

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

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.



NATIONAL

PAGE 6



YR Chief Minister attends traditional Kayin thread-tying ceremony

BUSINESS

PAGE 11



Fuel prices dip slightly in week ending 21 Aug



This photo showcases the opening ceremony of the Road Safety Education (ToT) Training on 14 August 2025.

MRCS, GRC launch Road Safety Education ToT Training

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and the German Red Cross (GRC) jointly launched a Road Safety Education (ToT) training course on 14 August at the Yangon International Hotel in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, which lasted for two days from 14 to 15 August, according to the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

A total of 32 Red Cross volunteers from various townships in Yangon Region attended the training, the opening ceremony of which was graced by MRCS President Dr Myo Nyunt, together with officials from the Yangon Region Red Cross Supervisory Committee, U Htein Lin, Commander of the Yangon Region Red Cross Brigade, Ms Celine Charbel from the German Red Cross Society, directors and officials, representatives of No 43 Traffic Police Task Force in Dagon Township, and trainees.

— ASH/TH

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NATIONAL

Without unity and solidarity, no economic system can succeed

- ❖ Without our unity and solidarity, no economic system can succeed.
- ❖ No political system can lead effectively without stability and strength.
- ❖ No social system can guarantee lasting peace and happiness.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening of the Forum on Myanmar Beyond 2025: Challenges and Opportunities in a Multipolar World held on 21 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.

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Saturday 16 August 2025)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 17 August 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Kayah and northern Shan states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Magway, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin and Mon states. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayah, 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: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 11-13 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet off and along the Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Mon and Rakhine states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 August 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 August 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

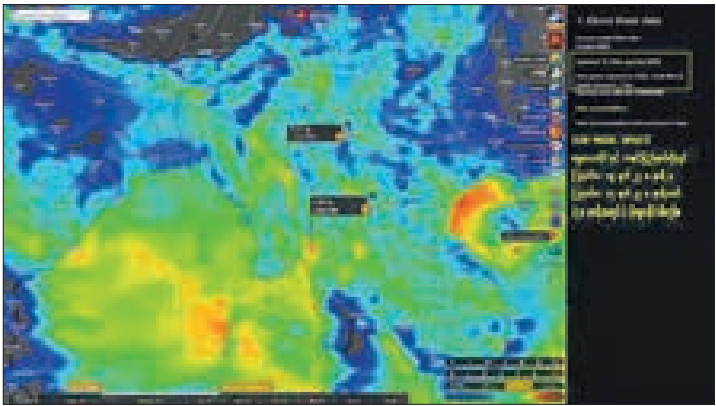
FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 August 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Heavy rain to persist until 17 Aug due to LPA

DUE to the low-pressure area, it may rain heavily from 8 pm on 15 August until 17 August, said meteorologist U Win Naing.

The low-pressure area formed over the Bay of Bengal has already entered the inland region of India at 8 pm on 15 August, and the next low-pressure area formed over the South China Sea will continue in the sea, according to the Windy app, Icon model.

According to this forecast, heavy rainfall is expected in Mandalay Region and Kayin State starting from 8 pm on 15 August to 8 pm on 17 August (within 48 hours). He said it may rain heavily



Weather forecast on 15 August 2025.

in Mandalay, PyinOoLwin, TadaU, Myitnge, Myittha, Kyaukse, Wundwin and Thedaw, Thazi, Pyawbwe, Yamethin and Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Moderate rainfall is expected in the rest regions and states, and rainfall may be around 1.2 inches and below three inches within 24 hours, he said. — MT/ZS

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 7:30 am MST on 16 August 2025)

ACCORDING to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about two feet above its danger level. It may fall about three inches during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

It especially alerts the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Madauk to stay away from the flood-prone areas. — DMH

Flood Warning

(Issued at 7 am MST on 16 August 2025)

ACCORDING to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Mae Sai stream at Tachilek (Lwetawkham Village) is observed as about 0.5 foot below its danger level. It may exceed above its danger level during the next six hours.

It especially alerts the people who settle near the stream banks and low-lying areas in Tachilek Township, to take precautionary measure and to stay away from the flood-prone areas in time if the water level will rise. — DMH

Bay of Bengal Condition

Issued at 4 pm MST on 16 August 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, a low-pressure area may form over Northwest and adjoining Westcentral Bay of Bengal on 18 August 2025. — 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)

MoFA Union Minister holds separate talks with Cambodian DPM & FM, Lao FM



DURING the visit to Anning, China, to attend the 10th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers’ Meeting and related meeting, U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar held meetings with Mr Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Union Minister U Than Swe and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Prak Sokhonn meet in Anning, China, on 14 August 2025.

of Cambodia on the evening of 14 August 2025 and Mr Thongsavanh Phomvihane, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR on the afternoon of 15 August 2025, separately.

During respective meetings, both sides discussed matters relating to further consolidation of existing friendship and promotion of bilateral co-operation.

The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe arrived back from Anning, China, on the afternoon of 16 August 2025 after attending the 10th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers’ Meeting. — MNA

Union ministers inspect machinery at Inngon Agricultural Machinery Factory

UNION Ministers U Min Naung, U Ko Ko Lwin and Dr Charlie Than attended the demonstration of the use of machinery manufactured by the Agricultural Mechanization Department in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the inspection, the Union ministers emphasized the need to produce farm machinery and hand over the technology to MSMEs, as well as the distribution of spare parts for the machinery in the market.

The farming machine produced by Myanmar Agricultural Machinery Factory (Inngon) can grow per acre within 1.5

hours and 1 hour and 45 minutes.

The production of farm machinery intends to offer affordable prices for the farmers, widely used after the technology is approved in the industry and handed over to the MSMEs in different regions and states. — MNA/KTZH

Union Ministers U Min Naung, U Ko Ko Lwin and Dr Charlie Than observe the demonstration of the use of a rice transplanter manufactured by the Agricultural Mechanization Department in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



NATIONAL

Constituencies designated for the 2025 multiparty democratic general election for the Pyithu Hluttaw (the First-Past-the-Post System)

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

No	Constituency	Areas in Constituency	Number of Hluttaw Representatives to be elected
Chin State			
33	Tiddim Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Tiddim Town-ship	1
34	Tonzang Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Tonzang Town-ship	1
35	Paletwa Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Paletwa Town-ship	1
36	Falam Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Falam Town-ship	1
37	Matupi Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Matupi Town-ship	1
38	Kanpetlet Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kanpetlet Township	1
39	Mindat Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Mindat Town-ship	1
40	Thantlang Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Thantlang Township	1
41	Haka Township Pyithu Hlut-taw Constituency	An entire Haka Township	1
Sagaing Region			
42	Leshi Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Leshi Town-ship	1
43	Lahe Township Pyithu Hlut-taw Constituency	An entire Lahe Township	1
44	Nanyun Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Nanyun Town-ship	1
45	Kalay Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kalay Town-ship	1
46	Kalewa Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kalewa Town-ship	1
47	Mingin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Mingin Town-ship	1
48	Katha Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Katha Town-ship	1
49	Htigyaing Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Htigyaing Township	1
50	Bamauk Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Bamauk Town-ship	1
51	Indaw Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Indaw Town-ship	1
52	Kawlin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kawlin Town-ship	1
53	Wuntho Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Wuntho Town-ship	1
54	Pinlebu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Pinlebu Town-ship	1
55	Kanbalu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kanbalu Town-ship	1
56	Kyunhla Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kyunhla Town-ship	1
57	Khamti Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Khamti Town-ship	1
58	Sagaing Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Sagaing Town-ship	1
59	Myinmu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Myinmu Town-ship	1
60	Myaung Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Myaung Town-ship	1

No	Constituency	Areas in Constituency	Number of Hluttaw Representatives to be elected
61	Tamu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Tamu Town-ship	1
62	ChaungU Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire ChaungU Township	1
63	Budalin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Budalin Town-ship	1
64	Monywa Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Monywa Town-ship	1
65	Ayadaw Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Ayadaw Town-ship	1
66	Phaungpyin Township Py-ithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Phaungpyin Township	1
67	Mawlaik Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Mawlaik Town-ship	1
68	Kani Township Pyithu Hlut-taw Constituency	An entire Kani Township	1
69	Salingyi Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Salingyi Town-ship	1
70	Pale Township Pyithu Hlut-taw Constituency	An entire Pale Township	1
71	Yinmabin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Yinmabin Township	1
72	Dabayin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Dabayin Town-ship	1
73	Taze Township Pyithu Hlut-taw Constituency	An entire Taze Township	1
74	YeU Township Pyithu Hlut-taw Constituency	An entire YeU Township	1
75	KhinU Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire KhinU Town-ship	1
76	Shwebo Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Shwebo Town-ship	1
77	Wetlet Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Wetlet Town-ship	1
78	Homalin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Homalin Town-ship	1
Taninthayi Region			
79	Kawthoung Township Py-ithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kawthoung Township	1
80	Dawei Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Dawei Town-ship	1
81	Yebyu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Yebyu Town-ship	1
82	Launglon Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Launglon Township	1
83	Thayetchaung Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constitu-ency	An entire Thayetchaung Township	1
84	Bokpyin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Bokpyin Town-ship	1
85	Kyunsu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Kyunsu Town-ship	1
86	Taninthayi Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Taninthayi Township	1
87	Palaw Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Palaw Town-ship	1
88	Myeik Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency	An entire Myeik Town-ship	1

TO BE CONTINUED

Constituencies designated for the 2025 multiparty democratic general election for the Amyotha Hluttaw (the Proportional Representation System)

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

No	Constituency	Areas in Constituency	Number of Hluttaw Representatives to be elected
Yangon Region Amyotha Hluttaw (the Proportional Representation System)			
19	Constituency 1	Entire Taikkyi, Mingaladon, Hmawby, Hlegu and Insein districts	2
20	Constituency 2	Entire Twantay, Thanlyin and Dagon Myothit districts	2
21	Constituency 3	Entire Kamayut, Kyauktada, Botahtaung, Mayangon, Thingangyun and Ahlon districts	2
Shan State Amyotha Hluttaw (the Proportional Representation System)			
22	Constituency 1	Entire Kalaw, Taunggyi, Namhsan, Mongshu, Langkho and Loikem districts	2

No	Constituency	Areas in Constituency	Number of Hluttaw Representatives to be elected
23	Constituency 2	Entire Kyaukme, Kutkai, Tangyan, Muse, Mongmit and Lashio districts	2
24	Constituency 3	Entire Kengtung, Tachilek, Monghsat, Mongton, Mongyawng, Mongyang and Mongla districts	2
Ayeyawady Region Amyotha Hluttaw (the Proportional Representation System)			
25	Constituency 1	Entire Kyonpyaw, Pathein, Myaungmya and Labutta districts	3
26	Constituency 2	Entire Pyapon, Maubin, Myanaung and Hinthada districts	3

Constituencies designated for the 2025 multiparty democratic general election for the Amyotha Hluttaw (the First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) System)

No	Constituency	Areas in Constituency	Number of Hluttaw Representatives to be elected
Kachin State Amyotha Hluttaw (the First-Past-The-Post System)			
1	Constituency 1	An entire PutaO District	1
2	Constituency 2	An entire Bhamo District	1
3	Constituency 3	An entire Mohnyin District	1
4	Constituency 4	An entire Tanai District	1
5	Constituency 5	An entire Chipwe District and Waingmaw Township	1
6	Constituency 6	Myitkyina and Ingyanyan townships	1
Kayah State Amyotha Hluttaw (the First-Past-The-Post System)			
7	Constituency 1	Loikaw	1
8	Constituency 2	Bawlake	1
9	Constituency 3	Dimawhso	1
10	Constituency 4	Prusho	1
11	Constituency 5	Pasawng	1
12	Constituency 6	Meisei and Shadaw townships	1
Kayin State Amyotha Hluttaw (the First-Past-The-Post System)			
13	Constituency 1	Kawkareik Township	1
14	Constituency 2	Kyain-Seikkyi Township	1
15	Constituency 3	Hlaingbwe Township	1
16	Constituency 4	Hpa-an Township	1
17	Constituency 5	Myawady Township	1
18	Constituency 6	Thandaunggyi and Papun townships	1
Chin State Amyotha Hluttaw (the First-Past-The-Post System)			
19	Constituency 1	An entire Tiddim District	1
20	Constituency 2	An entire Paletwa District	1
21	Constituency 3	An entire Falam District	1

No	Constituency	Areas in Constituency	Number of Hluttaw Representatives to be elected
22	Constituency 4	An entire Matupi District	1
23	Constituency 5	An entire Mindat District	1
24	Constituency 6	An entire Haka District	1
Sagaing Region Amyotha Hluttaw (the First-Past-The-Post System)			
25	Constituency 1	Naga Self-Administered Zone	1
26	Constituency 2	An entire Khamti, Homalin, Mawlaik, and Tamu districts	1
27	Constituency 3	Entire Kalay and Yinmabin districts	1
28	Constituency 4	Entire Monywa and Sagaing districts	1
29	Constituency 5	Entire Shwebo and YeU districts	1
30	Constituency 6	Entire Katha, Kawlin and Kanbalu districts	1
Taninthayi Region Amyotha Hluttaw (the First-Past-The-Post System)			
31	Constituency 1	An entire Kawthoung District	1
32	Constituency 2	Dawei and Thayetchaung townships	1
33	Constituency 3	Yephyu and Launglon townships	1
34	Constituency 4	An entire Bokpyin District	1
35	Constituency 5	Palaw and Myeik townships	1
36	Constituency 6	Kyunsu and Taninthayi townships	1

TO BE CONTINUED

NATIONAL

Weekly Roundup

12 August

State funeral service held

Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla attended the State funeral service of the late Pro Tem President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Myint Swe at Nyein Aye resthouse of the Defence Service General Hospital in Nay Pyi Taw and the Tatmadaw Military Cemetery (Nay Pyi Taw).

NDSC amends Union Seal Law

The National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar enacted the Amendment to the Union Seal Law as Law No 2/2025 of the State Defence and Security Council under Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the

Union of Myanmar on 11 August.

13 August

Tightening security for successful elections

The State Security and Peace Commission held its meeting, with an address by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

16 August

UEC announces constituencies for 2025 general election

The Union Election Commission has officially designated constituencies for the 2025 multiparty democracy general election through four notifications dated 15 August 2025. Announcement 50/2025 speci-

fies Pyithu Hluttaw constituencies, Announcement 51/2025 stipulates Amyotha Hluttaw constituencies, Announcement 52/2025 provides State and Region Hluttaw constituencies, and Announcement 53/2025 designates State and Region Hluttaw ethnic constituencies.

According to the announcements, the election will be held under a combination of First-Past-The-Post (FPTP), Proportional Representation (PR), and Mixed-Member Proportional (MMP) systems. The Pyithu Hluttaw will have 330 FPTP constituencies. The Amyotha Hluttaw will have 84 FPTP constituencies and 26 PR constituencies, totalling 110. The State and Region Hluttaws will have 322 FPTP and 42 PR constituencies, totalling 364, while ethnic constituencies for State and Region Hluttaws will total 29. — GNLM/TTA

YR Chief Minister attends traditional Kayin thread-tying ceremony

THE traditional Kayin white thread-tying ceremony (Wag-oung month) was held at 9 am yesterday at the Union Hall of the National Races Village in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region.

The ceremony was opened by U Saw Tun Aung Myint, Honorary Patron of the Kayin Literature and Culture Committee (Central) and Leader of the Central Advisory Body of the National Defence and Security Council, together with Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Pyae Sone Lin, Deputy Minister for Ethnic Affairs U Zaw Aye Maung, Brig-Gen Saw Sunny from the Mingaladon Air Base, and Yangon Region Minister for Ethnic Affairs U Saw Jacob Htoo, by beating nine frog drums while Kayin youths blew buffalo horns.

Afterwards, U Saw Tun Aung Myint delivered a speech highlighting the importance of



The traditional Kayin white thread-tying festival celebrated at the Union Hall of National Races Village in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, in progress yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT (MNA)**

preserving Kayin cultural heritage in harmony with an honest, peaceful, and inclusive way of life rooted in love, justice, hospitality, and patience.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein then gave an opening address, followed by an explanation of the Kayin white thread-tying tradition by

the Yangon Region Minister for Ethnic Affairs. Next, the Kayin ethnic troupe performed traditional cultural dances.

U Saw Tun Aung Myint and

his wife, the Yangon Region chief minister and his wife, the Command and his wife, the deputy minister, regional ministers and their wives, departmental officials, and members of the Kayin ethnic troupe were presented with white threads by Kayin grandparents and youths.

On behalf of the Yangon Region Government, the Honorary Patron of the Kayin Literature and Culture Committee (Central), the Yangon Region chief minister, and the Yangon Command commander donated K15 million to the Kayin ethnic youths who performed.

The ceremony continued with traditional Kayin dances by ethnic youths, a “Unity” song by the Union National Races Village Cultural Group, a cultural dance performance by Hlegu Education Degree College, and a fashion show featuring traditional Kayin clothing from both past and present. — Zaw Min Latt (MNA)/MKKS

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NATIONAL

MoI Deputy Minister meets teachers, students at Nawnghkio BEHS 1

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Ye Tint met with teachers and students at the No 1 BEHS in Nawnghkio township yesterday.

Speaking at the event, the Deputy minister highlighted the role of education for the development and stability of a nation, special emphasis of the government being placed on education and health sectors, guidance of the Head of the State to impart not only proper education but also essence of the education for knowledge and consideration to the students, and the need to practice them to be reliable ones

with five essential capacities for the country.

He continued that the youths also should raise reading habits for their knowledge, follow the rules, avoid drugs, and talked about the arrangements of the government to hold multiparty democratic general election, participation of teachers and youths in holding the election and uncovering of those who disrupt the election.

He handed over the books donated by the ministry and sports gear donated by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs to the township education officer.



Deputy Minister U Ye Tint delivers a speech at the hand over event of fiction and non-fiction books donated by Information Ministry and sports gear donated by Sports and Youth Affairs Ministry in Nawnghkio yesterday.

He inspected the IPRD office, MRTV and re-transmission station of Nawnghkio.

During the meeting with the staff of the IPRD Office in

PyinOoLwin district, the deputy minister emphasized the need to perform duty in pursuit of ethics and participate in preparation for the upcoming general elec-

tion.

He inspected the PyinOoLwin MRTV retransmission station and met with the staff. — MNA/KTZH

Chinese Embassy donates school supplies to Tachilek Chinese temple, language school



The donation event of school supplies by the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar for the Tahua Chinese Temple, addressed by Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia (R).

THE Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar donated computers, backpacks, briefcases and cash to the Tahua Chinese Temple and Chinese Language School in Tachilek Township in eastern Shan State on 15 August.

A delegation led by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia toured the Chinese tem-

ple and observed the teaching situation and historical archives of the Tahua Chinese Temple and signed the temple's distinguished guest book. The delegation led by the Ambassador handed over 300 backpacks to students, 200 briefcases to teachers and 20 computers for school use.

Moreover, the Chinese am-

bassador donated cash to the Guanyin temple inside the compound.

The chairman of the Tahua Chinese Temple, teachers and students welcomed the Chinese delegation and delivered an appreciation speech for the contributions of school supplies. The school hosted a lunch for the delegation. — ASH/KK

Two-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K1.316B

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade are continued effectively by the law.

On 14 August, the combined teams impounded industrial materials valued at K134.036 million without official documents from five containers at the Thilawa Port, the materials for gold mining valued at K210.66 million at the Yadanabon bridge combined checkpoint, and two trucks (approximately K45 million) carrying illegal teaks worth K2.208 million in the Aungmingala highway bus terminal in Mingaladon Township. The action was conducted under Customs procedures and the Forest Law.

Additionally, on 14 and 15 August, the joint on-duty teams

seized illegal teaks and timbers worth K1.987 million in Toungoo district, foodstuffs, consumer goods and industrial materials worth K21.854 million without official documents from two buses (approximately K140 million) at the Nyaungkhashay x-ray station, a Nissan Diesel truck (estimated value of K35 million) carrying consumer goods valued at K725.302 million without official documents near Thayagon village in Hpa-an Township and five unregistered vehicles and 35 unregistered motorbikes. The action was conducted under Customs procedures and the related laws.

The Steering Committee reported 17 arrests on 14 and 15 August, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K1.316 billion. — MNA/MKKS

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



Combat cyber crimes under the Cyber Security Law

THE Cyber Security Law, enacted on 30 July 2025, is a crucial piece of legislation for today’s digital society. With over two decades of growth in Myanmar’s information and communications sector, the law brings attention to key issues that the public should be mindful of when using social networks. Hence, all users of information and communication technologies understand and comply with the provisions outlined in this law.

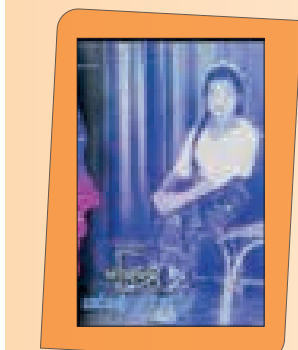
The Cyber Security Law is essential legislation that all online users must study, understand, and follow. It contains key provisions, especially for those using information and communication technologies for political or financial gain. The law also addresses matters of public concern, such as online fraud and gambling—issues that are being actively targeted by the government and international partners.

The law comprehensively addresses critical issues concerning cybersecurity threats, attacks, and misuse. It details key information, outlines the roles of responsible agencies, specifies necessary actions, and describes enforcement procedures, appeal processes, as well as related offences and penalties. In today’s rapidly evolving digital age, it is essential for all technology users to carefully study, understand, and fully comply with the provisions of the Cyber Security Law.

The law outlines key responsibilities for operators of digital platform services. It states that platform providers must take action if their platforms are used to disseminate content that incites hatred, disrupts unity or stability, spreads misinformation or rumours, or displays inappropriate content for public viewing. This includes sexually explicit images, videos, texts, or symbols involving children; content that violates existing laws; or actions that are illegal under the law.

The law also covers the dissemination of information intended to harm an individual’s social or economic standing, the handling of complaints related to copyright infringements, and the encouragement, commission, support, assistance, or planning of acts of violence. These are among the key points that platform providers are required to be aware of and comply with.

The law comprehensively addresses critical issues concerning cybersecurity threats, attacks, and misuse. It details key information, outlines the roles of responsible agencies, specifies necessary actions, and describes enforcement procedures, appeal processes, as well as related offences and penalties. In today’s rapidly evolving digital age, it is essential for all technology users to carefully study, understand, and fully comply with the provisions of the Cyber Security Law.



Book Title	-	May May Ma Mya Shwe
Writer	-	Maung Hla Myo (Chin Chaung Chan)
Publishing House	-	Shwe Thitsa
Publication Date	-	August 2025 (1 st Edition)
Price	-	K15,000

May May Ma Mya Shwe

BEFORE the introduction of this week’s pick, a poem titled Infinite Universe’s Early Light is initially revealed.

First ever smile in life
For newborns, the earliest exposure to light
Original and primary companion in life
Maiden thenar eminence that guides thine journey to bloom
Foremost and prime applause that can defeat opponents from the dorm and gloom,
Azure that evokes peace in a warm embrace
Gaze into the guiding star to sense security with thine grace
Universe that expands without no boundary
Boundless love never fails to amaze
My Dearest Mom profoundly.

In lyrical realism, the author Maung Hla Myo (Chin Chaung Chan) explores emotional inten-

sity and the symbolic power of maternal experiences by using metaphors in the aforementioned poem. He put this in his novella titled May May Ma Mya Shwe.

All humans are part of an interconnected family. Those having a close-knit family possess a mother who acts as a solid wall that keeps a child against threats and provides a strong sense of protection and stability for her children.

Although ordinary people do not showcase the multifaceted and compassionate nature of mother love in literary form, the mother’s steadfast presence in the child’s life is undoubtedly like a novel or a poem that captures the essence of maternal love.

The author, Mg Hla Myo, portrayed profound and unconditional love and unwavering support of his mother, resonating with those who love their mother from the bottom of their hearts.

This book will convey hu-

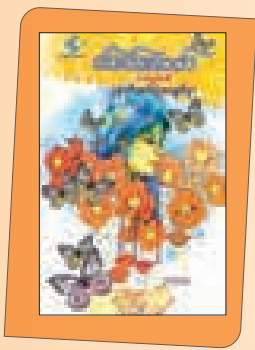
man nature, unconditional love of mother; overprotection, mother’s forgiveness, acknowledging children, attitude of ungrateful children to a father when a child becomes successful, a father who made mistakes pleading children’s forgiveness even they are not regarded with honour or esteem, intelligence and protection of parents in the previous generations, eldest daughter syndrome with self-sacrificing, emotional pressure and a sense of responsibility for families and consideration.

Additionally, parents who follow core components in Buddhism (right mindfulness, right concentration and right doings) can guide children to go on the right path and manifest their children for health, safety and success. The author used to be a scriptwriter in the film industry. So, he had worked with famous veteran actor U Kyaw Hein and discussed with him about the

unconditional affection of parents. Once we watched an award-winning film “Nay Ga Mway De La” together, U Kyaw Hein left the auditorium during the scene in which he was in sorrow when his adopted son looked back and went straight into the room during his first day of school. The author also went after U Kyaw Hein, who was crying on the platform outside the cinema. I asked him, “Did you feel touched by watching your performance?”. He shook his head and responded that it reminded me of my son Nay Winn, a glimpse of actor U Kyaw Hein’s real-life experience and appearance shown in the book.

This book is sort of a biography of the author. He hopes his fans will enjoy reading this book. Despite writing about his mother from the central Myanmar region, the essence of a parent’s love that shapes the child’s life, provides emotional security and influences their emotional well-being and social development. It acts as a powerful force that goes beyond affection.

The arrangement and presentation of this book might not be in a logical or aesthetically pleasing order. It just reflects the author’s emotion. Unfortunately, he was in poor health while writing this novel. This novel is dedicated to those individuals who have certain typical families. He also expressed an apology for the inconvenience and needs that fail to meet one’s satisfaction.



Book Title	-	Achit Ei Nautsattwe Samyathna (The Next Pages of Love)
Writer	-	Win Win Latt
Publishing House	-	Shwe Thitsa
Publication Date	-	March 2025 (8 th Edition)
Price	-	K17,000

Achit Ei Nautsattwe Samyathna (The Next Pages of Love)

I would like to first introduce this book and its author, Sayama Win Win Latt, to young adult readers of today. Indeed, this book won the National Literary Award in the novel genre in 1997.

The novel selection committee received 258 novels, and the judges held four meetings to review the books. They selected the novel titled Achit Ei Nautsattwe Samyathna (The Next Pages of Love) by Win Win Latt.

With the backdrop of a small hospital in the middle part of Myanmar, the story features the main characters: a young female surgeon and a young male assistant doctor, creating a love story between them. The setting of the period and place, the characters of doctors, nurses, and patients involved are vivid.

Moreover, the noble compassion of the young female doctor, such as her integrity, deep sense of motherhood, goodwill, determination, and courage, along with the awakening of love, is

depicted in the author’s skilful writing style, drawing readers’ attention. For these reasons, it was considered a rare novel, and the National Literary Award selection committee recommended it as worthy of the honour.

Writer Win Win Latt’s real name is Win Win Shein. She attended the University of Medicine I, Yangon, from 1969 to 1976. Between 1977 and 1978, she worked as a house surgeon. From 1981 to 1995, she served at various hospitals, including the Sittway General Hospital, Yangon General Hospital, Kachin State’s Moekaung Hospital, and Magway Hospital. In April 1995, she retired from her professional career and ran her own clinic in Karmine town, Hpakant Township, Kachin State, until 1996.

In August 1974, she began her literary journey by publishing a short story, Sate Thi Eain Mat (Mindful Dream) in the Shumawa magazine. Since then, she has written numerous short and long

stories for magazines, such as Shumawa, Hanthit, Sanda, Saba Phyu, and Mahethi. During this period, she authored the long story Achit Ei Nautsattwe Samyathna (The Next Pages of Love) along with many other short stories for magazines.

Sayama Win Win Latt republished the novel Achit Ei Nautsattwe Samyathna (The Next Pages of Love), which was serialized in the Mahethi magazine, and won the National Literary Award in 1997. The current publication is the eighth edition.

Sayagyi Mya Than Tint writes, “The Next Pages of Love” by Win Win Latt captures the attention of readers from the beginning. The way she starts the story is so interesting, with a vivid portrayal of Khin Oo Nwe (a surgeon) from a small town.

At a young age, she ended up being left on her own. Her ex-husband was Dr Aung Thura. Why did the two of them part? Both were doctors. Both were still young.

They were only in their early thirties. How sad and heartbreaking it must have been. In human life, it was the brightest time of rose-coloured days. The two of them had two adorable sons, Si Thu and Nyi Thu. What a comfortable and happy life it seemed to be. Win Win Latt chose to begin her novel with problems. Why did the two of them have to separate? Whose fault was it? Was it Khin Oo Nwe’s defraud, or Aung Thura’s false? And why is it that the children, living with their mother, still cling to the father who abandoned them...? Such questions are what the story expresses.

This book can inspire and empower girls. It emphasizes that when a marriage is not stable, girls should look up to Khin Oo Nwe as a role model. In this book, readers will admire and want to emulate the resilience and determination of Dr Khin Oo Nwe. They will also gain insight into the life struggles of a mother, as well as an intimate understanding of the mindset and attitudes of doctors and nurses. Moreover, by reading about the soft love, readers will inevitably feel a deep, indescribable emotion in their hearts. At the end, a dialogue reflecting the perspectives of Khin Oo Nwe is presented.

“The appendix inside the abdomen is nothing but an extra organ, just waiting to cause people trouble. Just like men.”

Nutrition Lights the Way

By Min Zan

From birth’s first cry to childhood’s cheer,
Good food helps minds and bodies clear,
Strong bones will grow, bright thoughts will play,
Healthy hearts lead each young day.

In schools, we teach the balanced plate,
Clean hands, safe meals, a healthy state,
Vitamins, iron – each child’s right,
To learn with joy and shining light.

Parents and teachers join as one,
To guard the health of everyone,
With care today, the nation’s gain,
Strong youth will rise, their dreams remain.



“Aiming to participate in Nutrition Development Week activities...”

Life and Beauty

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo’s Song)

Left, right and centre are seen
In the world, beauties have fully been.

In the world, right, left and centre,
Decorated with beauties, however,
If only allowed, to behold them is in power;
Even though beauty is perceived as aesthetic,
Provided that it is appreciated,
Then the beholder is ecstatic-hearted.

Oh, the rare world of humans
Temporary accommodation; in the life one,
Without seeing or loving beauty,
Not finding to see; how to find unknowingly,
If such a person is me, my living,
In an instant, how will it be loss-making?



ဘဝနှင့်အလှ

မြင်မြင်သမျှ
ဤလောကတွင်၊ အလှတို့ဖြင့် ပြည့်ဘိ၏။

မြင်မြင်သမျှ၊ ဤလောကဝယ်
အလှတို့ဖြင့်၊ မြယ်သဖြင့်လည်း
မြင်ခွင့်ရှိမှ၊ မြင်စွမ်းရသည့်
အလှဟူ၍၊ မြင်သည်ထားဦး
ခံစားသိတတ်၊ ခံယူတတ်မှ
ကျိုးမြတ်ပီတိ၊ ရင်ဝယ်ငြိ၏။

ဪလူ့လောက၊ ရခွဲစွာကို
ရလှာဇာတ၊ တစ်ဘဝဝယ်
အလှမမြင်၊ လှမမင်ဘဲ
မြင်ရန်မပွေ၊ ပွေရန်မသိ
ငါမြင်ဘိမှ၊ ငါ၏ဘဝ
ထိုဇာတသည်၊ မည်မျှရှုံးလွှဲလှမမည်နည်း။

မောင်စွမ်းရည်

Rome

By Minthuwan (Translated by Myint Zan)

’tis Rome
a place that distinguishes itself
like a ‘horn’
here the Il Duce
Mus(solini)’s
power overwhelms
like a canopy
he rules!

Composed on 27 March 1937
Published in Dagon magazine January 1938
Translated on 15 August 2025/

ရောမ

ရောမ တဲ့ဆို
ချိုပေါက်သည့် အတိုင်း။
မတ်မူဆို အာဏာမိုးလို့
စိုးတဲ့ သည်တိုင်း။
မင်းသုဝဏ်

ရေးဖွဲ့သည့် နေ့စွဲ (၂၇
မတ်လ ၁၉၃၇ ခုနှစ်)
ဒဂုန်မဂ္ဂဇင်း (စန်နဝါရီလ
၁၉၃၈

Translator’s note: Sayagyi Minthuwan composed this poem during his visit to Italy during the rule of Benito Mussolini (29 July 1883-28 April 1945, ruled 1922-1943). Il Duce (Italian) means ‘The Leader’. That word was not used in the vernacular, but the translator used it to convey the context of the poem. The poem is translated on 15 August 2025 to commemorate the 21st anniversary of Minthuwan’s passing.

NATIONAL

Entertainment



Saya Hsaung Win Latt launches award-winning book

"Thati Taya Shi Hla Swa Phyint"

THE book launching ceremony of National Literary Award winner Saya Hsaung Win Latt for ‘Thati Taya Shi Hla Swa Phyint’ (Lingering in Remembrance) will take place at the Community Centre (Central) of IPRD in Bahan Township, Yangon, at 9 am on 17

August.

The book brings the experiences of Saya Hsaung Win Latt in the literary field and other memories with journalists, editors, readers and publishers.

The author invited book lovers and writ-

ers as they can listen to the speeches of famous writers at the event.

The Panpwin Thitsa Publishing House releases the book at K7,000. — Htun Htun/KTZH



Htun Eindra Bo

The 59-year-old Academy Htun Eindra Bo has already been away from acting for about eight years without starring in any films. As she approaches 60 and considers retiring from her artistic career, she is offered a film. Since she liked the film storyline, the veteran actress accepted the offer to act in it. It is ‘Win Ka Sut’ (Hermit Crab) by director Pwint Theingi Zaw for Mee Eain Shin Film Production. It is an autism story based on the bond between grandparents and their grandchild. The cast includes Htun Eindra Bo, Paing Takhon, Bhone Thike, Chaw Yadana and Yadana Bo.



Phoe Chit

Myanmar theatrical dancer Phoe Chit makes efforts to hold the fourth respect-paying ceremony of the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central). He organized a meeting on 14 August. He also supervised the construction site of a new office building of the association on Min Dhamma Road. The ceremony will take place at the National Theatre (Yangon) on 7 October.



Khin Maung Htoo

Great vocalist Khin Maung Htoo informed his fans that a special concert featuring Bo Bo Han, Khin Maung Htoo, Nwet Yin Win and Cho Pyone will be held soon. They will sing famous songs from the stereo era at the Inya Lake Hotel. The four vocalists coordinated and arranged the event on 13 August.



C E L E B R I T Y

BRIEF



Khin Hlaing

A press show for the movie ‘Five Plus One’ directed by comedian and director Khin Hlaing (Nyan Gyi Shin) was held at the President Cinema in Yangon on 13 August. The cast members are Hlwan Paing, Academy Khin Wint Wah, Wint Yamone Naing, May Mi Ko Ko, May La Than Zin, Arbye Sein, Hla Nu Tun and other artistes.

Pan Yaung Chel
Vocalist and actress Pan Yaung Chel held a free concert named Wake Up Daddy at Godzilla Bar in Mandalay on 15 August. She sang songs together with her father, vocalist Graham. The fans grabbed the chance to listen to the music of the Encomium Band and enjoy the performance of the Essential Ladies dance troupe.



Wutt Hmone Shwe Yi

Academy Wutt Hmone Shwe Yi made a donation marking her 37th birthday at the monasteries of Aung Zabu Sayadaw, Sayadaw Nandamala Bhivamsa and Ashin Hsekinda. She also donated charity food to the pilgrims. Her fans donated food and cash at YGN Home for the Aged. — Htun Htun/KTZH

Fuel prices dip slightly in week ending 21 Aug

FUEL prices showed a slight decrease in the domestic fuel oil market for the week ending 21 August compared to those of the previous week.

The prices declined to K2,900 per litre of Octane 92 and K2,955 for Octane 95, K2,615 for diesel and K3,235 for premium diesel this week ending 21 August.

The set prices for a week ending 14 August were K2,940 for Octane 92 and K2,995 for Octane 95, K2,715 for diesel and K3,355 for premium diesel.

The price index set by Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), the pricing basis for many refined products in Southeast Asia, influences the domestic fuel prices, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

Under the Supervisory



Vehicles are seen refuelling at the petrol station in Meiktila.

Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil, the Petroleum Products Regulatory Department has been issuing daily reference wholesale prices to ensure price stability

for energy consumers.

The committee is inspecting the fuel stations to see whether they are overcharging. Authorities are taking action against those retailers of fuel stations

under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law 2017 if they are found overcharging rather than the set reference rate.

As per the statement, 90 per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is

imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally. Domestic fuel prices are highly correlated with international prices. The State is steering the market to mitigate the loss experienced by the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to that of regional countries.

Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices than Myanmar's. However, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies, and the prices are about 60 per cent lower than those of Myanmar. Every country lays down different policy patterns to fix oil prices, the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil stated. — NN/KK



The handout of Growth Lab: FMCG Edition for Myanmar MSMEs.

MYANWEN, MDG to launch Growth Lab: FMCG Edition

A five-day Growth Lab: FMCG Edition programme will be held from 9 am to 5 pm on 18-22 August 2025 at the KMD Exam Centre (Maha Myaing) located at 331, Pyay Road, Sangyoung Township, Yangon, organized by the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Network (MYANWEN) and Myanmar Distribution Group (MDG) with KBZ Bank as financial partner.

This event is designated for those engaged in the Fast-Moving Consumer Goods Sector; those SMEs manufacturing food and beverages or household goods, and those interested entrepreneurs, regardless of gender, sharing strategies for resilience, digi-

tal transformation and know-how to tackle challenges.

The Growth Lab: FMCG Edition programme will include business continuity plan, budgeting, cash flow and access to finance, branding and marketing ideas and strategies, AI usages, field execution: Factory Visit and regulatory compliance and legal frameworks.

Furthermore, practical sessions and pitching awards for standout business models are designed to help individuals actively join industry events.

Those interested can make free admission through the RSVP form at bit.ly/growthlabfmcg. — NN/KK

CBM sells \$1.1M to edible oil-importing companies on 15 Aug

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$1.16 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$76,600 to CMP companies and those who made non-trade payments on 15 August, in addition to an injection of \$244,000 into the financial market.

CBM pumped \$1 million and over 1.27 million yuan into the financial market on 14 August.

Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.88 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$220,900 to CMP companies and those who made non-trade payments on the same day.

CBM announced on 13 August that it would sell \$32 million to those engaged in the fuel oil sector after sales of 300,000 yuan. CBM sold over \$1.55 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$128,200 to CMP companies and individuals who made non-trade payments on that day.

CBM injected \$1.3 million into edible oil-importing companies and over \$467,000 into CMP companies and those who made non-trade payments after sales of over 1.97 million yuan on 12 August.

Importers of refined sugar, plastic, fertilizers, pharmaceutical and medical equipment, electri-

cal devices, industrial raw materials, construction materials, auto parts, telecommunication devices, trailers, feedstuffs, paint, tar and food commodities also purchased foreign currencies through the foreign exchange market online trading platform.

The Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold \$1.18 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$415,900 to fuel oil-importing companies on 11 August after purchasing the foreign currencies from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis.

Furthermore, CBM injected over 65,000 yuan into the market on that day. CBM also sold over \$348,000 to CMP companies and those who made non-trade payment transactions. Additionally, importers of refined sugar, pharmaceuticals, pharma raw materials, electrical devices, industrial raw materials, construction materials, auto parts, motorcycle parts, telecommunication equipment, pesticides, tar and food commodities bought foreign currencies via online trading platforms. CBM injected over 1.46 million yuan and over 930,300 baht on 8 August.

Additionally, CBM sold

\$701,120 to edible oil-importing companies and \$361,921 to fuel oil-importing companies on the same day.

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 the 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

ECONOMY
WORLD

Vietnamese rice grower helps tackle Cuba's food shortage



In a first, a private Vietnamese company is growing rice in Cuba. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Agri VAM, a private Vietnamese company, is farming 1,000 hectares of Cuban land to help alleviate food shortages.

OUTSIDE Havana, a private Vietnamese company, Agri VAM, is making history by directly farming Cuban land to address the country's acute food shortages. The Cuban government has allocated 1,000 hectares (2,470 acres) in Los Palacios to Agri VAM, a subsidiary of Vietnam's Fujinuco Group.

This initiative follows a significant decline in agricultural production, with overall output dropping by 52 per cent from 2018 to 2023, and rice production plummeting from 300,000 tonnes in 2018 to just 55,000 tonnes in 2021.

Rice is a staple in the Cuban diet, with an average consumption of 60 kilogrammes (132 pounds) per person annually. Agri VAM reports a harvest yield of seven tonnes per hectare, significantly higher than the 1.5 tonnes achieved by local growers.

However, the company faces challenges, including fuel shortages and transportation issues, which hinder its operations. Additionally, foreign firms like Agri VAM struggle to transfer profits abroad due to liquidity issues in Cuban banks. — AFP

India's trade deficit widens to US\$11.72B in July 2025 on increased imports

INDIA'S overall trade deficit (merchandise and services combined) widened to US\$ 11.72 billion in July 2025, up from \$10.10 billion in the same month last year, driven by a sharper rise in imports than exports, according to the data released by the Commerce & Industry Ministry.

The data shows that the overall exports stood at \$68.25

billion in July 2025, marking a growth from the same month of the previous year at \$65.31 billion.

On the other hand, imports of the country grew at a faster pace, reaching \$79.99 billion compared with \$75.41 billion a year earlier.

The deficit figures come amid the uncertain global trade conditions and an-

nouncements of 50 per cent reciprocal tariffs announced by US President Donald Trump.

Commenting on the trade figures, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said, "Despite uncertain global policy environment, exports both merchandise as well as services estimates in July as well as in the financial year 2025-26 from April to July, period for both July as well as for April to July period have grown substantially and much higher than the global export growth."

"So for both July month as well as for the month for the period of April to July, India's exports have done very well now. The major drivers of these merchandise exports growth for July month include engineering goods, electronic goods, gems and Jewellery, drugs and pharmaceuticals and organic and inorganic chemicals," he added. — ANI



Imports grew at a faster rate, totaling US\$79.99 billion in July 2025, compared to US\$75.41 billion in July 2024. **PHOTO: APM TERMINALS**

Germany sacks rail chief with train network in crisis



Railway workers had also spoken out against Lutz, with the GDL train drivers union calling for him to be sacked. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE German government has dismissed Richard Lutz, the head of Deutsche Bahn, as part of efforts to revamp the struggling public rail network, which has faced years of criticism for declining services.

Once renowned for its punctuality and efficiency, Germany's rail system has deteriorated significantly due to chronic underinvestment, leading to frequent passenger complaints about de-

lays and cancellations. In 2022, nearly 40 per cent of long-distance trains were late. Transport Minister Patrick Schnieder announced Lutz's departure, citing the "dramatic" situation regarding customer satisfaction, punctuality, and profitability. Lutz, who has led Deutsche Bahn since 2017, will remain in his position until a successor is appointed, with the hiring process commencing immediately. — AFP

Chinese hotels upgrade service amid tourism boom

CHINA'S tourism boom is pushing upgrades in its hospitality sector, with shifting travel preferences and growing popularity of digital technologies spurring hotels to embrace cultural integration, artificial intelligence (AI) and international management.

In the first half of 2025, domestic tourist trips hit 3.285 billion, up 20.6 per cent from a year earlier,

according to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Summer travel is set to accelerate, with an estimated over 2.5 billion trips, according to data from the China Tourism Academy.

Hotel giants are feeling the heat. Jin Jiang Hotels, one of China's largest hotel groups, reported receiving more than 40.7 million guests in its Chinese hotels in July. In ad-

dition to the robust data, customers' hospitality demands are also changing.

"Chinese travellers are no longer satisfied with just a bed for the night. They seek immersive, multifaceted experiences that turn hotels into hubs of exploration and engagement," said Qian Kang, vice-president of Jin Jiang Hotels. — Xinhua



Jin Jiang Hotels, one of China's largest hotel groups, reported receiving more than 40.7 million guests in its Chinese hotels in July. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

Subcontractors protest unpaid work on 8 overseas Osaka expo pavilions

SUBCONTRACTORS involved in constructing eight overseas pavilions

at the 2025 World Exposition in Osaka are protesting unpaid work, with



Subcontractors head to GL Event Japan's office in Osaka city on 10 July 2025 to protest unpaid work on overseas pavilions at the World Exposition in Osaka. **PHOTO: KYODO**

little intervention from organizers and local government, who view it as a private dispute.

The prime contractor GL Events Japan, responsible for four pavilions, including those of Germany, Malta, Romania, and Serbia, is at the centre of payment disputes. About 20 subcontractors demonstrated in July, demanding settlement of overdue construction fees.

Takayoshi Tsujimoto, head of Rego, a company working on the Serbian and German pavilions, plans to sue GL Events

for approximately 340 million yen (\$2.3 million) due to unpaid fees and cost overruns caused by unplanned tasks and discrepancies in materials. Another firm involved in the Malta pavilion has already filed a suit for over 110 million yen.

GL Events states it complies with contracts and Japanese law, while the Japan Association for the 2025 Expo and Osaka prefectural government consider the matter private, refusing to use public funds for resolution. — Kyodo

Stocks waver on mixed US data, eyes on Trump-Putin summit

STOCK markets wavered on Friday as investors digested mixed American economic data and monitored a landmark US-Russia summit aimed at ending the war in Ukraine. After rallying about two per cent on Thursday, oil prices gave back most of those gains Friday. Wall Street stocks finished mostly lower following a mixed round of economic data.

London and Frankfurt

ended lower while Paris rallied to finish in positive territory. Tokyo's main stocks index extended a record-run higher following Japanese economic growth data that beat expectations.

US retail sales climbed 0.5 per cent in July to \$726.3 billion from June, in line with analyst expectations and a solid performance after numerous tariff announcements by Trump.

— AFP

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US retail sales rise amid limited consumer tariff hit so far

US retail sales rose moderately in July, according to data released Friday, as markets monitor tariffs that do not so far appear to have significantly battered consumers.

Overall sales climbed 0.5 per cent to \$726.3 billion from June, in line with expectations. Gains in motor vehicles and parts and furniture offset declines in electronics and building materials. Analysts de-

scribed the report as solid, but some pointed to a greater risk of weakening in retail sales in the second half of 2025 following disappointing recent labor market data. Consumer spending is a major driver of the world's biggest economy. "This report will ease some of the worries about the health of consumers' spending following the tariff shock," said a note from Oliver Allen, senior

US economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics.

"That said, growth in consumption still looks relatively weak, and the softening labor market and further likely pass-through of tariffs suggest a sharp reacceleration is unlikely".

The report comes as surveys point to a partial recovery in consumer sentiment compared with the spring, following a dive in the stock market after

President Donald Trump in early April unveiled plans for sweeping, large tariff increases with trading partners that have since been watered down somewhat.

A survey released Friday from the University of Michigan suggested consumers are girding for a worse hit ahead, with year-ahead inflation expectations rising to 4.9 from 4.5 per cent. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NORDLEOPARD VOY.NO. (530W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NORDLEOPARD VOY.NO. (530W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST

AUGUST 16

Trump says semiconductor tariffs coming soon

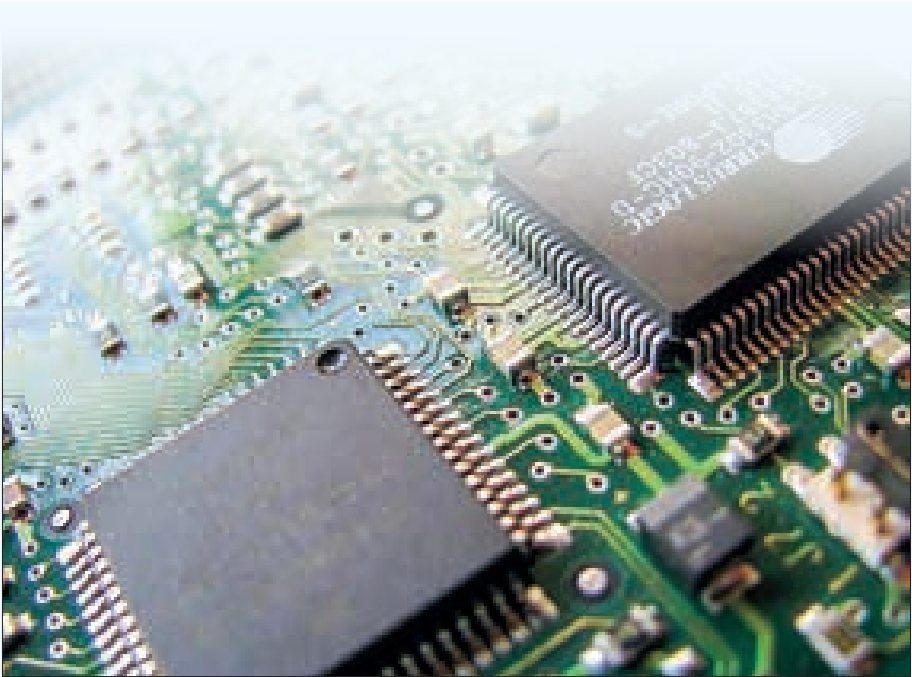
Tariffs could reach as high as 200 per cent to 300 per cent.

US President Donald Trump said Friday he plans to announce tariffs on steel and semiconductors in the coming weeks.

Trump said the levy rate would be “lower at the beginning” but “very high after a certain period of time,” as a way to encourage businesses to relocate operations to the United States.

The president said his policy would prompt companies in key industries like automobiles and artificial intelligence to relocate in order to “beat the tariffs,” which could be 200 or 300 per cent.

On 6 August, Trump announced a 100 per cent tariff on semiconductors from firms that do not invest in the United States. — AFP



On 6 August, Trump announced a 100 per cent tariff on semiconductors from firms that do not invest in the United States. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ PIXABAY**

AUGUST 15

King Charles commemorates 80th VJ Day anniversary

King Charles III led commemorations Friday for World War II veterans and those who lived through the devastating conflict, lauding their “courage” as Britain marked the 80th anniversary of VJ Day.

Charles and Queen Camilla were joined by Prime Minister Keir Starmer, other dignitaries and dozens of veterans at a remembrance service for Victory over Japan day at the National Memorial Arboretum in central England.

The trio laid wreaths and floral tributes at the memorial, before attendees and others across the country observed two minutes’ silence at noon to mark the eight decades since Japan surrendered. The 33 veterans at the service all served in East Asia and the Pacific, and are now aged from 96 to 105. — AFP

AUGUST 14

Trump eases regulations for space industry

US President Donald Trump signed an executive order Wednesday easing regulations for the private space industry, including eliminating some environmental reviews, in a move likely to please his erstwhile advisor Elon Musk.

The executive order, which said it aimed to “substantially” increase the number of space launches in the United States, was described by an environmental group as “reckless”.

Since returning to the White House in January, Trump has talked up several space missions including sending humans to the Moon and Mars.

The Moon and Mars missions are planned to get a ride on the massive Starship rocket of Musk’s private firm SpaceX. — AFP

AUGUST 13

S Korean president to visit Japan for summit talk

South Korean President Lee Jae-myung will visit Japan for a summit with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba later this month, Lee’s office said Wednesday.

Presidential spokesperson Kang Yu-jung told a press briefing that Lee will make a two-day visit to Japan from 23 August for the summit meeting with the Japanese premier.

Kang said the two leaders will seek to solidify the foundation for future-oriented bilateral cooperation, discuss ways to strengthen South Korea-Japan and South Korea-US-Japan cooperation, and exchange opinions about regional peace and stability and other regional and global issues. After the trip to Japan, the South Korean president will pay a three-day visit to the United States for a summit with US President Donald Trump on 25 August President Lee’s upcoming visit to Japan signifies a positive step towards enhancing bilateral relations and regional cooperation, addressing key issues for peace and stability. — Xinhua

AUGUST 12

Singapore raises 2025 growth forecast

Singapore on Tuesday raised its 2025 economic growth forecast, but warned the outlook for the rest of the year remains clouded by global uncertainty, in part due to US tariffs.

Southeast Asia’s second-largest economy is heavily reliant on international trade and is vulnerable to any global slowdown induced by the tariffs, even only facing a baseline 10 per cent levy from US President Donald Trump.

The city-state’s trade ministry lifted its gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast to 1.5-2.5 per cent from an earlier range of 0-2.0 per cent.

“This largely reflects the better-than-expected performance of the Singapore economy in the first half of 2025,” the ministry said in a statement.

“However, the economic outlook for the rest of the year remains clouded by uncertainty, with the risks tilted to the downside.” — AFP

AUGUST 11

Bangladesh court hears graft case against ex-PM

A court in Bangladesh on Monday heard cases brought by the anti-corruption organization against ex-leader Sheikh Hasina and her family, including her daughter who has served as a top UN official.

Three officials from the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) read out testimonies in three separate cases over an alleged land grab of lucrative plots in a suburb of the capital Dhaka.

Hasina, 77, fled Bangladesh by helicopter on 5 August 2024 after weeks of student-led protests against her autocratic rule.

She has defied orders to return from India, including to attend her separate and ongoing trial on charges amounting to crimes against humanity, over the deadly crackdown on the uprising. — AFP

AUGUST 10

WHO declares Kenya free of sleeping sickness

The World Health Organization (WHO) on Friday certified Kenya as having eliminated human African trypanosomiasis, also known as sleeping sickness, as a public health challenge, making it the 10th country to reach this critical milestone.

“I congratulate the government and people of Kenya on this landmark achievement,” said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in a statement issued in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital.

“Kenya joins the growing ranks of countries freeing their populations of human African trypanosomiasis. This is another step towards making Africa free of neglected tropical diseases,” Tedros added. Human African trypanosomiasis is the second neglected tropical disease to be eliminated in Kenya, following the country’s certification as Guinea worm disease-free in 2018. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar women defeat Thailand, reach ASEAN C'ship final after a decade



Myanmar women's football team returns to the ASEAN Women's Championship final after 10 years, defeating Thailand.

Team Myanmar returned to the final of the 2025 ASEAN Women's Championship after 10 years by defeating Thailand in the semifinal, held in Vietnam on 16 August. The Myanmar team won 2-1, overcoming Thailand to secure their place in the final.

Although Myanmar took the lead early in the match, Thailand managed to equalize and were soon overtaken again, al-

lowing Myanmar to claim a well-deserved victory. This marked the fifth meeting between Myanmar and Thailand at the semifinal stage of the ASEAN Women's Championship. Myanmar had previously won their first encounter in 2012 but had lost the last three meetings in 2018, 2019, and 2022. The semifinal victory allowed Myanmar to finally settle the score after a decade. Myanmar head coach Uki Tetsuro made some changes to the match squad, including introducing May Htet Lu as a starter. In the sixth minute, a defensive

mistake by Myanmar's MayThet Mon Myint led to an early goal for Thailand. Myanmar responded quickly, and in 14 minutes, team captain Win Theingi Htun equalized. The first half ended in a 1-1 draw after further attacks failed to break the deadlock.

In the second half, Thailand applied more pressure, but Myanmar defended solidly and pushed for the winning goal. In 72 minutes, a long-range shot from San Thaw Thaw was blocked by the Thai goalkeeper, resulting in a penalty kick.

Win Theingi Htun calmly converted, securing the winning goal. Thailand's attempts to score again were consistently neutralized by Myanmar's defenders and goalkeeper Myo Ma Ma Nyein, ensuring Myanmar's place in the final. In the other semifinal, Australia defeated hosts Vietnam 2-1 to advance to the final. On 19 August, the third-place match will feature Thailand against Vietnam, while Myanmar will face Australia in the final. In the group-stage rematches, Myanmar had previously defeated Australia 2-1, and Vietnam had drawn 0-0 with Thailand. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Hanthawady United beat Rakhine United with late MNL winner

HANTHAWADY United secured a 2-1 victory over Rakhine United with a decisive late goal in the opening match of the 2025-2026 Myanmar National League (MNL) season, held on 16 Au-



Hanthawady United in action against Rakhine United. PHOTO: MNL

gust at Yangon United Sports Complex.

Fielding an all-domestic squad, Hanthawady United managed to claim full points despite conceding an equalizer in the first half. Rakhine United, under the leadership of head coach U Kyaw Lwin, following post-League Cup changes, put up a strong challenge.

The first breakthrough came in 11 minutes, when Kyi Soe scored for Hanthawady United. However, Than Kyaw Htay equalized for Rakhine in 35 minutes. With the score locked 1-1 at halftime, both teams pushed hard for a winner in the second half. Hanthawady's decisive goal came in 82 minutes from Zaw Zaw Htike, sealing their victory.

The Man of the Match award went to Hanthawady United captain Lardin Mora.

The MNL Matchday 1 will continue on 17 August at Yangon United Sports Complex, where Yangon United will face Yadanabon FC. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Arsenal 'digging for gold' as title bid starts at new-look Man Utd



Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta is chasing the Premier League title. PHOTO: AFP

MIKEL Arteta has challenged Arsenal to keep digging for gold as they prepare to start their latest bid for a first Premier League title since 2004 against revamped Manchester United on Sunday. Arteta's side have finished as Premier League runners-up for the last three seasons, sparking criticism of their failure to get over the line in the title race. Arsenal blew significant leads when Manchester City pipped them to the trophy in 2023 and 2024 before Liverpool left the injury-plagued north Londoners trailing in their wake last season.

Arsenal's title frustrations

are mounting, with fans questioning whether Arteta is the right man to end their drought after winning only the 2020 FA Cup since he took charge in December 2019. But the Gunners showed their potential last season with a run to the Champions League semi-finals that ended with a narrow defeat against eventual winners Paris Saint-Germain.

And, buoyed by a host of new signings worth over £180 million (\$244 million) in total, Arteta is convinced they can finally get their hands on the Premier League silverware this season. — AFP

Italian Brainrot: the AI memes only kids know

The trend peaked in early-to-mid 2025, mixing playful Italian language with global meme culture.

Italian Brainrot is a viral online phenomenon originating in 2025, featuring a cast of bizarre AI-generated cartoon characters like a walking shark in sneakers, a muscular-armed orange, and “Ballerina Cappuccina” — a mug-headed dancer.

Popular among Gen Z and Gen Alpha, these characters star in noisy, absurd videos with over-the-top Italian voiceovers and spread widely on TikTok and YouTube.



School-age Italian Brainrot fans can be found from Kenya to Spain and South Korea. **PHOTO: AFP**

Many adults remain unaware of the trend, even as children across the globe — from Kenya to Indonesia, Mexico, and

Spain — collect merchandise and mimic catchphrases from the memes.

The content often includes surreal

humour, “Brainrot Rap” music, and even short drawing tutorials with hundreds of millions of views.

Italian Brainrot peaked in early-to-mid 2025, blending the playful qualities of the Italian language with global meme culture. Its popularity is particularly high in Indonesia, partly due to the country’s youth-driven digital scene. Characters like “Tung Tung Tung Sahur”, inspired by Ramadan traditions, have become especially prominent, driven by young creators such as Noxa.

While celebrated for its creativity and influence, Italian Brainrot has drawn criticism over problematic and adult-themed jokes embedded in some videos, raising concerns among parents and psychologists about children’s exposure.

The trend also reflects the growing influence — and risks — of AI-assisted content creation on youth culture globally. — AFP



Security researchers hope stuffing passwords with special characters and numbers will soon be history. **PHOTO: AFP**

Passwords under threat as tech giants seek tougher security

A major breach exposed 16 billion leaked login credentials, highlighting password risks.

THE dominance of passwords in online security is fading as tech companies shift to more secure alternatives like fingerprints, facial recognition, and access keys. Microsoft, alongside other tech giants such as Google and Apple

in the Fast Identity Online Alliance (FIDO), is pushing for wider adoption of password-free login methods.

These newer options use biometric checks or authentication via a user’s device, aiming to address the main flaws of

passwords: weak choices, widespread reuse, and frequent leaks from insecure data storage.

Security experts highlight that short passwords can be cracked in seconds, and high-profile breaches — like a 16-billion-login credential database uncovered in June — underscore their vulnerability.

Alternatives like access keys lower the risk of phishing, where fake websites steal passwords, because the unique keys cannot simply be shared. However, challenges remain.

Many sites still use traditional credentials, and users can find the switch confusing. Setting up new methods and recovering access after device loss is more complicated than resetting a password.

Despite these advances, the convenience and familiarity of passwords slow the transition. Experts caution that as new systems take hold, users must protect their devices diligently, as these will become the main targets for attackers in a post-password security landscape. — AFP

In heatwave, Romans turn to vintage snow cones to stay cool

IN Rome, the traditional “grattachecca” is the go-to treat during heatwaves, surpassing ice cream and gelato in popularity. This colourful, refreshing shaved ice is made at kiosks like the “Golden Fountain”, run by Massimo Crescenzi and his wife, Rosanna Mariani.

With temperatures soaring to 37°C, customers line up for their customized grattachecca, which features crushed ice topped with fresh fruit and vibrant syrups.

Crescenzi emphasizes that grattachecca differs from Sicilian granita, as it involves shaving ice rather than freezing a mixture of water, fruit, and sugar. The debate continues in Rome over the hygienic machine method versus

Heatwaves have increased demand, extending the grattachecca season from May to October.

the traditional hand-shaving technique.

As heatwaves become more frequent, demand for grattachecca has surged, extending the season from May to October. The family-run kiosk boasts a rich history, having been established in 1913 by Crescenzi’s grandfather, making it a four-generation business. — AFP



Ice is cut from blocks and crushed, with syrup and fruit added. **PHOTO: AFP**