

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.

Cybersecurity Prioritized in Defence Against Cyberattacks

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said so at the opening of the Digital Myanmar Forum and Exhibition at the Yadanabon Teleport Building in the Yadanabon New City Project, PyinOoLwin, yesterday afternoon.

Secretary of the Commission General Ye Win Oo, Commission Member Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo, Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than, Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant and Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung cut the ribbon to open the forum and exhibition.

Ensuring affordable and accessible internet connectivity for all in urban and rural areas must be prioritized.



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing is pictured inspecting the exhibition during yesterday's opening of the Digital Myanmar Forum and Exhibition in PyinOoLwin.

Salient points of the speech delivered by the Senior General at the opening of the Digital Myanmar Forum and Exhibition

1. Myanmar needs to also place importance on formulating and promulgating the necessary policies, laws, and procedures in a balanced and timely manner, in line with technological progress, to effectively regulate and oversee technological challenges.
2. ASEAN member states are working towards further strengthening information-sharing networks among one another to combat telecommunication fraud.
3. It will help in formulating a road-map and strategic plan to promote the large-scale production of electronic equipment within the Yadanabon New City Project area.

The Senior General pressed the button to open the forum and exhibition.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that Myanmar must implement the objectives of the ASEAN Digital Master Plan, namely: an Inclusive Digital Community, a Trusted Digital Ecosystem, an Innovative Digital Economy, a

Future-Ready Workforce, and Sustainable Digital Transformation.

He continued that it is necessary to implement measures to enable smooth digital cross-border trade among ASEAN member states; to effectively utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI) and establish AI safety and security networks, to enhance

digital literacy and skills of the regional workforce, to nurture advanced technology professionals and promote greater application of technology in the workplace, and to leverage digital technologies to address environmental conservation and climate change challenges.

SEE PAGE 3

NATIONAL

Myanmar election successfully held, free and fair without irregularities

❖ The election we conducted was organized to ensure that it was free and fair, without electoral fraud or errors in the voter lists, and that it upheld dignity and integrity. As a result, a successful election was held.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with the Union Election Commission Chairman, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and chief ministers of regions and states on 9 February 2026)

- 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.

KIA, PDF drone attack on Myitkyina airport draws widespread condemnation

KIA and PDF terrorist groups used FPV suicide drones to attack Myitkyina Airport, a major air hub in Kachin State, at 8.12 pm on 20 February, with the intention of killing and injuring passengers.

The attack was complete-

ly unacceptable not only to residents but also to the wider public nationwide. Various organizations have also condemned it. On 24 and 26 February, the Rakhine Literature and Culture Association, the Kayin Literature and Culture

Association, and the Zaiwa Literature and Culture Association of Kachin State issued statements respectively expressing strong opposition and condemnation. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar Gazette

Duty Assignment of Permanent Secretary/ Director-General

THE National Defence and Security Council has assigned U Zaw Myint Oo, Director-General (Joint Secretary) of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, to the duties of the Permanent Secretary and Director-General of the same organization.

Revision to Electricity Bills

1. The Ministry of Electric Power, exercising the authority conferred under Subsection (b) of Section 72 of the Electricity Law, and with the approval of the Union Government in accordance with Section 41 of the said Law, issued Notification 89/2026 on 27 February 2026, prescribing electricity tariff rates.
2. The electricity generated from Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) power plants will be supplied via direct lines to non-domestic consumers located within industrial zones and special economic zones. Except in cases of line faults and system breakdowns, there will be no load shedding, and a dedicated 24-hour electricity supply will be provided. For such electricity, a fixed tariff rate of K900 per unit will be charged.
3. Industrial and business enterprises located outside industrial zones and special economic zones can apply to the department if they wish to receive a 24-hour electricity supply at the fixed rate of K900 per unit as stated in paragraph 2, and arrangements will be made accordingly.
4. However, depending on the generation capacity of existing power plants and the transmission capacity of power lines, electricity supplied under the normal distribution system to the public and to industrial and business enterprises will continue to be charged at the current tariff rates (according to the respective layers for domestic and non-domestic categories), without any revision or change.
5. The electricity tariff rates to be charged according to categories of electricity consumers are set as follows,

No	Type of consumers	Rate	
		Used unit	Kyat
(a)	Domestic (Domestic, household power meter, large sum consumption (household), non-commercial religious buildings) Remark- There is no change in electricity tariffs.	1 to 50	50
		51 to 100	100
		101 to 200	150
		Over 201	300
(b)	Non-domestic (Industries, businesses, large sums, temporary consumption, lamp posts, governmental buildings, State-owned industries, river water pumping stations, municipal departments and workplaces, non-governmental organizations, foreign embassies, international organizations) Remark- (1) There is no change in electricity tariffs. (2) If electricity generation and distribution capacity are insufficient, load shedding may occur. (3) If industrial and business enterprises located outside industrial zones and special economic zones apply to the department if they wish to receive a 24-hour electricity supply at the fixed rate of K900 per unit, arrangements will be made accordingly.	1 to 5,000	250
		5,001 to 20,000	400
		Over 20,001	500
(c)	Industrial zones, special economic zones, and industrial/ business enterprises that receive electricity through a dedicated direct line with an uninterrupted 24-hour supply (without load shedding).	One unit and above	900

6. The revised electricity bill rates will come into force effective from 1 February 2026.

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

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)

Train services on the PyinOoLwin-Gokteik Viaduct route enable locals to explore regional heritage and scenic landscapes.

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Commission Secretary General Ye Win Oo and Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung, inspected urban development undertakings in PyinOoLwin yesterday morning.

On his inspection tour, the Senior General looked into the efforts of the PyinOoLwin Township Development Committee to expand the breadth of roads to become 24-foot roads, construct bridges, dig earthen drains, place asphalt on the roads, and mark the thermo plastic paint on the roads in Wards 8 and 10 and the new Padetha city in PyinOoLwin by car and gave necessary guidance.

He observed urban development measures at the yard of PyinOoLwin Railway Station. Commission Member Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo and Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing reported on the implementation of the projects for the construction of the stand-facilitated stadium and a gymnasium, the staff hous-



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears the report on development projects in PyinOoLwin.

Development Projects Draw Tourists, Boost National Income

ing, the four-storey modern hotel and shopping mall in the station yard, future projects and running of the train along the PyinOoLwin-Gokteik railway section.

In response to the reports, the Senior General stressed the need to systematically implement efficient land use to develop the urban area of PyinOoLwin. As PyinOoLwin and Kalaw railway stations are ancient and historic ones, measures must be taken to systematically

maintain the railway station buildings, establish the precise station yards with cleanliness, beautification and pleasure environment.

He noted that urban development undertakings and greening environments can attract domestic and foreign travellers so as to generate national income. Running the train along the PyinOoLwin-Gokteik Viaduct section helps local people enjoy regional knowledge and

scenic beauty. As such, he stressed that arrangements must be made for the safe travel of passengers.

The Senior General inspected progress in upgrading the Anisakhan Airfield and responded to the report of Union Minister U Mya Tun Oo and officials on systematic calculation to achieve the long-term interest depending on prospects of travelling, trading and development undertakings. — MNA/TTA

Cybersecurity Prioritized in Defence ...

FROM PAGE 1

The Senior General underscored that in 2026, as AI technology is advancing at a rapid pace, it is observed that ASEAN member states are placing special emphasis on the implementation of Responsible AI. In this regard, ASEAN countries are coordinating Ethical Guidelines on AI among themselves to promote the safe application of AI.

With regard to the rapid expansion of digital systems, he noted that ASEAN member states are working

towards further strengthening information-sharing networks among one another to combat telecommunication fraud.

He continued that efforts must be made to ensure affordable and accessible internet connectivity for all people in both urban and rural areas, to enable women, youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities to easily utilize digital technologies, to strengthen cybersecurity and collectively defend against regional cyberattacks, and to combat online financial fraud to create a secure

and trustworthy environment for users.

The Senior General highlighted that alongside the global advancement of AI technology, emerging challenges such as violations of organizational and individual freedoms, issues of bias, and potential threats to national security have become major concerns. Countries around the world are enacting and updating technology-related laws and procedures in response to technological developments in order to address these risks.

SEE PAGE 4

NATIONAL



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing tours the stalls at the Advanced Thumingala Market in PyinOoLwin.

Advanced Thumingala Market commissioned in PyinOoLwin

A ceremony to inaugurate the Advanced Thumingala Market took place in PyinOoLwin yesterday morning, graced by the presence of Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

On the occasion, Commission Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Union Min-

isters U Mya Tun Oo and U Myo Thant, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung and Mandalay Region Development Affairs Minister U Kyaw Hsan cut the ribbon to inaugurate the market.

The Senior General unveiled the signboard of the market and had documentary photos taken together with attendees at the ceremony.

The Senior General, the Commission Secretary, Union ministers and the

Mandalay Region chief minister sprinkled scented water on the plaque of the market.

They viewed the selling of goods at the shops, the activities of children at the playground and visited the cinema at the market.

At the multipurpose hall of the market, the Senior General and attendees watched a video clip on the history of the market and the progress of construction.

The Mandalay Region chief minister presented a gift to mark the opening of the market to the Senior General. They all enjoyed the song in honour of the market opening ceremony.

The regional chief minister spoke words of thanks for the construction of the market.

After the ceremony, the Senior General cordially greeted the attendees.

Also, present at the ceremony were senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Central Command, deputy ministers, members of the Mandalay Region cabinet, departmental officials and officials.

The Advanced Thumingala Market in PyinOoLwin was constructed under the guidance of the Head of State to ensure the emergence of a new, modern market in line with the town's growing population density and increasing number of visitors. The project aims to support urban development in accordance with modern systems and to establish an RC-standard advanced market building that meets international standards. It is also intended to enable the centralized trading of locally produced basic commodities in one place and to improve the flow of goods between hilly and plain areas. The new market is a six-storey RC-type building. To facilitate convenient access for shoppers, it has been systematically equipped with 12 escalators, six elevators, a solar-powered electricity supply system, security systems, fire protection systems, and disaster-resilient features. The advanced Thumingala Market is branded shops, a promotion area, cart shop areas, bank areas, a supermarket, mini-marts, retail stores, clothing and cosmetics shops, grocery stores, restaurants, a playground, cinemas, and systematically arranged parking facilities. — MNA/TTA

Cybersecurity Prioritized in Defence ...

FROM PAGE 3

Therefore, he stressed that Myanmar needs to also place importance on formulating and promulgating the necessary policies, laws, and procedures in a balanced and timely manner, in line with technological progress, to effectively regulate and oversee technological challenges.

The Senior General expressed his hope that the technology exhibition and the accompanying seminar will produce beneficial outcomes for the development of the State's IT sector, for prioritizing cyber technology-related activities within the Yadanabon New City Project, and for advancing AI and satellite technologies.

Furthermore, he added that it will help in formulating a roadmap and strategic plan to promote the large-scale production of electronic equipment within the Yadanabon New City Project area and to enhance

human resource development through linkages with technological universities.

The Senior General pointed out that it is necessary to practically evaluate the formulation of such strategies and the implementation of related activities to ensure their continuous, long-term execution. These initiatives must be carefully considered from all perspectives to become comprehensive, accurate, and without shortcomings.

The Senior General and attendees watched a documentary video on the Digital Myanmar Forum and Exhibition.

Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo presented a gift to mark the opening ceremony to the Senior General.

The Senior General, interestingly, visited the booths of the exhibition and gave necessary guidance

to officials.

Also, present at the opening ceremony were Commission Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Union Ministers U Mya Tun Oo, Dr Charlie Than and U Myo Thant, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Central Command and deputy ministers.

The Digital Myanmar Forum and Exhibition under the title "Digital Myanmar: Shaping Myanmar's Digital Future in the Age of AI" will be held until 28 February, displaying booths of ministries and domestic and foreign technological companies.

The Senior General inspected the Yadanabon New City Project in a motorcade and gave necessary guidance to officials. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Civil Servants Urged to Foster Love for Nation

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met district and township-level departmental officials of Yaksawk, Kalaw, Heho and Aungban in Shan State separately in Yaksawk and Kalaw on 26 and 27 February.

Speaking at the events, the Vice-Senior General said that the government held the multiparty democratic general election, which reflects the will of the people, starting on 28 December 2025, in three phases in 263 townships using MEVMs. The election was successfully conducted transparently in the presence of international election observers, local and foreign media, regardless of the destructive actions of the insurgents and unscrupulous media outlets.

Out of more than 24 million eligible voters nationwide, over 13.14 million cast their votes, resulting in a voter turnout of 54.22 per cent. The election was successfully held as a free and fair election, conducted with dignity and without voter fraud or errors in the voter lists. A total of 58 parties competed, whereas six parties competed in all regions and states. The government makes preparations to convene the Hluttaw in March.

He continued that as government staff, they have to serve their duties in accordance with the code of conduct, no matter what the government is. They must be free from party or personal bias and serve as good public servants and government servants. He warned that destructive groups continue to spread rumours and offer financial incentives to influence civil servants, and stressed the importance of distinguishing right from wrong.

He mentioned the efforts in building the nation from the time of serving State responsibilities on 1 February 2021 to date amid the DCS, political crisis and



State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win warmly greets district and township-level departmental officials from Kalaw in Shan State.

natural disasters, including the COVID-19 pandemic. He also appreciated the efforts of loyal government staff who serve duties diligently during that time.

He stressed the importance of improving the education sector for the development and stability of the country, noting that weak educational attainment affects critical thinking. He called for the officials to ensure high pass rates in the upcoming Grade 12 examination in March 2026 and urged teachers to ensure students from KG to Grade 12 achieve literacy and mastery of lessons.

Regarding healthcare, he said the government is working nationwide to ensure a healthy population by upgrading hospitals and providing necessary medical equipment and medicines. The sports sector is also promoted as good health enables effective performance of duties, and he is encouraged to do daily physical exercise.

He added that the government set an agro-based industry policy for the country, and the high schools for industrial, agricultural and breeding are also opened as vocational training for the students who partially suspended their learning at Grade 12, and to ensure the human resources in the agriculture and livestock breeding sector.

He stressed the need to conduct public awareness programmes for the farmers to promote the production rate of local food products and commodities, make arrangements to promote the production rate of local food products and commodities, meet the target and export, and make efforts for the development of the regions where the staff are assigned.

The civil servants must have a spirit of patriotism and love for the nation. Some staff committed malpractices in economic and political issues, showing their weakness in love for the nation.

There are two kinds of spirit of love for the nation, like love for the nation regarding the citizens and love for the nation regarding the civil servants. Therefore, all citizens need to collectively safeguard and properly uphold respect, value, and cherish national symbols and emblems related to the State, including the national flag, the national anthem, and other national insignia.

He emphasized the role of civil servants, highlighted the need to be free from corruption and urged them to be reliable servants for the country and people.

Attendees reported on different matters related to education, health and offices, and the Vice-Senior General coordinated necessary measures with officials.

He presented cash awards to the departmental staff and cordially greeted them. — MNA/KTZH

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.

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
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NATIONAL



State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets Tatmadaw members and families from Kalaw Station yesterday.

Effective Administration, Welfare Enhance Tatmadaw Members' Capabilities

Tatmadaw members have voluntarily joined Tatmadaw without any external persuasion, driven by a genuine desire to serve the country's defence and security, said State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the meeting with Tatmadaw members and families of Kalaw Station at the hall of the local battalion yesterday morning.

Senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief who accompanied the Vice-Senior General discussed functions of offices and departments, office works of regiments and units, workguidelines, orders and directives for general staff, adjutant and quartermaster measures, military law matters and training sessions.

In his speech, the Vice-Senior General noted that to maintain the Tatmadaw's strength, the senior leadership works dil-

igently to provide what is necessary to ensure the force remains capable and robust regardless of changes in political governments.

He stressed that regarding the administrative measures, relevant commandants have to fairly manage officers, other ranks and families of regiments and units with supplies of necessary logistic measures through the commander's spirit. Proper administration and welfare can improve the capability of Tatmadaw members automatically.

The Vice-Senior General underscored that Tatmadaw members are expected to diligently fulfil any duties entrusted to them for the perpetuation of the State's sovereignty and to courageously overcome any challenges encountered along the way.

He added that Tatmadaw members must correctly apply the military skills they have learnt during operations and security duties and make full and effective use of the arms, ammunition and accessories. Only by doing so will they be able to protect and

safeguard the lives, homes, and well-being of the people effectively.

Furthermore, the Vice-Senior General explained political changes of the State, saying that the Tatmadaw, in response to irregularities that occurred during the 2020 multiparty democratic general elections, took State responsibilities in accordance with the Constitution (2008). The free, fair and credible multiparty democratic general election in three phases, reflecting the will of the people, was successfully held starting 28 December 2025. Since the elections were successfully held, preparations are being made to convene the Hluttaw in the near future. The Government, along with the regions and states, is making preparations for convening these sessions. Hluttaw sessions will be convened in March, and in early April, a new President will be elected, a new government will be formed, and the responsibilities of the State will be formally transferred.

The Vice-Senior General explained that if Tatmadaw systematically expands

military-owned and manageable-scale agriculture and livestock farms for the welfare of Tatmadaw members, these will contribute much to life of families.

Moreover, he urged Tatmadaw members to read good literature for the improvement of their lives. Due to existing educational shortcomings, Tatmadaw is making efforts not only to improve the education of the children of Tatmadaw members' families but also to raise the educational level of the Tatmadaw members themselves.

After the meeting, the Vice-Senior General coordinated the reports of individual Tatmadaw members and families with officials to fulfil their needs.

He presented foodstuffs to officers, other ranks and families and his wife, Daw Than Than Nwe, cash awards to the maternal and child welfare association through officials. The Vice-Senior General and party cordially greeted the Tatmadaw members and families. — MNA/TTA

MoFA Union Minister receives Lao-Myanmar Friendship Association Chairman

U THAN SWE, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Chanthavong Seneamatmontry, Chairman of the Lao-Myanmar Friendship Association (Vice-Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee, National Assembly of Lao PDR) and members, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the courtesy call, they discussed matters about the enhancement

of bilateral relations and cooperation in the sectors of trade, investment, electricity, religious affairs, culture, tourism, labour affairs and promotion of people-to-people contacts. Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ambassador of Lao PDR to Myanmar, the chairman of the Myanmar-Lao Friendship Association and members from both friendship associations were also present. — MNA



The Chairman of the Lao-Myanmar Friendship Association and his delegation pay a courtesy call on Union Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

NATIONAL

“Advancing National Interests through Foreign Policy” workshop conducted

THE Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a workshop titled “Advancing National Interests through Foreign Policy” at the Lawkanat Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 27 February 2026.

The workshop was attended by the Union minister, deputy ministers, the permanent secretary, ambassadors, and directors-general and officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as senior officials from other related ministries.

Union Minister U Than Swe delivered the opening address at the workshop. He explained that the purpose of the workshop was to enhance the capacity, research practice, and analytical skills of the Ministry’s staff members by learning the experiences of Senior Officials of the Ministry, Ambassadors, and academic professors, as well as to ensure the effective implementation of the national interests of the country. He stated that it is imperative to establish and implement



Union Minister U Than Swe opens the workshop on “Advancing National Interests through Foreign Policy” yesterday.

strategies when implementing the nation’s foreign policy. He underscored the importance of effective coordination between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and related Ministries. The Union minister expressed his conviction that the workshop would generate sound recommendations by analyzing the challenges and opportunities in protecting and promoting the national interests of Myanmar, ultimately aiming to transform those chal-

lenges into opportunities. The workshop was organized to enable officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and related Ministries to gain a deeper understanding of contemporary geopolitical landscapes, regional and international developments evolving alongside rapid technological advancements, the domestic realities, as well as the current challenges and opportunities of the country. It also aimed to identify effective measures to

protect and promote Myanmar’s national interests in the international context. In the first session of the workshop, senior officials and academic professors discussed several key topics, including the relationship between national interests and geopolitics, Foreign policy analysis, the role of mass media in international relations and current national interest priorities. In the second session, Am-

bassadors shared their practical diplomatic experiences with the staff members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on protecting and promoting Myanmar’s national interests in bilateral, regional and international fora. Following this, attendees participated in group discussions categorized by their respective topics. Afterwards, Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw delivered the closing remarks and the workshop was concluded. — MNA

Roscosmos delegation holds university talks in Myanmar

A delegation led by General Director Mr Dmitry Vladimirovich Bakanov of Russia’s state space corporation, Roscosmos, held discussions at universities in Myanmar and attended the opening of a space-themed art competition. The group, which arrived on 25 February, included cosmonaut Sergei Konstantinovich Krikalev, a Hero of the Soviet Union and a Hero of the Russian Federation. They delivered lectures on space science and human spaceflight

at Naypyitaw State Polytechnic University, Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University and Yangon Technological University. Academics and students attended the sessions, where discussions covered potential academic cooperation and scholarship programmes between Myanmar institutions and Roscosmos partner universities. The delegation also joined the opening ceremony of a space-themed painting, cartoon and poster competition

at Yangon’s People’s Square, organized by the Yangon Region government, the Myanmar Space Agency and the Space Museum (Yangon). More than 6,000 basic education students are taking part. They later viewed space technology exhibitions, met young Myanmar researchers and toured entries in the competition. The delegation also paid visits to the Shwedagon Pagoda and the Maravijaya Buddha Image. — MNA/KZL



The opening ceremony of the space-themed painting, cartoon and poster contest is underway in Yagon.

Meeting of Registrar-General and Licence Holders of Marriages under Christian Marriage Act

TO facilitate the marriages under the Christian Marriage Act, the meeting between the Registrar-General and the Licence Holders of Marriages was held in person and virtually at the Meeting Room of the office of the Union Judiciary Supervision of the Supreme Court of the Union on 25 February. Registrar-General Daw Tin Nwe Soe, Director-General of the Union Judiciary Supervision, delivered her opening address on: granting licences by the Supreme Court of the Union to Ministers of Religion and any Christian to solemnize marriages under Sections 6 and 9 of the Christian Marriage Act; appointing Registrar-General and Registrars of Marriages under Section 7; issuing notification and directives for application licences and solemnizing the marriages; issuance of the Directive 1/2026 to solemnize the marriages for prevention to deception of fake-marriage of foreigners with Myanmar women during their short stay in some trafficking in persons cases; and facilitating and solemnizing of marriage process under the law. And Deputy Director-General U Aung Kyaw Moe and Director Daw Thuzar Aung explained the legal processes and issues, and a Q&A session was held between the discussants and participants. At the meeting, 15 licence holders under the Christian Marriage Act attended in person, and four licence holders via videoconferencing. The meeting then concluded. — MNA

OPINION

Shape the best workplaces to accomplish missions

A WORKPLACE can generally be categorized into two main types: one that focuses directly on carrying out a particular production activity, and another that performs management functions to ensure such operations run smoothly and efficiently. Regardless of differences in duties and responsibilities, the individuals who carry out the work in all such workplaces are employees.

Whether in government departments or private companies, staff working in administrative and support units must understand that only by properly fulfilling their duties can production staff complete their tasks smoothly and efficiently. Since administrative staff members are responsible for managing production personnel, they should not hold the mistaken view that they are superior to those engaged in production lines. Likewise, production staff should not assume that administrative personnel are unnecessarily exerting

control or asserting authority over them. In reality, everyone must recognize that the successful completion of work depends on the cooperation and collaboration between these two departments.

Most importantly, employees' comfort and well-being should always be taken into account. When supervisors address even minor needs and provide support, it can motivate employees as a positive driving force for the workplace. Departments that are well-informed with the above-mentioned guidance will be able to make their best efforts to ensure that the operations they are implementing are completed to full capacity.

In carrying out their respective important responsibilities, employees should work together with shared commitment and without negligence. If even one person avoids their duties, others will have to share that individual's responsibilities, leading to a heavier workload and possible unnecessary delays in operations, causing discord among staff. Instead of working with enthusiasm and dedication, declining morale could result in reduced productivity and lower quality of output.

Those responsible for supervising a department must enforce oversight to ensure employees carry out their duties properly. They should

issue warnings, assign accountability, or take disciplinary actions as needed, while also ensuring that hardworking employees do not lose motivation and that workplace harmony is maintained. In addition, a system of rewards and penalties should be implemented: recognizing and praising diligent workers, while taking action against those who violate workplace rules. Supervisors should also actively acknowledge and encourage employees who are continuously putting in effort, rather than overlooking their contributions.

To prevent unnecessary problems in the workplace, clear workplace rules and regulations must be drafted and established. These rules should be practical and naturally enforceable so that employees can follow them. Workplace regulations should not be so strict that they interfere with employees' personal and social lives outside of work.

Most importantly, employees' comfort and well-being should always be taken into account. When supervisors address even minor needs and provide support, it can motivate employees as a positive driving force for the workplace. Departments that are well-informed with the above-mentioned guidance will be able to make their best efforts to ensure that the operations they are implementing are completed to full capacity.

Shaping a Human-Centric Future for AI – AI Impact Summit 2026

By Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

AT A defining moment in human history, the world gathered at the AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi. For us in India, it was a moment of immense pride and joy to welcome Heads of State, Heads of Government, delegates and innovators from across the world.

India brings scale and energy to everything it does, and this Summit was no exception. Representatives from over 100 nations came together. Innovators showcased cutting-edge AI products and services. Thousands of young people could be seen in the exhibition halls, asking questions and imagining possibilities. Their curiosity made this the largest and most democratized AI summit in the world. I see this as an important moment in India's development journey, because a mass movement for AI innovation and adoption has truly taken off.

Human history has witnessed many technological shifts that changed the course of civilization. Artificial

Intelligence belongs in the same league as fire, writing, electricity and the internet. But with AI, changes that once took decades can unfold within weeks and impact the entire planet.

AI is making machines intelligent, but it is even more a force multiplier for human intent. Making AI human-centric instead of machine-centric is vital. At this Summit, we placed human well-being at the heart of the global AI conversation, with the principle of 'Sarvajana Hitaya, Sarvajana Sukhaya' (Welfare for All, Happiness of All).

I have always believed that technology must serve people, not the other way around. Whether it is digital payments through UPI or COVID vaccination, we have ensured that Digital Public Infrastructure reaches everyone, leaving none behind. I could see the same spirit in the Summit, in the work of our innovators in domains like agriculture, security, assistance for Divyangjan and tools for multilingual populations.

There are already examples of the empowering potential of AI in India. Recently, 'Sarlaben', an AI-powered digital assistant launched by Indian dairy cooperative AMUL, is providing real-time guidance to 3.6 million

dairy farmers, mostly women, about cattle health and productivity in their own language. Similarly, an AI-based platform called Bharat VISTAAR gives multilingual inputs to farmers, empowering them with information about everything from weather to market prices.

Humans must never become mere data points or raw material for machines. Instead, AI must become a tool for global good, opening new doors of progress for the Global South. To translate this vision into action, India presented the MANAV framework for human-centric AI governance.

M – Moral and Ethical Systems: AI should be based on ethical guidelines.

A – Accountable Governance: Transparent rules and robust oversight.

N – National Sovereignty: Respect for national rights over data.

A – Accessible and Inclusive: AI should not be a monopoly.

V – Valid and Legitimate: AI must adhere to laws and be verifiable.

MANAV, which means 'human', offers principles that anchor AI in human values in the 21st century.

Trust is the foundation upon which AI's future rests. As generative systems flood the world with content, democratic societies face risks from deepfakes and disinformation. Just as food carries nutrition labels, digital content must carry authenticity labels. I urge the global community to come together to create shared standards for watermarking and source verification. India has already taken a step in this direction by legally requiring clear labelling of synthetically generated content.

The welfare of our children is a matter close to our hearts. AI systems must be built with safeguards that encourage responsible, family-guided engagement, reflecting the same care we bring to education systems worldwide.

Technology yields its greatest benefit when shared, rather than guarded as a strategic asset. Open platforms can help millions of youth contribute to making technology safer and more human-centric. This collective intelligence is humanity's greatest strength. AI must evolve as a global common good.

We are entering an era where humans and intelligent systems will co-create, co-work and co-evolve. Entirely new professions will emerge. When the internet began,

no one could imagine the possibilities. It ended up creating a huge number of new opportunities, and so will AI.

I am confident that our empowered youth will be the true drivers of the AI age. We are encouraging skilling, reskilling and lifelong learning by running some of the largest and most diverse skilling programmes in the world.

India is home to one of the world's largest youth populations and technology talent. With our energy capacity and policy clarity, we are uniquely positioned to harness AI's full potential. At this Summit, I was proud to see Indian companies launch indigenous AI models and applications, reflecting the technological depth of our young innovation community.

To fuel the growth of our AI ecosystem, we are building a robust infrastructure foundation. Under the India AI Mission, we have deployed thousands of GPUs and are set to deploy more soon. By accessing world-class computing power at highly affordable rates, even the smallest startups can become global players. Further, we have established a national AI Repository, democratising access to datasets and AI models. From semiconductors and data infrastructure to vibrant startups and applied research, we are focusing on the complete value chain.

India's diversity, democracy and demographic dynamism provide the right atmosphere for inclusive innovation. Solutions that succeed in India can serve humanity everywhere. That is why our invitation to the world is: Design and develop in India. Deliver to the world. Deliver to humanity.

(Views and opinions expressed in this article solely belong to the author)

Terrorist Acts and War Crimes committed by the KIA Terrorist Insurgent Group and PDF Terrorists

By Khin Nyo Chaw

AT present, the Government is making concerted efforts to ensure nationwide peace and tranquillity and to secure the long-term, sustainable fruits of peace. These efforts are being carried out through the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) framework as part of the peace process. Despite these constructive initiatives, it is deeply regrettable that armed terrorist groups are destroying the long-cherished dream of peace of local people residing in Kachin State.

In particular, the KIA insurgent group, which does not represent the will and aspirations of the Kachin population as a whole, has turned its back on dialogue and the government's peace process and has chosen to persistently pursue the path of armed conflict. Their actions not only directly undermine the socioeconomic development opportunities of the different ethnic communities living peace-

fully in Kachin State but also clearly disrupt regional stability and peace. Notably, they have deliberately targeted civilian infrastructure unrelated to military affairs with the apparent intention of paralyzing the government's administrative machinery in Kachin State and the northern part of Sagaing Region.

The insurgent and terrorist groups have targeted and destroyed roads and bridges essential for public transportation, communication facilities and electricity transmission towers vital for information flow and power supply, as well as schools and hospitals that serve as fundamental institutions for children's education and public healthcare. These attacks include reckless mine attacks, electrically-initiated rocket attacks, and drone attacks. Such attacks have not only inflicted direct harm upon the daily socioeconomic lives of residents but have also caused severe

damage to the region's future development prospects.

MNA's ATR-72-600 passenger aircraft attacked by KIA insurgents and PDF terrorists

The attack on Myitkyina Airport that took place at approximately 8:12 pm on 20 February could not be ignored as an ordinary case. On that evening, an ATR 72-600 passenger aircraft operated by Myanmar National Airlines (MNA), carrying more than 70 passengers, was preparing to depart from Myitkyina Airport for Mandalay. During these preparations, a joint terrorist group comprising the KIA and the PDF groups launched a sudden FPV suicide drone attack. This act clearly constituted a deliberate and targeted terrorist attack intended to endanger the lives of innocent, unarmed civilian passengers.

SEE PAGE 13



MNA's ATR-72-600 passenger aircraft attacked by KIA insurgents and PDF terrorists.

NATIONAL

Boat services expanded for Mawtinsun Pagoda festival pilgrims



Mawtinsun Pagoda festivalgoers are seen travelling by boat. PHOTO: HOTELS AND TOURISM (AYEYAWADY)

THE Ayeyawady Region's Mawtinsun Pagoda festival is currently ongoing from 16 February to 2 March, the full moon day of Taboung. As the full moon day approaches, the number of pilgrims is increasing, so additional boats from Pathein Port to Mawtinsun are being deployed to facilitate transport.

"The Mawtinsun Pagoda festival is especially crowded on the full moon day of Taboung. However, since yesterday, there have been many pilgrims on the boats, so we have had to

increase the number of vessels. Normally, a boat leaves Pathein Port at 6 pm, arrives at Mawtinsun at 1 am, and returns to Pathein at 6 pm with as many passengers as possible, then departs the next evening again. Starting yesterday, after arriving at Mawtinsun at 1 am, the boats wait for one hour to board passengers and then immediately return to Pathein to depart Mawtinsun at 6 pm. We have to increase the number of boats because it is very crowded. There were many pilgrims yesterday evening, and tomor-

row there will be even more," said U Kyaw Htwe, in charge of the Pathein ferries.

The office will be closed from Saturday, 28 February, to 2 March. As 2 March is the Taboung full moon day, a large number of visitors are expected. On 27 February, Grade 9 and Grade 5 exams will have finished, so many visitors are expected to travel by boat from Pathein Port to Mawtinsun on Saturday and Sunday. Previously, there were eight or nine ferries per day, but now there are more than 15. — Oktha/MKKS



This image showcases a sand artistic work. PHOTO: KO LWIN

Sand artists prosper by painting Buddha stories in Bagan during low season

AFTER the long holiday period of Union Day and Chinese New Year, resident painting artists have been earning a good income by creating murals depicting Buddha stories, the Buddha's Eight Victories, and the 16 Dreams of King Kosala in Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, and some hilly areas.

"They earn well by painting Buddha stories and King Kosala's dream on walls with sand, especially when there aren't many tourists. To ensure this art continues across generations, Bagan artists are passing their skills to the younger generation. The art of mural painting in Bagan will continue to thrive as long as mural works continue," said U Zeya Than, an artist from Myinkaba village.

Currently, mural paintings are commissioned for K25,000 per square foot. Depending on the financial capacity of the monasteries, artists from Bagan create murals of the Ten Great Jatakas, other Jatakas, the Buddha's Eight Victories, and the Dreams of King Kosala, with the size of the wall determining the scale of the work.

Under neem and White-barked acacia trees, painters frequently offer their skills to both domestic and foreign tourists during Bagan's tourism season through hand painting and sand painting. In Bagan villages, they earn money from sand painting during the low tourist season, while in rural areas, painting Buddha's Jatakas provides a higher income. — Oktha/MKKS

Ancient inscriptions in Bagan preserved with RTI technology



This photo captures officials documenting and preserving ancient stone inscriptions in Bagan using RTI technology.

ANCIENT stone inscriptions in Bagan, a World Heritage Site, are being documented and preserved using Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI) technology, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch).

The ancient stone inscriptions in Bagan have been in place for many years and, as a result, have weakened, been exposed to natural weathering, and been damaged by erosion, causing the engraved characters to become unclear. Therefore, a modern technology called the RTI system is being used to capture detailed

images.

Since the stone inscriptions are made of natural sandstone, their surfaces can be damaged, and the letters can fade over time due to weather conditions. Therefore, recording them using this technology will be helpful for long-term conservation and research.

It was also reported that, in carrying out the documentation work using RTI technology, the stone inscriptions were first cleaned, then detailed photographs were taken using the RTI system, and finally, the images were processed using RTI Builder software.

Currently, 83 stone inscriptions have been recorded. Recording them using the RTI system can prevent ink stains that may have occurred during the manual copying of stone inscriptions in the past, help preserve more inscriptions and their characters, and allow the written content to be read more clearly.

There are a total of 352 stone inscription plaques in the Bagan region. Researchers and students who wish to study the inscriptions recorded using the RTI system may contact the Department of Archaeology and the National Museum. — ASH/TH

NATIONAL

Myanmar's largest space-themed student art competition kicks off

THE grandest space-themed painting, cartoon, and poster competition for basic education students in Myanmar is currently being held at People's Square in Yangon. The three-day event is expected to draw more than 6,000 young contestants.

It is organized by the Yangon Region Government, the Myanmar Space Agency, and the Space Museum (Yangon). It runs from 27 February to 1 March. The schedule and themes are as follows: 27 February - High School Level - "Future Space Technology"; 28 February: Primary School

Level - "Space Hero"; 1 March: Middle School Level - "Exploring the World of Space".

Dr Cho Cho Myat Aung, deputy director-general of the Yangon Region Education Office, commented: "As this is the first-ever competition, the children are very excited. Starting today, we are hosting seminars where experts share their knowledge. Students will meet global space professionals and learn about robotic technologies. It provides immense motivation."

Participants will be evaluated based on scientific imagi-



Students and crowds gather during the three-day space-themed painting, cartoon, and poster competition.

nation, creativity, artistic skill, message clarity, uniqueness, and the harmonious blend of Myanmar's cultural identity.

The awards ceremony will

take place on 4 March. The cash prizes for first, second, third and 10 consolation awards are K500,000, K400,000, K300,000, K200,000 each for primary lev-

el; K700,000, K600,000, K500,000, K300,000 each for middle level; and K1,000,000, K900,000, K800,000, K500,000 each for high level, respectively. — MT/ZN

MAI signs MoUs with Indonesian flight schools

ACADEMY on 24 February to develop aviation education and professional career pathways.

The collaboration between MAI and Perkasa Flight School marks its first international Pilot the Cadet Training partnership which represents an important step in further strengthening the long-term standing aviation cooperation between Myanmar and Indonesia. Such collaborations will create systematic pathways for Myanmar nationals to access internationally recognized aviation education and career opportunities.

Under the agreement between MAI and Perkasa Flight School, a Pilot Cadetship Programme will be implemented to train MAI's professional flight officers on a long-term basis.



The signing ceremony held between MAI and Perkasa Flight School and Aviation Training & Flying Academy in Indonesia.

They will undergo ab initio training at Perkasa Flight School in Indonesia in accordance with the regulations of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) of Indonesia.

In addition, MAI has signed an agreement with the Avia-

tion Training & Flying Academy (ATFA) to conduct a Cabin Crew Preparatory Programme, which will develop future cabin crew members with strong safety skills, service excellence and operational capabilities. — ASH/MKKS

'The Day Rose Blossoms' staged at National Theatre for MMPO's 80th anniversary

IN commemoration of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization's 80th anniversary, the play 'The Day Rose Blossoms' will be performed at the National Theatre in Yangon at 7 pm on 8 March.

It is a comedy play featuring former members of Hnizti Anyeint, director Maung Myo Min, Nay Toe, Kyaw Kyaw Bo, Tun Tun, Ye Lay, Moe Pyae Pyae Maung, Phoo Zone, May Kabya and Moe Yu San.

Tickets have started to go on sale, priced at K300,000, K200,000, K100,000, K70,000 and K50,000. Initially, 40 tickets will be available for each category. — Htun Htun/ZS



This image displays a poster for the play 'The Day Rose Blossoms'.

Alpine Vitamin Drink awards car to lucky winner

THE car prize presentation ceremony for Alpine Vitamin Drink was held on 27 February on U Htun Nyein Road in Mayangon Township.

At the event, Sai Sam Htun, Chairman of the Loi Hein Group of Companies, delivered the open-

ing remarks. He and the invited artists then presented the car prize to the lucky winner, Ko Phyo Maung Maung, who expressed his gratitude.

Guests were later entertained at a dinner reception followed by a lucky draw pro-

gramme.

The company announced that further lucky draw programmes, including another car prize, will be introduced as part of its ongoing consumer appreciation campaign for Alpine Vitamin Drink. — Htun Thway Eain/KZL



The winner receives the lucky-draw car prize.

NATIONAL BUSINESS

Yangon palm oil reference price set higher on global cues

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil for the Yangon market is set a bit higher at K6,400 per viss during a week ending 5 March, tracking global sentiments, which is up from K6,250 recorded last week, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

The rise in palm oil price was attributed to a sharp drop in the palm oil output in major producing countries starting from January 2026, a large stockpile and a surge in demand during the Chinese New Year Festival and Ramadan. According to Reuters and industry reports, palm oil output in major producing nations is experiencing stagnant production levels in the first quarter of 2026, keeping the price supported. The Department of Consumer Affairs speculated palm oil market constraints that other factors include strengthening Malaysia Ringgits, Indonesia's tax hike in palm oil export from 10 per cent



Cooking oil bottles are arranged for sales inside the supermarket.

to 12.5 per cent starting from 1 March, low global stock levels in palm oil reserve situation with tight supplies dropping to 19 per cent in 2025-2026 Financial Year from 20 per cent, increase in palm oil demand ahead of Eid al-Fitr, pushing the FOB price to US\$1,078 per tonne in February from \$1,047 in January.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is still high. To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not

to buy palm oil at high prices. The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department, or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are annually imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

Businesses invited to import raw fertilizer and produce compound fertilizer via Swiss Challenge

MINISTRY of Transport and Communications invited interested business entities to submit a tender through the Swiss Challenge method to undertake the importation of raw fertilizer materials to produce compound fertilizer by blending them, repackaging, storing and the distribution process.

That project to produce compound fertilizer will be carried out on the land of Twantay Canal at Plot No 124 A in Kaladan Village-tract in Twantay Township, Yangon, owned by the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems.

Tender application is available at the Marine Navigation Division (Lower Myanmar) at No 400, Lower Pazundaung Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon, starting from 23 March. The deadline for the tender is at 4 pm on 23 March. Local entrepreneurs will be prioritized in evaluation.

Interested individuals can enquire about details through 09 442009009 and 09 799760306. — NN/KK

CBM to pump THB50M into import sector

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 26 February that it would sell 50 million baht to importers. Furthermore, CBM injected three million baht into the market on that day and sold over US\$2.21 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$1 million to fuel oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 25 February that it would inject \$30 million into the fuel oil sector.

CBM also sold over \$2.44 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$2 million to fuel oil-importing companies

on that day, along with an injection of over \$1.83 million, 300,000 yuan, and three million baht in the market.

CBM injected 2.1 million baht and \$180,000 into the market on 24 February, in addition to selling over \$2.5 million to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold \$1.1 million, purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies, in addition to selling 260,000 yuan in the market on 23 February.

CBM sold over \$43 million, 65 million baht and over four million yuan in January 2026.

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

Myanmar to host 11th ACMECS Summit in Nov

MYANMAR has been preparing to host the 11th ACMECS Summit in November, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

Myanmar hosted the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Senior Officials' Meeting via video conference on 25 February 2026, chaired by the director-general of the International Organizations and Economic Depart-

ment under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ACMECS SOM Leader for Myanmar and attended by SOM Leaders and representatives from ACMECS member countries, chairpersons and vice-chairs of the ACMECS Coordinating Committees and representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the deputy director-general of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization, and officials of the relevant ministries

of Myanmar.

Myanmar is currently serving as the rotating chair of ACMECS for the 2025-2026 term. The meeting reviewed the implementation of the ACMECS Master Plan (2019-2023) and discussed drafting a new Master Plan (2026-2030) and strengthening the role and capacity of the ACMECS Interim Secretariat and cooperation with development partners. — NN/KK

Terrorist Acts and War Crimes committed by the KIA Terrorist Insurgent Group and PDF Terrorists

FROM PAGE 9

The recent attack on Myitkyina Airport was not the first attack committed by the KIA. On 12 February, similar suicide drone attacks were launched against the airport. At the time, the drones were successfully intercepted by installed security jamming systems, causing them to crash onto the runway without any casualties or damage to aircraft. However, the KIA group deliberately timed their second attempt precisely to attack the aircraft at the arrival time, reportedly overcoming the frequency range of the security jammers.

In such a highly dangerous situation, the timely response of the Myanmar Armed Forces and security personnel proved crucial. Their swift evacuation of passengers to safe locations and the systematic execution of necessary rescue operations ensured that no passengers or crew members suffered casualties.

Passenger aircraft serve as an essential means of transportation for the general public and are not legitimate military targets. The KIA terrorist group is fully aware of this fact. Nevertheless, following the first airport attack, the KIA group denied responsibility through social media platforms in an illogical and brazen manner. However, the truth cannot be concealed. Based on the drone debris recovered from the 12 February incident, authorities identified with credible evidence that the drones were of a type primarily used by the KIA and manufactured abroad.

After the second attack, the KIA's shameless propaganda became even more apparent. Through social media platforms, they alleged that Myitkyina Airport was being used to transport military rations and weapons, claiming this as justification for their actions. It does bring into question: if passenger aircraft operating from Myitkyina Airport were indeed transporting military supplies, what then is the purpose of military aircraft and helicopters stationed at the Nampong Air Base, where supplies could be delivered without public visibility? Using such a pretext to attack civilian aircraft and a civilian airport is an extremely heinous act.

Due to the sabotage of the KIA and the PDF groups, residents across Kachin State are facing severe transportation difficulties. Major roadways connecting Mandalay, Shwebo, Mohnyin, Mogaung, and Myitkyina, as well as Mandalay, Madaya, Shwegu,



As KIA and PDF terrorists directly endanger people's lives and property, public tolerance appears to be diminishing, with calls on the government to eliminate the terrorist groups. Attacks by KIA and PDF groups targeting innocent civilian travellers constitute war crimes and cannot be justified under any circumstances.

Bhamo, and Myitkyina, have reportedly been disrupted by mine attacks. Along an alternative detour through the forest, illegal checkpoints, extortion, and forced recruitment by the KIA and PDF groups have allegedly occurred, causing civilians to avoid overland travel due to safety concerns. River transport along the Ayeyawady River connecting Mandalay, Shwegu and Myitkyina has also reportedly been disrupted by frequent attacks on civilian vessels under accusations that they were being used by the military, further limiting transportation options.

Under such circumstances, air travel had become the only safe and reliable transport link for residents of Kachin State. The KIA itself and everyone might have understood that people from diverse ethnic communities residing in the state rely on air travel primarily to reach major cities such as Mandalay and Yangon.

As a consequence of these recent reckless attacks by KIA and PDF terrorist groups, Myitkyina Airport has now been temporarily closed. The principal lifeline relied upon by the local population has been abruptly severed. This has resulted in significant hardships in travel and the flow of goods, severely impacting socioeconomic conditions. Public concerns and anxieties expressed on social media platforms reflect the depth of these challenges.

The KIA's attack specifically targeted a civilian passenger aircraft unrelated to any military objective, and was deliberately timed to coincide with its arrival. This was not merely an act of disruption with civilian travel, but it was an attempt that could have caused mass casualties and the destruction of an entire aircraft carrying innocent passengers.

Under the fundamental principles of the Geneva Conventions, civilian infrastructure and public transport systems not directly engaged in military operations are expressly protected from attack, both in peacetime and wartime. From the perspective of international law, the deliberate attack against a civilian airport and an unarmed passenger aircraft constitutes an act of inhumanity and may amount to a war crime.

Accordingly, these attacks by the KIA and PDF terrorist groups highlight a blatant disregard for international norms and legal standards. Direct threats by the KIA and PDF groups to civilian lives and property reflect the characteristics commonly associated with terrorist organizations.

It is also evident that deeper intention may also be involved in their acts. The government has recently indicated preparations to resume the suspended the Myitson Dam Project in cooperation with China, citing national interests and

regional development. The KIA and PDF terrorists, who feel concerns for losing their status of warlord in the territory, have deliberately created instability in the Kachin State to obstruct or delay such development initiatives.

In reality, Kachin State is not a domain for the exclusive benefit of any single organization, but a shared homeland for diverse ethnic communities who aspire to coexist peacefully. However, the pursuit of armed struggle of KIA under the pretext of ethnic causes poses a significant threat to the region's stability and future, and has attracted widespread condemnation from various domestic and international organizations.

At present, the violent actions of the KIA and PDF groups that constitute war crimes have intensified public resentment and hatred. As KIA and PDF terrorists directly endanger people's lives and property, public tolerance appears to be diminishing, with calls on the government to eliminate the terrorist groups. Attacks by KIA and PDF groups targeting innocent civilian travellers constitute war crimes and cannot be justified under any circumstances. This article brings the realities to the attention of the international community that such acts of destruction not only hinder the development of Kachin State but also push the daily lives of local ethnic communities into hell.

BIZ
WORLD/AD

Chemical giant BASF to shift jobs from Germany to Asia

BASF signalled on Friday it would shift jobs from its home market of Germany to Asia, as the struggling chemical giant seeks to aggressively cut costs.

The vast German chemical sector has been mired in crisis in recent years due to overcapacity, weak demand and high energy costs.

BASF, the world's biggest chemical group and a key supplier to industries ranging from automotive to agriculture, has launched a major savings drive, in particular directed at its operations in Germany.

In its latest move, the group said it intended to cut administrative jobs, including at a major hub in Berlin, without giving a precise figure. — AFP

Daiei's 70-yr-old supermarket brand name to be phased out amid realignment

JAPANESE supermarket chain Daiei Inc said Friday it will change its brand name of all its stores in the greater Tokyo area to "Food Style" by 2030 under a strategy shift of its parent company to deal with intensifying competition, effectively taking down the household name used for over 70 years.

Daiei, a subsidiary of the retail giant Aeon Co., will continue operating under its current name



Japanese supermarket chain Daiei Inc said Friday it will change its brand name of all its stores in the greater Tokyo area to "Food Style" by 2030. PHOTO: KYODO

Daiei currently operates 62 outlets in the greater Tokyo area, 30 of which highlight the Daiei brand. In the Osaka region, it has 187 outlets, 40 of which clearly display the Daiei brand identity. The company has also used other store names, such as "Gourmet City" and "Foodium".

The Daiei name will also be largely phased out in the western region by 2030, according to the company. — Kyodo

while merging with its subsidiary, food supermarket operator Kohyo

Co, on Sunday in an effort to streamline its operations.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2604S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2604S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-2-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVIAS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVIAS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-2-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC GUANGDONG VOY.NO. (2604S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC GUANGDONG VOY.NO. (2604S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-2-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0085N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0085N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-2-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

Notice for Change of Registration Distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official registration distributor has been changed for the following pesticides distributed by Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd. to Pyinsa Crop Science Co., Ltd.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration		Registration distributors	
			Type	Number	Old	New
1	Moshini 200 WP	Dinotefuran 200g/kg WP	Full	F2022-3485	Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd	Pyinsa Crop Science Co., Ltd.

Pyinsa Crop Science Co., Ltd. invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.
Address- Pyinsa Crop Science Co., Ltd. No. (95-A), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th Miles, Mayangone Township, Yangon, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

Notice for Change of Pesticides Trade Name

The foreign manufacture Eastchem Co., Ltd. will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading name.

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	A.I	Reg: Type	Reg: No.
1	Sulfaron 250EC	Dei Waw 250EC	Carbosulfan 200g/l + Chlorfluazuron 50g/l EC	Provisional	P2023-5218

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of herbicide.
Address- **Pyinsa Crop Science Co., Ltd.** No.(95-A), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

Notice for Change of Pesticides Trade Name

The foreign manufacture AgriGate CropSciences Pte., Ltd. will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading name.

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	A.I	Reg: Type	Reg: No.
1	Pyaing San Shar 50SC	Ba Mahtee 50SC	Spinosad 5% SC	Provisional	P2023-5359

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of herbicide.
Address- **Myanma Awba Group Co., Ltd.** No.(95-A), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, The Republic of Union of Myanmar.

SPORTS



This photo features the discussion on elevating amateur football standards and transitioning from amateur to professional level.

MFF holds strategic talks to strengthen amateur football and professional pathways

The Myanmar Football Federation convened a strategic meeting aimed at raising the standard of amateur football and establishing a structured pathway from the amateur to the professional level.

The discussion was aligned with the FIFA Talent Development Scheme under the theme “Every talent gets a chance”, with an emphasis on data-driven ecosystem analysis, the implementation of school football programmes, and systematic player development frameworks.

The federation stated that the initiative forms part of a long-term plan to strengthen grassroots structures and create clearer pathways for emerging football talent in Myanmar to progress to the professional level. — ASH/KZL



Switzerland's Corinne Suter earned her first World Cup win in over three years. **PHOTO: AFP**

Suter wins as Aicher closes gap on absent Vonn in downhill title race

GERMANY'S Emma Aicher reduced the gap to World Cup downhill leader Lindsey Vonn, whose season ended with her horror crash at the Olympics, after finishing fourth behind race winner Corinne Suter in Soldeu on Friday.

Aicher, the Olympic downhill silver medallist, moved to 306 points — 94 behind American great Lindsey Vonn with three races left in the campaign — despite missing out on the podium in Andorra. There are two races in the Italian resort of Val di Fassa next week and the season-ending downhill at the World Cup finals in Kvitfjell, Norway, on 21 March. “I'm not going to think about that at all,” Aicher told German broadcaster ARD when asked about the title. “Because it will only be important after the final race.”

Swiss racer Suter, 31, secured the sixth World Cup win of her career but first since December 2022. She timed 1 minute 31.62 seconds, edging Nina Ortlieb of Austria by 0.11 seconds. Italy's Olympic bronze medallist, Sofia Goggia, took third, 0.24 seconds off the pace. — AFP

MGA President's Cup Mandalay leg concludes

THE Mandalay leg of the 2026 Myanmar Golf Association President's Cup concluded on 27 February at the Yedagon Taung Golf Course in Mandalay with the final round and prize presentation ceremony.

In the professional category, Thiha Htay (HAN Golf Masters) and Lwin Moe both finished on 284 strokes, four under par. Thiha Htay secured the title after winning a play-off at hole 18.

In the senior professional event, Min Naing (Srixon) claimed first place with 218 strokes, ahead of Kyaw Moe (Green Joy Pro Shop) with 233 strokes.

Among amateurs, Hlaing Min Htet won the men's title



The awards ceremony for the Myanmar Golf Association President Cup is underway in Mandalay yesterday. **PHOTO: MGF**

with 299 strokes, while Cho Thar Aung topped the women's category with 154 strokes.

During the ceremony, officials presented trophies and cash awards, while medals were contributed by supporting or-

ganizations. The third leg of the tournament will take place from 9 to 12 March at Yangon Golf Course (Danyingon), featuring amateur, senior amateur and junior under-18 categories. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Real Madrid face Man City, PSG draw Chelsea in Champions League last 16

THE draw for the latter stages of this season's UEFA Champions League was made on Friday and threw up yet another clash between Real Madrid and Manchester City.

The draw for the latter stages of this season's UEFA Champions League was made

on Friday and threw up yet another clash between Real Madrid and Manchester City. Real Madrid and Manchester City will face off in a Champions League knockout tie for the fifth season running after being drawn Friday to play each other in the last 16, while reigning champions

Paris Saint-Germain will take on Chelsea.

The Spanish giants, record 15-time European champions, will host City in the first leg at the Santiago Bernabeu next month before travelling to England for the return the following week. — AFP



India, Israel sign MoUs across tech, agri, maritime sectors

India and Israel signed agreements spanning innovation, agriculture, AI, education, and cybersecurity.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Israel's PM Benjamin Netanyahu leave after a press conference in Jerusalem on 26 February 2026.

PHOTO: GIL COHEN-MAGEN / POOL / AFP

India and Israel on Thursday signed multiple agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) across multiple sectors covering Artificial Intelligence, cybersecurity, edu-

cation and other sectors during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ongoing two-day state visit to the country, reflecting the growing strategic, technological, and economic partnership between the

two countries.

The agreements cover areas including innovation, agriculture, geophysical exploration, maritime heritage, fisheries, aquaculture, artificial intelligence, edu-

cation, commerce, and cybersecurity and were signed in the presence of Prime Minister Modi and his Israeli counterpart, Benjamin Netanyahu, ahead of their press statements in Jerusalem.

In the India-Israel Joint Statement released on Thursday, both sides noted the role of water and agriculture in sustainable development and reaffirmed the importance of strengthening partnership in such areas. The partnership focuses on key areas of water conservation, wastewater treatment and its reuse for agriculture, desalination, water utility reforms, and the cleaning of the Ganges and other rivers using advanced water technologies, as per the statement.

The Prime Ministers also agreed to strengthen the ongoing capacity-building programme in agriculture in Israel, led by MASHAV in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture of India.

India and Israel signed key MoUs during PM Modi's visit: cultural exchange and agriculture innovation centre (FM Gideon Saar, EAM Jaishankar); geophysical exploration (Energy Minister, EAM); Lothal Maritime Heritage (Heritage Minister, EAM); horizon scanning (Science Minister, EAM); fisheries/aquaculture (Agriculture Minister, EAM); AI in education (Education Minister, EAM), 4th CEO Forum report presented. — ANI

China-Vietnam cross-border travel surges

Cross-border tourism between China and Vietnam experienced a robust expansion during the recent nine-day Spring Festival holiday, as shared cultural traditions fuelled a vibrant two-way travel surge.

According to local official data, 249,000 cross-border trips were recorded through ports in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region during the holiday period that ended on 23 February.

For many Vietnamese travellers, interest has shifted from simple border-crossing trips to in-depth tours of China's interior.

Dongxing, a border city in Guangxi that sits across the river from Mong Cai in Vietnam, serves as a vital gateway. — Xinhua

China calls on Pakistan, Afghanistan to reach ceasefire

CHINA is deeply concerned about the escalation of the conflict between Pakistan and Afghanistan, and urges both sides to achieve a ceasefire as soon as possible, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said on Friday. Mao made the remarks at a regular news briefing after clashes broke out along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border on Thursday.

"China is closely watching the developments of the situation. Pakistan and Afghanistan are inseparable neighbours to each other, and both are also China's neighbouring countries," Mao said.

Expressing great sorrow over the casualties caused by the conflict, Mao said this round of fighting is more intense than before, and that any prolongation or escalation will inflict even more harm and losses on both sides. — Xinhua



Taliban security personnel stand guard near the Torkham border crossing between Afghanistan and Pakistan in the Nangarhar province on 27 February 2026. Pakistan bombed major cities in Afghanistan including the capital Kabul on 27 February with Islamabad's defence minister declaring the neighbours at "open war" following months of tit-for-tat clashes. **PHOTO: AFP**