

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.



This photo features a century-old Mandalay University.

Mandalay Univ to mark centenary with national celebration on 4 Oct

Established as an independent university on 1 June 1958, Mandalay University - located in Upper Myanmar - primarily serves students from the region while striving to preserve and revive the nation’s endangered customs, culture, arts, literature, and Buddhist scriptures.

MANDALAY University, which was opened on 4 July 1925 and reached its 100th anniversary on 4 July 2025, will hold its centenary celebrations with national grandeur on 4 October, according to the Centenary Celebration Organizing Leading Committee. The centenary celebration of Mandalay University will be held at the national level, and the leading committee, working committee and subcommittees, city elders, alumni, and officials are successfully implementing the 25 steps set by the ministry. In

addition, Mandalay University held an initial celebration of its 100th anniversary on 4 July in front of the Engineering Building (Red Brick Building) of the university in Mandalay. Mandalay University, the second university established in Myanmar, was founded in 1925 as an independent educational institution. Mandalay University is located on 73rd Street in southern Mandalay, with a campus covering 300 acres. Mandalay College was opened on 4 July 1925 with only 30 students, and its first principal was Mr L Htin Si (MA).

It became an independent university on 1 June 1958, and its students are primarily from Upper Myanmar. Located in Mandalay, the university strives to preserve and revive the endangered customs, culture, art, literature, and Buddhist scriptures of the Myanmar people. On 28 March 2025, a severe earthquake in Mandalay damaged the main building of Mandalay University, setting it on fire and damaging other campus buildings. And repairs to the main building are currently in progress. — ASH/TH

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Beef up efforts to reduce plastic pollution as a national duty
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CBM sells over US\$2.6M to edible and fuel oil importers

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Passport fee raised to K45,000 from 1 Sept

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ME Tokyo reissues notice on early voting for Myanmar citizens

NATIONAL

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

“Our Government shall not permit any disruption of the forthcoming election. The electoral process shall remain free and fair, and no interference shall be exercised upon those who participate in it. Yet, let it be firmly declared that any attempt to disturb or sabotage the election shall be met with the full weight of authority”.

(An excerpt from the radio address regarding the election, delivered by General Aung San on 13 March 1947)



- 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.

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

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

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations transferred and appointed

1. The National Defence and Security Council has transferred and appointed Dr Than Zaw Oo, Rector of Yangon West University of the Department of Higher Education under the Ministry of Education, as Director-General of the Department of Higher Education from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The National Defence and Security Council has appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name

Dr Thaung Htaik
Pro-Rector
Pathein University
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education

Dr Min Min Yi
Pro-Rector
Mandalar University
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education

Appointment

Rector
Pathein University
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education

Rector
Mandalar University
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Friday 29 August 2025)

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

SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Tropical Depression over the South China Sea has moved northwestwards and still persists. It is likely to move west-northwestwards and intensify into a Tropical Storm during the next 18 hours and then cross to the Northern Vietnam Coast around 30 August 2025.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 30 AUGUST 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Magway Region and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Mandalay, and Lower Sagaing Regions and Chin, and northern Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State. Degree of

certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Bago, Magway, Upper Sagaing, and Ayeyawady Regions and Chin, 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: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour Wave height will be about 8-10 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Mag-

way, Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30 AUGUST 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30 AUGUST 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30 AUGUST 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon Region and fairly widespread in Mandalay Region. — 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)

UNDP Representative to Myanmar presents Credentials to MoFA Union Minister

THE Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to Myanmar, Mr Norimasa Shimomura, presented his Credentials to U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the presentation of Credentials, they exchanged views on matters relating to the existing cooperation be-

tween the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and UNDP, and the future programme of UNDP in Myanmar. Also, present at the meeting were senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

Union Minister U Than Swe receives the Credentials from the UNDP Representative to Myanmar yesterday.



Myanmar hosts ASEAN Ministerial Meetings online



The online 12th AMMSWD & 8th AMMSWD+3 underway yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

MYANMAR virtually hosted the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD) and the 8th ASEAN+3 Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD+3) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Union Minister for

Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement D Soe Win presided over the meetings under the theme “Enhancing Responsive Social Protection for Vulnerable Groups in the ASEAN Community”. Ministers from ASEAN+3 and ASEAN exchanged views on the

enhancement of responsive social protection and ongoing work plans. The Union minister highlighted the social protection measures under the National Social Protection Strategic Plan, rehabilitation activities after the Mandalay earthquake, the role of social welfare staff and regional cooperation. Representatives from ASEAN+3 countries – China, Japan and Korea — discussed collaborative efforts to improve social welfare and further progress. After the processes, the Union minister concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar delegation joins 5th AACC SRD International Symposium

AT the invitation of the President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Korea, a delegation led by U Saw San Lin, member of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, attended the 5th International Symposium of the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions (AACC SRD) held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 25 to 28 August under the theme “Personal Freedom”. The symposium, held from 26 to 27 August, was attended by the Presidents of Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions from 17 mem-



The Union Constitutional Tribunal delegation participates in the fifth AACC SRD International Symposium in South Korea.

ber countries, along with a total of 46 judges and legal scholars. U Saw San Lin presented a paper titled “Interpretation of Personal Freedom”. During the symposium, the presidents, judges, and legal scholars from each member country exchanged views

on the interpretation of personal rights under their respective constitutions and on judicial procedures for protecting citizens’ rights. The delegation led by U Saw San Lin returned to Yangon on the morning of 29 August. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

New book, Myanmar in the Golden Land, launched

THE book launch ceremony of Myanmar in the Golden Land, written by Mr Lorenzo Maria Pacini, an Italian expert in political philosophy and geopolitics, and the MoU signing ceremony between the Myanmar Narrative Think Tank and Anteo Edizioni Publishing House and the Istituto De Alti Studi Sulla Multipolarità IASM of Italy took place at the Eravati Sule Grand Yangon Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

The event was attended by Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and regional ministers, Italian author Mr Lorenzo Maria Pacini and publisher Mr Stefano Bonilauri and invitees.

The Union minister appreciated the author and the publisher who have created the book, adding that the author's efforts and endeavours, along with fair and accurate perspectives on Myanmar, can be seen



Author Mr Lorenzo Maria Pacini speaks at the book launching of Myanmar in the Golden Land at the Eravati Sule Grand Yangon Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

clearly in the book.

It is also found that the book presents the political changes of Myanmar from the early historical periods up to the present day. The author presents his views on Myanmar not by measuring them against Western stand-

ards, but from a distinct perspective of his own. By reading the book Myanmar, in the Golden Land, one can gain an overall understanding of Myanmar's history as well as its current political situation, information war of powerful countries, benefits

of Myanmar's stability and development to regional stability, the facts for the international community to support and welcome the pathway of election and interference of certain powerful countries with the masks of liberal and human rights.

The author introduced his book, and Myanmar Writers' Association Chairman U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) and academy Daw Swe Zin Htike made remarks.

The Myanmar Narrative Think Tank and Anteo Edizioni Publishing House signed an MoU on international book publishing, and another MoU on cooperation with Istituto De Alti Studi Sulla Multipolarità IASM.

The Myanmar, in Golden Land book will be published in English, Russian, French, Chinese and Italian languages, and people can buy it via the Amazon website.

The Union minister and party met youths from different regions and states at the Future Front Myanmar Youth Strategy Forum 2025 to be held at MCC in Yangon. He inspected the preparation and rehearsal sessions. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar attends 2025 ASEAN-Oriented Standardization Cooperation Forum in China

MYANMAR delegation led by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Aung Zeya attended the 2025 ASEAN-Oriented Standardization Cooperation Forum, with the theme "Innovative Collaboration in AI Standardization, Empowering the Building of China-ASEAN Community with a Shared Future", in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China on 27 August.

Mr Wei Tao, Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Deputy Ministers from China and Deputy Ministers from ASEAN countries made speeches at the opening ceremony.



The 2025 ASEAN-Oriented Standardization Cooperation Forum in progress on 27 August in China, attended by Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya.

In his opening remark, Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya highlighted that China is a leading country in AI technology and digital economic system, and the AI standardization for ASEAN countries can fulfil the technology needs of developing the ASEAN digital economy. Moreover,

it can bring common benefits through the China-ASEAN Digital Economy Partnership and the ASEAN Smart Cities Network. He stressed the creation of a strong foundation for sustainable growth, economic resilience, and technological progress across the region.

During the signing ceremony, the delegates from Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam signed MoUs, and the officials declared the launching of AI cooperation by forming a committee, the success of ISO/CASCO, the second exchange of China-ASEAN EV standards

and EV cooperation, and AI and EV-related projects between China-Cambodia, China-Laos and China-ASEAN.

At noon, the deputy minister visited the China-ASEAN Information Harbour (CAIH) in Nanning, and observed the digital Silk Road, the enhancement of digital economic cooperation with ASEAN and AI-based services.

The deputy minister attended the EV standardizing subforum and discussed EV standards, while AI-based precision measurement technology and the inspection of compliance with food product quality standards were discussed at two other subforums. — MNA/KTZH

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

Government bodies and private organizations have to join hands in supporting growth of State economy

❖ In order to support the economic development of the nation, it is necessary to enhance the competitiveness of domestic production industries in the market, improve agricultural capacity, production capacity, and trade transactions. Eradicating illegal trade must be undertaken as a national responsibility by relevant government bodies and private organizations, working in coordinated harmony to continue implementing these efforts effectively.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the second-day session of the government coordination meeting of SAC on 20 May 2025)

Tatmadaw takes full control of Goktwin Bridge and Gokteik Railway

TATMADAW conducted counter-terrorism operations to regain Nawngkhio township which was temporarily controlled by TNLA and PDF terrorists, and Tatmadaw gained full control of Nawngkhio on 16 July 2025.

Tatmadaw also conducted security measures along the Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway, which plays a key role in trade flow via Nawngkhio, to be able to reopen the Nawngkhio-Kyaukme route section after the terrorists retreated.

Tatmadaw columns started two security operations, Nawngkhio-Goktwin and Nawngkhio-Gokteik railway. Meanwhile, the terrorists constructed concrete bunkers along the cliff, taking advantage of the location, as there is a place with over 300 feet in depth and 2,000 feet from each side between the Goktwin Bridge and Gokteik railway, and they arranged to attack Tatmadaw columns to stop the operations.

Tatmadaw columns main-



Tatmadaw members regain the control of the Gokteik viewpoint terrorist temporarily occupied.

tained the situation despite the disadvantageous situation on their side, but other convoys passed through the cliff of Nampansi creek from eight kilometres south of the Gokteik Viaduct. Then, they attacked

the terrorists with the support of land and air. Tatmadaw regained Khe Tone Kyaing village on 19 August 2025, while Kaung Po village on 21, Htantabin village on 22, Panti village on 23, Naung Pein village, Pin Paw vil-

lage and Zeebin Sakhan village on 24, Kyaung Kone village on 25, Sanda Muni monastery on 26, Naungpyit junction and the Goktwin Viaduct on 27, Shukhin Thar on 28, and the Gokteik Viaduct yesterday. During the 12-day

security operation, there were 47 armed engagements, 29 dead bodies of terrorists, and 23 arms and ammunition were seized.

Tatmadaw columns reoccupied the Goktwin and Gokteik railway route regardless of the natural barriers.

The TNLA and PDF terrorists exploded bridge No 9/84 at the milepost 78/2-78/3 of Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway in Nawngkhio township in Kyaukme district of Shan State (north) on 13 July 2025, the new and old Goktwin bridges on 15 July and a 60-foot section of the iron truss of Gokteik viaduct between pier P-16 and abutment AB-2 on the Kyaukme side on 24 August.

The Tatmadaw columns removed the barriers made by the terrorists using manpower and machinery. To be able to use the Goktwin Bridge, Tatmadaw engineers constructed a temporary Bailey bridge to facilitate transport. — MNA/KTZH

Yangon Advocate-General's Office awards top staff and students

AS part of the anniversary of the Ministry of Legal Affairs, outstanding staff and students from the Russian language course and matriculation examination were honoured yesterday morning at the meeting hall of the Yangon Region Advocate-General's Office.

Yangon Region Advocate-General Daw Phyu Mar Wai highlighted that the Union Attorney-General's Office has been renamed for four years, and along with Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon Region is also holding its honouring ceremony for staff and students. She also noted that staff were provided with food supplies, while prizes were presented to one outstanding staff member from the Russian course and to students who passed the matriculation examination with distinction.

She emphasized that the Union Attorney-General's Office, as one of the State's three pillars, must perform duties in line with integrity, impartiality, fairness, and accountability, while upholding the four political objectives of the State Security and Peace Commission, especially in the ongoing multiparty democracy process and election-related tasks.

Afterwards, a video commemorating the fourth anniversary of the Union Attorney-General's Office was shown. Awards were presented to Daw Zin May Soe, Deputy Township Law Officer, for her outstanding results in the Russian course, as well as to students who excelled in the matriculation examination. In turn, 54 students, who are children of staff, received stipends, and 40 staff members of the office gained foodstuffs. — Thitsa (MNA)/KZL



The awards ceremony of the Yangon Region Advocade -General's Office in progress yesterday. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

NATIONAL

THE government has been promoting the education sector to enable young people to shoulder the nation's responsibilities with high academic ability and intellectual development. Youth forums and discussions are also being organized, and students are being sent to partner countries to gain experiences from ASEAN and the international community, as well as to acquire knowledge and expertise for the country. In this regard, Ma Eint Thu Thu Khin, a student from the BEHS 1 Dagon in Yangon and winner of the nationwide competition for students aged 14 to 16 held under the "Icebreaker of Knowledge" Project organized by the State Atomic Energy Corporation "Rosatom" of the Russian Federation, was allowed to represent Myanmar and participate in a study on a nuclear-powered icebreaker in the Russian Federation together with students from 21 countries.

Dr Sandar Mya Nyein, headteacher

Our school has been nurturing outstanding students and sending them abroad. Since she is only in Grade 10, she has studied only a little about nuclear energy in Physics. So, when she was invited to participate under the theme of nuclear energy, we were concerned. However, her hard work, strong abilities, and proficiency in languages supported her, and she was selected to take part in the competitions. With the support of the school committee and the cooperation of the students' parents, all necessary arrangements were made. Nowadays, young people are not only learning school subjects but also studying other fields of knowledge. Among such students, this outstanding student has emerged. This year, our school also participated in the Biology Olympic 2025 in Russia and won a bronze medal. Having the opportunity to study nuclear energy in Russia is a source of pride for our school, and we are proud that our students can represent the country. I am supporting and nurturing outstanding students to be representatives of the nation. We are especially grateful to the Head of State, the Union Minister of Education, and all responsible authorities for making this opportunity possible.

Daw Aye Mya Thida (SAT)

I am a senior assistant teacher. I am glad to come along with her as her supervisor to Russia. I have already travelled abroad



four times, and I have visited Singapore, Japan, and now Russia. We are proud that the flag of Myanmar, alongside other countries, was hoisted on the Russian nuclear-powered icebreaker in the northern pole of the world. We feel a deep sense of pride and joy as she grabbed the opportunity to

technology.

I also went on study visits to Moscow and Murmansk in Russia. At the Atom Museum, they explained different sections covering the history of atomic theory and scientists, as well as broad knowledge and experiences related to nuclear

demonstrations that nuclear energy can provide electricity for a country and that it is even safer and more reliable than coal.

Among the 21 countries, only Indonesia and Vietnam represented ASEAN, along with Myanmar. Throughout the entire journey, everything was well-or-

Myanmar student sails on Russian nuclear icebreaker

study in Russia, which is an achievement for the nation, the school, and her.

Ma Eaint Thu Thu Khin (Grade 10)

I am currently studying in Grade 10 at the No 1 Dagon Basic Education High School. I represented Myanmar as an outstanding student from my school and won first place in the Icebreaker of Knowledge



PHOTO: ZWE MARN/
BEHS 1 DAGON TS

2025 competition, organized by Rosatom Energy of the Future non-profit organization of the Russian Federation. This competition was held to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Russian nuclear industry and the 500th anniversary of the first Northern Sea Route exploration, and I had the amazing opportunity to participate in this programme.

I went on a study tour aboard Russia's nuclear-powered 50 Let Pobedy Icebreaker, together with outstanding students from 21 countries, including I, and officials from Rosatom. The tour was from 10 to 25 August, and we had to stay on the ship for 10 days. Being a winner representing Myanmar, I prepared to be perfect in the projects, presentations and workshops to uplift the dignity of our country. I carefully studied and took notes during the lectures and presentations about nuclear

technology. On the ship, they showed and explained the rooms where nuclear fuel, the reactor, the engine, and navigation systems are used. This ship is a nuclear-powered vessel.

This programme was also designed to inspire young people to become more intelligent, determined, and knowledgeable in the field of science and technology. Therefore, together with outstanding students from 21 countries, I engaged in group discussions about future innovations, possible developments related to nuclear energy, and also took part in problem-solving activities and intellectual challenges. They also gave detailed lessons about machines and equipment invented with nuclear energy, about the icebreaker, and the power, length, and width of the Icebreaker vessel, and the operations of Rosatom. I also learned through practical

ganized. I believe that young people should connect and communicate with international organizations and exchange ideas on technology. I deeply thank the Head of State, the Union Minister of Education, officials, and all supporters who made it possible for me to take part in this programme.

The outstanding school students from 21 countries: Russia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam, the US, China, India, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Brazil, Egypt, Ghana, Uganda, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Namibia, South Africa, Turkiye and Uzbekistan, spent 10 days on board the 50 Let Pobedy nuclear icebreaker, as part of Icebreaker of Knowledge 2025 competition held by Rosatom Energy of the future non-profit organization commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Russian nuclear industry and the 500th anniversary of the first Northern Sea Route exploration.

The Icebreaker of Knowledge scientific and educational project is aimed at promoting natural science disciplines and technologies of the nuclear industry, finding and supporting talented and gifted children, developing their abilities and providing career guidance. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

CBM sells over US\$2.6M to edible and fuel oil importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.9 million to edible oil importing companies and \$727,500 to fuel oil importing companies on 28 August, in addition to an injection of 66,150 yuan in the market.

Moreover, CBM sold \$127,894 to CMP companies and those who made non-trade payments.

CBM sold over 925,900 yuan and over one million baht on 27 August. Furthermore, it sold \$735,040 to edible oil-importing companies, over \$723,000 to fuel oil-importing companies, and over \$350,000 to CMP companies and individuals who made non-trade payments.

CBM announced on 26 August that it would sell \$32 million and 15 million yuan to importers of other commodities.

CBM also sold \$930,000 to edible oil-importing companies, \$260,354 to fuel oil-importing companies and over \$452,280 to CMP companies and those who made non-trade payments.

CBM sold over \$444,430 to edible oil-importing companies and \$390,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 25 August after sales of over \$29,440 to those who made non-trade payments.

CBM pumped \$1.177 million into edible oil-importing companies and over \$287,600 into fuel oil-importing companies on 22 August, after sales of 500,000 baht.

Furthermore, it sold over \$102,700 to companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis and those who made non-trade payments.

CBM sold over \$602,000 to fuel oil importing companies and \$150,000 to edible oil importing companies on 21 August, beyond the injection of over 702,000 baht into the market.

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



Greenbacks at the forex counter.

MPA: 59 container vessels slated to enter Yangon Port in Sept



A container vessel docks for loading and discharging at Yangon Port.

A total of 59 container vessels are scheduled to enter the Yangon Port in September 2025, the Myanmar Port Authority announced.

Ten container vessels run by SITC Shipping Line, nine each by Cosco Shipping Line and Samudera Shipping Line, six each by CMA CGM Line and Maersk A/S Line, four each by MSC Line and RCL Line, three by ONE Line and two each by Ti2 Container Line, Evergreen Line, BLPL Shipping Line and Land and Sea are scheduled to call in the Yangon Port next month.

Myanmar Port Authority has arranged maritime trade channels to handle increasing imports to meet domestic demand, to bolster exports, and to improve port capacity for significant arrivals of ships. Myanmar Port Authority notified that it

will inform exporters and importers of ship arrival schedules in a timely manner upon an extended schedule.

A total of 62 container vessels in January 2025, 53 in February, 58 in March, 62 in April, 65 in May, 62 in June and 60 in July arrived at Yangon Port. Sixty containers are slated to enter in August.

Yangon Port handled 633 container vessels in 2024 and 629 in 2023. Thanks to the draft extension, the international ocean liners can access the inner port for now, according to the Myanmar Port Authority's statement on 22 June 2022.

After the new navigation channel (Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yangon River was found, the draft extension work was accelerated. After that, the port can

now handle larger ships. The container vessel MV SITC Zhaoming (185.99-metre LOA, 35.25-metre Beam, 29,232 GRT and 2,698 TEU) of Hong Kong-based SITC Shipping Line docked at Asia World Port Terminal for the first time on 22 June, which is the largest ship that AWPT Port has handled.

From May 2021, the arrival of the ships at terminals in Yangon has increased again. Three new container vessels by Maersk Line Myanmar (SeaLand Maersk) started to run to fulfil the seaborne trade requirements in 2021. Earlier, the larger ships had draft problems, preventing sailing on the Yangon River. With the draft being extended up to 10 meters, the larger ocean liners can enter the Thilawa Port. — NN/KK

300,000-acre rice export zone planned in 100 townships

THE Rice Export Zone will be developed by over 50 companies on 300,000 acres in about 100 townships starting from the summer paddy season of the 2025-2026 financial year, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

When rice price falls sharply in international markets, exporters will purchase paddy at a fair price from the farmers through contract farming schemes, contributing to the rice export sector. Furthermore, farmers will get access to agricultural inputs at a fair price, agricultural loans, financial assistance, and improved farm-

land so that they can supply quality rice for export markets, while the federation will also arrange export financing for exporters and management of export zones. A work coordination meeting on the implementation of rice export zones and rice export matters was held on 28 August at the Mingala Hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), with the presence of MRF's president, vice presidents, general secretary, management committee members and exporters.

A work coordination meeting emphasized on double in export, increasing agricultural productivity, developing rice export zones to carry out supply chain collaboration between farmers and exporters, designating 300 acres per rice export zone, limiting less than three rice varieties in the zone, practising natural and bio fertilizer, efforts to meet rice yield target, contract farming system between exporters and growers for at least three rice growing seasons and an-acre production to reach four tones in the zone. — NN/KK

Beef up efforts to reduce plastic pollution as a national duty

THE inability to properly manage the daily waste generated from urban areas and industrial activities has led to a growing environmental pollution problem. Among the various forms of environmental pollution caused by waste, plastic pollution is becoming increasingly severe, posing a significant challenge not only to our country but to the entire world.

The original purpose of producing plastic materials was to make daily life easier and more convenient for humans. However, discarded plastics, which do not decompose for many years, have become a major threat to the human environment. At the same time, global plastic production has continued to rise steadily, reaching over 400 million tons in 2023. If this trend continues, it is estimated that by 2050, global plastic production could reach 1.1 billion tons.

As global plastic production has increased, uncontrolled over-

use and improper disposal have become a threat to humans as well as birds and other wildlife. Discarded plastics exposed to sunlight, water, and weathering over long periods break down into extremely small particles known as microplastics. Scientists warn that these microplastics have already reached the oceans, rivers, clouds, the atmosphere, mountain snow, the food chain, and even human body tissues.

Microplastic particles have been found in human bodies, including the respiratory tract, lungs, blood vessels, and even stool, posing potentially serious health risks. Therefore, efforts must begin to reduce both the production and consumption of plastics to curb plastic pollution. To manage plastic pollution effectively across different sectors, a “National Plastic Management Programme” has been established, under which each sector is implementing coordinated actions, resulting in a decrease in plastic pollution.

Microplastic particles have been found in human bodies, including the respiratory tract, lungs, blood vessels, and even stool, posing potentially serious health risks. Therefore, efforts must begin to reduce both the production and consumption of plastics to curb plastic pollution. To manage plastic pollution effectively across different sectors, a “National Plastic Management Programme” has been established, under which each sector is implementing coordinated actions, resulting in a decrease in plastic pollution.

Everyone has a responsibility to properly dispose of waste, including plastics, to improve and maintain a healthy natural environment. By acting conscientiously in their own neighbourhoods to keep surroundings clean and well-maintained, people can help prevent the social harms caused by plastic pollution across entire cities, regions, and the country as a whole.

Drug Economy Network of the AA Terrorist Group and the Perils of Terrorist Attacks (Part II)



Seizure of 21.8 million methamphetamine pills Shwepyitha Township on 5 August 2025

(CONTINUED FROM
YESTERDAY)

Drug-trafficking connecting with NUG-affiliated PDFs

The AA's primary drug trafficking routes typically involve the route to Rakhine State via Shan State (North)-Mandalay-Yangon route by water and the route to Rakhine State via Mandalay-Meiktila-Magway-Padan by land. Due to increased arrests along these routes in 2024, the AA group is connecting with NUG/PDF groups, who are also hand in glove with it, and trafficking illicit drugs that are produced from Shan State (North) and Kachin State to Rakhine State in 2025 through PDF-operated areas in Sagaing Region and Chin State.

Consequently, a news report widely circulated that three PDF members were arrested with 3 million methamphetamine pills and 100 kg of heroin, estimated at over 9 billion Kyats (USD 2.5 million) by a Chin armed group in Haka Township on 8 July 2025. In fact, the drugs belonging to the AA group were transported by the PDFs, receiving a fee. It was revealed that the drug trafficking PDF members were from the Yinmabin District PDF group, under

the NUG, and that they were trafficking drugs to raise funds for their group's survival because the NUG does not provide support to PDF terrorist groups. They had previously succeeded in trafficking drugs three times, but were arrested on their 4th attempt.

This incident clearly demonstrates that the PDF groups under the NUG are emulating the AA group's drug trafficking model and operating it as a business to sustain their groups. Furthermore, the AA's drug distribution network has spread widely throughout Myanmar, shifting from the transport of drugs in small quantities frequently to the transport of drugs in large quantities less frequently through the areas they control. They themselves conduct drug-trafficking and collect tax revenue by allowing the members were arrested with 3 million methamphetamine pills and 100 kg of heroin, estimated at over 9 billion Kyats (USD 2.5 million) by a Chin armed group in Haka Township on 8 July 2025. In fact, the drugs belonging to the AA group were transported by the PDFs, receiving a fee. It was revealed that the drug trafficking PDF members were from the Yinmabin District PDF group, under

Specifically, the confiscated dead bodies of AA members during battles in the Rakhine State and other evidence indicate that AA leaders often administer nar-

cotics to their subordinates to endure the hardships of battle. Similarly, as PDF terrorists are also following suit, a market for psychotropic drugs is taking place within armed insurgent groups.

The AA's foreign market for illicit drugs

The AA's foreign market for illicit drugs extends from Bangladesh and Malaysia to Western countries and the Middle East. The incident that demonstrates this fact is the arrest of 13 members of a narco-gang between 5 and 14 August 2025, along with 21.8 million amphetamine pills, 5,614.2 kg of ICE (crystal meth), and 1,899 kg of Ketamine, estimated at 257 billion Kyats (USD 71.4 million). The offenders plotted to conduct drug trafficking to Malaysia and Bangladesh.

In this case, major-level ranked Ko Yay (Rakhine), the AA's customs head stationed in Wan Hai and Win Khine (under identification of his rank) living in Myebon of Rakhine State are members of the AA group. Likewise, Tun Thein (Rakhine), living in Yangon and responsible for storing and distributing narcotics, and Kyaw Swar Win (Rakhine) from Kungyangon, who is responsible

for trafficking drugs to Malaysia, are also AA's supply in charge masquerading as civilians. Kyaw Han, the secretary and finance in charge of the AA group, operates behind the scenes.

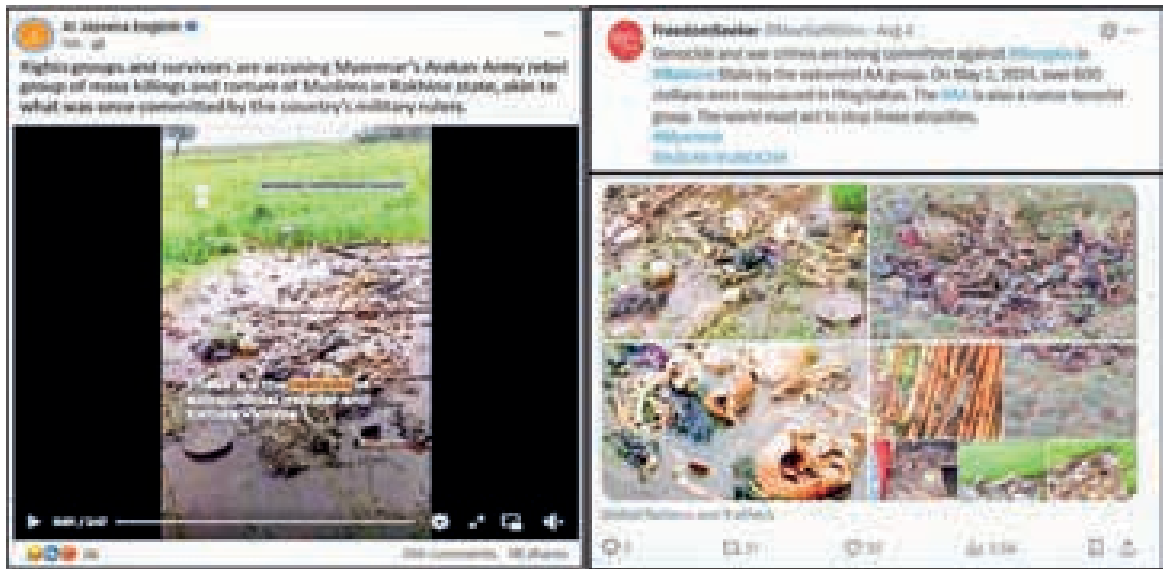
In terms of the AA group's drug economy network, AA members themselves transport, distribute, and sell narcotics at home and abroad. In situations like this, the group tasks individuals as in charge in the insurgent-controlled areas and assigns the business duty as well as supply duty to the Rakhine people masquerading as civilians in the areas where risks of arrest are high. The AA group not only smuggles its own narcotics but also provides safe passage for the narcotics of other armed groups through its areas, in return for tax collection.

According to the statements of those arrested in this case, drug-dealers made drug-trafficking from Wan Hai to Bangladesh and Malaysia through Myebon Township, where the AA group operates in Rakhine State. Once the drug-trafficking is conducted, the AA group would receive a total of 3,460.0 million Kyats as the tax revenue: 654.0 million Kyats for 21.8 million amphetamine pills at a rate of 300,000 Kyats per 10,000 pills, 2,807.0 million Kyats for 5,614 kg of ICE (crystal meth) at a rate of 500,000 Kyats per kilo of ICE. The AA group does not need to

invest in drug-dealing itself, but instead has a representative in the drug-producing area and a representative in Rakhine State, and has its group's civilian support in charge along the drug-carrying route, collecting net tax revenue for the drugs passing through its area.

Accordingly, it is evident that the AA group is heavily involved in both directly trading narcotics to meet its group's financial needs and in allowing other narco-gangs to transit its area to collect substantial tax revenue.

More apparent evidence is that plenty of psychotropic drugs distributed and sold through villages and towns in Rakhine State, where the AA group operates, can be easily purchased in refugee camps within Bangladesh. This point can be clearly seen in the 2021 report of the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) in Bangladesh. According to the report, there are approximately eight million drug users in Bangladesh, and the DNC manages to seize over 50 million psychotropic tablets annually. The seized psychotropic tablets were trafficked into Bangladesh via villages and towns controlled by the AA in the Rakhine State. The seizures reveal the involvement of AA members themselves in drug trafficking. Hence, there have been undeniable eyewitnesses and documents that the



The news report by Al Jazeera news agency and Freedom Seeker Twitter (X) about AA terrorist group's massacre of over 600 Bengali people including children and elders in Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State

By Aung Shinn

AA armed terrorist group is extensively carrying out drug trafficking operations not only within the country but also to foreign countries.

Mutual impact between the drug economy and acts of terrorism

The AA group's drug economy network is connected both

weapons and ammunition. As continuous battles occur, they are increasingly engaging in drug trafficking to replenish diminished arms and ammunition. Similarly, drug trafficking is causing more lawless acts of terrorism. To carry out more armed terrorist acts, they are increasingly pursuing drug trafficking as their primary



Seizure of 5,614.2 kg of ICE (crystal meth) in Kungyangon Township on 14 August 2025

domestically and internationally. Revenue from narcotics has strengthened their arsenal of

business. The AA group's armed approach, fuelled by drug revenue and manpower/weaponry, has escalated battles. Due to acts of terrorism, stability and peace in Rakhine State have been destroyed, and the public's social life is declining.

Undeniable acts of terrorism

To ensure its survival, the AA group has indoctrinated its members with narrow-minded racial views through Rakhine racism. Consequently, the AA troops have been observed and heard to be brutally committing racially and religiously motivated violent attacks against other ethnic groups and tribes within Rakhine State. The recent widely reported incident in international news media, where approximately 600 Benga-

li people, including children and women, were brutally murdered in Htan Shauk Khan village, Buthidaung Township, in May 2024, exemplifies the AA group's inhumane acts of terrorism.

Similarly, in June 2024, a subgroup of the AA terrorist group, led by Tun Wai, groundlessly murdered a total of 357 Muslims in Buthidaung: 87 men from 5 wards in the town, 135 men from Sein Nyin Pyar village, 95 from Nyaung Chaung village, and 40 from Taung Bazar village, accusing them of being associated with the government forces. The AA group, believing in Rakhine chauvinism, has not only forcibly recruited Bengali people, but also Chin and Mro people living in Maungdaw and Paletwa townships, and has also been known to commit bullying

and killings. In December 2024, over 90 Mro people, including over 30 children under the age of 18 from Thittonenar Khwason village in Maungdaw Township, were forcibly abducted, and their families are worried as they have not been heard from so far.

Specifically, the AA group frequently launches drone attacks against Bengali villages in Buthidaung and Maungdaw regions, forcing Bengali people to flee as displaced persons. Similarly, it commits indiscriminate killings of innocent civilians in Paletwa, Pauktaw, Minbya, MraukU, and Kyauktaw Townships, and forces them to attend military training and collect money by extortion from those willing to have an exemption from military training.

SEE PAGE 10

NATIONAL/ARTICLE

SSB insures 1.35+ mln workers



Crew members from the Mobile Medical Unit are seen providing healthcare services.

SOCIAL Security Board’s July 2025 statistics indicated that a total of 1,350,157 workers from 35,610 work places have been insured with the SSB.

There are three hospitals (two in Yangon Region and one in Mandalay Region) and a total of 240 clinics to provide health care to the insured workers in the regions and

states.

“SSB runs ninety-six clinics. There are 61 contract clinics and 73 private clinics linked with the SSB for the Free for Service payment system, in which the Provider Purchaser Split Model is practised. There are over 240 clinics connected with the SSB, including 20 Labour rooms

hospitals and clinics and one traditional medicine clinic,” said an official.

Furthermore, a mobile medical unit with four buses is also providing medical services to people. SSB’s officials are raising awareness of the benefits of the SSB insurance services at the respective departments. — ASH/KK

Drug Economy Network of the AA Terrorist Group and the Perils of Terrorist Attacks (Part II)

FROM PAGE 9

The aforementioned drug trafficking network and terrorist acts of the AA terrorist group constitute crimes that no country in the world can accept. Although the group vehemently denies involvement in drug trafficking and terrorism, undeniable eyewitnesses and documents clearly exist.

Call for action to the international community

The issue of anti-narcotics has been a challenge for successive governments, and drug-trafficking is the main source of income for the survival of terrorist insurgents under the name of ethnic armed groups, and is also related to the prolongation of internal armed conflict. Therefore, the State Administration Council government has given special priority to drug prevention and suppression, and has eradicated

and combated it with its own resources without international assistance. Even though it is actively cooperating with international organizations to be more effective and successful, it is unfortunate to see and hear that some foreign governments and anti-narcotics organizations are turning a blind eye to drug dealings and acts of terrorism by armed drug lord AA groups and NUG-affiliated PDFs and their acts of terrorism against innocent civilians.

Therefore, this is a call for action to international anti-narcotics organizations that it is required to combat armed narco-gangs like the AA terrorist group under the name of ethnic armed group, which is heavily involved in drug-trafficking, to more effectively suppress the drug-production, drug-trafficking and drug-dealing encountered by Myanmar, and to effectively prevent acts of terrorism that are strengthened by the drug trade.

Passport fee raised to K45,000 from 1 Sept



Applicants queue at the Yangon Passport Issuing Office.

EFFECTIVE from 1 September, the fee for a Myanmar passport will be increased by K5,000, according to the Myanmar Passport Issuing Office.

The standard passport fee will change from K40,000 to K45,000 as of 1 September. Online appointments for new

passports and renewals are also available within a few days.

The Myanmar Passport Issuing Office has accepted online applications for passports since 2022. The passport book fee must be paid at the time of the online booking. — ASH/KZL

Filming underway for drama series ‘The Shame Plant’

THE opening ceremony for the filming of the drama series The Shame Plant was held on 28 August at the Eaindawya Pagoda in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, according to actor Hein Thiha.

The story and screenplay are by Phyo Thinzar Kyaw, with director Thar Nyi and co-director Wint Ohmar Kyaw handling filming for Lucky 10 Production.

“In the series, I will play a character called ‘Ye Man,’ which I have never performed before. It is a role that requires extensive preparation. In this film, I play a married man, and the story contains moments that move me to tears. Filming will start in September,” said actor Hein Thiha.

The series will feature many actors and actresses, including Hein Thiha, Yu Thanda Tin, Thantha Nyi, Academy Min Oo, Academy Khin Zar Chi Kyaw, and others. — ASH/MKKS



This photo captures artistes joining the launch of the series.

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NATIONAL

Royal families to offer Waso robes in memory of late kings, queens and relatives

A Waso Robe offering donation ceremony will be held by royal families dedicating to ancestors, including two kings, queens, princes, their sons and daughters, according to Ko Htake Tin Sithu Hein from the Pyinsi House.

This ceremony, mainly sponsored by Htake Tin Sithu Hein and Sai Khun Mai, will attribute to ancestors including King Mindon and his queens, Prince Kanaung, King Thibaw and his queens, sons, daughters and relatives.

It will be held at the Shwegyin Monastery in Bahan Township, on 7 September at 9:00 am.

"This year, we will offer robes in ancient Myanmar traditional craft to Sayadaws. Ushers will wear princes'

costumes. The hall will be decorated in a royal style, such as golden trays," he added.

This year marks the 7th anniversary of the group's Waso robe donation, and is the second time that the Pyinsi House as the main donor.

"Relatives in Yangon often do not get together. When we offer Waso robes, our Konbaung relatives come together to donate," he said. In the coming years, the Royal families will continue to hold Waso robe donation ceremonies, he added. — MT/ZN

This photo showcases a royal procession of the donation.

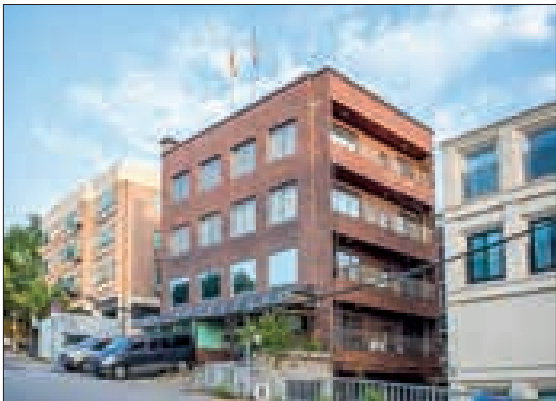


Embassy halts notarized document services on 9 Sept

THE assurance of embassy approval (notarized documents) will be suspended on 9 September and resume on the rest Tuesdays and Thursdays as usual, the Embassy of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Korea announced on 29 August.

The embassy in Seoul said on 29 August that the temporary suspension on 9 September is made as consular work needs to be completed.

However, it will continue on the rest of Tuesdays and Thursdays of September as usual, it said. — MT/ZS



The Myanmar Embassy to the Republic of Korea.

ME Tokyo reissues notice on early voting for Myanmar citizens

THE Embassy of Myanmar in Japan has informed that any overseas voter who wishes to cast early votes should apply for a Form 15 for their respective constituency among 330 townships during the prescribed period.

The completed Form 15 can be sent to the embassy from 12 August to 8 September, it had previously announced in Announcement 1.

The Union Election Commission (UEC) has issued announcements on 15 August and 22 August – 51/2025, 52/2025, and 53/2025 – regarding Form 15 for early voters for the Pyithu Hlut-

taw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Region and State Hluttaws in 330 townships.

The announcements are available on the UEC website <https://www.uec.gov.mm>. The embassy further informed that any early voter can apply for a Form 15 for their respective township within the deadline of 21 August to 8 September.

A copy of a valid Myanmar passport, a fully filled-in Form 15, and a copy of the household register in Myanmar must be sent to the embassy in person, via email or by post by 8 September, it said. — MT/ZN



The Embassy of Myanmar in Tokyo.

Rescue & relief operations ongoing for quake-hit communities

UP to 29 August, the death toll has risen to 3,796, with 5,104 injured and 12 people still missing in six regions and states of Myanmar severely affected by the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March.

Members of the My-

anmar Fire Brigade, along with local and international search and rescue teams, have been continuously conducting operations in the affected areas. To date, 653 survivors have been rescued from collapsed buildings, and the bodies of 874 deceased

individuals have been recovered.

Further announcements will be made regarding ongoing donations of cash and relief items from generous donors, both locally and abroad, to support those affected by the disaster. — MNA/MKKS

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

ECONOMY
WORLD

Laos enhances economic diplomacy to drive trade, investment growth

LAOS' Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a consultation meeting with Lao officials stationed overseas to enhance cooperation in trade, investment, and international integration, aiming to strengthen the country's economic and financial systems.

The meeting was held here on Wednesday and chaired by Lao Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Maithong Thammavongsa, bringing together ambassadors, diplomats and officials from 41 Lao representative offices worldwide, the local Pasaxon newspaper reported on Thursday.

The meeting aimed to enhance and engage Lao diplomats abroad on key priorities in economic diplomacy, including responses to global economic challenges, Laos' strategy for graduating from the Least Developed Country status, and improvements to the one-stop investment service mechanism.

Discussions focused on enhancing coordination, promoting foreign investment in priority sectors, and ensuring diplomats are well-informed to support Laos' trade, investment, and international integration efforts amid ongoing regional and global shifts. In his speech, Maithong emphasized the crucial role of economic diplomacy in fostering trade, attracting investment, and deepening Laos' integration into the regional and global economy. He emphasized the importance of well-informed diplomats who can effectively represent Laos' economic priorities abroad. — Xinhua

Participants exchanged experiences and best practices to promote trade, tourism, and investment in their respective countries, including Lao tourism. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/XINHUA**

Laos' Ministry of Foreign Affairs convened a consultation meeting chaired by Deputy Minister Maithong Thammavongsa, gathering ambassadors and officials from 41 overseas Lao missions to strengthen cooperation in trade, investment, and international integration.



Brazil seeks new markets as US tariff hits exporters



Brazil is the world's leading grower and exporter of coffee beans, with a mellow flavour that makes for a very typical dark roast. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

BRAZIL is negotiating with the United States to roll back a 50 per cent tariff on Brazilian goods while also working to diversify its export markets, Brazilian Foreign Trade Secretary Tatiana Prazeres said Tuesday.

Speaking at a seminar organized by the Federation of Industries of Sao Paulo and the Council of the Americas,

Prazeres said the government is focused on both talks with Washington and supporting companies affected by the new tariff.

She noted that the Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency has launched a strategy to identify new markets, with Mexico, Canada and India considered top priorities. — Xinhua

German unemployment tops 3 mln, highest for a decade

GERMAN unemployment topped three million in August for the first time in over a decade, official data showed Friday, in another blow to Europe's struggling top economy.

The unemployment figure rose by 46,000 month-on-month to hit 3.025 million, the federal employment agency said, the highest level since February 2015.

The country's overall unemployment rate ticked up to 6.4 per cent from 6.3 per cent in July.

Andrea Nahles, head of the employment agency, said the data reflected weakness among Germany's manufacturers.

"That is an important motor for the Germany economy," she said, but added the sector was currently "weakening".

Battered by high energy costs and increasingly fierce Chinese competition, German manufacturers were struggling even before US President Donald Trump erected new tariff walls.

Over 110,000 jobs have been lost in German industry in the past year alone, a report released Tuesday by consultancy EY said, with about 50,000 of them coming from the car industry. — AFP



The logo of German carmaker Volkswagen at the main plant of the group in Wolfsburg, northern Germany, in March 2022. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



Ongoing and planned projects include the development of India's high-speed rail network, notably the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Japan pledges \$68 bln investment in India

JAPAN pledged Friday to invest \$68 billion in India during a visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Tokyo, as the two countries agreed to deepen security ties. "India's massive market is so full of potential that incorporating its vibrancy will help drive the growth of Japan's economy," Japanese Prime Min-

ister Shigeru Ishiba told reporters. Bilateral trade is currently worth over \$20 billion annually, heavily favouring Japan. Speaking during Modi's two-day stopover before he visits China, Ishiba said Japan would boost investment in India to 10 trillion yen (\$68 billion) and would establish

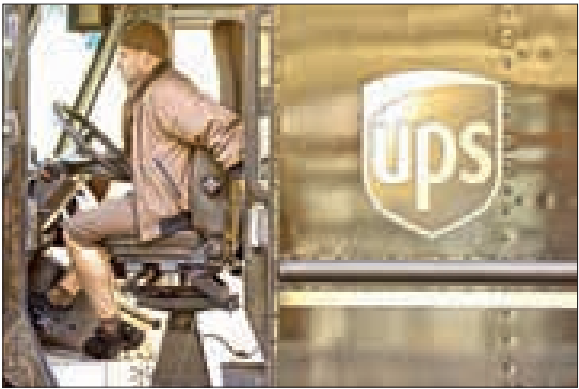
a cooperation initiative focusing on semiconductors and AI. The two sides also pledged to bolster security cooperation, with Kyodo news agency reporting that the two had agreed to expand drills between Japan's Self-Defence Forces and the Indian Armed Forces. The nations also expressed "serious con-

cern" over the situation in the East China Sea and the South China Sea, in a separate joint statement, according to Kyodo. "As the international situation grows more and more uncertain, Japan and India must join hands for the sake of peace and stability of the region," Ishiba told reporters. — AFP

US ends small parcel tariff exemption

THE US tariff exemption for packages under US\$800 ended on Friday. During a six-month transition, postal shippers can opt to pay a flat duty of \$80 to \$200 per package, depending on the country of origin, according to officials of US President Donald Trump's administration. Starting at 12:01 am (0401 GMT) on Friday, US Customs and Border Protection will begin applying standard duty rates to all international parcel imports, regardless of value. This action expands the Trump administration's decision earlier this year to re-

voke the de minimis exemption for shipments from China. Effective on Friday, 29 August, imported goods sent through means other than the international postal network that are valued at or under \$800 and that would otherwise qualify for the de minimis exemption will be subject to all applicable duties. For goods shipped through the international postal system, packages will instead be subject to a duty equal to the effective tariff rate applicable to the country of origin, or a duty ranging from \$80 to \$200 per item. — Xinhua



A United Parcel Service (UPS) driver sits in his delivery truck in San Francisco, California on 31 January 2023. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Kyrgyzstan breaks ground on highway to China border

A groundbreaking ceremony was held here in eastern Kyrgyzstan's Issyk-Kul region for the construction of the Barskoon-Bedel highway, which will link the country to the Bedel checkpoint on the Chinese border. Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov said Wednesday at the ceremony that the highway will strengthen Kyrgyzstan's external ties, boost the economy and tourism, and create new opportunities in transport and logistics. Chinese Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan Liu Jiangping said he hoped the Chinese contractor would complete the project on time, calling it a new model of cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FU XING VOY.NO. (2508)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FU XING VOY. NO. (2508)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIPL** 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: **2301928** Shipping Agency Department Myanmar Port Authority Agent For: **M/S ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL VOY.NO. (03)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL VOY.NO. (03)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-9-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MHM** 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: **2301928** Shipping Agency Department Myanmar Port Authority Agent For: **M/S MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS CO LTD**

GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS



P RIME Minister Narendra Modi on Friday during his visit to Japan said that the world is not just watching India but also counting on it.

Addressing the India-Japan Economic Forum in Tokyo today, PM Modi said that Japan has always been an important partner in India's 'Vikas Yatra' and pitched for a partnership in the areas of manufacturing, technology, innovation, green energy, and skill development.

He echoed Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's remarks at the forum and said, "Japan's excellence and India's scale can create a perfect partnership."

In his address to the economic forum, PM Modi highlighted that the technology of Japan and talent of India can together lead the tech revolution of this century.

"Japan is a tech powerhouse and India is a talent powerhouse. India has taken AI, semiconductor, quantum computing biotech and space has taken bold and ambitious initiatives," PM Modi said.

He noted that India-Japan have signed an agreement on Joint Credit Mechanism for

"World is counting on India," says PM Modi during Japan visit

Highlighted that Japan's technology and India's talent can drive this century's tech revolution, citing AI, semiconductors, quantum computing, biotech, and space initiatives.



Modi emphasized India's political and economic stability, transparent policies, and predictability.

PHOTO: AFP

cooperation on clean fuel and green future.

Today, India has political stability, economic stability, transparency in policy, and predictability, the Prime Minister said. "Today, India is the fastest-growing major economy in the world. And, very soon, it is going to become the third largest economy in the world," he said. PM Modi said, India contributes 18 per cent to global growth, and the country's markets are giving good returns.

He emphasised on the country's strong banking sector, low inflation and low interest rates and close to 700 billion dollars in forex reserves.

"Our approach of reform, transform, and perform is driving all this progress..." he said.
— ANI

Brawl in Mexican Senate after debate on US military intervention

A session of the Mexican Senate turned chaotic when a dispute over speaking time escalated into a physical altercation between senior lawmakers, CNN reported. The fight broke out near the end of the meeting, which had included an intense debate on potential US military intervention in Mexico.

As the national anthem played, Alejandro Moreno, president of the opposition Institutional Revolutionary Party

(PRI), stormed towards the podium and grabbed the arm of Senate President Gerardo Fernandez Norona of the ruling Morena party. The two quickly got involved in a shoving match, CNN reported.

Footage of the scuffle, as reported by CNN, showed another suited man throwing a punch at Norona, while Moreno pushed a man in a green shirt to the ground. Norona later identified the man in green as a member of his staff, who

later appeared at a press conference wearing a neck brace and arm bandages.

Moreno defended his actions in a post on social media, alleging that the ruling party had altered the session's agenda to silence the opposition. "That cowardice provoked what followed. Let it be clear: the first physical aggression came from Norona," he wrote, accusing the Senate president of initiating the confrontation. — ANI

Erdogan: Turkiye ready to help realize high-level Russia-Ukraine meetings

TURKISH PRESIDENT Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday voiced his country's "readiness to do its utmost for the realization of high-level Russia-Ukraine meetings that will pave the way for peace".

Erdogan made the remarks during a phone conversation with his Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky, discussing the Turkiye-Ukraine relations, the Ukraine-Russia peace process as well as regional and global issues, the Turkish presidency said in a statement. During the phone talks, Erdogan said Turkiye "closely follows the talks in Alaska and Washington," the statement said, reaffirming Turkiye's continued efforts to help bring the conflict to an end. — Xinhua



US President Donald Trump is deploying three warships off the coast of Venezuela — like those seen here in the Red Sea in 2022 — as part of efforts to curb drug trafficking. **PHOTO: UNITED STATES NAVAL FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND/AFP/FILE**

SPORTS

Rooney reckons
'something is broken' at
Amorim's Man Utd

WAYNE Rooney believes Ru-
ben Amorim's remarks follow-
ing Manchester United's shock
League Cup loss at Grimsby
prove "something is broken"
at the club.

United came from 2-0 down
to force a penalty shoot-out on
Wednesday, but then lost 12-11
in a penalty shoot-out as sum-
mer transfer window signing
Bryan Mbeumo hit the crossbar
with what proved to be the deci-
sive kick. A crestfallen Amorim,
who had not watched the shoot-
out but preferred to sit in the
dugout, said afterwards: "I felt
my players spoke really loud
today what they want".

United ended last season
a lowly 15th in the Premier
League table, their worst fin-

ish since being relegated from
England's top-flight in 1974.

But there had been hopes
a full pre-season for Amorim
allied to some £200 million
(\$269 million) worth of new
talent up front would lead to
a revival in United's fortunes.
United, however, have started
this season with a home loss to
Arsenal, a draw away to Fulham
and a woeful defeat by fourth-
tier Grimsby that has led to
speculation about Portuguese
boss Amorim's position at Old
Trafford just three games into
the campaign. Speaking on the
BBC's The Wayne Rooney Show,
United's record goal-scorer
said: "Just the way they lost,
it was disheartening. There's
something not right. — AFP



Ruben Amorim's Man Utd are winless in the Premier League this season. **PHOTO: AFP**

MNL-2 Week 3: Myawady,
University, Yangon City
secure wins



Myawady and Chinland players in action. **PHOTO: MNL**

THE 2025-2026 Myanmar Na-
tional League 2 (MNL 2) Week
3 matches were played on 28
and 29 August, with Myawady,
University and Yangon City
securing victories.

University beat YB Unit-
ed 7-3, Myawady edged past
defending champions Chin-
land 3-2, while Yangon City

outplayed Silver Stars FC 3-1.
Glory Goal and Kachin United
shared points in a 1-1 draw.

Chinland had led 2-0 and
enjoyed a one-man advantage,
but late defensive lapses cost
them the match and their place
at the top. University moved
into first place on goal differ-
ence despite being level on

seven points with Myawady.

After Week 3, University
and Myawady lead on seven
points each, followed by Chin-
land and Yangon City on six
points. Kachin United has five
points, Glory Goal two points,
Silver Stars FC and YB United
remain winless. — Shine Htet
Zaw/KZL

Alexander-Arnold dropped by England for
World Cup qualifiers

TRENT Alexander-Arnold was dropped by
England as coach Thomas Tuchel on Friday
handed first call-ups to Elliot Anderson and
Djed Spence for the World Cup qualifiers
against Andorra and Serbia.

Alexander-Arnold was part of England's
most recent squad at the end of last season,
but Tuchel opted to leave him out of the Sep-

tember matches.

The right-back quit Premier League
champions Liverpool to join Spanish side
Real Madrid on a free transfer in the summer.

However, Alexander-Arnold was left out
of Madrid's starting team for last weekend's
win against Real Oviedo in favour of Dani
Carvajal. — AFP

Garnacho arrives at Chelsea as £40M move from Man Utd moves closer

ALEJANDRO Garnacho has
arrived at Chelsea's training
ground in advance of his re-
ported £40 million (\$54 mil-
lion) move from Manches-
ter United, Blues boss Enzo
Maresca said Friday.

A deal was said to have
been agreed between the two
Premier League clubs on
Thursday, with the 21-year-
old no longer required by Ru-
ben Amorim at Old Trafford.

Garnacho was at Chel-
sea's training ground in

Cobham, southwest of Lon-
don, on Friday to undergo a
medical and finalise terms.

"I know he is around
here," Chelsea manager
Maresca told reporters. "I
don't know exactly where".

Maresca, asked how the
United academy graduate
would fit into his team, re-
plied: "He's a winger. I see
him as a winger".

The Italian would not
rule out the possibility of
more arrivals and depar-

tures before Monday's
summer transfer window
deadline.

"You can expect any-
thing, the transfer window
is open, anything can happen
in and out," he said.

Maresca also confirmed
Cole Palmer will miss the
game against west London
rivals Fulham on Saturday
with the groin injury which
forced him to pull out of the
game against West Ham. —
AFP



Alejandro Garnacho in action for Manchester United in a friendly in Hong Kong. **PHOTO: AFP**



Russia, China working on independent payment infrastructure: Russian Ambassador

This cooperation, including initiatives within BRICS, is expected to intensify over time.

MOSCOW and Beijing are working to form an independent payment infrastructure so that the West cannot dictate its terms, Russian Ambassador to China Igor Morgulov said.

“We are looking ahead and working to form an independent payment infrastructure in order to limit the West’s ability to dictate its terms in the financial and banking sphere,” Morgulov said.

He said that Russia is known to be promoting its own system for transmitting financial messages, while its Chinese partners have their own cross-border interbank payment system CIPS, of which many Russian banks are already participants.

“A number of specialized initiatives have been put forward within the BRICS framework. I am convinced that given the importance of this issue, the intensity of such joint work will only increase with time,” the ambassador said. — SPUTNIK



The Cross-border Interbank Payment System (CIPS) booth in China International Finance Exhibition, Shougang Convention and Exhibition Centre, Beijing, China, 26 April 2023. PHOTO:CFP/CGTN/FILE

Thailand’s Constitutional Court removes PM Paetongtarn over ethics breach

THAILAND’S Constitutional Court on Friday removed suspended Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra from office for violating the constitution over her phone conversation on the border issue with Cambodia. A panel of judges agreed by six votes to three to strip Paetongtarn of premiership status, ruling that her actions constituted a serious violation of ethical standards. The court also dismissed her cabinet, but the remaining members will continue to perform caretaker duties until a new cabinet takes office. In her address at the government house following the ruling, Paetongtarn said she humbly accepted the verdict, insisting that her intention was to protect people’s lives during the border conflict.

Paetongtarn emphasized the importance of collaboration among all parties to restore political stability and prevent similar sudden disruptions in the future. She also expressed gratitude to all

fellow Thai citizens for the opportunity to serve the country as prime minister throughout her nearly one-year tenure. Paetongtarn was suspended last month pending the court’s investigation into her

telephone call with Cambodian Senate President Samdech Techo Hun Sen over the border dispute, in which the audio recording was leaked online in June. — Xinhua



Paetongtarn Shinawatra (front, C) speaks to the press at the government house in Bangkok, Thailand, 29 August 2025. PHOTO: RACHEN SAGEAMSAK/XINHUA

POTENTIAL INVESTMENT USE

Sri Lanka launches survey to identify state lands for investment

THE Sri Lankan government has launched a survey to identify state-owned lands that can be allocated for investment, a senior official said Friday.

Commissioner General of Lands Chandana Ranaweera Arachchi said the survey is being carried out at the divisional secretariat level, the local administrative unit in Sri Lanka responsible for delivering a broad range of government services. He said 5,300 hectares of land have already been identified, and the government’s goal is to make investing in Sri Lanka easier. — Xinhua