

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

1. To steadfastly strive for emergence of political forces and the people’s representatives who can implement a genuine, disciplined multi-party democratic system while constantly emphasizing on the national interests of the State.
2. To persistently strive for promoting the socio-economic life of the people through the development of agro-based industries in improving the agricultural sector, the vital foundation of the economic growth of the State.
3. To put emphasis on enhancing the national education and health sectors for sustainable development of the State.
4. To implement multi-party democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of multi-party democratic general election process and successfully moving towards with the multi-party democratic system aspired by the entire people.

Message from Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on the Occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

8 August 2025

Esteemed Citizens of Myanmar and the Peoples of ASEAN,

On the auspicious occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all citizens of Myanmar and the peoples across ASEAN Member States, as we commemorate the 58th anniversary

sary of our shared journey towards peace, prosperity, and regional unity. I wish all our peoples continued peace, development, and prosperity in the years ahead.

Since its inception in 1967, ASEAN has remained steadfast in its mission to promote regional peace, stability, development, and shared prosperity. With our combined efforts, wisdom and vision of the Mem-

ber States, ASEAN has grown into a robust regional community promoting peace, stability, and prosperity. Myanmar is proud of being an integral part of this journey and steadfast in upholding the ASEAN Charter, recognizing its vital role in ensuring that our collective vision for a peaceful and prosperous Southeast Asia.

SEE PAGE 3

Yangon Zoo showcases rare red pandas

Red pandas, native to the eastern Himalayas and western China, are classified as critically endangered by the IUCN, with fewer than 10,000 remaining in the wild.

THE zoological gardens in Yangon invite the public to take a look at the adorable rare panda, a rare species with fewer than 10,000 living in the wild.

Red pandas are a mammal native to the eastern Himalayas and western China. With fewer than 10,000 in the wild, they are listed as a critically endangered species by the IUCN.

Rare red pandas are now being carefully preserved at the Yangon Zoo to prevent them from extinction.

Their front paws are shorter than their hind legs, which makes them look cute when walking, and their body and stiff tails are decorated with reddish brown hairs.

The pandas, which are about the size of domestic cats, eat bamboo as their favourite food, and tend to be peaceful, feeding and active in the early morning before dawn and early evening, and they usually rest during the day.

The Yangon Zoo & Gardens is open daily from 8 am to 4 pm, with a fee of K2,500 per adult and K1,500 per child, and people are invited to visit and enjoy the breathtaking beauty of these red pandas. — MT/ZN



This image captures red pandas in the Yangon Zoo.

OPINION

Shape communities with compassion, sympathy and charity

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Meeting discusses State funeral for late Pro Tem President U Myint Swe

BUSINESS

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FMGEA urges gold merchants to help combat fraud

NATIONAL

Mechanized farming profitable and beneficial for individuals and nation

- ❖ Systematic development of mechanized farmland is a capital-intensive venture, but it is a profitable and beneficial enterprise for both individuals and the nation as a whole.
- ❖ Just as a good beginning ensures a successful outcome, systematically developing farmland through industrial agricultural methods and using machinery for proper land preparation is an investment for long-term benefits.

(An excerpt from the guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, on his inspection tour of the project site to reclaim mechanized farmlands near Pinlaung junction in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 12 March 2025)

- Let us encourage production for prosperity of the Nation.
- Let us ensure education sector for the development of the Nation.
- Let us protect our environment for the prosperity of the Nation.

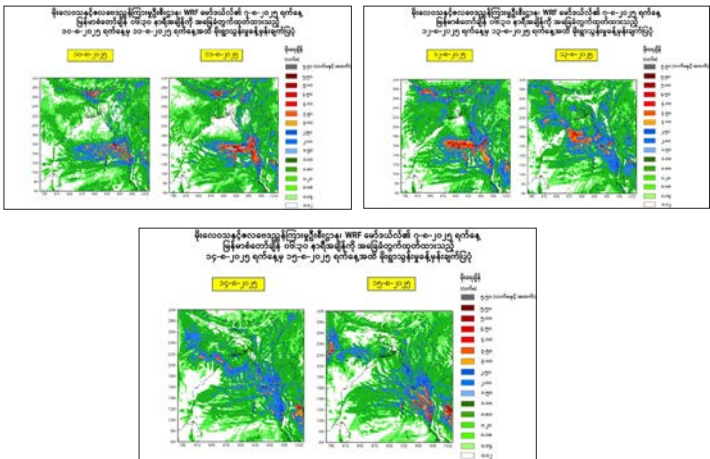
Special Weather News

Issued at 7 pm MST on 7 August 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, monsoon will be strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the unstable air condition over the Bay of Bengal, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay, Magway and Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Chin and Shan States and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States with regionally and isolated heavy falls during 10 August 2025 to 15 August 2025. Squall with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 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 hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flight and irrigation dams. — DMH



Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council Office Order 24/2025

14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387 ME
7 August 2025

Appointment and Duty-Assignment of Ministers at Regional and State Governments

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed and assigned the following individuals to the duties of Ministers shown against relevant regional and state governments under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Chin State government | |
| (a) Dr Lyan Zakhup | Minister for Economic Affairs |
| (b) U Kaul Lyan Thang | Minister for Natural Resources |
| 2. Sagaing Region government | |
| U Sai Hlaing Nyein | Minister for Ethnic Affairs |
| 3. Mon State government | |
| U Tin Zaw Tun | Minister for Social Affairs |
| 4. Rakhine State government | |
| U Myint Soe | Minister for Natural Resources |
| 5. Ayeyawady Region government | |
| (a) U Aung San Chit | Minister for Transport |
| (b) U Maung Maung Oo | Minister for Economic Affairs |

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

Indonesian Red Cross donates US\$100,000 in aid to Myanmar Red Cross

A ceremony to mark the donation of US\$100,000 in humanitarian aid from the Indonesian Red Cross Society (PMI) Palang Merah Indonesia to the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) was held yesterday morning at the MRCS office in Yangon. The event was attended by President Dr Myo Nyunt of the Myanmar Red Cross Society, representatives from the Indonesian Embassy to Myanmar, and other officials.

During the ceremony, Dr Myo Nyunt spoke about the roles and responsibilities of the Myanmar Red Cross Society. Mr Muhammod Arif Hidayatullah, Chargé d'Affaires from the Indonesian Embassy, also delivered remarks and formally presented the donation of \$100,000 on behalf of the Indonesian Red Cross Society.

The President of the Myanmar Red Cross

Society accepted the donation and exchanged commemorative gifts with the Indonesian representatives.

The contribution was made via the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia. — MNA/MKKS



MRCS President Dr Myo Nyunt accepts the donation from the charge d'affaires of the Indonesian Embassy.

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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)

Message from Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on the Occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

FROM PAGE 1

ASEAN was established in 1967 by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Brunei Darussalam joined in 1984, followed by Vietnam in 1995, Myanmar and Laos in 1997, and Cambodia in 1999. This remarkable journey reflects the collective path undertaken by ASEAN member states, and we recall with honour and record with appreciation that, through our joint efforts, we all have driven ASEAN’s growth and accomplishments across political, economic, and socio-cultural dimensions.

As ASEAN commemorates its 58th anniversary, it has transformed Southeast Asia from a region once marked by conflict and division into one of cooperation, peace, and growing prosperity. Key milestones in ASEAN’s history include the establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015, built on political-security, economic and socio-cultural pillars in the region. ASEAN has taken a leading role in fostering dialogue, security cooperation, and regional integration through key forums such as ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Summit (EAS), and ADMM-Plus. Additionally, it is with a matter of satisfaction to note that the implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 is in good progress.

The year 2025 marks a pivotal moment for ASEAN Community Vision 2025 — a time to review achievements, recalibrate priorities, and chart a comprehensive strategy to achieve the goals of the

ASEAN Community Vision 2045 – “Resilient, Innovative, Dynamic, and People-Centred ASEAN”. It serves as a launchpad for ASEAN to reaffirm its commitment to unity, sustainable development, economic dynamism, and regional peace — ensuring that by 2045, ASEAN is a globally respected and thriving community.

The Association must be competitive, robust, responsive, and well-connected in the face of fast-changing geopolitics and the world economic trends. With this backdrop, it is obvious that the theme of the 2025 ASEAN Chairmanship, “Inclusivity and Sustainability”, resonates well with our shared commitment to regional peace, security, stability, and development. In order to strengthen ASEAN’s crucial role in engineering the regional security architecture, we must work together to consolidate ASEAN’s centrality and unity.

Our unity, anchored in the ASEAN Charter, which enshrines territorial integrity, national sovereignty, non-interference, peaceful resolution of disputes, good governance, and multilateral cooperation, remains ASEAN’s guiding beacon. In the face of complex regional and global challenges — geopolitical shifts, economic disruptions, and climate-related crises — ASEAN has shown adaptability and resilience by collectively charting pathways forward.

Today, we reaffirm our commitment to the Charter’s principles, and the Treaty of Amity and Coop-

eration — the core instrument in its relations with the Dialogue Partners. Myanmar stands firm in its commitment to ASEAN’s unity and centrality, guided by the principles and aspirations of the ASEAN Charter. Despite the diverse political, cultural, and economic landscapes of our Member States, ASEAN’s strength lies in our ability to work together in union while respecting each nation’s sovereignty.

The principle of non-interference, as outlined in the ASEAN Charter, ensures that we address regional challenges without external imposition, preserving the integrity of our collective decision-making through consensus. Myanmar stands firmly with ASEAN in rejecting any form of external interference.

Esteemed Citizens of Myanmar and the Peoples of ASEAN,

As we commemorate the 58th Anniversary of ASEAN, let us reaffirm our commitments to the ideals of unity in diversity, collective resilience, and shared prosperity. Let us celebrate this year’s Anniversary of ASEAN not only with pride in our past achievements, but also with collective resolve to safeguard peace, foster prosperity, and nurture the cultural richness of our region.

I wish all our peoples across the ASEAN Member States continued success, peace and prosperity in the years ahead. May the enduring spirit of ASEAN continue to live collectively in the hearts of our peoples.

UEC Chairman approves amendments to party registration and electoral rules

THE Union Election Commission Management Committee’s meeting was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Commission Chairman U Than Soe remarked and signed the “Second Amend-

ment to the Political Parties Registration Rules”, “Pyithu Hluttaw Election Rules”, “Amyotha Hluttaw Election Rules” and “Regional Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Rules”.

Afterwards, commission members discussed the successful holding of multiparty democracy general elections, and the commission chairman concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

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NATIONAL

Meeting discusses State funeral for late Pro Tem President U Myint Swe

AS the Pro Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Myint Swe, who had received intensive medical treatment at the Special Intensive Care Unit of No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed), passed away yesterday morning, his funeral ceremony will be held with State honours.

A coordination meeting to hold the funeral service of the Pro Tem President as a State funeral service took place at the office of the Prime Minister yesterday evening, with an address by the Chairman of the Funeral Service Organizing Leading Committee, Prime Minister U Nyo Saw.

Speaking at the meeting, the Prime Minister said that the Pro Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Myint Swe, passed away yesterday morning. Hence, a plan is underway to hold his funeral ceremony with State honours. So, the National Defence and Security Council Office formed the leading and work committees to organize the national-level funeral service. Moreover, 11 relevant working committees have been formed. Hence, they all have to cooperate in holding the national-level ceremony without weaknesses.

The Prime Minister continued that relevant committees have to serve their duties and



Prime Minister U Nyo Saw chairs the coordination meeting to hold the funeral service of the late Pro Tem President as a State funeral service yesterday.

functions at full capacity to successfully organize the national-level ceremony. Moreover, it is important for all to connect in the work process and take necessary preparatory measures to carry out all tasks on time successfully.

First Vice-Chair of the Leading Committee, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun

Naung discussed preparatory measures to be taken along the route of the funeral ceremony, systematic process for initiation, accommodation and transport sectors, cleanliness and tidiness along the route of the ceremony and cooperation among relevant committees.

Second Vice-Chair General

Kyaw Swa Lin reported on preparations for the ceremony and accommodation, formulation of the reserved plans for the ceremony, and arrangements for managing the cleanliness and tidiness along the route due to the rainy season.

Committee members discussed preparations to successfully hold the ceremony and fur-

ther plans.

The Prime Minister coordinated discussions and reports and gave a concluding remark.

The meeting was also attended by committee members, Union Ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, deputy ministers and departmental officials. — MNA/TTA

UEC issues revised party registration and electoral rules

THE Union Election Commission (UEC) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has issued four new notifications concerning political party registra-

tion and electoral procedures.

According to Notification 49/2025, UEC has released the second amendment to the Political Parties Registration Rules.

Also, it has announced the rules for the Pyithu Hluttaw election under Notification 50/2025, the Amyotha Hluttaw election under Notification 51/2025, and

the Region or State Hluttaw elections under Notification 52/2025.

Notifications were officially issued on the 14th Waxing of

Wagong, 1387 ME (7 August 2025). The updated rules are available for public download at the UEC's official website: www.uec.gov.mm. — MNA/KZL

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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

Expression of Condolence

WITH deep sorrow, it is officially recorded that Pro Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Myint Swe, passed away yesterday at 8:28 am at the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed).

*State Security and Peace Commission
of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar*

Message of Condolence

WITH deep sorrow, we record the demise of Pro Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Myint Swe, who passed away peacefully at 8:28 am yesterday at the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed).

National Defence and Security Council

Expression of Condolence

WITH deep sorrow, it is hereby recorded that Pro Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Myint Swe, passed away at the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) at 8:28 am yesterday.

*Government of the Republic of the Union of
Myanmar*

Pro Tem President U Myint Swe passes away

THE Pro Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Myint Swe, passed away at the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) at 8:28 am yesterday. His funeral will be held with State honours, it has been announced.

*Information Team
National Defence and Security Council*

Declaration of National Mourning Period

PRO Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Myint Swe, passed away at the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) at 8:28 am yesterday, and his funeral will be held with State honours.

Accordingly, the period from 7 to 11 August 2025 has been declared a national mourning period. During this time, all national flags of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are to be flown at half-mast as directed.

*Information Team
National Defence and Security Council*



Union Minister Dr Chaw Chaw Sein holds talks with the UNICEF Myanmar Resident Representative yesterday.

MoE Union Minister receives UNICEF Myanmar Representative

UNION Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein received UNICEF Myanmar Representative Mr Yasumasa Kimura at the Ministry's meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

They exchanged views on cooperation in issues of teacher training, basic education and non-formal education, implementation of Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics

(SEA-PLM), and the conditions for students who have passed Grade 9 of basic education to attend industrial, agricultural and livestock basic education high schools.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Ministers for Education Dr Zaw Myint and U Nay Myo Hlaing, the directors-general and UNICEF officials. — MNA/MKKS

MIFER Union Minister receives delegation led by UNICEF Myanmar Resident Representative

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Wah Wah Maung received a delegation led by Mr Yasumasa Kimura, Myanmar Resident Representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), yesterday morning at Office 1 of the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations.

They exchanged views and discussed how to make

UNICEF's social development collaborations in Myanmar more effective, as well as future plans for continued cooperation.

The meeting was attended by the director-general of the Foreign Economic Relations Department, senior officials of the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and representatives from the UNICEF office in Myanmar. — MNA



UNICEF Myanmar Resident Representative Mr Yasumasa Kimura calls on Union Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung yesterday.

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Election Commission

Announcement 42/2025

14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387ME

7 August 2025

Allowing Zomi National Party to register as political party

THE Union Election Commission has approved the Zomi National Party, with its headquarters located at 110, 4th floor (B), Aung Mingala Road, Kyaukmyaung Gyi Ward, Yangon Region, for registration as a political party under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law, effective from 7 August 2025. The registration number for the Zomi National Party is 59.

Sd/Than Soe

Chairman

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Election Commission

Announcement 43/2025

14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387ME

7 August 2025

Release of Pyithu Hluttaw Election Rules

THE Union Election Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar released the “Pyithu Hluttaw Election Rules” on 7 August 2025, 14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387 ME, with Notification 50/2025.

Sd/Than Soe

Chairman

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Election Commission

Announcement 44/2025

14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387ME

7 August 2025

Release of Amyotha Hluttaw Election Rules

THE Union Election Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar released the “Amyotha Hluttaw Election Rules” on 7 August 2025, 14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387 ME, with Notification 51/2025.

Sd/Than Soe

Chairman

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Election Commission

Announcement 45/2025

14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387ME

7 August 2025

Release of Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Rules

THE Union Election Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar released the “Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Rules” on 7 August 2025, 14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387 ME, with Notification 52/2025.

Sd/Than Soe

Chairman

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Election Commission

Notification 49/2025

14th Waxing of Wagoung 1387ME

7 August 2025

THE Union Election Commission has released the following rules, exercising the authority conferred by Section 26 of the Political Parties Registration Law.

1. These rules shall be called the Second Amendment to the Political Parties Registration Rules.

2. After Sub-rule (j) of the Political Parties Registration Rule 15, the following shall be added as sub-rule (k): -
(k) The commission finds out the voting fraud and unlawful actions in the election”

Sd/Than Soe

Chairman

Union Election Commission


Filming begins for new romance drama ‘Passionate Hatred’

THE opening ceremony for the filming of the new romantic drama “Passionate Hatred” was held on 6 August at the Kyaikkasan Pagoda in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region, according to reports.

The story was written by director Min Set Thit, and the script was developed by Ingyin Han. Director Min Set Thit will direct the film under the banner of Love+2 Production.

“This film is a romantic drama that will appeal to fans. I want to say in advance that it’s a film fans will be excited to watch,”

said director Min Set Thit. The cast includes Academy Award-winner Nay Win, May Mi Ko Ko, Academy Award-winner Melody, and many others. — ASH/MKKS



This image displays a poster for the film.

Myanmar, Egypt discuss agricultural development via videoconference

MYANMAR and Egypt discussed the development of the agricultural sector yesterday via videoconference. The discussion was attended by Mrs Aya Saad Mohamed Abdelkarim, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Myanmar and Director-General Dr Thanda Kyi from the Planning Department on behalf of the Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and the directors-general, along with officials of the Agriculture Department, Agricultural Mechanization Department, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and Fisheries Department.

The two sides discussed to implement agricultural cooperation between the two countries at the 8th Cairo Water Week to be held in Cairo, Egypt, from 12 to 16 October, including the signing of a MoU on agricultural cooperation between



The online discussion on agricultural development between Myanmar and Egypt in progress yesterday.

the two countries, export of fertilizer and pesticides, fruits and vegetables, potatoes, orange, beverages, and flavorings for processed foods from Egypt, the export of rice, groundnut oil, maize, coffee beans, tea, fish, and shrimp from Myanmar to Egypt, promoting government-to-government cooperation, increasing direct cooperation between private companies and businesspeople from both countries to promote trade, rising investment in mechanized farming systems, exchange of agricultural technologies, penetration of Myanmar’s rice into foreign markets, technical assistance (cultivation and cotton seeds) for the cotton and potato sectors, the trial cultivation of new varieties from Egypt in Myanmar and joint research between experts from both sides. — MNA/MKKS

FMGEA urges gold merchants to help combat fraud

FEDERATION of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association (FMGEA) has already notified that gold merchants are required to file a suspicious transaction report exceeding the set amount and suspicious activities to the Finance Intelligence Unit (FIU).

They need to inform the FIU immediately regarding transactions possibly linked to money laundering and financing of Terrorism. Failing to do so will result in legal action.

At present, the federation has been opening Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) courses.

Under the instruction of the gold market monitoring and steering subcommittee (Nay Pyi Taw), an inspection team (Yangon) comprising its members, YGEA, and the registration board of the respective departments undertook a surprise check on gold shops such as Shwe San Eain Gold Shop,



A gold shopkeeper displays a variety of gold ornaments for sale.

Thamadi Gold Shop and Thin Shwe Sin Diamond and Gold Shop in Lanmadaw Township, Kyauktada District, and Sein Nan Taw, Lucky and Three Eagle Jewellery in Latha Township on 28 July.

According to the directive of the subcommittee, the team checked on-ground whether the gold shops conduct transaction according to daily reference

price of the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee, they hold a valid licence or not, they abide by Notification 43/2021 of the Central Bank of Myanmar and they stock the gold to manipulate the market. Furthermore, a report will be done upon inspection findings on gold receipts, business licence and documents, YGEA stated.

The subcommittee also di-

rected Aung Satt Kyar Digital Scale and bill counter distribution (panda company), Shinpo digital gold scale trading (Pyae Sone Hein Group of Companies), Centra Digital Scale Trading (AD Mya Pan Wah Company) to comply with the rules during a meeting held at the Meeting Hall of the No 2 Mining Enterprise of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation on 3 July 2025.

Gold shops need to switch to a digital scale measurement system with 16.329325 grammes per tical of pure gold. Failure to comply with the rules will result in strict action. The Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee set the pure gold reference prices at K5.9 million per tical (16.329325 grammes) with 19.25 grammes of the density of gold at present.

On 12 June, the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association also requested owners of gold shops to adhere to the

instructions strictly. Otherwise, they will face legal actions for non-compliance during inspections.

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

Gold shops are required to obtain a mineral (gold) trading licence, a business licence granted by the respective municipal office, a precious gold trading registration and the relevant business licence for gold refineries, traders or gold transaction service providers. Licences can be sought through www.e-commerce.gov.mm.

Gold trading online, gold sales through the tally system and lottery system are prohibited. Gold shops are required to obtain licences and adhere to the reference prices to stabilize gold prices. The federation also expressed its appreciation to co-operation in combating illegal transactions, it stated. — NN/KK

MoHT to hold ASEAN assessor training

THE Ministry of Hotels and Tourism will open ASEAN National Assessor Training from 9 am to 4 pm on 25-28 August in order for participants to gain proficiency in demonstrating competences for programme assessment and acquire knowledge of quality assurance in the domestic hotel and tourism sector for continuous development.

This training is tailored to managers and supervisors with three years of working experience in the hotels and tourism sector, those who hold a valid tour guide or tourism

management basic certificate, and those trainers with more than one year of experience in hotels and tourism schools.

Those interested can enrol in the training at the Centre for Tourism Development located at 40/42, Bo Sun Pat Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon, by 22 August 2025, with an entrance fee of K100,000.

They need to provide a citizenship scrutiny card and a graduation certificate. They can enquire about details through the contact numbers at 01 8377559 and 09 427560681 of the centre. — NN/KK

CBM sells CNY1.4 million, THB1 million on 6 Aug

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) injected over 1.4 million yuan and one million baht into the financial market on 6 August after selling over US\$1.2 million into the edible oil importing companies and over \$590,500 to fuel oil importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 5 August that it would pump \$30 million into the fuel oil sector.

CBM sold over \$1.86 million purchased from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies, in addition to an injection of 1.38 million yuan into the market on the same day.

CBM announced on 4 August that it would sell 10 million yuan and 50 million baht to importers.

CBM also sold over \$1.08 million to edible oil importing companies and \$620,200 to fuel oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM also pumped over \$1.04 million into edible oil importing companies and over \$434,400 to fuel oil-importing



An exchanger counting greenbacks at the money exchange counter.

companies on 1 August.

CBM sold \$36.5 million purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis, in addition to the injection of \$8.8 million, 13.3 million baht, 10.5 million yuan and 500,000 rupees in July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$2.3 million to other commodities-importing companies as per its initial announcement of selling \$10 million.

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

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OPINION

Shape communities with compassion, sympathy and charity

B UDDHIST people observe a ceremony every year on the full moon day of Wagoung, mentioned in the Myanmar calendar, to mark the auspicious day of Metta. This day is dedicated to spreading loving-kindness to all living beings across the world, promoting peace of mind and harmonious living. Therefore, the auspicious day of Metta is considered one of the significant days in Buddhism.

This year, the full moon day of Wagoung in the Myanmar lunar calendar falls on 8 August. Historically, the Lord Buddha delivered the Metta Sutta to five hundred follower monks while residing at the Jatavana monastery in Savatthi of Majjima, now known as Sravasti in India. Prior to this occasion, the monks practised meditation in designated places – some under trees and others in caves. Facing difficulties and disturbances during their meditation, the Lord Buddha’s sermon helped them overcome these challenges and deepen their practice.

If so, the key point is that spreading loving-kindness to one another is the best path to living with peace of mind. This practice can help overcome challenges, end conflicts, stop hatred, eliminate hidden grudges and bitterness, and remove the masks of hostility. As a result, people around the world can reduce the risks of global war, discrimination, and injustice towards one another.

ageing. Therefore, everyone should embrace positive struggle to enhance their capacity while seeking the best way to live with peace of mind.

If so, the key point is that spreading loving-kindness to one another is the best path to living with peace of mind. This practice can help overcome challenges, end conflicts, stop hatred, eliminate hidden grudges and bitterness, and remove the masks of hostility. As a result, people around the world can reduce the risks of global war, discrimination, and injustice towards one another.

That is why everyone should recognize that the auspicious day of Metta, based on the Lord Buddha’s teachings on spreading compassion, is one of the best and most effective tools for creating peaceful and stable societies worldwide. Everyone should strive to build communities grounded in compassion, empathy, and charity which prioritizes the well-being of others so that all people can live with peace of mind. May all those who spread Metta, and all living beings, be free from enmity, suffering, and anxiety, and live happily.

V-Day parades: Remembering history, honouring peace and unity

By Thet Mon Tun

T HE year 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the victory over fascism in both Europe and Asia. Nazi Germany surrendered to the Allied forces on 8 May 1945 in Europe. The Japanese fascists unconditionally surrendered on 2 September 1945 in Asia, which marked the official end of the entire World War II.

The Russian Federation, formerly the Soviet Union, held the grand parade celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the Great Patriotic War on 9 May 2025 in Moscow for Russia’s victory over Nazi Germany in World War II. World War II in the European Theatre

officers who sacrificed their souls during World War II in bringing back world peace. In addition, these V-Day parades serve to remind the nations to bear a spirit of unity in rejecting any forms of expansionism, hegemonism, neocolonialism and domination in today’s global era.

Asian Theatre in the Anti-Fascist War

The victory over Japanese fascists in the Far Eastern Theatre (the Asian frontline), especially by the Chinese and their allies, played a crucial role in the fight against the Axis Powers in World War II.



ended on 8 May 1945, following the Soviet troops’ conquest of Berlin on 2 May.

Likewise, the People’s Republic of China schedules to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of Victory of the Chinese People’s War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and World Anti-Fascist War on 3 September 2025 in Beijing.

Commemorating the World War II V-Day military parades aims to honour humanity, peace and harmony of the world and to dedicate and pay high tribute to all the veterans, comrades and

Documents suggest that at least 27 million people of the Soviet Union died in World War II on the European front line, both in the fights against the Nazis and the civilian fatalities in collateral damage. What is more, the Soviet Union suffered the highest number of casualties of other nations in the European Theatre in World War II. That was in Europe.

In the Asian frontline, the Chinese contribution in the wartime deserves earnest recognition, and China was one of the significant players in the Allied victory in Asia.

At least 35 million Chinese

sacrificed their lives and souls in its War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression through the fights, collateral damages, famines and inhumane war crimes. History witnesses the most ferocious war crimes and humiliations (for instance, killings, massacres and rapes in Nanjing) committed by Japanese fascists against human dignity during World War II in Asia.

Battles in the Chinese territory were the bloodiest and longest among different theatres during the Second World War. The Chinese’s unwavering resistance against Japanese fascism for their national sovereignty within 14 years from 1931 to 1945 deserves respect and admiration. Only resilience, persistence and unity brought the world back to peace after the historic war.

Myanmar’s geostrategic location is vital in ending World War II

Myanmar also suffered aggression during World War II, and the people of Myanmar rose to fight against the fascists on 27 March 1945 on a nationwide scale. The day was primarily marked as Myanmar’s Resistance Day against Japanese fascists; then later became the Armed Forces Day of Myanmar, and the country commemorates annually on this day as the birth of its guardians – Myanmar’s Armed Forces (Tatmadaw).

Myanmar, a Southeast Asian country, is geo-strategically located at the junction between South Asia, East Asia and Southeast Asia. The country’s position of sitting at the southern end of the Himalayas mountain ranges, to the bank of the Indian Ocean, and its heartland served as the crucial course for military logistics and supply route of the Allied forces in assisting Chinese resistance against Japanese fascism, which drew the war outcomes ending

the fascism.

After Japanese forces occupied China’s seaports in 1937, the Chinese initiated construction of the Burma Road (the road linking Lashio in Myanmar to Kunming in China’s Yunnan Province). The road was designed to extend the supply line to the landlocked Yunnan with the mainland of Myanmar. Before Japanese forces cut off the Burma Road in 1942, it served as the primary course of military logistics to the interior of China from Yangon. Fuel, ammunition, and other military supplies from the Allied forces arriving in Yangon Port, then transported to Lashio by railway. Supplies were then transferred via the Burma Road (also known as the Lashio-Kunming Road), passing through Wanding, the China-Myanmar border gate.

Built in 1928 and once serving as the vital wartime lifeline, the Wanding Bridge continues its vital role in the bilateral trade corridor these days. Thus, the bridge still serves as an emblem of regional cooperation between Myanmar and China.



As a matter of fact, old British ancestors already noticed the potential of vital plots of connecting townships located in northern and northeast Myanmar, such as Bhamo, Lashio, Muse and Wanding, between Mandalay and Yangon with China at the very earliest, since colonial times.

When Japanese forces blockaded the Burma Road in 1942, Chinese and Allied forces created a bypass for the supply flow with the Ledo Road. Often overlooked in headlines and news, the forgotten Ledo Road played a crucial role in the China-Burma-India Theatre (the CBD) in the Second World War or the War Resistance against Japanese Aggression in Asia. Once a symbol of Allied forces’ unity, the road significantly influenced the fate and future of Asia.

Shared interests for peace

“Success was made possible only by the ability of men of all nations to work together. To maintain the peace, security and freedom for which all of us have fought,” said one of the World War II Archives.

Hence, the Allied forces’ resistance with unity and their resilient commitment to peace and mankind conquered wars, forces, barbarism and militarism in the Second World War. Togetherness, unity and standing shoulder to shoulder of the Allied forces or the Big Four brought back the world to peace.

Yet today, the need for such unity still remains more than ever. For safeguarding global peace, stability, and security, the major powers should continue to uphold mutual understanding and work together with shared responsibility.

Instead of adopting the political ideology of “There is neither such lasting friends nor enemies; but there is only permanent interest” which was frequently quoted by the Western world, people of all nations should embrace the following notion: “Friends should be permanent and interests should be shared,” which was said by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, for a shared future; to long live the great unity of the people of the world; and for a shared interests.

The Garden Beyond the Gate: Rethinking Youth Achievement in Myanmar

By KHIN MAUNG MYINT



A S dawn broke across Myanmar on 27 July, students, families, and teachers gathered at schools and examination centres to receive the long-awaited results of the 2025 matriculation examination. Out of 207,898 candidates, 99,924 passed, yielding a national pass rate of 48.06 per cent. For many, the day brought celebration. For others, quiet disappointment. But beneath the surface of these numbers lies a deeper story — one that challenges how we define success and how we support those who fall outside its conventional frame.

In a society where achievement is often measured by grades and distinctions, the term “non-achiever” has become a label too easily applied, and too rarely questioned. Yet for every student whose name didn’t appear on the pass list, there exists a reservoir of potential, unseen, unmeasured, and often misunderstood.

This is where mentors and life coaches become vital. They are not architects of ambition, but gardeners of growth. Their role is not to push youth towards a singular goal, but to help them discover their own compass. For those who didn’t pass, the options are not closed; they are simply different. Vocational training, creative arts, community engagement, and entrepreneurial exploration offer paths where academic metrics may have failed to capture true capability.

Mentors help reframe the narrative. “Underperforming” becomes “underexplored.” Life coaches guide young people through emotional terrain, teaching resilience not as endurance, but as graceful recovery. They celebrate micro-achievements: the courage to try again, the strength to speak up, the wisdom to reflect. These are not lesser victories; they are the foundations of lifelong growth.

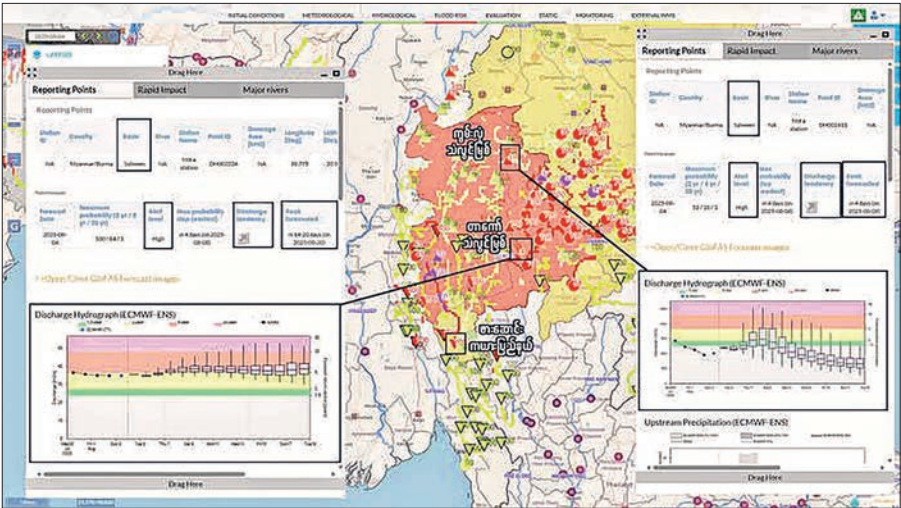
In earthquake-affected regions like Mandalay, where students faced additional challenges and retook exams in June, the resilience shown was extraordinary. Even in adversity, distinctions were earned, and spirits remained unbroken. This is a reminder that achievement is not always loud; it can be quiet, persistent, and deeply personal.

As Myanmar reflects on this year’s results, let us also reflect on the stories behind the scores. Let us honour the mentors who walk beside the youth, not ahead of them. And let us remember that the garden beyond the gate is vast, filled with paths that may not lead to trophies, but to transformation.

ARTICLE

NATIONAL

Meteorologist warns of heavy rain, flash floods through mid-monsoon



Pictures show extreme alerts, red and purple alerts in states and regions.

HEAVY rainfall is forecast in some areas until 31 August the end of the mid-monsoon season, and it may lead to flash floods, meteorologist U Win Naing warned.

According to the update from the global flood awareness and flood monitoring system on 4 August, the areas in the northern, southern and eastern Shan State, the Thanlwin River and

Inlay are still in the red alert level (high alert level) until 18 August.

A high rate of water flow was observed in the Thanlwin River, Kunlong, and Tarkaw reporting stations, while it was decreasing or stagnant in Toungoo District of the eastern Bago, and they would be in the red alert until 18 August. The flow from Inlay stopped in Pekhon, and it would be an extreme level alert (purple) until 18 August.

The seven-day weather forecast from 5 to 11 August indicates that there are no unusual weather events at sea and no storms in the South China Sea, so it could reduce the risk of river flooding and alert levels.

Scattered heavy rainfall and flash floods are expected to continue until 31 August, so the public is advised to be alert and observe the situation, he urged. — MT/ZN

Corrected JLPT certificates available from 8 Aug

JAPANESE Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) certificates, which were applied for correcting name spelling and date of birth on 1 December 2024 as the second batch, have now arrived back, so candidates can pick them as of 8 August, said the JLPT organizing committee, Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA).

Corrected certificates will be issued for Yangon candidates at Yangon's JLPT Centre located at Snow Garden Housing in Thingangyun Township, from 9:30 am to 4 pm as of 8 August, except for public holidays and Saturdays and Sundays, while Mandalay candidates can get it at MAJA Mandalay branch located on 68th Street between 26th Street and 27th Street in Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay, from 9:30 am to 4 pm as of 14 August.

Original ID and a copy are required, and certificates can be available within a year.

Candidates will need to make sure what they want to make is correct and further correction is not allowed, said MAJA. — MT/ZS



JLPT certificate samples.

SANDY MYINT LWIN

15 Aug

Inya Lake Garden

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE
Guest Singer
Dancers

LUCKY HAND BAND

Birthday Concert

Live at 7:00 PM

Sandy Myint Lwin

R.S.V.P - 09 255 61 7775, 09 255 61 7788

NO.37 (S), U TUN NYEAIN STREET, INYA LAKE HOTEL COMPOUND, MAYANGONE.

One Lady Show Birthday Concert to be held

RENOWNED vocalist Sandy Myint Lwin will present her One Lady Show Birthday Concert as a live music event on 15 August, starting at 7 pm at the Inya Lake Garden Hotel in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region.

According to Sandy Myint Lwin, “As it is customary for a birthday concert,

This image depicts a promotional poster for Sandy Myint Lwin's upcoming One Lady Show Birthday Concert.

there will be some duet performances. Several fellow vocalists who support me will be joining the show. I won't reveal who they are just yet. You'll find out on the night! There will also be a lucky draw for selected attendees, so I encourage everyone not to miss the evening of 15 August”.

Musical performances will be supported by the Lucky Hand Band, who will provide live accompaniment for Sandy Myint Lwin's singing throughout the evening. — ASH/KZL

‘Yokekha Khaunglaung’ drama series now streaming on Fortune TV

THE Myanmar television drama series titled ‘Yokekha Khaunglaung’ has been airing on Fortune TV since 7 August, according to actor Yan Kyaw, who appears in the series.

The script and storyline of the series were written by Htet Myat Zin Naing, and it is produced and directed by Nay Nyein and Ko Moe under the Aung Thu Phyto Film Production company.

“This series is currently being aired by Fortune TV. It's a drama on mystic power and black magic and falls under the horror genre,” said actor Yan Kyaw.

He continued, “I agreed to take part in this series because a group of young



This image showcases a poster for the drama series ‘Yokekha Khaunglaung’.

people, who deeply respect me, sincerely requested that I participate. It wasn't about money, as they weren't able to offer much. But since they were passionate and

investing their funds, I joined out of empathy. These youths are truly passionate about what they do. My role in the series isn't too big, but the character I play has

been well thought out. That's why I agreed to act in it. Also, since it's about mystic power and black magic, I found them interesting. Audiences generally enjoy ghost stories too, which made it worth taking part in. In this series, you'll see me playing the role of a master of mystic power,” he explained.

The cast includes Kaung Myat Moe, Doh Wu, Nayyaung Alin, Mone, Khaing Thin Oo, Haymarn Aung Aung, Zine Htet, Yan Kyaw, Ko Phyto Gyi, Ye Marn, Shwin Pyaw, Shwe Oh, San San Win, Myo Myo, Nay Phone Khant, May Thawtar Soe, Chit Chue Yamon, and Saung Hnin Phyu, among others. — ASH/KNN



Policymakers are struggling to reverse falling birthrates and regional depopulation. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Japanese population down record 900,000, 16th straight yr of decline

As of 2024, the population of Japanese nationals is 120,653,227.

THE population of Japanese nationals in 2024 fell by around 908,000 from a year earlier to 120,653,227, declining for the 16th straight year and the largest drop since the current survey began in 1968, government data showed Wednesday.

The latest figures come as policymakers continue to struggle to reverse falling birthrates and regional depopulation, and while anxiety over record foreign resident numbers spurs

some voters to turn to opposition parties touting slogans such as “Japanese First.”

As of 1 January 2025, the population including foreign residents was 124,330,690, a decrease of about 554,000, a demographics survey by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications showed.

Japan’s foreign resident population has reached a record 3,677,463, marking an increase of 354,089, or 10.65 per cent,

since 2013. Hokkaido experienced the largest rise in foreign residents at 19.57 per cent.

Approximately 85.77 per cent of these individuals are of working age, helping to address labor shortages caused by the declining native population. However, rising living costs and concerns over potential system abuse have led to increased support for parties like the Sanseito, which advocate for limiting foreign intake. — Kyodo

‘Titanic’ producer on why Matthew McConaughey did not get role in film

ACTOR Matthew McConaughey allegedly lost out on the role of Jack Dawson in ‘Titanic’ because he wouldn’t let go of his Southern accent, according to a memoir written by the film’s producer, Jon Landau, reported People.

McConaughey’s accent did not resonate with the film’s director, James Cameron, who told the actor, “That’s great, now let’s try it a different way,” according



Actor Matthew McConaughey allegedly lost out on the role of Jack Dawson in ‘Titanic’ because he wouldn’t let go of his Southern accent. PHOTO: ANI

to Landau’s book.

But McConaughey felt otherwise, telling Cameron, “No. That was pretty good. Thanks,” writes the producer.

“Let’s just say, that was it for McConaughey,” Landau wrote.

Finally, Jack was played by Leonardo DiCaprio, and it turned out to be an iconic role; however, McConaughey’s career was not affected.— ANI

Rare ‘Hobbit’ first edition auctioned for £43,000

A rare first edition of JRR Tolkien’s “The Hobbit” fetched £43,000 (\$57,000) at auction after being discovered during a house clearance in southwest England. This particular copy is one of only 1,500 original editions published in 1937, with only a few hundred believed to remain.

The auction house, Auctioneum, found the book on a bookcase in Bristol, and the bidding attracted global interest, driving the price up more than four times the initial estimate.

Caitlin Riley, a rare books specialist at Auctioneum, expressed excitement over the sale, highlighting the signifi-

cance of surviving copies from the initial print run as some of the most sought-after books in modern literature.

The book, bound in light green cloth and featuring rare black-and-white illustrations by Tolkien, was part of the family library of Hubert Priestley, a botanist associated with the University of Oxford, where Tolkien also worked.

“The Hobbit”, which has sold over 100 million copies worldwide, laid the foundation for Tolkien’s later work, “The Lord of the Rings”, and inspired a successful film franchise in the 2000s. — AFP



Fans wait for actors to arrive at the European premiere of “The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey” on 12 December 2012. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Auckland ignites with culture, creativity for month-long arts celebrations

AUCKLAND is alive with cultural energy this August, as Auckland Live, one of the nation’s largest performing arts platforms and a division of Auckland Council, unveils a dynamic program of events across the city.

With music, dance, theater, and film taking over iconic venues, residents and visitors in Auckland are embracing what has become one of the most anticipated annual celebrations on the city’s cultural calendar.

Among the offerings is the

New Zealand International Film Festival, currently lighting up the historic Civic Theatre. Running until 10 August the festival brings a variety of films from across the world to Auckland audiences ranging from dramas and documentaries to animated features and experimental shorts.

Meanwhile, live theater lovers are heading to the Bruce Mason Centre for Broadway musicals and productions running through 9 August. — Xinhua

ECONOMY
WORLD

Trump signs order imposing additional 25% tariff on Indian goods



This photograph taken on 11 January 2024 shows a crane loading a cargo container on a truck at the Adani Group owned Mundra Port in Mundra. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ AFP/FILE**

Prior to the executive order, Trump threatened to “substantially” raise tariffs on goods imported from India.

US President Donald Trump on Wednesday signed an executive order imposing an additional 25-per cent tariff on imports from India in response to the country’s purchases of Russian oil, according to a White House statement.

The order, effective 21 days after the announcement, will bring the combined tariffs imposed by the United States on Indian goods to 50 per cent.

Trump on Monday threatened to “substantially” raise tariffs on goods imported from India, citing India’s purchases of Russian oil. India’s Ministry

of External Affairs responded to Trump’s threat with a statement saying that “the targeting of India is unjustified and unreasonable” and that India’s oil imports are meant to “ensure predictable and affordable energy costs” for Indian consumers. India began importing from Russia because traditional supplies were diverted to Europe after the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and “the United States at that time actively encouraged such imports by India for strengthening global energy markets stability,” said the statement. — Xinhua

For Argentine farmers, Milei’s free-market reforms fall short

TWENTY months into Javier Milei’s presidency, Argentina’s farming community is urging him to intensify his free-market reforms.

Farmers like Ruben Artigues, who operates orchards in La Buena Moza, welcomed Milei’s election as a victory for free enterprise after years of protectionist policies.

However, they feel the progress has been insufficient, particularly regarding the multiple taxes that hinder competitiveness. Agricultural products accounted for 58 per cent of Argentina’s exports in 2024, making the sector vital for economic growth.

Milei had promised to reduce export taxes on key products like beef and soybeans, but the cuts announced recently fell short of expectations.

While some taxes were lowered, farmers like Artigues, who lost a significant portion of his harvest to a cold spell, consider these changes “insufficient”. He highlighted the

high shipping costs compared to competitors in neighbouring countries and the challenges posed by theft in orchards.

Despite Milei’s austerity measures aimed at reducing inflation and budget deficits, farmers are concerned about deteriorating infrastructure, which affects transportation. While some farmers support his policies, they emphasize the need for improved roads and railways to enhance production and market access. — AFP

Govt cuts Japan’s FY 2025 GDP growth outlook to 0.7% on US tariffs

JAPAN’S economy is projected to grow a real 0.7 per cent in the current fiscal year from April, revised down from an earlier estimate of 1.2 per cent, as higher US tariffs are expected to dampen exports and capital spending, the government said Thursday.

The latest forecast compiled by the Cabinet Office is based on a bilateral trade deal reached last month, under which the United States will impose a 15 per cent tariff on Japanese cars and other products, along with data for other

countries as of the end of July.

In its midyear report, the government revised down its fiscal 2025 export growth projection to 1.2 per cent from 3.6 per cent forecast in January, taking into account the impact of heftier US tariffs on Japan’s key auto and other industries.

Business investment is now projected to rise 1.8 per cent, downgraded from the previous estimate of 3.0 per cent growth, as companies are expected to be more cautious about expanding production capacity amid weaker export prospects. — Kyodo

S Korea’s current account surplus hits record high in June

SOUTH Korea’s current account surplus hit a record high in June thanks to strong demand for locally-made semiconductors and ships, and higher dividend income, central bank data showed Thursday.

Current account balance, the broadest measure of cross-border trade, logged a surplus of 14.27 billion US dollars in June, marking the highest-ever monthly figure, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK). The current account balance stayed in black for the 26th consecutive month since May 2023. Trade surplus for goods came to 13.16 billion dollars in June, higher than 10.66 billion dollars

in the previous month.

Export gained 2.3 per cent in June from a year earlier, rebounding from a reduction of 2.9 per cent in the prior month on the back of robust demand for chips and ships. Import added 0.7 per cent in June on a yearly basis after sliding 7.2 per cent in May. — Xinhua



A Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy meeting convenes in Tokyo on 7 August 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Samsung Electronics shares gain on Apple chip deal

SHARES of Samsung Electronics rose sharply in early trading Thursday following reports that the tech giant will manufacture Apple's next-generation chips at its US-based foundry plant, as per Pulse Korea. As of 9:15 am, Samsung was trading at 70,000 won (US\$50.45) on the Korea



Shares of Samsung Electronics rose sharply in early trading Thursday following reports that the tech giant will manufacture Apple's next-generation chips at its US-based foundry plant. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Exchange, up 1.74 per cent from the previous session, reclaiming the symbolic "70,000 club" status.

Investor sentiment was buoyed by news that Apple is strengthening its collaboration with Samsung and other partners as part of a broader investment expansion in the United States. Market watchers also suggested that Samsung could be a key beneficiary of US tariffs on semiconductor imports proposed by US President Donald Trump. — ANI

Siemens warns US tariffs causing investment caution

SIEMENS warned on Thursday that US tariffs were prompting its customers in key sectors to slow investment decisions, even as the German industrial giant reported forecast-beating quarterly profits.

The group booked net profits of 2.2 billion euros (\$2.6 billion) from April to June, up five per cent from a year earlier, as strong orders at its division that makes trains offset problems at its factory automation unit. Sales grew



Siemens's shares jumped over four per cent in Frankfurt after the results were released. PHOTO: POOL/AFP/FILE

by five per cent to 19.4 billion euros, and Siemens's shares jumped over four per cent in Frankfurt after the results were released. — AFP

DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Shandong Max Agro Co.,Ltd** have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "**Myanmar Max Agro Service Co.,Ltd**", to new distributor name "**Lucky Leaves Agriculture Co.,Ltd**". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Myanmar Max Agro Service Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Max Lambda 25	Lambda-cyhalothrin 2.5% EC	P2025-6628

Transferring Distributorship For Registered Pesticides

We, **Lionchem Pte. Ltd** would like to change the distributor of the following product, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar from **Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte.Ltd** to **Sunrise Agri-Science Co.,Ltd**. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from Seven to next two weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Reg. Type	Reg. No
1	Emacarb 150 EC	Emamectin Benzoate 30 g/l + Indoxacarb 120 g/l EC	Provisional	P2023-5510

Sunrise Agri-Science Co.,Ltd (Add: No 64, 5 floors, Yadanar Street, Kamayut (1) Qtr, Kamayut Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph no. 09-789505363, 09-401562282)

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(Open Tender Invitation)
(11 / 2025 – 2026)**

1. Open tenders are invited for service of the following operations in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr No.	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	OS-001 (25-26)CAP (Retender)	24" MOGE Offshore Domestic Gas Pipeline Free Span Survey and Rectification	Kyats

2. Tender Document will be available at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Office No.(44), Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing from 8th August, 2025.

3. Tender Proposals must be submitted (in person) to the Offshore Oil and Gas Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Office No.(44), Nay Pyi Taw not later than the Tender Closing Date and Time on 22nd August, 2025 (13:30 Hr).

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Phone: 067-3411331

Advertise
with us/ Hotline:  **09 255597511**
09 454237515

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (529W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (529W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V H CYGNUS VOY.NO. (0UVEQS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V H CYGNUS VOY.NO. (0UVEQS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2518S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2518S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

UAE President pays
official visit to Russia

The Kremlin's materials indicate that Russia and the UAE have aligned positions on most current global and regional issues.



President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan will begin an official visit to the Russian Federation on Thursday.
PHOTO: ANI

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin and UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan will discuss the situation in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict zone, according to materials for the meeting of the two leaders released by the Kremlin on Thursday.

The leaders also plan to discuss economic cooperation between Russia and the UAE, focusing on the implementation of specific projects, the materials said, adding that the positions of Russia and the UAE coincide on most of the current issues on the global and regional agendas.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his UAE counterpart Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan last met in October 2024, when the UAE president last visited Moscow. — SPUTNIK

India, Russia sign protocol to deepen
industrial and technological cooperation

THE 11th Session of the India-Russia Working Group on Modernisation and Industrial Cooperation was held in New Delhi on Wednesday under the framework of the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said in an official release.

From the Indian side, the session at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, was co-chaired by the Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Amardeep Singh Bhatia, and from the Russian side by Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation, Alexey Gruzdev.

According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the meeting reviewed the progress made since the 10th session and provided a platform to strengthen cooperation across key sectors. Discussions included updates from the sub-groups on modernisation, mining, fertilizers, and railway transport, as well as emerging areas of collaboration. — ANI

Britain marks 80th A-bomb anniv with
church service, film screening

COMMEMORATION events were held in British cities on Wednesday to mark the 80th anniversary of the US atomic bombing of Hiroshima, ranging from quiet memorials to film

screenings. At Coventry Cathedral in central England, roughly 300 people mourned those killed in the Japanese city on 6 August 1945, and in Nagasaki just three days later.

The participants also made origami paper cranes, a symbolic gesture organizers say was meant to “pray the world may be rid of the threat of nuclear war for all time”. — Kyodo

Spain shelves plans for
US-made F-35 fighter jet
“indefinitely”: Report

SPAIN has likely decided to “indefinitely” suspend its plans to purchase the United States-made fifth-generation stealth F-35 fighter aircraft, according to a report by Politico.

As per Politico’s report citing local Spanish media sources, preliminary contacts for the acquisition of the fifth-generation American stealth jets have been halted. Instead, the Spanish government is now looking at European options, such as the Eurofighter Typhoon and the upcoming Future Combat Air System (FCAS).

According to Politico, the decision is likely to be a “major

setback” to Lockheed Martin, the US defence giant, as Spain had earlier shown interest in the F-35 programme.

In 2017, Madrid issued a non-binding request for information about the aircraft. The country’s 2023 budget had also set aside over Six billion euros for replacing both navy and air force aircraft.

Spain’s Navy plans to retire its Harrier AV8B fighters by 2030 and had considered replacing them with the F-35B variant, which is capable of short take-off and vertical landing. This version is already in service with the United States and Italy. — ANI

Lebanon’s Hezbollah
rejects cabinet
decision to disarm it

HEZBOLLAH said Wednesday that it would treat a Lebanese government decision to disarm the militant group “as if it did not exist”, accusing cabinet of committing a “grave sin”.

On 5 August 2025, Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam announced a government decision to disarm Hezbollah, prompting the militant group to reject the move, calling it a “grave sin”.

Hezbollah accused the cabinet of undermining Lebanon’s sovereignty and claimed the decision serves Israeli interests,

leaving Lebanon vulnerable. The government’s plan, developed under US pressure, aims to restrict weapons to government forces by year-end and will be discussed in an upcoming cabinet meeting.

This unprecedented decision follows a November cease-fire aimed at ending hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah, which had escalated into a two-month war. Despite the truce, Israel continues airstrikes on Hezbollah targets, further complicating the situation. — AFP



This handout photo released by the Lebanese presidency on 5 August 2025 shows Prime Minister Nawaf Salam speaking to the press after a cabinet session to discuss the issue of disarming Hezbollah. PHOTO: LEBANESE PRESIDENCY/AFP

Yangon Galacticos crowned Esports World Cup champions, return to hero’s welcome

YANGON Galacticos, the Myanmar team that claimed the championship title at the 2025 Esports World Cup, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 25 July to 3 August, returned to Yangon yesterday afternoon to a hero’s welcome.

The triumphant athletes, who brought pride and honour to the nation, were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers, officials from the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the President of the Myanmar Esports Federation, students, and large crowds of enthusiastic fans.



The 2025 Esports World Cup Champion, Yangon Galacticos, being warmly welcomed back at Yangon International Airport. **PHOTO: KANU**

Representing Myanmar for the first time at the world-class Esports World Cup, Yangon Galacticos competed in a tournament featuring more than 25 esports categories. In the Grand

Final, held on 3 August, the team secured victory over strong opponents from China and Mongolia, winning each match with top scores and claiming the world champion title, along with a cash prize of US\$550,000.

The 2025 Esports World Cup in Riyadh was a prestigious international event featuring over 1,000 elite teams and 5,000 professional players from more than 100 countries. Myanmar’s Yangon Galacticos competed against 24 top-tier teams from 16 nations, including the host country Saudi Arabia, as well as Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, India, China, South Korea, Japan, Türkiye, Egypt, and Brazil, ultimately claiming the

world title with distinction.

Additionally, Mythic SEAL, another team from Myanmar, reached the quarter-finals of the MLBB MSC Esports World Cup 2025, earning a US\$100,000 prize. Similarly, Terror Queen, a female team representing Myanmar, secured third place in the Mobile Legends: Bang Bang – Women’s Invitational (MWI) category and received US\$50,000 in prize money.

This marks the first time that a Myanmar team has won a world championship title in a global esports tournament, with Yangon Galacticos achieving this remarkable milestone against international professional teams.

— Nyein Thu (MNA)/KZL

Myanmar women edge past Australia in AFF Championship opener

MYANMAR’S national women’s football team earned a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Australia in their opening Group B match of the 2025 ASEAN Women’s Championship held on 6 August in Vietnam.

Despite being placed in a tough group, Myanmar secured a crucial win against Australia, one of the key contenders for a semi-final berth, their chances of advancing to the next round. Notably, Australia is participating with its U-23 squad rather than the senior national team.

Myanmar’s head coach Yuki Tetsuro fielded players including Khin Mo Mo Htun, Yupa Khine, San Thaw Thaw, and Win

Theingi Tun in the starting lineup.

The match saw aggressive play from both teams from the beginning, with several chances exchanged. In 32 minutes, Myanmar opened the scoring when a corner clearance landed in the path of May Thet Mon Myint, who struck from distance.

Myanmar extended their lead early in the second half when

captain Win Theingi Tun capitalized on an error by the Australian goalkeeper. Australia pushed forward to narrow the gap and succeeded in 84 minutes with a goal from Holly.

Myanmar managed to maintain their lead in the closing stages, securing three valuable points. Defender May Thet Mon Myint was named player of the match for her opening goal and strong defensive performance.

Myanmar is in Group B alongside defending champions the Philippines, Australia and Timor-Leste.

Their next match is sched-

uled for 10 August against Timor-Leste. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Myanmar and Australia women’s teams in action during their AFF Women’s Championship Group B clash in Vietnam. **PHOTO: MFF**

Myanmar dragon boat team heads to 2025 World Games in China

A 17-member Myanmar dragon boat team departed from Yangon International Airport on 6 August to compete in the Dragon Boat competitions of the 2025 World Games, to be held in Chengdu, China, from 7 to 17 August.

The delegation is led by U Thaung Htaik Min, President of the Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation and Myanmar Swimming Federation, along with General Secretary U Thet Lwin, male and female coaches, six male athletes, and six female athletes.

The team is set to compete in the 200-metre, 500-metre, and 2,000-metre events during the competition. — Arkar Lin/KZL



The Myanmar dragon boat team is seen before departing for China.



Russia, US agree to hold Putin-Trump meeting in coming days: Putin’s aide

Next week is set as a benchmark for the meeting, but the exact duration of preparations is uncertain.

RUSSIA and the United States have agreed on a meeting between Presidents Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump in the coming days, with preparations for the summit now underway, according to Russian Presidential aide Yuri Ushakov.

“At the suggestion of the American side, an agreement has been reached in principle for a bilateral high-level meeting in the coming days, specifically a meeting between Presidents Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump,” Yuri Ushakov said.

“Now, together with our American colleagues, we are beginning to work on the specifics,” Ushakov added.

The location for the meeting between Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump has been agreed upon, and the Kremlin will provide further details later, Yuri Ushakov said.

Next week is designated as benchmark for Putin-Trump meeting, but it is difficult to say how many days preparations will take, Ushakov added.

— SPUTNIK



This combination of pictures created on 30 March 2025 shows US President Donald Trump at the White House on 24 March 2025, in Washington, DC and Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow on 18 March 2025. PHOTO: BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI AND MAXIM SHEMETOV / AFP / FILE

Thailand and Cambodia agree to extend peace pact

THAILAND and Cambodia agreed Thursday to extend a ceasefire deal that followed five days of deadly hostilities along their border last month. At least 43 people were killed in the conflict that ended last Tuesday, after a long-standing



Thai delegates led by Deputy Defence Minister Natthaphon Narkphanit (5th-R), Malaysian Home Minister Saifuddin Nasution Ismail (C) and Cambodian delegates led by Defence Minister General Tea Seiha (5th-L), pose for a group photo ahead of the Extraordinary General Border Committee (GBC) to discuss their border dispute between Thailand and Cambodia, in Kuala Lumpur on 7 August 2025. PHOTO: HASNOOR HUSSAIN / POOL / AFP

dispute over border temples boiled over into violence.

A truce was brokered by Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim — chair of the ASEAN regional bloc — after cajoling by US President Donald Trump and a team of Chinese mediators.

The deal dictated a ceasefire, followed by a meeting of rival regional commanders, before defence officials held three days of talks in Kuala Lumpur that concluded with a joint statement on Thursday.

“Both sides agree to a ceasefire involving all types of weapons, including attacks on civilians and civilian objects and military objectives of either side, in all cases and all areas,” it said.

— AFP

ACCESS TO ADVANCED AI TOOLS

US government gets a year of ChatGPT Enterprise for \$1

OpenAI is allowing the US government to use a special version of ChatGPT for businesses for just \$1 a year. This will help federal workers solve problems faster. OpenAI is also working with the military and other countries to improve AI infrastructure and services.

OpenAI announced it will provide the US government access to a business version of ChatGPT for just \$1 a year, enabling federal workers to utilize advanced AI tools.

This partnership, in collaboration with the General

Services Administration, aims to enhance problem-solving efficiency.

The ChatGPT Enterprise will not use government data for training.

Earlier, OpenAI secured a \$200 million contract with the US Department of Defense to implement generative AI for military operations, including health-care and cyber defense.

Additionally, OpenAI launched an initiative to assist countries in building their AI infrastructure, partnering with the US government. — AFP