

Joint efforts needed for avocado exports to China in Oct

The head of the Shan State Department of Agriculture also detailed Myanmar's annual avocado exports, import requirements of key potential markets including China, India, Russia, and Middle East countries, as well as the quality standards Myanmar avocados must meet to align with European benchmarks.

THE Myanmar Fruits, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association (MFVP) stated that all stakeholders in the supply chain need to exert the concerted efforts for avocado export designated to China in October.

On 19 July 2025, the Agriculture Department (southern Shan State) held a workshop for growers on raising awareness of Customs inspection and safety regulations of the General Administration

of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), in cooperation with the Myanmar Avocado Producer and Exporter Association (MAVO).

Farm owners need to cooperate in testing six common insects to export avocados to China, said U Kyaw Soe, secretary of the MAVO.

MAVO's chair set up a farmer public company, eyeing Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand for avocado export this season. The association will help expedite imports



This photo captures Myanmar's thriving avocado plantation.

of agricultural inputs such as fertilizer and pesticide, along with member growers. The head of the Shan State Department of Agriculture also elaborated on annual avocado export, avocado import conditions of potential markets such as China, India, Russia and Middle East countries and

Myanmar avocado quality requirements in line with the European Standard.

U Ye Lin Oo, a grower, also discussed plant nutrient management in the presence of growers and business entities. Farm owners also vowed to boost exports.

— NN/KK

Myanmar rowing team to join Dragon Boat Championship at World Games in Chengdu

MYANMAR'S national rowing team will participate in the Dragon Boat Championship

onship at the upcoming World Games, which will be held in Chengdu, China, according to general secretary

U Thet Lwin of the Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation.

SEE PAGE 11



Myanmar rowing athletes are seen in a training session.

NATIONAL PAGE 3



China celebrates PLA's 98th founding anniversary in Yangon

NATIONAL PAGE 5



School enrolment and health services underway in Nawnghkio

BUSINESS PAGE 7



DICA puts 7 companies on blacklist for unauthorized imports

NATIONAL

Myanmar needs to emphasize agriculture and livestock farming tasks

- ❖ Our country is fundamentally focused on agriculture and livestock farming as its primary sectors.
- ❖ Our country, with its naturally favourable climate, land conditions, and geographical location, is well-suited for the successful development of agriculture and livestock farming.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the National Defence and Security Council Meeting 1/2025 of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 31 January 2025)

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment and Duty-Assignment of Permanent Secretary and Director-General

THE State Administration Council has appointed and assigned U Aung Maw, Director-General of the Office of the Union Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Union, to the duties of Permanent Secretary and Director-General at the same organization concurrently.

SAC issues amendment to Road Transport Operations Law

THE State Administration Council enacted the amendment to the Road Transport Operations Law as its Law No 42/2025 on 24 July under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Primarily, the amendment to the law stated the substitution of expressions on titles of departments and ministries, the committee

to be replaced with the national committee, and the work committee with the Cross-Border Road Transport Operations Supervision Work Committee.

Moreover, the amendment to the law mentioned fees and fines under the rules, orders and directives issued in accord with this law.

— GNLM/TTA

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Thursday 24 July 2025

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Low-Pressure Area over North Bay of Bengal still persists. It is likely to move west-northwestwards and further intensify into a Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over Northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining West Bengal, India and Bangladesh Coasts during next 24 hours. Thereafter, it is likely to move towards West Bengal and adjoining North Odisha Coasts, India, during the next 36 hours. Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 25 July 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Kayah State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Mon, Rakhine States and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

STATE OF THE SEA: Frequent squalls with very rough seas will be experienced in off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 45 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 14-16 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Rain or thundershowers with isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 July 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 July 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 25 July 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Low-Pressure Area Condition

Issued at 7 pm MST on 24 July 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Low-Pressure Area over North Bay of Bengal still persists. It is likely to move west-northwestwards and further intensify into a Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over Northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining West Bengal, India and Bangladesh Coasts during the next 24 hours. Thereafter, it is likely to move towards West Bengal and adjoining North Odisha Coasts, India during the next 36 hours.

Due to the low-pressure area and vigorous monsoon over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States with regionally and isolated heavy falls in some Regions and States from tonight to 28 July 2025. Frequent squalls with very rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 45 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 14-16 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

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

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.

Flood Bulletin

Issued at 12 pm MST on 24 July 2025

ACCORDING to the 11:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Thanlwin River at Hpa-an has reached its danger level. It may rise about two feet during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Hpa-an Township, to stay away from the flood-prone areas. — DMH

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

(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)

DPM MoFA Union Minister-led Myanmar delegation holds joint meeting with Chinese delegation led by CIDCA Chairman

A joint meeting between the Myanmar delegation led by U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the delegation led by Mr Chen Xiaodong, Chairman of the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), was held yesterday at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on providing assistance from CIDCA for post-earthquake recovery and rehabilitation, and promoting cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and CIDCA. Particularly, they discussed priority projects to be implemented in the sectors of construction, health, infrastructure and disaster



Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe presents souvenir to CIDCA Chair Mr Chen Xiaodong.

management. Moreover, they exchanged views to continue increasing momentum on building a community with a shared future that shares weal and woe through a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership and deepening Swe Myo Pauk-Phaw friendship between Myanmar and China.

Also, present at the meeting were the Union ministers, deputy ministers and directors-general from the Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Cultural, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and

Resettlement, and the Nay Pyi Taw Council member, and Ms Ma Jia, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, senior representatives of CIDCA and diplomats of the Embassy of China in Yangon.

Following the meeting, the Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and the Chairman of the CIDCA signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Human Resources Development. Moreover, the Union Minister for Health and the Chairman of the CIDCA signed the Letter of Exchange for Feasibility Study on the China-Myanmar Friendship State-of-the-Art Specialist Hospital Project. — MNA

MIFER Union Minister receives Chinese delegation led by CIDCA Chairman

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw received a delegation led by Mr Chen Xiaodong, Chairman of the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), yesterday afternoon at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Both sides exchanged views in a warm and friendly manner on a range of matters pertaining to China's prompt

humanitarian assistance and support provided in response to the recent devastating earthquake in Myanmar; post-earthquake recovery and rehabilitation projects, efforts to enhance socioeconomic development cooperation between the two countries, and plans for bilateral collaboration.

The meeting was attended by the deputy minister for Investment and Foreign Eco-

nomic Relations, the director-general of the Foreign Economic Relations Department, and other senior officials of the ministry from the Myanmar side and the directors-general of CIDCA's Regional Affairs Department and International Cooperation Department, other CIDCA representatives, and officials from the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar attended from the Chinese side. — MIFER



The CIDCA Chair-led Chinese delegation calls on Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw.

NATIONAL

China celebrates PLA's 98th founding anniversary in Yangon



Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Kyaw Swa Lin alongside the Chinese ambassador looks into the display at yesterday's event.

GENERAL Kyaw Swa Lin, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, and Air) and his wife, attended the ceremony marking the 98th anniversary of the Founding of the People's Liberation Army of China held at the Novotel Max Hotel in Yangon yesterday evening.

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia, Chinese Military Attaché to Myanmar Senior Colonel Qu Zhe and his wife, and officials welcomed General Kyaw Swa Lin and his party, and they observed record photos together.

The ceremony commenced with the national anthems of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China. Chinese Military Attaché to Myanmar Senior Colonel Qu Zhe delivered a greeting

speech. Following this, General Kyaw Swa Lin and his wife, the Chinese ambassador, and the Chinese military attaché and his wife cut the celebratory cake together.

The Chinese ambassador and the Chinese military attaché then hosted a dinner in honour of the attendees and guests.

Among those present were senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and his wife, the Yangon Command commander, regional ministers, ambassadors, chargés d'affaires from various embassies in Yangon, military attachés, and other invitees. — MNA/KTZH

Teachers, students in Nawnghkio receive uniforms and supplies

IN order to ensure that the public can live in peace and stability, the Tatmadaw carried out a counter-terrorism operation and regained control of Nawnghkio in northern Shan State. Not to cause losses in the education sector of Nawnghkio, arrangements are being made to reopen the schools, which were closed for nearly one year while the terrorists controlled the town.

The government and Tatmadaw provided school uniforms and stationery for the students and teachers in Nawnghkio. The ceremony took place at the BEHS 1 in Nawnghkio. The senior Tatmadaw

officers, the administrator of Kyaukme district, departmental officials, teachers and students attended the event.

The officials presented the textbooks, 180,000 notebooks, 3,860 dozen pencils, 3,000 pens and 200 school uniforms provided by the government for the students, and 176 uniforms for the teachers provided by Tatmadaw.

Tatmadaw, departmental officials and people cooperate to provide a chance for the students in Nawnghkio to be able to learn at schools peacefully, like other children in peaceful regions. — MNA/KTZH



A schoolchild receives uniforms and stationery.

MoFA Dy Minister receives Timor-Leste's Chargé d'Affaires



The Timor-Leste's chargé d'affaires calls on Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw yesterday.

DEPUTY Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw received Mr Olandino Ruide Andrade, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of Timor-Leste, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr Andrade conveyed Timor-Leste's strong commitment to fostering friendly relations with the ASEAN Member States, including Myanmar. He reaffirmed Timor-Leste's dedication to upholding the principles of the ASEAN Charter, and expressed hope for support from the ASEAN Member States in the Country's endeavour towards full mem-

bership in the regional bloc. He also expressed Timor-Leste's desire to strengthen bilateral ties with Myanmar and conveyed Timor-Leste's aspiration to welcome the establishment of the Myanmar Embassy in Dili.

The deputy minister expressed appreciation for Timor-Leste's readiness to deepen bilateral ties with Myanmar. He observed the willingness of the Foreign Minister of Timor-Leste to visit Myanmar. He informed Myanmar's continued engagement and active participation, in line with its foreign policy, in ASEAN Communi-

ty-building efforts and its contributions towards the deliverables of the ASEAN Chair. He also emphasized the need to uphold the principle of non-interference under the ASEAN Charter on Timor-Leste's path towards ASEAN Membership. The deputy minister also appreciated the constructive discussion between the Foreign Minister of Timor-Leste and the Head of Delegation of Myanmar to strengthen bilateral relations on the sidelines of the 58th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and related meetings. — MNA

NATIONAL

School enrolment and health services underway in Nawngkhio

SCHOOL enrolment has begun at Basic Education High School No 1 in Nawngkhio northern Shan State, as of 22 July, in efforts to swiftly reopen basic education schools that were closed for nearly a year due to acts of terrorism.

On the first day alone, 30 students registered, and as of today, a total of 456 students have been enrolled. To ensure smooth and systematic enrollment, Tatmadaw members teachers, educational staff, and local parents have cooperated closely.

To provide a secure and peaceful learning environment for students, Tatmadaw members have also undertaken mine clearance, security arrangements, and cleaning operations



Schoolchildren, with parents and guardians, enrol for the new school year in Nawngkhio.

around the school premises.

On top of reopening education services, Tatmadaw and the Ministry of Health jointly opened a temporary clinic at the Myanan Tawwin Mingalar Hall to deliver health care services to ethnic residents who have returned to Nawngkhio. As of today, medical personnel have provided health care to 121 people.

Furthermore, efforts are being made to reopen Nawngkhio People's Hospital promptly. Staff from relevant departments are currently clearing overgrown weeds around the hospital compound, dredging drains to improve water flow, and conducting sanitation activities. — MNA/KZL

Tatmadaw reopens Kyondoe-Kawkareik Highway after clearing KNU, KNLA, and PDF forces

KAWKAREIK is located on the Asian Highway and is a major junction to Myawady, Hpa-an, Mawlamyine, and Kyain-Seikkyi.

To control Kawkareik and the Hpa-an-Kawkareik-Myawady Asian Highway, and to stop the flow of border goods and government administrative machinery, the KNU, KNLA, and PDF terrorist allied groups have, since early April 2024, launched a full-scale operation to seize Kawkareik and nearby local military headquarters. They advanced along the old Kawkareik-Thingan Nyinaung road from the north through Kaunghmu, Yankok, and Kyaungshagon villages, as well as from the south via Lanpha-Asun-Tamainggon, using two columns to enter the town.

Furthermore, due to attacks with heavy weapons from afar, offices and departmental buildings, as well as residential houses, were burned and destroyed. Consequently, the ethnic residents were forced to abandon their homes, buildings, and belongings and temporarily relocate to safer areas.

As Tatmadaw columns launched counterattacks to protect Kawkareik town and local



Tatmadaw members pose to celebrate clearing and reopening the Kyondoe-Kawkareik Highway.

military headquarters not to falling into enemy hands, fighting occurred from 19 to 22 April. Those terrorists suffered heavy casualties and retreated in disorder.

Starting from 13 April 2025, KNU and KNLA terrorists have entered along five routes to fully seize control of the Hpa-an-Kyondoe-Kawkareik-Myawady Asian Highway

as well as Kyondoe and Kawkareik towns. They use five routes: the Aukbote-Yankok-Kawkareik route, the Aukbote-Myapadaing-Ohntabin-Ingyi-Kyondoe route, the Mikalon-Naungtaman-Tawale-Nachangon-Kyondoe route, the South Kyain-North Kyain-Koetaing-Ngataing-Laytaing route, and the Sakawak-Aunghlaing-Tamainggon-Kawkareik route. They

blocked the Kyondoe-Kawkareik-Myawady Asian Highway and launched intense attacks on Kyondoe and Kawkareik towns. Due to these blockades and attacks, the flow of goods in the region came to a halt. Ethnic people in the area faced soaring prices and encountered significant difficulties in daily living, resulting in a decline in socioeconomic development.

Starting from 13 April, Tatmadaw members fought terrorists in seven major clashes and 85 engagements. During the period, some leaders of the enemy sustained serious injuries. Tatmadaw seized 17 dead bodies of enemies, 30 assorted arms and related accessories. Some Tatmadaw members were wounded and killed, but on 24 July, Tatmadaw regained full control and reopened the Kyondoe-Kawkareik route, successfully thwarting the enemy's military objectives.

Tatmadaw columns are working to ensure that residents, travellers, cargo vehicles, and passenger vehicles can safely and normally travel along the entire highway again. They are repairing roads and bridges damaged by terrorists, conducting mine clearance operations, and managing the swift clearance of remaining road sections to fully reopen the Asian Highway from Myawady. The second phase of reconstruction in Kyondoe and Kawkareik towns, as well as surrounding villages, will continue alongside efforts to uphold the rule of law, maintain regional stability, and strengthen territorial control. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

YNPAFFC donates solar streetlights to Thakayta at project launch ceremony

THE project opening ceremony took place yesterday morning for solar-powered streetlights and lamp posts in Thakayta Township at the U-Energy (UREC) natural gas power plant in Thakayta Township under the Friendship with Foreign Countries (YNPAFFC) programme.

Attendees included the Yangon Region chief minister, officials from Yunnan Province, the deputy secretary of the Yunnan Provincial Party Committee of the Communist Party of China and the Yunnan Province governor, the Chinese ambassador to Myanmar, and members of the Yunnan Province delegation.

Solar-powered streetlights and lamp posts will be installed in areas of Thakayta Township that lack access to electricity.

— Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/MKKS



The project launch ceremony for solar-powered streetlights and lamp posts in Thakayta in progress yesterday.

Endorsement of Revised Myanmar Standards Version Adoption

UNDER duties and functions of Section 5, Article b and vested mandate of Section 33 Article (b) of the Law on Standardization, the National Standards Council endorses the following revised version of 209 standards that have been endorsed by National Standards Council with the orders (34/2018), (022/2019),(149/2019), (066/2020),(091/2022), (150/2022) and (023/2024) to adopt as Myanmar Standards.

| No | Myanmar Standards |
|-----|--|
| 1. | MMS IEC 60034-1:2022 Rotating electrical machines - Part 1: Rating and performance |
| 2. | MMS IEC 60034-2-1:2024 Rotating electrical machines - Part 2-1: Standard methods for determining losses and efficiency from tests (excluding machines for traction vehicles) |
| 3. | MMS IEC 60086-1:2021+COR1:2022 Primary batteries - Part 1: General |
| 4. | MMS IEC 60086-2:2021+COR1:2022 Primary batteries - Part 2: Physical and electrical specifications |
| 5. | MMS IEC 60227-1:2024 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltage up to and including 450/750V - Part 1: General requirements |
| 6. | MMS IEC 60227-3:2024 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltage up to and including 450/750V- Part 3: Non-sheathed cables for fixed wiring |
| 7. | MMS IEC 60227-4:2024 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cable of rated voltage up to and including 450/750V-Part 4: Sheathed cables for fixed wiring |
| 8. | MMS IEC 60227-5:2024 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V –Part 5: Flexible cables (cords) |
| 9. | MMS IEC 60227-7:2024 Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V - Part 7: Flexible cables screened and unscreened with two or more conductors and of rated voltages up to and including 300/500 V |
| 10. | MMS IEC 60228:2023 Conductors of insulated cables |
| 11. | MMS IEC 60245-3:1994+AMD1:1997+AMD2:2011 Rubber insulated cables - Rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V - Part 3: Heat resistant silicone insulated cables |
| 12. | MMS IEC 60269-1:2024 Low-voltage fuses - Part 1: General requirements |
| 13. | MMS IEC 60269-2:2013+AMD1:2016+AMD2:2024 Low-voltage fuses - Part 2: Supplementary requirements for fuses for use by authorized persons (fuses mainly for industrial application)-Examples of standardized systems of fuses A to K |
| 14. | MMS IEC 60269-3:2024 Low-voltage fuses - Part 3: Supplementary requirements for fuses for operation by unskilled persons (fuses mainly for household or similar applications) - Examples of standardized systems of fuses A to F |

| No | Myanmar Standards |
|-----|--|
| 15. | MMS IEC 60269-4:2024 Low-voltage fuses- Part 4: Supplementary requirements for fuse-links for the protection of semiconductor devices |
| 16. | MMS IEC 60320-1:2021 Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes - Part 1: General requirements |
| 17. | MMS- IEC 60335-1:2020 Household and similar electrical appliances-Safety Part 1: General requirements |
| 18. | MMS IEC 60335-2-2:2019 Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety- Part 2-2: Particular requirements for vacuum cleaners and water-suction cleaning appliances |
| 19. | MMS IEC 60335 – 2-3:2022 Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety - Part 2-3: Particular requirements for electric irons |
| 20. | MMS IEC 60335-2-4:2023 Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety - Part 2-4: Particular requirements for spin extractors |
| 21. | MMS IEC 60335-2-6:2024 Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety- Part 2-6: Particular requirements for stationary cooking ranges, hobs, ovens and similar appliances |
| 22. | MMS IEC 60335-2-7:2024 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 2-7: Particular requirements for washing machines |
| 23. | MMS IEC 60335-2-8:2022 Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety- Part 2-8: Particular requirements for shavers, hair clippers and similar appliances |
| 24. | MMS IEC 60335-2-11:2024 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 2-11: Particular Requirements for Tumble dryers |
| 25. | MMS IEC 60335-2-12:2024 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 2-12: Particular Requirements for warming plates and similar appliances |
| 26. | MMS IEC 60335-2-13:2021 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 2-13: Particular Requirements for deep fat fryers, frying pans and similar appliances |
| 27. | MMS IEC60335-2-15:2024 Household and similar electrical appliances-Safety - Part 2-15: Particular requirements for appliances for heating Liquids |
| 28. | MMS IEC 60335-2-21:2022 Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety- Part 2-21: Particular requirements for storage water heaters |

TO BE CONTINUED

CBM injects US dollars to edible oil, fuel oil sectors

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$2.36 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$320,700 to fuel oil-importing companies on 23 July 2025.

CBM announced on 22 July that it would sell \$27 million to those engaged in the fuel oil industry and 130 million baht to importers. CBM injected \$660,000 and 474,900 yuan on 22 July into the financial market after sales of over \$3 million to edible oil importing companies

CBM sold over \$1.75 million each into edible oil-importing companies and fuel oil-importing companies on 21 July again, after injection of over 9.36 million baht to construction companies and over 337,800 yuan and 500,000

Indian rupees to the financial market on that day.

CBM pumped over \$3 million and 700,000 yuan into the financial market on 18 July after selling \$1.1 million to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold over \$1.5 million to edible oil-importing companies on 17 July, in addition to an injection of over 756,260 yuan and 2,000 baht into the financial market.

CBM sold \$1.2 million, which 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 injecting over 324,360 yuan

into the financial market, CBM sold over \$771,290 million to the edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devalua-

tion. 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



DICA puts 7 companies on blacklist for unauthorized imports



The facade of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

THE Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) notified that seven companies have been blacklisted for pre-arrival of goods at the ports and airports.

DICA has already notified that the registrar will publicly declare the deny list and weak compliance matters on the DICA's website if companies registered on the online registry system, MyCO, fail to comply with the existing law, rules and bylaws of the gov-

ernment institutions concerned and provisions stipulated in the Myanmar Companies Law.

Seeking an import licence for the goods before arrival at the port is obligatory, and failure to do so is subject to strict actions under the existing laws, as declared by the Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce.

The Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed DICA of listing seven companies on the blacklist,

and they were flagged for early arrival of the goods at the ports and airports. They are no longer permitted to run businesses under the existing laws starting from 31 December 2024. They are ANDA Company Limited, BBJ Company Limited, Sky Virgo Company Limited, Yahza Naing Lwin Co Ltd, Fast Carriers Solutions Company Limited, J&W Holding Company Limited and Gu Family Enterprise Company Limited. — NN/KK

ME in Malaysia warns against fake social media pages using its name

SOCIAL media pages which found misusing the embassy status don't concern it, said the Myanmar Embassy in Malaysia.

The embassy has found that there are social media pages called “Malaysia Embassy Daw Nweni” and “Kuala Lumpur Myanmar passport service” and so on, and they have also misused the Myanmar foreign affairs ministry’s logo; however, they don’t concern the embassy at all, it said in a statement on 4 July.

Further, the Myanmar Embassy is neither responsible nor accountable for the following issues related to them, it said. Myanmar Embassy in Kuala Lumpur has provided passport extension, replacement of lost passports, passport renewal and C of I services for Myanmar nationals, completed in a day by appointment system, in line with official directives and procedures.

Here are contacts to the embassy, 289, Jalan Ampang Hilir, 55000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and website address, www.myanmarembassykl.org, as well as WhatsApp, it said. — MT/ZS



OPINION

Strive to enhance the sports standard of Myanmar

THE XXXIII Southeast Asian Games will be held in Thailand, specifically in Bangkok, Chonburi, and Songkhla. A total of 53 sports events have been categorized. Myanmar plans to compete in 40 of those events. The lists of sports events that the Myanmar team will compete in have already been sent to host Thailand.

Officials from relevant sports federations are selecting preliminary players to be finalized under the target date before the end of July. Athletes, who have been selected from various competitions to represent Myanmar in the XXXIII SEA Games, as well as in future international competitions, are now undergoing systematic training. These Myanmar national sports contingents, which will

represent the country in both this regional championship and other international contests, will be given intensive preparation.

In the past, the Myanmar national team, which comprised individuals from different ethnic backgrounds, has proudly brought home medals from international competitions. Representing the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, they have stood tall on international podiums, bringing pride and honour to the nation. With that in mind, the participating athletes will continue to take training diligently before entering the competition, aiming to showcase Myanmar’s strength and ability in the international arena, and to elevate the country’s reputation and prestige.

The development of sports is not only a matter of physical strength but also a way to foster national spirit and contribute to the unity and dignity of the country. Athletic strength building is directly linked to national development. The advancement of the sports sector enhances the prestige, image, and international standing of the country, gaining the respect and recognition of other nations. Sports also help instil discipline, patriotism, and a strong sense of national pride, fostering unity among all citizens and contributing to the emergence of a healthy and resilient nation.

As representatives of the nation, athletes are expected to demonstrate strong sportsmanship and competitive spirit, striving for victory and national pride. Before competitions, they will rigorously train and prepare in advance, aiming to bring honour and glory to the country. They have to control themselves not to engage in inappropriate actions, which can tarnish the image of the country.

As representatives of the nation, athletes are expected to demonstrate strong sportsmanship and competitive spirit, striving for victory and national pride. Before competitions, they will rigorously train and prepare in advance, aiming to bring honour and glory to the country. They have to control themselves not to engage in inappropriate actions, which can tarnish the image of the country.

In line with this, efforts are being made to practically implement the enhancement of health and sports sectors. As Myanmar athletes shine in various international competitions, showcasing their talent and elevating the country’s prestige and standing in sports, it is urged that all parents and citizens collectively encourage and support these promising athletes who bring pride to the nation.

YUNNAN Province, the closest Chinese territory to Myanmar geographically and ethnically, is rich in cultural heritage with natural resources. Stretching approximately 2,000 kilometres in borderline, Myanmar and China’s Yunnan Province have been standing together and sharing common values and cultures through all ups and downs, tied to history.

Eight-day visit that shaped regional integrity

China hosted the 9th China-South Asia Exposition and the 29th China Kunming Import and Export Fair in Kunming, Yunnan Province, from 19 to 24 June. As a sideline event, Yunnan International Television Station organized the 4th Generation Z Lancang-Mekong Audio Visual Week 2025 from 20 to 25 June, which invited young diplomats from China’s neighbouring countries, aiming to strengthen regional integrity by reciprocal learning.



Sightseeing picturesque natural landscapes and learning about the cultural diversity in Yunnan during the trip gave me of Asian countries, especially southern China, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam, sharing the same origins of continental resources with mountains, hills and rivers.

Extending solidarity between Myanmar and China’s Yunnan

By Thet Mon Tun



China hosted the 9th China-South Asia Exposition and the 29th China Kunming Import and Export Fair in Kunming, Yunnan Province, from 19 to 24 June.

The eight-day programme brought together a total of 15 young diplomats from Mekong Region countries, as well as from maritime Southeast Asian nations like Malaysia and Indonesia, and South Asian countries such as Pakistan and Nepal, to participate in the project of creation camp project, aiming to expand cultural integrity among Asian civilizations. I was one of the participants to join it as a Myanmar media representative.

From my perspective, the whole program was designed to share knowledge of or exchange traditions, cultures and histories that have been upheld by Yunnan people up to these days since prehistoric time with Yunnan’s neighbouring Asian friends. Hence, it was fostering the comprehensive principles of the Chinese proposed Global Civilization Initiatives (GCI).

Essential means of the GCI can be interpreted as upholding humanity,

respecting diversity of civilizations and inheritances, which in turn, promotes robust international people-to-people exchange. Understanding the versatile attitudes of different communities encourages harmonious cooperation while seeking a peaceful global order. Rejecting coercively exporting the phenomenon of ‘globalization’ with main adverse products: ‘Clash of Civilizations’ or ‘Cultural Shock’, the GCI emphasizes mutually exchanging social norms and common values under mutual learning. In these ways, the GCI aims to shape a global, peaceful environment with mutual respect.

Bound by nature to be the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation

Sightseeing picturesque natural landscapes and learning about the cultural diversity in Yunnan during the trip gave me of Asian countries, especial-

ly southern China, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam, sharing the same origins of continental resources with mountains, hills and rivers. Consequently, common cultural habits, ancestral rituals and social norms are being shared particularly within their closely related ethnical tribes of mainland Southeast Asia.

These shared cultural and geographical heritages reflect core values of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation and the unity of the region.

Learning hotspots in the 4th Generation Z Lancang-Mekong Audio Visual Week 2025 were Chinese tea culture and tea history, and Yunnan’s Dai ethnic heritage, specifically in Pu’er and Xishuangbanna cities. In addition to them, the young Asian diplomats also partially studied the culturally related economic development of the province, and the fruitful hub in trade and transport of the China-Laos Railway.

Myanmar-Yunnan’s shared history from the Tea Horse Road to the CMEC

Pu’er City, the hidden paradise in Yunnan Province and is renowned as China’s tea capital, and has extensive tea plantations in both traditional and modern technologies. It could be learned that the city contributes a significant effort in China’s securing UNESCO heritage recognition of tea by advancing in research and development.

In 2022, UNESCO inscribed Chinese tea, its associated cultural practices like

traditional tea processing techniques, China’s historical significance of tea, and its social importance in the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. China’s achievement of the intangible cultural heritage of tea at UNESCO is an earnest worthy.

Pu’er played a key role in tea trading back in many centuries ago as part of the ancient Chinese Silk Road to the west. To my knowledge, Myanmar was observed as one of Pu’er’s destinations in the Ancient Tea Horse Road, which started in the Tang Dynasty; then, flourished in the Ming Dynasty and Qing Dynasty.

Not only in the ancient Chinese Silk Road, Myanmar and China’s Yunnan Province also play key roles as the ‘China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC)’ in part of the modern-day Belt and Road Initiative. The project includes high-speed railways and highways by connecting Myanmar’s Kyaukphyu in Rakhine State through Mandalay, Lashio and Muse to Kunming in Yunnan. Extending to Yangon, the strategically proposed project is envisioned to promote regional economic integration and development. By these means, the regional GDP Index is expected to experience a big jump.



Bound by history, China’s Yunnan Province and Myanmar have shared mutual coexistence in successive eras.

Pu’er’s educational support for Myanmar

Bound by history, China’s Yunnan Province and Myanmar have shared mutual coexistence in successive eras. Edu-

cation is another key sector that fosters strong ties between the two countries.

I had the opportunity to visit Pu’er University during the programme, where approximately 20 Myanmar students are studying different subjects with Chinese scholarships.

“Every year, we have several Myanmar students. They are very good at Chinese and hardworking in their studies. All Myanmar students in Pu’er University are studying with different ranks of scholarships. Computer Science, Chinese Education, Mathematics and Management are the most favourite majors chosen by the Myanmar students,” said Director of the Office of International Cooperation and Exchange at Pu’er University, Mr Bai Leigang, adding that Pu’er University has a strong tie with Myanmar’s University of Yangon and the Yangon University of Foreign Languages. Both sides engage in annual student exchange programs and hold online meetings to strengthen their academic cooperation.

At present, China offers a range of government scholarships for Myanmar students, including the Chinese Government Scholarship (CSC), ASEAN-China Young Leaders Scholarship, Confucius Institute Scholarship/ Chinese Language Study Scholarships, Yunnan Provincial Government Scholarships, University-Specific Scholarships, and Silk Road Scholarship Program.

Furthermore, during the official visit of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Prime Minister and State Administration Council Chairman of Myanmar, to China last year in November, China pledged to provide more scholarship programs for Myanmar students shortly.

Myanmar, Yunnan stand together through all ups and downs

Last but not least, in the recent earthquake which hit Myanmar on 28 March 2025, China was the country that arrived in Myanmar the very first among international rescue operations. Sharing the borderline, the first Chinese rescue team with 32 members with rescue equipment from Yunnan Province arrived in Myanmar within 17 hours after the quake.

It evidenced the strong solidarity existing between Myanmar and China, sharing weal and woe, particularly in the hard-ship times.

Beyond Finger-Pointing-ism: The Need for Constructive Criticism in Our Society

By @Editor



Foreword

In today’s climate, what I call *finger-pointing-ism* thrives — a reflexive tendency to assign blame rather than responsibility, to judge before understanding. It’s a habit that has seeped into many corners of our social setting, often disguised as honesty or concern. I coined this term not to trivialize the problem, but to ironically highlight its absurd familiarity. From everyday conversations to heated online debates, finger-pointing-ism overwhelms our discourse like background noise — constant, unchecked, and exhausting. Yet, strangely, we’ve come to accept it as normal, as if blame is the most natural response to imperfection.

This tendency starts subtly: a remark about someone’s body weight, a jab at someone’s height, or a comment that reduces identity to physical traits. These offhand judgements are passed around casually, like social small talk, normalized to the point of invisibility. But what begins as seemingly harmless criticism often deepens into something more corrosive: social blame, public shaming, and even exclusion. It becomes a form of punishment masquerading as opinion. If we aspire to a more empathetic, mature, and truly civilized society, such behaviour must no longer be acceptable. The time has come to rethink how we speak to and about one another.

My understanding of constructive criticism was not formed in theory but in practice, forged through years of direct engagement with real issues faced by Burmese seafarers. During my time with the then Seafarers Union of Burma (SUB), my colleague and I worked closely with seafarers who encountered a wide range of challenges onboard: unpaid or underpaid wages, excessive working hours without proper overtime, breaches of contract, and even tragic incidents involving injury or death. These weren’t abstract problems; they were urgent, human, and often deeply personal.

In addressing these cases, we had to cooperate with unions from other countries and the main international federation to which we were affiliated. What became clear over time was that many of our national seafarers, perhaps shaped by long-standing social habits, were quick to blame. When faced with injustice, their default response was often to point fingers, particularly at the Seafarers Division of the Marine Administration Department, the regulatory authority for Myanmar’s maritime workforce. It was a reaction rooted in frustration, but one that, if left unchecked, threatened to derail the pursuit of actual solutions.

SEE PAGE 12

ARTICLE

NATIONAL

TALENTED golf players have emerged in Myanmar over the years, and to ensure continued development without generational gaps, efforts are being made to nurture young golfers both locally and abroad, according to Junior Golf Myanmar.

According to U Kyaw Kyaw Min Lat, General Secretary of Junior Golf Myanmar, “Myanmar has produced remarkable golfers in the past who once made their mark on the international scene. Golf success largely depends on access to structured training and support. In countries like Thailand, private companies actively support the development of young talent. Myanmar’s youth are also highly capable, and to bridge the gap between older players and the younger generation, we are currently developing new talents between the ages of 10 and 18. They regularly participate in domestic and international tournaments to gain competitive experience.”

Some young Myanmar golfers are currently studying at international golf academies, especially in the United States, where they combine golf training (70 per cent) with academic

Golf-loving youths receive local and international training

education (30 per cent). These youths represent their schools in tournaments and have shown promising results, with some continuing into golf careers upon graduation.

The colonial-era Thayet Golf Course in Magway Region, built in a similar design to the famed St Andrews Golf Course in the United Kingdom, still allows reciprocal play at St Andrews for its members. In Yangon, major golf courses where local golfers train include Yangon Golf Club (Danyingon), Defence Services Golf Course, Okkalapa Golf Course, YCDC Golf Course, Mingaladon Golf Course, Punhlaing Golf Course, 9th-Mile Golf Course, Star City Golf Course, and Ngwe Thawda Golf Course.

Beyond Yangon, other golf courses include two in Py-

inOoLwin, two in Taunggyi, the Royal Palace Golf Course and Mandalay Hill Golf Course in Mandalay, as well as Myotha and Shwe Sar Yan Golf Courses, which continue to host training and local tournaments.

Junior golfers from Myanmar under the age of 20 are also competing overseas. In the US, they participate in school-sanctioned tournaments while continuing their formal studies. Some have successfully transitioned into professional or semi-professional roles at the very institutions where they trained.

To ensure the growth and sus-

tainability of the sport, the Myanmar Golf Federation (MGF) and affiliated bodies conduct seasonal training programmes. Local golf associations are also sending promising youth to compete in both local and international events to gain vital experience.

Given that golf is a high-cost sport, collaboration among parents, clubs, and the state is essential to support young athletes and to raise Myanmar’s standing in international competitions.

Golf is a sport played by striking a rubber-cored ball with

clubs, typically 12 to 14 in a set, towards a series of nine to eighteen holes, intending to use the fewest strokes. The game has been played in Myanmar since colonial times and remains a popular sport to this day.

Globally renowned professional golfers include Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus, Golden Bell, Walter Hagen, Ben Hogan, and Arnold Palmer. In Myanmar, notable past golfers include U Mya Aye, U Zaw Moe, and U Kyi Hla Han. The Myanmar Golf Federation continues to host domestic tournaments to further raise the skill level of its players and enhance international competitiveness. — Thitsa (MNA)/KZL



PHOTOS: ZWE MARN

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NATIONAL

Dala ferry sinks in Yangon River amid heavy rain; three missing



This image captures sampan (little) boats running in the Yangon River.

THREE people were reported missing after a sampan boat sank when crossing from Dala’s Thamada to Yangon’s Botahtaung after a heavy rain and strong winds.

With 10 passengers, including the sampan’s driver, U Myint Swe, the boat sank on its way on the river due to strong winds, and three people, including the driver, were missing.

“It was raining heavily and the wind was blowing hard, so the rescue workers found it difficult to find and rescue. A container truck in the municipal compound also overturned,” said a local in Botahtaung Township.

The search and rescue operation by police forces, civil rescuers and boat drivers began at around 10:30 am when it became calm, and people are still awaiting confirmation of the number of missing people.

On July 24, at 8:17 am, a tree fell, blocking a street in Dala’s Ward 3, and one fire engine with permanent and reserved firefighters was dispatched to the area to clear the blockade, according to the Department of Fire Services.

There are 21 ferry terminals in Dala, and hundreds of people are crossing into and out of Yangon daily. Ferry sinking happens every year during the monsoon season, causing some casualties, according to reports.

The Yangon-Dala Bridge, which is currently under construction, is expected to be completed by the end of 2025. — Htun Htun/ZN

LPT Dec exam registration opens on 28 July

MYANMAR ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN ALUMNI (MAJA)

A logo of the Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni.

THE JLPT Exam Organising Committee has announced that the registration and activation of schools for the December 2025 exam will begin on 28 July, according to the Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni.

Schools applying for the Group Form for the December Examination are required to register in the Online System, and the registration/activation process will be done through it from 28 July (Monday) to 1 August (Friday). The date for acceptance of applications will be announced later.

For the training schools, a maximum of 70 applications per school will be accepted. A valid license will be considered to be a training school, and sublicenses of the same name and expired licenses will not be allowed.

Schools that have already registered for the exam and have been allowed to apply for the exam forms do not need to re-register. But, the accounts of the schools registered in the database will be in the Deactive status, so they will need to be reactivated, it said.

For the new schools to register, they need to click on “create an account”, and the application can be done only once per email address. The JLPT Examination Committee has informed that the information must be filled in by the person in charge of the school, and in case of any errors, it is the responsibility of the school concerned. The contact number is 01 7571015 Ext-1 (during office hours), the MAJA said. — MT/ZN

Myanmar rowing team to join Dragon Boat Championship at World Games in Chengdu

FROM PAGE 1

“We have already selected our athletes since April to represent Myanmar in the Dragon Boat Championship at the World Games in Chengdu, China. The Myanmar rowing team will compete in the 200-metre, 500-metre, and 2,000-metre events,” said U Thet Lwin.

A 16-member team has been assembled to represent Myanmar in the Dragon Boat events, comprising six male athletes, six female athletes, a team leader, a manager, and two coaches. The team is scheduled to depart for China on 6 August.

The World Games Dragon Boat Championship will be hosted in Chengdu from 6 to 10 August. Only countries that have performed well in qualifying tournaments are eligible to participate.

In addition to this international event, the Myanmar rowing team is also expected to compete in other global competitions in 2025, including the Canoe and Kayak Juniors Championship in Russia. In 2026, they are also set to compete in the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games in Thailand. — ASH/KZL



The Myanmar rowing team in action during a previous competition.

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ESSAY/TECH/ENVIRON: WORLD

Beyond Finger-Pointing-ism: The Need for Constructive Criticism in Our Society

FROM PAGE 9

That's why we made it a point to guide our seafarers towards a different path — one focused on **justice, not judgement**. We reminded them that blame alone could not secure their unpaid wages or correct a contract violation. Our union culture deliberately rejected any form of shaming, whether in our written correspondence to companies or during face-to-face negotiations onboard or at the workplace. We didn't name and shame; we named the problem and pursued the solution.

In this way, we were practising a form of **constructive criticism**, calling out what was wrong, but always with the aim of making it right. This approach didn't make us soft; it made us strategic. We maintained dignity in our dialogue and clarity in our objectives. Over time, our seafarers began to recognize that real advocacy isn't about noise or blame — it's about focus, facts, and forward movement. And in that small but significant way, we were resisting finger-pointing-ism and building a culture of responsibility instead.

Defining Constructive Criticism: A Path Forward

What we practised at the union was more than just professional discipline — it

was a model of **constructive criticism** in action. But what does that really mean? At its core, constructive criticism is the art of pointing out what's wrong **without tearing down the person**. It's the deliberate act of offering feedback that is **meant to improve**, not to insult. It calls attention to problems, yes — but not to provoke shame or escalate conflict. Instead, it seeks to resolve issues through mutual understanding, reasoned dialogue, and practical steps forward.

This concept is desperately needed in our society today. Too often, criticism in public or private life in Myanmar slips into **personal attack, mockery, or humiliation**. Whether in online forums, workplace conversations, or even among family and friends, feedback is frequently weaponized. Rather than focusing on the issue, it targets the individual. This form of reactive criticism — the very essence of finger-pointing-ism — rarely leads to positive change. Instead, it silences people, entrenches defensiveness, and encourages a cycle of fear, blame, and disengagement.

Constructive criticism, by contrast, is **anchored in intention**. It asks: "What's the goal?" If the goal is to help someone grow, to correct a harmful practice, or

to fix a broken system, then the method must match the mission. That means choosing words carefully, offering suggestions rather than condemnation, and most of all, **treating others with dignity** even when you disagree with them. True criticism does not seek to destroy; it seeks to build.

If we want our social fabric to mature, this shift in mindset is essential. Constructive criticism fosters **dialogue over division, accountability over accusation, and progress over punishment**. And it starts with individuals in how we speak, how we listen, and how we respond when confronted with discomfort or disagreement.

Conclusion: Learning from Finger-Pointing-ism

As ironic as the term *finger-pointing-ism* may sound, its consequences are anything but light. It continues to thrive in our Burmese social fabric, not only weakening mutual trust but also discouraging meaningful dialogue and shared accountability. It teaches us, however unintentionally, how easily a society can slip into a cycle of blame when solutions feel out of reach. But if we are willing to pause and reflect, *finger-pointing-ism* can also offer us something far more val-

uable: a mirror. A mirror that shows us how much work we still have to do and where that work must begin.

The lesson here is not simply to stop blaming, but to start building. To replace cynicism with sincerity, and complaint with contribution. Constructive criticism is not a luxury of ideal societies; it is the foundation upon which healthy, responsible communities are built. When we choose to offer feedback rooted in clarity, respect, and purpose, we help create a culture where people don't just react; they listen, learn, and improve.

Myanmar stands at a critical moment. As individuals, institutions, and a nation, we cannot afford to waste our voices on hollow judgement. We must grow out of the comfort of finger-pointing and step into the courage of constructive speaking. And that begins with each of us, daring to say what we see, yes, but saying it in a way that helps, not harms.

This essay is part of my "I Say What I See" series — a personal commitment to speak with honesty, but not hostility; to observe not for the sake of judgement, but for the sake of growth. In saying what I see, I hope to invite others to look more closely too — and to speak not with blame, but with purpose.

China-made tonne-class eVTOL delivered

This development marks a significant breakthrough in the application of large eVTOLs.



The V2000CG CarryAll, a tonne-class electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft, is pictured at a delivery ceremony in Kunshan, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 22 July 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

A Chinese tech startup on Tuesday delivered a tonne-class electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft, marking a breakthrough in the

application of large eVTOLs.

Developed by the Shanghai-based company AutoFlight, the V2000CG CarryAll boasts a maximum takeoff weight of

two tonnes.

Following the acquisition of the type certificate and production certificate last year, along with the airworthiness certificate acquired on Monday, the unmanned aircraft will be operated by a Guangzhou-based low-altitude transport business.

The all-electric V2000CG CarryAll has a payload capacity of up to 400 kilogrammes with a maximum cruising speed of 200 kilometres per hour and a range of 200 kilometres. It features vertical takeoff and landing capabilities and a fixed-wing cruising design, enabling its applications in low-altitude logistics, emergency response and other fields. — Xinhua

Cook Islands wages war on 'plague' of hungry starfish

DIVERS in the Cook Islands are engaged in a critical battle against the crown-of-thorns starfish, a species that threatens coral reefs already weakened by climate change.

Armed with wooden spears, these volunteers, organized by marine biologist Teina Rongo,

dive beneath the waves to remove the voracious starfish that can consume over 10 square metres of coral annually.

The Cook Islands, home to about 17,000 people, is experiencing a significant outbreak, with similar challenges reported across the Pacific. — AFP



Marine biologist Teina Rongo (C) and divers from the environmental group Korero O Te Orau holding crown-of-thorns starfish collected from a reef off Rarotonga in the Cook Islands. **PHOTO: AFP**

TotalEnergies net profit drops as oil prices fall

TOTALENERGIES said Thursday its net profit plunged in the second quarter despite increased output as global oil and gas prices dropped.

Despite the 29 per cent year-on-year drop in net profit in the second quarter to \$2.7 billion, the French firm called its performance “robust”. It kept its revenue drop to 7.6 per cent, to \$49.6 billion, below the 10 per cent fall in the price of Brent crude oil, the international benchmark.

That was thanks in part to a 2.5 per cent boost in output, to an average 2.5 million barrels of oil equivalent in the second quarter.

“TotalEnergies de-



A boost in output helped cushion a drop in global oil prices. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

livered robust financial results in the second quarter,” chief executive Patrick Pouyanne said in a statement.

“TotalEnergies continued to successfully execute its balanced multi-energy strategy, supported by sustained growth in

Syria, Saudi Arabia to sign agreements worth \$6B

DAMASCUS and Riyadh have agreed to sign more than 40 agreements worth \$6 billion that will affect all industries, Syrian Information Minister Hamza al-Mustafa said.

“Forty-four agreements worth \$6 billion will be signed with the Kingdom of Saudi Ara-

bia,” al-Mustafa said on Wednesday at a press conference dedicated to the Syrian-Saudi investment forum in Damascus.

The minister added that the new agreements will contribute to the creation of more than 50,000 new jobs throughout Syria.

“We are working to attract private investment in the energy sector and discussed with a group of Saudi investors issues of cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and areas where the media and communications industries intersect,” al-Mustafa noted. — SPUTNIK

Sony to take stake in Bandai Namco in anime business partnership

SONY Group Corp. will take a 2.5 per cent stake in major Japanese toy-maker Bandai Namco Holdings Inc for 68 billion yen (\$464 million) as they joined hands in the anime business, the two companies said Thursday.

The Japanese tech conglomerate plans to expand anime works and products based on intellectual property copy-

righted by Bandai Namco through the partnership.

Bandai Namco, known for the popular anime franchise Mobile Suit Gundam, will be able to use Sony’s expertise in the production and distribution of anime and other video content, they said in a release.

“Through this partnership, we aim to co-create an array of content and experiences that exceed expectations and deliver Kando (emotion) to even more fans,” Sony Chief Strategy Officer Toshimoto Mitomo said in the release.

The two companies are also considering co-operating in other areas, such as experiential entertainment technology and related services. — Kyodo

Australia lifts trade barriers on US beef

AUSTRALIA said Thursday it would lift trade barriers on beef from the United States, removing a

major point of friction between Canberra and the Trump administration.

US President Donald Trump singled out Australia as he unveiled his “Liberation Day” tariffs in April, accusing the close ally of banning American meat while cashing in on exports to the United States. Australia’s stringent biosecurity rules block imports of cattle slaughtered in the United States, but born in Canada or Mexico.

Threatened with 10 per cent tariffs on beef shipped to the United States, one of its largest red meat markets, Australia has now dropped these barriers. — AFP



Cattle graze in a paddock near the Australian farming town of Gunnedah. The United States is a major export market for Australian beef. **PHOTO: AFP**

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC HUIMING VOY.NO. (2508S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **25-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** 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.

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M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

China hopes Thailand, Cambodia to properly solve dispute through dialogue: FM spokesperson

China aims to adopt a fair and impartial stance while promoting peaceful talks and playing a constructive role in de-escalating the situation.

CHINA is deeply concerned about the ongoing border conflict between Thailand and Cambodia, and hopes that the two countries will properly solve their dispute through dialogue and consultation, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said on Thursday.

Noting that Thailand and Cambodia are both friendly neighbors of China and important members of ASEAN, Guo

said good-neighbourliness and proper handling of differences are in line with the fundamental and long-term interests of both sides.

Bearing in mind the common interest and concerns of regional countries, China adopts a fair and impartial stance, continues to promote talks for peace through its own way, and plays a constructive role in helping de-escalate the situation, Guo said. — Xinhua



A Cambodian police officer stands guard in front of the Thai Embassy in Phnom Penh on 24 July 2025. Cambodian and Thai troops exchanged fire in a new round of clashes at a disputed border area on 24 July 2025, both sides said. **PHOTO: AFP**

Columbia University to pay US\$ 200M in settlement with Trump admin over anti-semitism claims

COLUMBIA University has agreed to pay a US\$200 million to President Donald Trump’s administration over accusations it failed to protect its Jew-

ish students from harassment. A settlement that was reached on Wednesday and which will be paid to the federal government over three years,

was announced in a statement by the university.

In exchange, the government has agreed to return some of the US\$400m in federal grants it froze or terminated in March.

In exchange for the return of hundreds of millions in research grants, Columbia will also pledge to follow laws banning the consideration of race in admissions and hiring, and follow through on other commitments to reduce antisemitism and unrest on campus that it agreed to in March, the New York Times reported. — ANI



Columbia’s acting president, Claire Shipman, stated that the agreement is a significant step forward after federal scrutiny. **PHOTO: ANI**

Tariff talks between South Korea, US postponed

HIGH-LEVEL talks between South Korea and the United States scheduled for Friday have been postponed at the request of the American side due to sudden changes in the schedule of US Treasury

Secretary Scott Bessent, the Yonhap news agency reported on Thursday, citing the South Korean Ministry of Finance.

The parties were expected to hold talks in Washington in the 2+2 format with the partici-

pation of South Korean Finance Minister Koo Yun-cheol and Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo and their American counterparts - Bessent and US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer. — SPUTNIK

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wreckage of missing Russian An-24 plane found near forest

A Russian passenger plane carrying 43 people has been found crashed in a remote forest near Tynda, with no signs of survivors, Russia Today reported on Thursday.

The Antonov An-24 aircraft, which went missing during a domestic flight from Blagoveshchensk to Tynda, was located by a rescue helicopter about 15 kilometres from its destination, Russia Today reported. The twin turboprop aircraft lost communication shortly before reaching Tynda Airport, with no distress signal sent, according to a source quoted by RT. The flight was operated over a 570-kilometre route across Russia’s Far Eastern Amur Region. — ANI

Top Japan, S Korea diplomats to pursue stable development of ties

JAPANESE Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya and his new South Korean counterpart Cho Hyun agreed Thursday to work together to promote the stable development of bilateral relations and maintain close communication, Japan’s government said.

During their phone talks, Iwaya and Cho also affirmed the importance of cooperating not only bilaterally and also trilaterally with their common ally, the United States, “under the current strategic environment”, according to the Foreign Ministry. — Kyodo

Typhoon Wipha kills 3, injures 5 in Vietnam

TYPHOON Wipha has left three people dead, one missing and five others injured in Vietnam, the Vietnam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority reported on Thursday.

Among the fatalities, two people were swept away by floods in the central province of Nghe An, while another died in a landslide in the same locality. The typhoon damaged approximately 720 houses and submerged 3,848 others across northern and central Vietnam.

Nghe An was the hardest-hit province, with more than 9,000 households suffering from prolonged power outages, Vietnam News Agency reported. — Xinhua

SPORTS

MIU to face Winner Generations in 2025 Futsal Champion Cup final

THE semifinal matches of the Futsal Champion Cup 2025 took place on 24 July at the MFF Futsal Indoor Stadium in Thuwunna Football Complex, Yangon, with defending champions MIU and Winner Generations securing their places in the final.

In the first semifinal, MIU displayed dominant form with a 5-1 win over TG United. In the second semi-final match, Winner Generations edged past YRG in a penalty shootout after a goalless draw in regular time, winning 3-1 on penalties. The match was decided by the impressive performance of the Winner Generations goalkeeper, who saved three of the four penalties taken by YRG.

Despite YRG strengthening their squad with elite-level players, they fell short of the final and will now compete in the third-place match. MIU, meanwhile, showed championship quality by securing a clean-sheet win even though



Winner Generations goalkeeper saves a penalty from YRG during the semifinal shootout. PHOTO: MFF

they played second in their semi-final lineup. On 26 July, TG United and YRG will play for third place, while MIU and Winner Generations will clash in the title match. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Myanmar national team striker Hein Htet Aung is seen with the Yangon United emblem. PHOTO: YUFC

Yangon United sign national striker Hein Htet Aung

YANGON United Football Club have signed Myanmar national team striker Hein Htet Aung, boosting their attacking options ahead of the Myanmar National League (MNL) campaign.

The signing comes shortly after the club were crowned champions of the MNL League Cup earlier this month. The club is aiming to strengthen its squad further in a bid to reclaim the MNL title this season and make a strong push in the upcoming AFC Challenge League, with hopes of advancing to the final stage and securing positive results.

To reinforce their attacking line-up, Yangon United brought in Hein Htet Aung and are also expected to sign some foreign players in the coming weeks.

Hein Htet Aung returns to the domestic league after playing abroad since 2021. He began his professional career with Hanthawady United and moved to Malaysia in 2021, signing for Selangor FC. In the past two seasons, he played on loan for Nigerian side Negeri Sembilan FC, also in Malaysia, before making his return to Myanmar. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

A personal robot coach for runners created in Russia

ENGINEERS from the Don State Technical University (DSTU) have developed a personal robot coach for amateur athletes and professional track-and-field athletes.

This compact new device can also help address the staffing shortage in educational institutions, according to the university's press service.

According to VTsIOM (Russian Public Opinion Research Centre), 80 million people in Russia engage in sports.

However, the limited availability of personal trainers and lack of moti-

vation make physical activity irregular for many. DSTU researchers also highlighted staffing issues in educational institutions.

To track their activity, both amateurs and professional athletes use various devices such as smartwatches, fitness bands, and smartphone apps. However, these tools are often ineffective due to the lack of visual control. Additionally, having a coach or watching training videos can help improve exercise technique, particularly for exercises that may pose injury risks.



Weighing about five kilogrammes, the robot coach is portable and can be used outdoors. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

DSTU engineers have developed a robot coach that uses video cameras to monitor the movements of athletes, warn them of risks associated with certain exercises, and create personalized training plans. — SPUTNIK

From hospital bed to Euro hero — Bonmati back to her decisive best for Spain

"YOU could write a book about this," said Aitana Bonmati on Wednesday as she reflected on the last few weeks in her life after scoring the goal which took Spain into the final of the Women's Euro 2025.

At the end of June the world's leading women's footballer was lying in hospital with viral meningitis and it looked like she might not be able to play for Spain at the tournament in Switzerland.

Now she is preparing to lead her team into Sunday's final against England in Basel, in a rematch of the 2023 World

Cup decider which Spain won, after converting the only goal of the last-four clash with Germany late in extra time.

"When the ball went in I started running around like a crazy person. I didn't know where to go," a smiling Bonmati said as she spoke to media at the Letzigrund Stadium in Zurich after collecting the trophy for player of the match.

"It is so special to score in games like these and if I can help the team to keep making history that is very special indeed".

Barcelona midfielder Bonmati, who has won the Ballon d'Or in each of the last two years, was taken into hospital at the end of June after reporting feeling unwell. — AFP

Aitana Bonmati (R) celebrates with teammate Patri Guijarro at full-time in Spain's Euro 2025 semi-final win over Germany on Wednesday. PHOTO: AFP



China hopes Thailand, Cambodia to properly solve dispute through dialogue: FM spokesperson

PAGE 14



WORLD

PM Modi meets UK counterpart Keir Starmer in London

The UK-India trade agreement is projected to boost bilateral trade by £25.5 billion annually, unlocking thousands of jobs and lowering tariffs.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday met British Prime Minister Keir Starmer in London, ahead of the formal signing of a landmark UK-India free trade agreement expected to significantly boost economic ties between the two countries.

The bilateral meeting took place at the historic Hawtry Room, where the two leaders held a one-on-one discussion to finalise the contours of what is being described as India's most comprehensive trade pact and the UK's most significant post-Brexit deal.

Hours before meeting PM Modi, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer called the India trade deal a 'Plan for Change in action'.

In a post on X, Starmer wrote, "A landmark deal with India means jobs, investment and growth here in the UK. It creates thousands of British jobs, unlocks new opportunities for businesses and puts money in the pockets of working people."



The meeting took place in the historic Hawtry Room, focusing on finalizing details of the trade pact, which is considered India's most comprehensive and the UK's most significant post-Brexit deal. PHOTO: ANI

According to a statement released earlier by the British High Commission, the UK-India trade agreement is expected to boost bilateral trade by £25.5 billion

annually. The deal is also expected to unlock thousands of jobs, lower tariffs, and increase market access for businesses in both countries. — ANI

RESEARCH INTO HEREDITARY DISEASES

Japan govt panel approves human embryo creation using iPS cells

A Japanese government panel on Thursday broadly agreed to allow the creation of human embryos using eggs or sperm derived from pluripotent stem cells such as iPS cells, but only for research purposes into matters such as infertility and hereditary diseases.

According to a report compiled by the expert panel on bioethics, the culture period of such embryos would be limited to a maximum of 14 days, as with conventional fertilized egg research, and implantation into a human or animal uterus would be prohibited.

The report will lay the groundwork for the government to consider revising relevant guidelines. The latest move raises ethical challenges as the implantation of an embryo into a uterus could potentially lead to the birth of a human being.

It is hoped studies will confirm whether human eggs and sperm derived from induced pluripotent stem cells or embryonic stem cells function normally. Both iPS cells and ES cells can grow into any type of cell in the body, but the former are generated using cells from an adult body such as skin, while the latter are taken from early-stage embryos. — Kyodo



The third round of peace talks between Russia and Ukraine is held in Istanbul, Türkiye, on 23 July 2025. Russian and Ukrainian delegations held a third round of peace talks here on Wednesday, which started at 8:30 pm local time (1730 GMT) and lasted nearly one and a half hours. PHOTO: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF TÜRKİYE/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA

3rd round of Russia-Ukraine talks agrees on prisoner exchange, differs on ceasefire

RUSSIAN and Ukrainian delegations held a third round of peace talks here on Wednesday evening at the Ciragan Palace, during which the two sides agreed on another prisoner exchange but clashed on ceasefire terms and a potential presidential meeting.

Russian presidential aide Vladimir Medinsky and Secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council Rustem Umerov led the Russian and Ukrainian delegations, respectively. The closed-door talks were chaired by Turk-

ish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan.

Following the talks, which lasted for less than one hour, Umerov said at a press conference that Ukraine continues to insist on a full and unconditional ceasefire as the essential foundation for effective diplomacy.

"We are ready for a ceasefire now and to start substantive peace negotiations, and it is up to the other side to accept this basic step towards peace," Umerov said. — Xinhua