some years. However, this boom has come at a cost: unregulated mining has led to deforestation, water pollution, and health risks for local communities. Many operations are linked to armed groups and lack proper oversight, raising concerns about environmental damage and human rights violations.



Mining companies or armed groups identify mountain slopes rich in heavy rare earths like dysprosium and terbium.



Kachin State in northern Myanmar has become a major hub for rare earth element (REE) extraction, especially since 2017. One of the mining sites is pictured.

Who Really Profits from Myanmar's Rare Earths?

By Min Zan

ever, this boom has come at a cost: unregulated mining has led to deforestation, water pollution, and health risks for local communities. Many operations are linked to armed groups and lack proper oversight, raising concerns about environmental damage and human rights violations.

Myanmar's rare earth production now ranks among the top globally, but the social and

ecological impacts in Kachin State remain deeply troubling. The rapid expansion of mining – often driven by demand from neighbouring countries – has led to the destruction of forests, contamination of rivers and soil, and displacement of local communities. Toxic chemicals used in the extraction process have damaged ecosystems and endangered biodiversity, while the lack of regulation and ac-

countability has made it difficult to monitor or mitigate these effects. Moreover, many mining operations are associated with armed groups or operate without formal oversight, fueling conflict and undermining peace efforts in the region. As Myanmar's role in the global rare earth supply chain grows, calls for more transparent, ethical, and environmentally responsible practices continue to intensify.

Step-by-Step Overview of Rare Earth Mining in Kachin State, Myanmar

Rare earth mining in Kachin State typically follows a process known as in-situ leaching, which is both cost-effective and environmentally risky. Here's how it unfolds:

**Site Selection & Clearing:** Mining companies or armed groups identify mountain slopes rich in heavy rare earths like dysprosium and terbium. Forests are cleared, and access roads are built, often without environmental assessments.

**Chemical Injection:** Workers drill holes into the mountains

and inject chemicals such as ammonium sulfate and oxalic acid into the soil. These dissolve the rare earth elements underground.

**Collection Ponds:** The chemical-laced solution flows downhill into large open-air ponds, where the rare earth sludge is collected. These ponds often leak, contaminating nearby rivers and farmland.

**Drying & Transport:** The sludge is dried in wood-fired kilns, then packed and transported, mostly across the border to China for processing. Myanmar supplies up to 60-87 per cent of China's heavy rare earth imports.

**Local Impact:** Mining sites are often unregulated. Workers lack protective gear, and communities face deforestation, water pollution, and health issues. Armed groups control many operations, taxing miners and fueling conflict.

This process has transformed Kachin into a global rare earth hotspot, but at a steep social and ecological cost.

Environmental and Ecolog-

ical Damage in Kachin State from Rare Earth Mining

The rapid expansion of rare earth mining in Kachin State has caused severe harm to the region's natural beauty and ecological balance. Once lush forests have been cleared to make way for mining sites, leading to widespread deforestation and loss of biodiversity. Rivers and streams, once sources of clean water, are now polluted with toxic chemicals like ammonium sulfate, arsenic, and cadmium, which are used in the extraction process. These contaminants have seeped into the soil and water systems, threatening aquatic life and making water unsafe for drinking and farming.

The scenic mountain landscapes have been scarred by open pits and chemical ponds, while landslides and soil erosion have become more frequent due to weakened terrain. Wildlife habitats have been destroyed, forcing animals to flee or perish. Indigenous communities that depend on the land for agriculture and fishing face declining crop yields and health risks. The damage is not only environmental – it's cultural and social, as the destruction of nature undermines traditional ways of life and spiritual connections to the land.

Unequal Gains from Rare Earth Mining in Myanmar

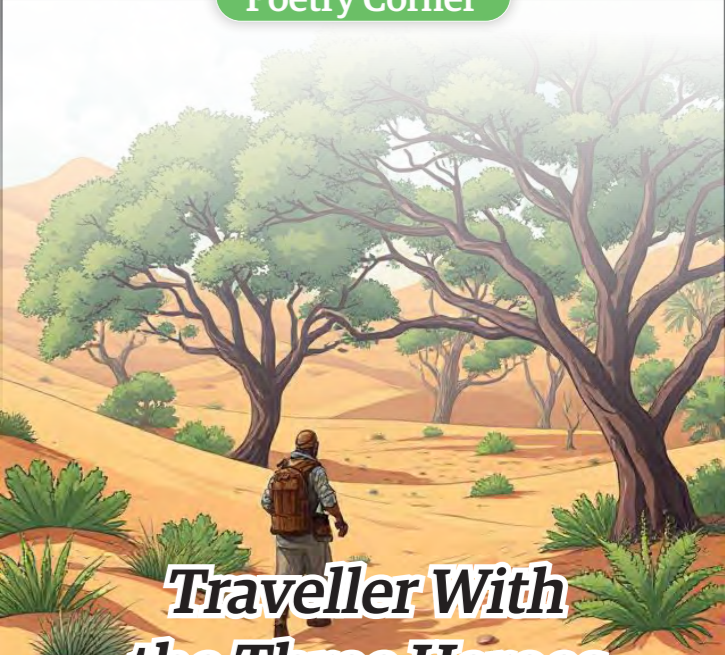
Although rare earth mining in Kachin State has generated billions in export revenue, the benefits are distributed in a highly unequal manner. Local communities that suffer the brunt of environmental degradation receive little to no direct compensation. Their farmlands are contaminated, water sources are polluted, and traditional livelihoods are destroyed. Many residents face health issues, displacement, and social instability while lacking access to clean water, healthcare, or education.

In contrast, armed groups and private companies operating the mines reap substantial profits. The former imposes taxes of up to \$4,800 per tonne of exported rare earths, using some of the revenue for infrastructure and services in resistance-held areas. However, transparency is limited, and much of the wealth remains concentrated among elites and intermediaries.

SEE PAGE 11

ARTICLE  
POEM

Poetry Corner



Traveller With the Three Heroes

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

Near a shady forest, in the desert's middle,  
O man, you travel.  
Without persuading any friend, all by yourself,  
O man, aren't you nervous?  
When you are questioned like that,  
With a happy and smiling face.  
Oh, I am afraid of considering what?  
I've made friends with COURAGE,  
Also, my beloved acquaintance PERSEVERANCE,  
And befriended on its heels since childhood;  
Together with my companion DILIGENCE.  
If these accompany me to succeed,  
I've got it made indeed.  
Declaring 'I am a man',  
Not needing any friends, you're only one.  
How successful of you to set the world on fire;  
Also, hand in hand with the three friends,  
As always, you'll be a success.

သူရဲကောင်းသုံးယောက်နှင့်ခရီးသည်

စုံရိပ်မြို့ခွယ်၊ ကန္တာလယ်  
အိုဘယ်ယောက်ျား၊ ခရီးသွား။

ဖော်လည်းမခွယ်၊ တစ်ကိုယ်ငယ်  
အိုဘယ်လူသား၊ ကြောက်ဘူးလား။

ဤသို့မေးသော်  
ရှင်အေးကြည်သာ၊ ပြုံးမျက်နှာဖြင့်  
အိုဘာကိုထောက်၊ ကြောက်ရမလဲ  
သဟဗော်ညို၊ သတ္တိရှိပြီ  
ချစ်သည်သဟာ၊ ဇွဲလည်းပါ၍  
မကွာထပ်လောင်း၊ ငယ်ကပေါင်းသည့်  
ဆွေကောင်းလုံလ၊ တူတကွတည့်  
ဘေးကတူယှဉ်၊ ပါခဲ့လျှင်သော်  
ငဲ့ကွင်သေချာ၊ အောင်ဖို့ရတည့်။

ယောက်ျားငါ့ကိုယ်၊ မြတ်ဟဆို  
ဖော်မလိုဘဲ၊ တစ်ကိုယ်ထဲ။

တော်ပေလူမော်၊ ပွဲတိုင်းကျော်  
သုံးဖော်ခွေလဲ၊ တူယှဉ်တွဲသည့်  
အောင်မြဲမှချ၊ အောင်မည်ပဲ။

ငွေတာရီ

NATIONAL

Public Notice for Visitors 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.

Loikaw-Moebye-Pekhon-Pinlaung road reopens



Staff members in Moebye receive basic necessities of foodstuffs.

TATMADAW convoys launched counterattacks, sacrificing their lives along the Loikaw-Moebye-Pekhon-Pinlaung road, which had been controlled by KNPP, KNDF and PDF terrorists, and successfully regained control of the road on 11 July 2025. The locals can travel as usual now.

The handover ceremony of basic foodstuffs and commodities for the government employees who serve duties in the Pekhon-Moebye region of Pekhon township was held at the General Administration Department of Pekhon. Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung, Lt-Gen Naing Naing Oo from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army), Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt, state ministers, departmental

officials, Tatmadaw members, Police Force members and government employees who serve duties there and local ethnic people attended the event.

The State's chief minister and officials made speeches, respectively, and the commander briefed the state on stability and security measures. The chief minister presented foodstuffs to the government employees to the officials. Lt-Gen Naing Naing Oo and Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt presented foodstuffs and materials to the Tatmadaw members and families.

The chief minister and party went to Moebye General Hospital, which was seriously destroyed as it was used as a bunker by the terrorists, to inspect the cleaning activities in the hospital compound. Then,

they presented foodstuffs for the Tatmadaw officials who serve security measures.

They also inspected the clearing of debris at the stadium of Pekhon Township and presented cash awards to the locals. They headed to the church of Our Lady of Lourdes and met with the abbot and donated cash. They paid homage to the monks and Presiding Sayadaw of Nanattaw monastery and donated a Waso robe, offerings and cash.

They inspected the clearing of bushes along the Pekhon-Pinlaung road using heavy machines. They paid homage to Mya Thein Tan Sayadaw and other Sayadaws and monks in Pinlaung, and donated Waso robe, offertories and cash. — MNA/KTZH

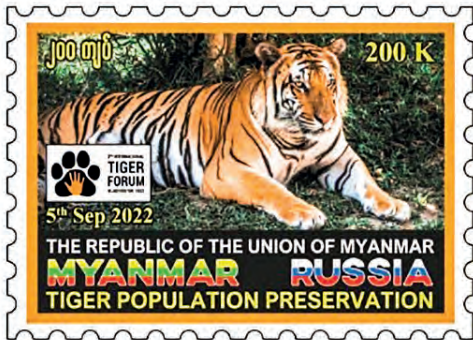
Myanmar-Russia tiger conservation stamp to be issued on 20 July

THE Myanma Post under the Ministry of Transport and Communications is set to release a special edition stamp set marking Myanmar-Russia cooperation in tiger conservation. The special "Block of Stamps" edition features one new stamp design, with three stamps of K200 denomination each.

The commemorative stamps are part of Myanmar's contribution to the International Forum for Tiger Conservation and aim to allow stamp collectors and enthusiasts to collect the series in a complete set.

The stamp set will go on sale simultaneously across the country from 9:30 am onward on 20 July 2025, which falls on the 11<sup>th</sup> Waning of Waso, 1387 ME (Sunday). It will be available at the Nay Pyi Taw Central Post Office, Yangon General Post Office, Mandalay General Post Office, and other major post offices across regions and states.

As a special arrangement, stamps purchased on 20 July at the three central post office in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, and Mandalay general post offices will be imprinted with a dated seal as a memento of the release. — MNA/KZL



Samples of the special edition stamp.

## Safe zones designated for fishing trawlers amid bad weather

SAFE places are designated for onshore and offshore fishing boats to take shelter when they encounter severe weather conditions during the monsoon fishing season 2024-2025, according to the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

"Effective 1 July, the reopening of the fishing season, about 300 fishing boats from Yangon will go fishing in the sea. The remaining boats do not go as they watch the weather conditions. The department designates a certain place yearly for the safety of fishing boats when the sea gets rough and the weather conditions become worse. The Myanmar Marine Fisheries Association, jetties and vessel owners are also notified in advance," said U Tin Tun, staff officer of the Fisheries Department of Yangon.

The fishing vessels can take shelter in Rakhine State such



This image depicts Myanmar's fishing vessels. PHOTO: KANU

as the Mingan Creek, Phayonga Island in Pauktaw Township, the Ngalabway Creek in Kyaukpyu Township, Singaung Jetty in Thandwe Township, the Andrew Bay in Thandwe

Township, Thinbawseik in Taungup Township, Amawchaing in Tintaw village-tract, Gwa Township, Chaungwa village in Pyinkhayaing of Ayeyawady Region, Kadonkani village in

Bogale Township, Wah Island in Ye Township, Mon State, at South Moscos Island in Launglon Township, Taninthayi Region, Taninthayi Island in Myeik Township and Pyinsabu Island in

Kyunsu Township. Action will be taken against the offshore vessels that capture fish and prawn under the reason of weather conditions.

The department allows fish and prawn fishing vessels for 60 days (two months), and they have to return to their respective jetties before the end of that period.

The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced yesterday that the monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

Squalls with rough seas are likely at times in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Wave height will be about seven to nine feet. Seas will be moderate off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Wave height will be about 6-8 feet off and along the Rakhine Coasts. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

## Fisheries Dept plans white shrimp exports to Russia, Belarus



This picture shows the processing of Vannamei shrimps in the cold storage facility.

THE Fisheries Department stated that Myanmar's white shrimp (Vannamei) is preparing to be exported to the Russian Federation and Belarus. "Government-to-Government negotiations are ongoing for Vannamei shrimp export to the Russia and Belarus markets. The requisite documents have been forwarded to related countries. More seafood products will be exported upon successful export of Van-

namei shrimp," said U Myint Zin Htoo, Director-General of the Fisheries Department. Myanmar Vannamei white shrimp, which are commercially valued in international markets, are systematically produced in shrimp farming ponds in Taninthayi Region. At present, Vannamei shrimp is conveyed to Australia, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea. Vannamei white shrimp

produced by commercial farms in Taninthayi Region is gaining popularity in international markets, attracting breeders to engage in this business. The Department of Fisheries has been assisting in enhancing saltwater shrimp farming businesses that generate foreign revenues. At present, Myanmar purchases Vannamei shrimp larvae from Thailand. — ASH/KK

## Who Really Profits from Myanmar's Rare Earths?

### FROM PAGE 9

The Myanmar government itself gains little, as most mining is unregulated and untaxed, bypassing official channels. This creates a stark divide: while Myanmar ranks among the top global producers of rare earths, the majority of its people, especially those in mining zones, see few lasting benefits. The imbalance highlights the urgent need for responsible governance, equitable revenue sharing, and environmental safeguards.

### Final Reflection from the Perspective of Kachin Communities

For the people of Kachin State, rare earth mining has brought more loss than gain. Their once-pristine environment has turned into a scarred landscape of chemical ponds and dying rivers. Traditional ways of life rooted in agriculture, fishing, and reverence for nature have been

eroded. Though vast wealth flows through their land, it rarely reaches their hands. The daily reality for many is polluted water, poor health, and displacement, while powerful groups profit unchecked. The writer would like to urge the responsible organizations – both domestic and international – to implement transparent regulations, promote sustainable mining practices, and ensure fair compensation for affected communities. Local voices must be included in decision-making, and rehabilitation of damaged ecosystems must begin immediately. If these destructive trends continue without reform, Kachin's environmental and social fabric may be irreversibly damaged. But with inclusive governance, ethical oversight, and global attention, there's still hope for Kachin to transform its mineral wealth into a force for community well-being and ecological resilience.

# NATIONAL

## MTB signs MoU for efficient marketing

THE Myanmar Tourism Bank (MTB) said it signed a memorandum of understanding with Royal Ever Truth Business Group Company Limited (RET) on a strategic collaboration for establishing an efficient marketing for its banking products and services.

The signing ceremony was held on 16 July at MTB headquarters located on Sule Pagoda Road in Yangon, it said.

MTB CEO U Win Lwin and RET Chairman U Aung Ko Win signed the MoU in the presence of witnesses: MTB's CAO U Zaw Thu and RET's Corporate Business Manager U Hein Wanna Saw. – MT/ZS

Officials from the Myanmar Tourism Bank and Royal Ever Truth Business Group Company Limited seen at the signing a memorandum of understanding.



## Daily CIs issued for undocumented Myanmar nationals returning from Malaysia

THE Embassy of Myanmar in Malaysia has informed that it is issuing a Certificate of Identity (C of I) daily to undocumented Myanmar nationals in Malaysia if they wish to be repatriated and have sound evidence.

The embassy said in a press release that it was working on a special project with the Malaysian government. In the process, undocumented Myanmar nationals will be required to provide proof of their citizenship (national scrutiny cards, household certificate, ward/village recommendation letter, addresses and contact phones of parents and relatives), and if the evidence is complete, a C of I will be issued within a day.

However, counterfeit C of I are found to be used to re-enter Myanmar, and those people will be identified and punished, the embassy statement added. It will take effective action under the existing laws and regulations of Myanmar and Malaysia, it said.

In the wake of the ongoing crackdown on undocumented

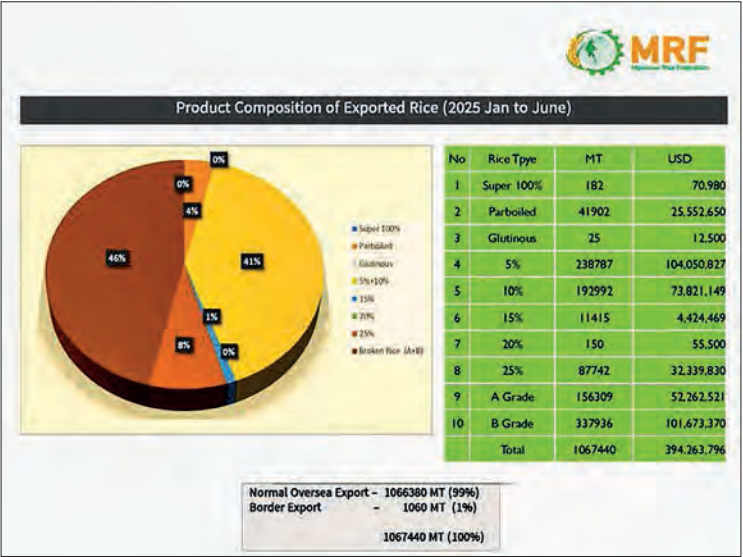
migrants in Malaysia, the immigration and police force reportedly detained 496 people, including 385 Myanmar nationals, for lack of proper identification during the operation in Pangsapari, Putra Permai, and Kembangan in Selangor, Malaysia, on the night of 15 July.

All the arrested are being held at the Malaysian immigration centre and will be prosecuted and deported to their respective countries, according to the Malaysian Immigration Department. — MT/ZN



Detainees are seen during the operation in Pangsapari, Putra Permai, and Kembangan in Selangor, Malaysia.

## Rice and broken rice exports boosted



Charts showed the overseas biggest buyers and product composition.

PROMOTION for the exportation of rice and broken rice has been initiated recently, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation.

To strengthen the rice and broken rice export, MRF and export companies have now teamed up to expand the market and find potential buyers abroad through discussion.

As of early 2025, rice prices have continuously fallen in the international market, and the demand has also had similar downturns; however, Myanmar can hold regular buyers- Europe, Asia and African countries and still maintain the market share and monthly export target, said MRF.

MRF said it has cooperated with the Ministry of Commerce to meet its target for exporting three million tonnes of broken rice in this fiscal year of 2025-2026. – MT/ZS

### Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise



# Dairy giant New Zealand endures butter price shock



Butter prices have soared in dairy export giant New Zealand, latest figures show, with local supplies cut short as the industry chases fatter profits overseas. **PHOTO: AFP**

**BUTTER** prices have soared in dairy export giant New Zealand, latest figures showed Thursday, with local supplies cut short as the industry chases fatter profits overseas. The dairy price shock spreads as far as

cheese and milk, leading one economist to suggest locals face the grim prospect of cereal without milk if they want to save money. Butter prices leapt 46.5 per cent in the year to June to an average of NZ\$8.60 (US\$5.09) for a 500-gramme (1.1-pound) block, according to official data from Stats New Zealand. Milk prices surged 14.3 per cent over the same period, while cheese shot up 30 per cent. High dairy prices have hit the headlines in New Zealand, with media outlet Stuff reporting that “exorbitant” prices are unlikely to “melt away” any time soon. — AFP

# Egypt, China sign deal for flagship industrial zone expansion

EGYPT and China signed on Wednesday a deal for the expansion of the China-Egypt TEDA Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone, with Chinese developer TEDA set to invest \$100 million in infrastructure to develop an additional 2.86 square kilometres at the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone). The deal was signed between the SCZone, the Main Development Company (MDC), and TEDA Egypt in a ceremony attended by Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly, the Egyptian cabinet said in a statement. The expansion comes as TEDA nears completion of its previously allocated 7.34 square kilometres in Ain Sokhna area at the



This photo shows a view of the China-Egypt TEDA Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone in Ain Sokhna district of Suez province, Egypt. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

SCZone, bringing the total area of its industrial zone to more than 10 square kilometres, according to the statement. The \$100 million infrastructure investment is expected to help attract

more diverse industrial investments and support the SCZone’s goal of building integrated and sustainable industrial communities. Madbouly stressed “the importance of this cooperation in acceler-

ating industrial development within the SCZone, whose capabilities qualify it to become one of the most important manufacturing and logistics hubs in the region.” — Xinhua

# EasyJet boss hits out over French air traffic walkouts

THE boss of British no-frills airline EasyJet on Thursday bemoaned “unacceptable challenges” for staff and passengers resulting from strike action by air traffic controllers in France earlier this month. Chief executive Kenton Jarvis said the two days of stoppages “created unexpected and significant costs for all airlines”, with EasyJet taking a hit of around £15 million (\$20 million). The carrier, however, remained on course for “good” full-year profit growth despite “recent higher fuel costs”, it said in an earnings statement that showed EasyJet grew pre-tax profits in its third quarter. — AFP



Volvo cars are seen on the forecourt of a Volvo dealership in Reading, west of London, on 2 March 2021. **PHOTO: BEN STANSALL / AFP/FILE**

# Volvo Cars swings into loss on electric vehicles, tariffs

VOLVO Cars announced on Thursday it had swung into loss in the second quarter, after it took an impairment charge for its electric cars, booked restructuring charges and dealt with a slower, tariff-troubled market. The net loss of 8.1

billion kronor (\$830 million) was due to a 11.4-billion-kronor writedown in the value of its EX90 electric SUV and ES90 electric sedan due to production delays, higher development costs than planned and now US tariffs making sales there

unprofitable. “Demand remains under pressure from the macroeconomic environment, tariff-related uncertainties and tougher competition,” chief executive Hakan Samuelsson said in the quarterly earnings report. — AFP

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SAMAL VOY.NO. (0UVEES1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SAMAL VOY. NO. (0UVEES1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department**  
**Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD**

**Ministry of Transport and Communications**  
**Myanma Port Authority**  
**Open Tender Invitation**

- The Ministry of Transport and Communications, Myanma Port Authority, hereby invites qualified and interested companies to submit tender proposals for the construction of 1500 BHP Harbour Tug (1- Unit) during 2025–2026 and 2026–2027 fiscal years, using foreign currency (USD).
- Date and Time for Tender Forms Sale - During office hours from 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 to 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.
- Location for Tender Forms Sale - Planning Section, Theinbyu Dockyard, Mechanical Engineering Department, No.557/559, Strand Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon.
- Tender Opening Date, Time and Location - 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025, 13:00 hrs No. 10, Pansodan Street, Head Office, First Floor, Myanma Port Authority, Kyauktada Township, Yangon.
- If you need more detailed information, please contact us at telephone no. +95 9 515 8404, +95 9 401 010 293, and email: [cmceoffice.mpa@gmail.com](mailto:cmceoffice.mpa@gmail.com)

Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee  
Myanma Port Authority

**Advertise with us/ Hotline:**  **09 255597511**

# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## Lebanese parliament renews confidence in PM Salam's gov't

*Key discussion topics included arms control, disarmament of Hezbollah, sovereignty issues, and economic reforms.*



Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam (R) meets US envoy Thomas Barrack in Beirut on 7 July 2025. **PHOTO: IBRAHIM AMRO / AFP**

LEBANON'S parliament on Wednesday renewed its confidence in Prime Minister Nawaf Salam's government, granting it a majority of 69 votes out of 82 lawmakers present during a two-day session focused on government policy.

The vote came at the conclusion of a general session convened by Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, which began Tuesday and extended into Wednesday. Of the 128-member parliament, 46 were absent, while nine lawmakers — all from the Free Patriotic Movement (FPM) — voted against the government, and four abstained.

Berri called for a confidence vote after Gebran Bassil, head of the opposition FPM bloc, requested a no-confidence vote due to dissatisfaction with the

prime minister's responses to parliamentary interventions.

Debates during the session focused on the issue of arms control under state authority, the disarmament of Hezbollah, and issues related to sovereignty, as well as economic and financial reform.

In his response to parliamentary critiques, Salam emphasized his government's commitment to continuing its work "despite challenges and obstacles."

"We remain committed and determined to pursue reform and recovery. We will spare no effort in rallying Arab and international support to pressure Israel to withdraw from Lebanese territories and halt its aggressions," Salam reaffirmed. — Xinhua

## At least 61 dead, several missing after massive fire at hypermarket in Kut city

A devastating fire in a five-storey commercial complex in Kut city, eastern Iraq, has resulted in at least 61 fatalities and several individuals reported missing, as confirmed by the Interior Ministry.

The blaze erupted late Wednesday night in a newly opened building that housed a hypermarket, a restaurant, and various shops.

Civil defence teams reported recovering 14 charred bodies and

rescuing at least 45 people. A local health official stated that while 59 victims have been identified, one body was so severely burned that identification remains challenging.

Wasit province Governor Mohammed al-Mayahi indicated that the fire originated in both the hypermarket and the adjacent restaurant, with many families present for dining and shopping when the flames rapidly spread. — ANI

## French army leaves Senegal ending military presence in west Africa

FRANCE on Thursday formally handed back its last two military bases in Senegal, leaving Paris with no permanent camps in either west or central Africa.

Ending the French army's 65 years in Senegal, the pull-out comes after similar withdrawals across the continent, with former colonies increasingly turning their backs on their former ruler.

The French withdrawal comes as the Sahel region faces a growing jihadist conflict across Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger that is threatening Gulf of Guinea nations to the south. A recent string of attacks this month in Mali included an assault on a town on the border with Senegal.

France returned Camp Geille, its largest base in the west African country, and its airfield at Dakar airport, in a ceremony attended by top

French and Senegalese officials, including Senegalese chief of staff General Mbaye Cisse and General Pascal Ianni, the head of the French forces in Africa.

Around 350 French sol-

diers, primarily tasked with conducting joint operations with the Senegalese army, are now leaving, marking the end of a three-month departure process that began in March.

— AFP



France's General Pascal Ianni (L), who commands France's troops in Africa, speaks with France's Ambassador to Senegal, Christine Fages (R), during a ceremony where France will return Camp Geille, its largest base in the country, and its airfield at Dakar airport, in Dakar on 17 July 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Minor technical glitch forces IndiGo flight to return to Delhi shortly after take-off

An IndiGo flight en route to Imphal on Thursday was forced to return to Delhi shortly after take-off due to a minor technical issue, the airline said in a statement.

Flight 6E 5118, which departed from Indira Gandhi International Airport for Imphal, experienced a technical snag shortly into the journey. As a precautionary measure, the pilots opted to turn back and landed the aircraft safely

in Delhi.

"In line with the mandatory procedures, the aircraft underwent necessary checks and resumed the journey shortly thereafter," said an IndiGo spokesperson.

"Inconvenience caused to our customers is regretted. As always, safety and security of the customers, crew and aircraft is of utmost importance to us," the spokesperson added. — ANI

SPORTS

Kluivert's Indonesia to face Saudi Arabia in World Cup qualifying

PATRICK Kluivert's Indonesia were on Thursday handed a tough draw for the final round of Asian qualifying as they try to reach the World Cup finals for the first time since 1938.

Coached by former Barcelona star and Dutch great Kluivert, Indonesia will play hosts Saudi Arabia and Iraq in Group B of the fourth round of Asian qualifying for the 2026 finals.

Qatar will host Group A and face the United Arab Emirates and Oman after the six-team draw took place at the Asian Football Confederation's head-

quarters in Kuala Lumpur.

Matches in both groups will be played in a single round-robin format in October in Saudi Arabia and Qatar. The two group winners will join the six Asian nations already qualified for next year's global showpiece in Mexico, the United States and Canada.

The two second-placed teams will meet in November, with the winner over two legs entering an intercontinental playoff for the final spot at the 48-team World Cup.

Indonesia have embarked on a recruitment drive of Dutch-



Indonesia are coached by Patrick Kluivert (left). PHOTO: AFP

born players and backroom staff to bolster their bid for a first World Cup finals berth since becoming an independent nation.

Jordi Cruyff, son of Dutch

football legend Johan, was in February appointed technical adviser to the Football Association of Indonesia to work alongside Kluivert. Indonesia last qualified

for a World Cup while still under Dutch colonial rule and lost 6-0 to Hungary in their only match of that tournament, hosted by France. — AFP

Girelli fires Italy past Norway and into Euro 2025 semis

CRISTIANA Girelli fired Italy into the Women's Euro 2025 semifinals with a dramatic last-minute winner in a 2-1 victory over Norway on Wednesday, sealing the Azzurre's first finalfour appearance since 1997.

Cristiana Girelli shot Italy into the semifinals of Women's Euro 2025 on Wednesday with a brace, including a last-gasp

winner, in the Azzurre's historic 2-1 triumph over Norway.

Italy will play one of holders England or Sweden in the last four next Tuesday after Girelli headed home the decisive goal in the final minute in Geneva from Sofia Cantore's cross.

The Italians hadn't reached last four of a Euros since losing the final to Germa-

ny in 1997 and will be a tough nut to crack after seeing off Norway, who have two of the women's game's biggest stars in Ada Hegerberg and Caroline Graham Hansen.

"Cantore gave me an incredible ball for the second goal. She looked up, saw where I was and just put it on my head, so it was easy for me to put it in the goal," said Girelli. — AFP



McIlroy on home turf as Scheffler seeks satisfaction at British Open



Rory McIlroy returns to Northern Ireland looking to win a second British Open. PHOTO: AFP

RORY McIlroy will be roared on in his homeland as the 153<sup>rd</sup> British Open gets underway at Royal Portrush on Thursday as world number one Scottie Scheffler seeks his first Claret Jug.

McIlroy returns to Northern Ireland as the Masters champion but determined to make amends for his disastrous start at Portrush six years ago when a quadruple bogey at the opening hole on his way to a first-round 79 saw him miss the cut.

The world number two is the

star attraction for the close to 280,000 spectators set to attend the four days of play at the final major of the year.

Scheffler, though, is the favourite despite having never won the British Open before, while defending champion Xander Schauffele is aiming to put a frustrating year behind him.

Two-time champion Padraig Harrington of Ireland got the tournament under way with the opening tee shot at 6:35 am local time. — AFP



# India hosts 4<sup>th</sup> BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise for cyclones, floods

Participants presented details of their national disaster management architectures, engaged in simulated scenarios, evaluated response frameworks, and shared best practices.

INDIA virtually hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise on 14-15 July, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in an official statement on Wednesday.

As per the MEA, the Exercise was organized by the National Disaster Management Authority of India as a Tabletop Exercise.

It witnessed the participation of disaster management professionals from BIMSTEC Member States to assess and enhance regional preparedness for cyclones and floods.

MEA said that the participants presented details of national disaster management architectures, engaged in simulated



Effective national disaster management in India is crucial during the monsoon season, as heavy rains often lead to severe flooding and landslides, impacting communities and infrastructure. PHOTO: ANI

scenarios, evaluated response frameworks and shared best practices to strengthen coordination for disaster response across the region.

India has always stood by its partners in the region as the first responder in times of crisis. The Exercise further strengthened cooperation in the Bay of Bengal region towards disaster preparedness,

response and resilience.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a grouping of seven Member States lying in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal.

MEA in an official statement had noted that BIMSTEC is a unique link connecting South Asia with South-East Asia - five

Members from South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka) and two from South-East Asia (Myanmar and Thailand). The BIMSTEC region brings together 1.7 billion people — 22 per cent of world population with a combined GDP of US\$5 trillion. The organization came into existence on 6 June 1997 through the 'Bangkok Declaration'. — ANI

## World-first IVF trial reduces risk of babies inheriting diseases

RESEARCHERS in the UK announced a groundbreaking achievement in reproductive medicine, with eight healthy babies born using a pioneering



A new IVF technique using DNA from three people successfully reduced the risk that eight babies inherited genetic diseases from their mothers. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

IVF technique that significantly reduces the risk of passing on mitochondrial diseases.

This world-first trial involved a method that incorporates healthy mitochondrial DNA from a donor's egg, alongside the mother's egg and father's sperm, effectively lowering the mutated mitochondrial DNA responsible for various debilitating conditions.

While the technique offers hope for women with mitochondrial mutations, it remains controversial due to ethical concerns and has not been widely approved in many countries.

The core message is that a revolutionary IVF technique has successfully produced eight healthy babies in the UK, significantly reducing the risk of mitochondrial diseases.

This breakthrough offers hope for women with mitochondrial mutations to have healthy children without passing on genetic disorders. — AFP

### TRAVEL POLICY DETAIL

## China-Malaysia mutual visa-free agreement comes into force

CHINA'S mutual visa-exemption agreement with Malaysia officially took effect on Thursday, further expanding the country's visa-free travel policy.

Under the policy, Chinese and Malaysian citizens holding valid ordinary passports can enter, exit or transit through the other country for travel without a visa. Each stay should not exceed 30 days, with a cumulative limit of 90 days within any 180-day period.

The policy comes into effect three months after China and Malaysia signed a mutual visa-free agreement, marking another step forward in China's efforts to ease travel and boost international exchanges.

As of May, China had signed mutual visa-exemption agreements with 157 countries, covering different types of passports. In November 2024, it extended the visa-free entry stay period to 30 days. — Xinhua