

# 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.

## Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen Acting Head of State of Kingdom of Cambodia

Phnom Penh, 6 April 2026

HE Mr Min Aung Hlaing  
President  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Nay Pyi Taw

### Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Cambodian People's Party, I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to Your Excellency on your election by the Parliament of Myanmar as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 3 April 2026.

**SEE PAGE 2**

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Fourth-Day Meeting Features Active Deliberations

Representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw took part in deliberations on forming the Union Supreme Court and the Union Election Commission, establishing 30 Union ministries, nominating Union ministers, and setting up the Central Bank of Myanmar and the Anti-Corruption Commission.



The first regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw holds its fourth meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

**T**HE first regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued its fourth-day meeting at the convention hall of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, with 581 out of 585 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives in attendance.

### Formation of the Union Supreme Court

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said that the President-Elect had submitted

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# NATIONAL

- 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.

## Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen Acting Head of State of Kingdom of Cambodia

### FROM PAGE 1

I highly value the growing relations, cooperation and longstanding friendship between our two countries, which are deeply intertwined by shared cultural and religious affinities, as well

as mutual respect and understanding. I am confident that these ties and cooperation will continue to develop during your tenure for the further tangible mutual benefit of our nations.

I stand ready to continue working

closely with Your Excellency to further enhance our countries' relations, friendship and cooperation for the best Interests of our two peoples, thereby contributing to peace, stability, and prosperity in the region and beyond.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed reassurances of my highest consideration and my best wishes for continued good health, happiness, and successes in all your endeavours.

Hun Sen

## Parties, associations and organizations issue special congratulatory messages on election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as President

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, selected as Vice-President by the group of elected Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, was elected as President by the Presidential Electoral College comprising all Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives at the

presidential election on 3 April 2026. The Myanmar Farmers' Development Party, the National Interest and Development Party, the Pa-O National Organization (PNO) and the Myanmar Writers' Association released special congratulatory mes-

sages on the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as President.

These congratulatory messages stated that they are deeply honoured and delighted that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has elected Senior General Min Aung Hlaing

as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Under the leadership of the President, may our nation enjoy peace, stability, and modern development. We fully believe that the Union government led by the President will successfully advance

the interests of the nation and the ethnic peoples. May President-elect Senior General Min Aung Hlaing be blessed with peace of mind and good health, and the strength to faithfully serve the interests of the country and religion. — MNA/TTA

### Congratulatory Message

DMITRY Vladimirovich Bakanov, Government Advisor (Senior) to the Russian Federation, General Director of Roscosmos State Corporation, sent a congratulatory message to HE Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, President-elect and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, on the occasion of his election as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

*Dmitry Vladimirovich Bakanov, Government Advisor (Senior),  
General Director of Roscosmos State Corporation*

### Congratulatory Message

1. The Presidential Electoral College, comprising all Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives, elected the President and Vice-Presidents on 3 April 2026.
2. We express our honour for the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as President, U Nyo Saw and Nan Ni Ni Aye as Vice-Presidents.
3. We hope that the Union Government, led by the President, will work for the interests of the country and its people, and the PNO stands ready to fully cooperate with the government in serving the country and its citizens.

*Pa-O National Organization (PNO)*

### Congratulatory Message

THE Myanmar Writers' Association expresses its pride and pleasure at the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as President by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

We hope that the nation will prosper and develop under the President's leadership, and we wish him good health and happiness in the performance of his duties.

*Myanmar Writers' Association*

### Congratulatory Message

MR Chu Cong Phung, President of the Viet Nam-Myanmar Friendship Association, sent a congratulatory message to HE Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, President-elect and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, on the occasion of his election as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

*Mr Chu Cong Phung, President of  
the Viet Nam-Myanmar Friendship Association*

### Congratulatory Message

THE National Interest and Development Party expresses its pride and delight at the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as President, U Nyo Saw as Vice-President 1, and Nan Ni Ni Aye as Vice-President 2 by the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 3 April 2026.

We wish for the continued prosperity and development of the nation under the leadership of the President, and we hope that they will carry out their duties in good health and happiness.

*Central Executive Committee  
The National Interest and Development Party*

### Congratulatory Message

THE Myanmar Farmers' Development Party expresses its pride and pleasure following the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as President, U Nyo Saw as Vice-President 1, and Nan Ni Ni Aye as Vice-President 2 by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in the general election of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

We are confident that they will fulfil their duties in good health and happiness.

*Myanmar Farmers' Development Party*

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Fourth-Day Meeting Features ...

### FROM PAGE 1

a proposal to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw that the Supreme Court of the Union should be established with nine Supreme Court Judges, including the Chief Justice of the Union, in accord with the provisions of the Constitution (2008) and the Union Judiciary Law. As there was no one Hluttaw representative to discuss the proposal, the Speaker announced that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the formation of the Supreme Court of the Union with nine Supreme Court Judges, including the Chief Justice of the Union.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker stated that the President-elect had already submitted the nomination of U Tha Htay to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for appointment as Chief Justice of the Union. As there were no objections raised regarding the nominee, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced its approval to appoint U Tha Htay as Chief Justice of the Union.

### Constitution of the Union Election Commission

The Speaker continued that 15 members of the Union Election Commission nominated by the President-elect have submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He stated that as there were no objections raised regarding the nominee, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the appointment of U Than Soe, U Aung Moe Myint, U Aung Lwin Oo, U Myint Oo, U Khin Maung Oo, U Myint Thein, U Ko Ko Lwin, U Than Aung Kyaw, U Khin Zaw, U Than Htut Thein, U Aung Myint Lwin, U Khin Maung Gyi, U Myo Maung, U Kyi Thein and Daw Khin Hnin Wai as UEC members chaired by U Than Soe.

### Discussions for Union Ministries

With regard to the number and title of the Union ministries proposed by the President-elect, U Myin San from the Mandalay Region Constituency 2 (PR System) said that successive governments have enacted laws related to farmers; however, their effectiveness on the ground remains weak. Although there are some 20 laws, including the Farmland Law and the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Law, they have lim-



Hluttaw representatives arrive to attend the fourth-day meeting of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's first regular session yesterday.

ited impact on farmers and lack policy integration. Therefore, it was found that systematic coordination and oversight at the central level are needed.

He stated that if a Ministry for Farmers' Affairs is established, the land management processes for farming households would become easier and more efficient. It would also enable the provision of modern technologies, machinery, improved seeds, and training in agricultural, livestock, and industrial skills. As a result, the country could progress from traditional farming practices to becoming a national- and global-level food-producing nation.

He discussed that a separate Ministry for Farmers' Affairs should be established and led by a Union Minister. In the meantime, before such a ministry can be formed, it was suggested that a dedicated Department of Farmers' Affairs be created under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation to specifically handle all matters related to farmers.

U Tin Myint from the Dala Constituency stated that under Section 96 of the 2008 Constitution, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has the authority to enact laws on matters included in the Union Legislative List set out in Schedule One. In this regard, under Item (5) relating to the agriculture and livestock sector, sub-clauses (e), (h), and (j) provide for matters concerning the supply of irrigation water for

farmers, the promotion of mechanized farming, the production of fertilizers and pesticides, and the rights of farmers. Therefore, a Ministry of Farmers' Affairs should be established to ensure the provision of sufficient agricultural loans for farmers, the dissemination of technologies to enable systematic cultivation in line with the four key factors – seeds, soil, water, and techniques – and to secure the rights and entitlements that farmers deserve.

He also suggested that, to effectively implement cultural matters in accordance with the law, instead of forming a combined Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture, separate ministries should be established – one for Hotels and Tourism and another for Culture.

Dr Nanda Hla Myint from the Kalaw Constituency stated that under the current situation, many towns designated as municipal areas have been damaged due to destructive acts by armed terrorist groups. In carrying out reconstruction, if the respective township municipal bodies are required to rely solely on tax revenues collected from residents, similar to other towns, they would face numerous difficulties.

Therefore, he noted that reconstruction efforts would progress more rapidly if undertaken at the Union level by the relevant ministries. Accordingly, he proposed that the municipal bodies, which are included under the

administrative sector in Section 188 and Schedule (2), Item (8) of the 2008 Constitution, should be amended by the Hluttaw and reorganized as Union-level institutions.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker read out the clarification sent by the President-elect to respond to the discussions of three Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives. Regarding the number and title of the Union ministries, the Speaker read out that about 70 per cent of Myanmar's population lives in rural areas, and since the majority of rural residents are farmers, enhancing the role of farmers is crucial. At present, matters related to farmers are being handled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation as well as the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development; therefore, a separate Ministry of Farmers' Affairs has not been established. He noted that the Department of Agriculture has already been formed under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

Myanmar's agricultural sector comprises crop cultivation, livestock and fisheries, and forestry sections, and this sector plays a vital role in the country. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation is implementing policies and work plans to identify and create opportunities within the agricultural sector. Through these efforts, quality agricultural and livestock products can be produced not

only for domestic use but also for export to international markets. The Department of Agriculture is carrying out its vision, duties, objectives, policies, and programmes in order to fulfil the ministry's goals and targets for the agricultural sector.

The vision of the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development is to continuously promote rural development and improve the socioeconomic conditions of rural populations. Its responsibilities include constructing, maintaining, and upgrading roads and bridges for agricultural and livestock production; establishing revolving funds to support employment opportunities and business development for rural residents; conducting capacity-building and vocational training programmes to enhance the skills of rural people; and assisting in creating market linkages for local products.

At present, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development are effectively coordinating to handle matters related to farmers. Looking at the structure of ministries in most other countries, it is evident that agricultural ministries are responsible for farmers' affairs. Therefore, no separate Ministry of Farmers' Affairs has been additionally established or expanded.

The purpose of combining Hotels, Tourism, and Culture into a single ministry is to utilize culture as a key driver of tourism while simultaneously generating economic, social, and cultural benefits. In many other countries, Hotels, Tourism, and Culture are similarly combined under one ministry. The potential benefits include coordinating tourism development with cultural preservation to support sustainable growth, providing visitors with more effective exposure to local traditions, arts, and historic sites, and increasing the incomes of local communities through cultural tourism. It can also minimize cultural impacts while protecting heritage as tourism develops, enhance the country's attractiveness to foreign tourists, and allow for more efficient management of

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# NATIONAL

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Fourth-Day Meeting Features ...

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budgets, human resources, and infrastructure. Therefore, the combination of Hotels, Tourism, and Culture into a single ministry serves these purposes.

Section 188 of the Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar stipulates that "The Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to enact laws for the entire or any part of the Region or State related to matters prescribed in Schedule Two of the Region or State Hluttaw Legislative List." Schedule 2, Item (8), Subsection (a) includes the sector of "development affairs." Furthermore, Section 249 of the Constitution provides that, "subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the executive power of the Region or State Government extends to the administrative matters which the Region or State Hluttaw has power to make laws. Moreover, it also extends to the matters which the Region or State Government is permitted to perform under any Union Law."

The Speaker read out that therefore, the "development affairs" sector falls within the legislative powers of the Region or State Hluttaw and within the administrative authority of the Region or State government. Development affairs involve day-to-day activities that directly affect residents. These activities are carried out by the Regions and States according to the law, allowing them to adapt to local conditions, timing, and circumstances. As a result, the Region and State governments will establish and operate development ministries in line with the agreement of their respective Hluttaws. Consequently, it was clarified that it is not appropriate to form a development ministry at the Union level.

The Speaker sought the approval of the Hluttaw representatives over the discussions on the number and titles of Union ministries proposed by the President-elect and announced that the Hluttaw approved a total of 31 Union ministries and their identifications.

### List of Union Ministers

Furthermore, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker read out the list of the Union Ministers nominated by the President-elect. The announcement for approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw over the nominees and objections of Hluttaw representatives will be held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting on 9 April, and the representatives who wish to object will be able to submit their names for consideration.

The Speaker also read out the nomination of eight individuals to be assigned as Supreme Court Judges proposed by the President-elect. The announcement for approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw over the nominees and objections of Hluttaw representatives will be held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting on 9 April, and the representatives who wish to object will be able to submit their names for consideration.

### Formation of CBM

The Speaker stated that the President-elect nominated Dr Khin Naing Oo as Governor of

the Central Bank of Myanmar, together with Deputy Governors U Zaw Myint Naing, U Thet Tun Aung and Dr Sanda Oo. He announced that the approval for the CBM Governor and deputy governors by the Hluttaw and objections of any Hluttaw representatives will be carried out at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting on 9 April. So, the representatives wishing to object to the proposal must submit their names for consideration.

### Establishment of Anti-Corruption Commission

The Speaker continued that the President-elect submitted a proposal to form a new Anti-Corruption Commission under the relevant law to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. To constitute the commission, the President-elect nominated three members, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, three members and the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, three members, totalling nine. Moreover, the President-elect nominated one of the nine members to be assigned as the Chairman of the commis-

sion. Then, the Speaker read out the list of nine members for the commission.

The Speaker stated that the President-elect has submitted a proposal to appoint U Soe Thein as the Chairman of the commission. As such, he continued that the approval of the Hluttaw over the nomination to form the commission and objections of any Hluttaw representatives will be carried out at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 9 April. As such, the Speaker invited any Hluttaw representatives wishing to object to the nomination to submit their names for consideration.

The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced that, as no Hluttaw representatives wished to discuss the proposed number of 30 Union Ministers submitted by the President-elect, the Hluttaw has expressed its approval of the proposal for 30 Union Ministers.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's fourth-day meeting was adjourned, and the fifth-day meeting will take place on 9 April. — MNA/TTA

## Myanmar delegation attends AFDM, AFCDM

THE Myanmar delegation, led by Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw Than Than Lin, yesterday virtually attended the ASEAN Finance Deputy Ministers' Meeting (AFDM) and the ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies' Meeting (AFCDM) being hosted by the Philippines on 7 and 8 April.

During the morning session of the AFDM, representatives from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and relevant committees presented updates on key areas, including the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund

(AIF), regional insurance cooperation, cross-border initiatives, taxation, customs cooperation, the ASEAN Single Window, and treasury-related matters. The meeting also approved the Concept Note on the ASEAN Climate Finance Policy Platform presented by ADB.

Regarding the cooperation, the deputy minister highlighted Myanmar's progress in implementing compulsory third-party liability insurance for cross-border motor vehicles among ASEAN member states.

During the session of AFCDM, the Philippines presented Priority Economic Deliverables (PEDs), and the meeting recorded the Finance Sectoral Plan of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Strategic Plan 2026-2030 and ASEAN Finance Integration Monitoring Report (AFMIF) 2026, and discussed other matters related to ongoing work plans.

The meetings will continue on 8 April, followed by the 30<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting and the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Cen-



Deputy Minister Daw Than Than Lin joins the ASEAN Finance Deputy Ministers' Meeting (AFDM) and ASEAN Finance and Central Bank Deputies' Meeting (AFCDM) online.

tral Bank Governors' Meeting, scheduled to be held virtually on 9 and 10 April. — 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

## Ministers, chief justices, advocates-general, and auditors-general approved at regional and state Hluttaws



Yangon Region Hluttaw.



Mandalay Region Hluttaw.



Sagaing Region Hluttaw.



Kachin State Hluttaw.



Kayah State Hluttaw.



Kayin State Hluttaw.



Chin State Hluttaw.



Taninthayi Region Hluttaw.



Mon State Hluttaw.



Rakhine State Hluttaw.



Shan State Hluttaw.



Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw.

REGION and state Hluttaws continued their regular sessions to approve the nominations of ministers and regional- and state-level dignitaries yesterday.

The Kachin State Speaker stated that the lists of ministries and ministers, the advocate-general, and the auditor-general were nominated by the Kachin State Chief Minister-elect, and the Chief Justice and judges of the state High Court were nominated by the President-elect.

The speaker informed that the Hluttaw representatives wishing to object to the nominees must submit their names for consideration.

The Kayah State Hluttaw Speaker sought the approval from the State Hluttaw for the lists of the State Advocate-General and the State Auditor-General nominated by the State Chief Minister-elect, and the Chief Justice and judges of the State High Court and the State

Bamar Ethnic Minister nominated by the President-elect.

The Kayin State Hluttaw approved the state ministers, the advocate-general and the auditor-general nominated by Chief Minister-elect U Saw Myint Oo and also approved the nomination of the Chief Justice of the State High Court and two judges proposed by the President-elect. There was no objection to the proposals.

At the Chin State Hluttaw,

the Speaker announced that discussions on the required qualifications and competencies of seven nominated ministers will be held on the fifth-day session. The Hluttaw approved the State Advocate-General and the Auditor-General nominated by the Chief Minister-elect, and the Chief Justice and judges of the High Court proposed by the President-elect.

The Sagaing Region Hluttaw approved the nomination of seven regional ministers, the Advocate-General and the Auditor-General of the region proposed by the regional Chief Minister-elect, as well as the Chief Justice and three judges of the regional High Court nominated by the President-elect. Four Hluttaw representatives held discussions to expand the regional cabinet members.

The Taninthayi Region Hluttaw agreed to appoint eight

regional ministers in addition to the regional advocate-general, the auditor-general, the chief justice and judges of the regional high court nominated by the region's Chief Minister-elect. Moreover, the regional Hluttaw approved the formation of five Hluttaw affairs committees.

The Hluttaw Speaker submitted the proposal on the nomination of regional ministers sent by the regional Chief Minister-elect to the Mandalay Region Hluttaw. The Chief Minister-elect also submitted the nomination on the regional advocate-general, the auditor-general, the chief justice and judges of the regional high court to the Hluttaw. The Speaker announced that the Hluttaw representatives may discuss objections to these nominations, and they have to submit their names for consideration.

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# NATIONAL

## Commander meets People's Militia members in Myeik

COASTAL Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han met members of the People's Militia (local) unit in Myeik, Taninthayi Region, at the Taing Yan Aung Hall yesterday morning.

During the meeting, the commander deliv-

ered remarks and provided food supplies for the militia members, which were received by responsible officials. He and officials also greeted members cordially and coordinated necessary measures in response to their submissions.

Following the meeting, local medical teams provided healthcare services to the militia members, and the commander and officials observed and encouraged the activities, according to reports. — MNA/KZL



Coastal Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han offers cash rewards.

## Aerial inspections of fire hotspots and land use conducted in Shan State (East)



The meeting on reduction of fire hotspots and haze pollution is underway in Kengtung on 6 April.

DIRECTORS-GENERAL and officials from the Forest Department, Environmental Conservation Department, and Land Records Department under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, and the Department of Agriculture, departed from Nay Pyi Taw Airport on 6 April by air and arrived in Kengtung of Shan State (East).

They flew over the areas of Kengtung and Tachilek districts to ensure the land use, reduction of fire hotspots and haze pollution together with

the chairman of the Shan State (East) management and administrative committee and the Kengtung district administrator.

At noon, directors-general attended the awareness talk on reducing transboundary haze pollution, which was held at the Kengtung City Hall, and discussed various topics.

In the evening, a similar talk show was held at the Training School for Development of Nationalities Youth from Border Areas in Loimoi of Kengtung.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation makes efforts in Kengtung and Tachilek districts of Shan State (East) to increase forest coverage, promote greening, conserve watershed forests and natural resources, and reduce transboundary haze pollution. Measures include preventing wildfires, discouraging the burning of agricultural waste and village garbage, and enhancing public awareness. — MNA/KTZH

## MANA urges preventive measures against youth drug abuse during Thingyan

THE monthly meeting 4/2026 of the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (MANA) was held yesterday at the association's meeting hall, attended by Chairman U Soe Win and members of the Executive Committee.

At the meeting, the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association emphasized the need to take preventive and protective measures, as far as possible, to ensure that young people do not engage in drug use during the upcoming Thingyan festival period. He also stressed the importance

of prioritizing educational and awareness activities for youths who are out of school during the holidays. Moreover, he suggested coordinating with responsible officials from locations such as golf courses and industrial zones, and inviting the Information and Public Relations Department, and the Drug Enforcement Division of the Myanmar Police Force, to work together in a coordinated manner. Members of the Executive Committee took part in further discussions and provided additional suggestions. — MANA/MKKS



The monthly meeting of the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (MANA) is in progress yesterday.

## State-run newspapers to alternate publication during Thingyan holidays

DAILY newspapers of the News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information will be in alternate circulation during the holidays of the Myanmar New Year.

The Myanma Alinn and

The Global New Light of Myanmar dailies will be in circulation from 11 to 14 April, while the Kyemon daily will take a break.

The Keymon will be published from 15 to 19 April, whereas the Myanma Alinn

and The Global New Light of Myanmar dailies will take holidays.

The Supplement Sector in the Shan Language by the Sub-Printing House (Taunggyi), published every Thurs-

day, will take a break on 16 April, whereas the Ethnic Sector in Mon, Skaw Kayin, Poe Kayin and Pa-O languages, published every Sunday by the Sub-Printing House (Mawlamyine) on 12 and 19 April,

will be published regularly after the Thingyan holidays.

However, advertisements will be accepted throughout the holidays, and all dailies will be published regularly from 20 April. — MNA/KTZH

# NATIONAL

## Registration fees levied on CBU-imported EVs as RTAD pilot ends

THE Road Transport Administration Department (RTAD) has announced that electric vehicles (EVs) imported as completely built units (CBU) will be subject to vehicle registration fees.

In determining the registration fees for imported vehicles, the RTAD will levy charges based on the original FOB (Free on Board) value, taking into account the vehicle type and battery capacity.

During the pilot project period, the RTAD did not charge registration fees for imported EVs and only provided initial registration services.

“Commercial vehicles such as trucks, pick-ups (single cab, extended cab and open cab), light trucks, dumpers, tankers, box trucks, refrigerated vans, crane trucks, crane carriers, logging trucks, container carriers

and tractor heads will be subject to a 3 per cent registration fee. Imports of buses, minibuses and express buses with a capacity of 15 or more passengers, including the driver, will also be subject to a 3 per cent registration fee. Vehicles with a capacity of up to 15 passengers, including the driver, and a battery capacity of 30 kWh or less will be subject to registration fees ranging from 10 per cent to 40 per cent. Vehicles with a battery capacity of between 31 kWh and 60 kWh will be subject to a 20 per cent registration fee,” said an official from the Road Transport Administration Department (RTAD).

As the pilot project period ended on 31 March, EVs imported under the CBU system with an import declaration form will be subject to registration fees from 1 April. — ASH/MKKS



EVs imported from abroad are pictured.

## Russian national deported; 5 Filipinos detained in telecom fraud crackdown

A Russian national involved in online fraud and criminal activities has been deported to his home country, while five Philippine nationals have been newly identified and detained for further verification and deportation, according to authorities.

The Russian national, who had illegally entered Myanmar via border routes through neighbouring countries, including Thailand and was involved in online gambling and telecom fraud operations in the Myawady-Shwe Kokko area in Kayin State, was transferred via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II in line with legal procedures and humanitarian considerations.

Officials from relevant departments coordinated the deportation process to ensure accuracy and compliance, while representatives from the Russian Embassy to Thailand and Thai immigration authorities were also present during the handover.

In a separate operation,



Immigration officials are seen processing the deportation of undocumented foreign immigrants.

five Philippine nationals who had illegally entered the same area were identified and detained, and are currently under scrutiny for deportation.

From 30 January 2025 to 7 April 2026, a total of 14,625 foreign nationals who entered Myanmar illegally were detained in Myawady Township. Of these, 13,405 have already been deported via Thailand in accordance with legal procedures.

Of the remaining 1,220 foreign nationals, 741 have

been prosecuted under existing immigration laws, while the remaining 479 are ready for transfer to their respective countries and are being properly accommodated.

Authorities continue to cooperate with regional and international partners to crack down on online scam operations and ensure effective action against those involved, while also facilitating the repatriation of foreign nationals in distress or victims of human trafficking. — MNA/KZL

## Trading amount and foreign exchange rate in the FE market on 7 April 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rate	3,662.7-3,668	557-558.30	125.50-125.70	43.6
Trading amount in the market	19,104,039.56	8,592,028.94	23,827,027.50	
The amount sold by CBM into the market				

- Such a large amount of trading foreign currencies in the market was sold for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, fertilizers, medicines and raw materials for medical supplies, communication devices, raw industrial materials, auto/motorcycle parts, electronics and foodstuffs. US\$1.23 million from earnings of the CMP sector was sold to the edible oil sector. — MNA/KTZH

## Ministers, chief justices, advocates-general, and...

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The Mon State Hluttaw approved the list of state ministers, the advocate-general, and the auditor-general nominated by the state Chief Minister-elect and the chief justice and judges of the state high court proposed by the President-elect.

Speaker Dr San Shwe an-

nounced the list of the chief justice of the state high court, the advocate-general, the auditor-general and ministers proposed by the state Chief Minister-elect at the Rakhine State Hluttaw. The State Hluttaw approved the nominations.

At yesterday's session of the Yangon Hluttaw, 10 regional ministers, the chief justice

and judges of the regional high court, the advocate-general and the auditor-general were approved without any objections.

Shan State Chief Minister-elect Sai Htein Soe from the Yaksawk Township Constituency 2 read out his nominated ministers at the Shan State Hluttaw. He also submitted the nomination for the state

advocate-general and the auditor-general to the Hluttaw. The Hluttaw Speaker submitted the nomination of the chief justice, and three judges of the state high court were proposed by the President-elect, and the Hluttaw approved them.

The Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw approved seven ministers for seven ministries

proposed by the regional Chief Minister-elect without any objection. The Hluttaw also agreed to appoint the regional auditor-general and the advocate-general nominated by the Chief Minister-elect, and the chief justice and judges of the regional high court proposed by the President-elect. — MNA/IPRD/TTA

# OPINION

## Initiate strong internal strength to serve national interests

MYANMAR is at a stage of striving to be a country that practises democracy, where universal principles such as justice, freedom, and equality flourish in accordance with the people's aspirations. In building a democratic nation, it is essential for all citizens to maintain unity, observe discipline, uphold the rule of law, and be equipped with knowledge and wisdom.

At present, alongside the Hluttaw and the new government, Myanmar is set to establish a democratic federal union as a long-term undertaking that must simultaneously address national reconciliation, social cohesion, and economic development. Intellectuals, intelligentsia and ethnic citizens from various sectors have to harmoniously collaborate with the emerging new national government. All citizens, free from party or personal biases, must focus on and work diligently towards the development of the nation.

National interests serve to advance the strategic objectives of the State, and to successfully achieve these objectives, national defence capabilities are essential. Therefore, under the leadership of the new national government in the future democratic state, all citizens, including the youth and ethnic peoples, must work together to protect, safeguard, and advance national interests, and collectively strive to build a new nation that stands strong and respected on the international stage.

At present, priority must be given to the development of infrastructure across the nation, including education, healthcare, the rule of law, and transport networks. Development projects in various sectors can only be effectively carried out if national revenue increases. Therefore, efforts must be made to boost production and expand exports. In promoting industrial growth, it is essential to ensure the success and development of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), as they form the foundation of the economy.

In the changing global landscape, Myanmar, as a developing country, faces numerous challenges but also has many opportunities. By ensuring the active participation of all citizens, including the country's key strength, its youth, national interests and the nation's development can be successfully realized. National interests form the fundamental foundation for a country's stance, sovereignty, security, and overall progress.

In realizing a nation's economic interests, the stability of its territory and sovereignty represents a lasting benefit, while economic and technological development constitute the main advantages. Myanmar must engage constructively alongside the progress of neighbouring nations, while also ensuring it does not become a pawn in the power struggles of major world powers. To achieve this, national leaders, along with all citizens, including the youth, must act with foresight, vigilance, and prudence, adapting and cooperating in a harmonious and well-coordinated manner.

National interests serve to advance the strategic objectives of the State, and to successfully achieve these objectives, national defence capabilities are essential. Therefore, under the leadership of the new national government in the future democratic state, all citizens, including the youth and ethnic peoples, must work together to protect, safeguard, and advance national interests, and collectively strive to build a new nation that stands strong and respected on the international stage.

### Powerful Tool

THE effects of corruption are often intangible, yet they significantly hinder the sustainable development of our future world. Global data shows that the cost of corruption is staggering, with an estimated loss of approximately US\$3.6 trillion annually – roughly five per cent of the global GDP. As the saying goes, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” This principle is exceptionally true for corruption; it is a challenge that must be addressed through prevention before it takes root. Among the various strategies available to prevent corruption, the most powerful tool is “Corruption Risk Assessment – CRA”. As a proactive mechanism, CRA is designed to detect and identify specific loopholes and vulnerabilities within a system where corruption is most likely to occur. By pinpointing these high-risk areas, organizations can effectively close the gaps before unethical actions can take root.

Another way to combat corruption is through Corruption Investigation, but this is inherently a reactive action. While it is essential to hold corrupt individuals accountable and ensure they face justice behind bars, the process demands significant budgets, resources, and human capital. Furthermore, by the time a perpetrator is prosecuted, the illicit funds often disappear, making it impossible to recover the full extent of the financial losses. Relying solely on investigation means reacting only after the damage to sustainable development and public trust has already been done. Therefore, focusing on Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) provides a more resource-efficient and sustainable path toward a corruption-free future, and we should use this as an indispensable and proactive tool for all anti-corruption agencies to fight against corruption.

# Why Corruption Risk Assessment Matters

### How CRA works

According to the definition provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in the State of Integrity, “A corruption risk assessment is a systematic tool that can be used by public organizations to identify corruption vulnerabilities within their operations and devise efficient, cost – effective strategies to mitigate those vulnerabilities or risks.” In fact, a corruption risk represents the potential for an act of corruption to occur. Therefore, identifying corruption risks is akin to searching for the hidden roots of corruption, while mitigating those risks is essentially destroying the roots of the corruption plant before it can grow.

Furthermore, the Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) acts as a specialized lens for identifying loopholes within public services. In many administrative processes, certain gaps and loopholes or ambiguities in rules, regulations and procedures can inadvertently create opportunities for malpractice. CRA meticulously examines these service delivery channels to uncover structural weaknesses – whether they be a lack of transparency, excessive discretionary power, or inadequate oversight. By proactively identifying and closing these loopholes and gaps, CRA ensures that public services remain resilient, accountable, and beyond the reach of corrupt intent, creating corruption - free public services.

### Two types of Risk

Generally, every sector faces two categories of risk: internal and external.

Internal risks typically arise during the management of public assets. These include vulnerabilities such as embezzlement, fraud, and financial losses resulting from corrupt practices. Key areas of concern include the procurement of organizational equipment, the management of stockpiles, and the overall expenditure of public funds. Furthermore, the safeguarding of confidential information is a critical component of asset management. Vul-

nerabilities such as the theft or unauthorized sale of sensitive data, including tender details, future acquisition plans, and national security information, must be rigorously addressed within the CRA process.

LIKELIHOOD	High			Bribes to allow illegal logging
	Medium	Minor	Moderate	Major
	Low	Bribes to allow illegal grazing		
		Low	Medium	High
		IMPACT SEVERITY		

Fig. Risk Prioritization Process (State of Integrity UNODC)

nerabilities such as the theft or unauthorized sale of sensitive data, including tender details, future acquisition plans, and national security information, must be rigorously addressed within the CRA process.

The second category, external risks, typically arises during interactions with the private sector or the general public. Factors such as undue influence, personal favouritism, or bribery can bias decision-making processes, leading to the distortion of an organi-

### Five Practical Steps to Conduct CRA

To implement the CRA process practically, the first thing an organization needs to consider is the nature of its operations. Since corruption risks vary significantly across different sectors, understanding the specific functions,

mandates, and operational environment of the organization is essential. This foundational step ensures that the assessment is tailored to identify the most relevant vulnerabilities unique to that particular entity.

As emphasized in the UNODC's 'State of Integrity' guidance, a systematic five-step methodology is essential for conducting effective corruption risk assessments within any institutional setting.

Evaluating the operating environment - The initial step requires every organization to thoroughly evaluate its operating environment. This involves identifying various external factors that influence organizational and employee behaviour, while assessing the extent of the organization's authority over these factors and the constraints it faces. To ensure a comprehensive assessment, the organization should consider a broad range of influences, including legal, regulatory, financial, technological, economic, natural, and competitive environments.

Identifying potential corruption risks - The second step of the process involves identifying the specific types of corruption risks to which the organization is, or may be, exposed. During this stage, the CRA working group meticulously examines the organization's various functions to pinpoint areas where a dishonest actor could potentially exploit system vulnerabilities for illicit gain. By mapping these functional processes, the group can uncover exactly where the integrity of the organization might be compromised.

Analyzing corruption risks - The third step of the CRA process is to analyze the identified corruption risks. Once the working group has compiled a list of potential risks, an in-depth analysis is conducted to establish their nature and underlying drivers. During this stage, the group may interview staff, examine internal documents, or review existing corruption controls. Relevant internal documents typically include past audit reports, investigation findings, and accounting or procurement records to identify recurring patterns of vulnerability.

Evaluating corruption risks - During the fourth step, the identified issues are prioritized. Working group members must assess which risks require the most urgent attention in the mitigation plan. This evaluation ensures that resources are allocated effectively to address the most critical and high-impact vulnerabilities first. According to the UNODC outlines, the risk prioritization process should be conducted based on two primary dimensions: Likelihood and Impact Severity. As illustrated in the Risk Matrix below, this process helps the working group categorize risks into different levels, such as Minor, Moderate, or Major. For instance, a risk that has a high likelihood of occurring and a high impact severity (e.g., bribes to allow illegal logging) would be classified as a top priority. This systematic approach ensures that the most critical vulnerabilities are addressed first in the mitigation plan.

Preparing and finalizing the mitigation plan to treat the corruption risks - The final step of the process is to prepare and finalize a comprehensive mitigation plan to effectively manage and treat the identified corruption risks. This plan serves as a strategic roadmap for the organization to implement specific controls, assign responsibilities, and establish timelines for reducing vulnerabilities to an acceptable level. Since every organization possesses a

unique nature and structure, the risk mitigation plan must be tailored to align with its specific organizational culture. A plan that respects and integrates with the existing internal environment is far more likely to be embraced and effectively implemented by its members.

### To cut down the roots

Ultimately, Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) has become a powerful strategic tool because it shifts the focus from merely addressing symptoms to identifying and addressing the root causes of corruption. By proactively diagnosing systemic vulnerabilities and implementing targeted mitigation strategies, organizations can effectively cut down the opportunities for illicit behaviour before they manifest. This forward-looking approach ensures a more sustainable and resilient framework for organizational integrity.

In conclusion, CRA stands as a powerful and indispensable tool capable of uprooting and eliminating the deep-seated causes of corruption. It is, therefore, vital for every organization to strive for its effective implementation. Beyond merely combating corruption, this process enhances organizational accountability and transparency, ultimately driving overall performance. By improving the quality of public services and fostering greater trust between the government and the citizens, CRA is a cornerstone for institutional integrity. For these reasons, I highly recommend that every organization prioritizes and integrates this essential process into its strategic operations.

### References

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# Three Visions, One Psychology: Rebuilding Trust in a Wounded Union

By Khin Maung Myint

### Idealism in a Time of Fear (U Nu, 1948-1962 – “Pyitawtha Ya Myee”)

U Nu's leadership reflected a psychology of moral idealism – anchored in trust, empathy, and ethical vision. His aspiration of “Pyitawtha Ya Myee” – a peaceful and prosperous land – captured

the optimism of independence. He believed that goodwill could unify diversity. Yet the conditions on the ground – conflict, economic strain, fragile institutions – activated fear rather than trust. In such an environment, societies prioritize survival over aspiration. Idealism, however sincere, strug-

gled to translate into stability.

### Order Through Control (U Ne Win, 1962-1988 – “The Burmese Way to Socialism”)

U Ne Win's era represented a psychology of control in response to disorder. His doctrine, “The Burmese Way to Socialism”, sought unity through centralization and discipline. Psychologically, this reduced immediate anxiety by

imposing order. But over time, suppression of diversity and dissent eroded vitality and trust. Stability enforced by fear cannot generate lasting legitimacy. What appears orderly may, beneath the surface, be deeply brittle.

### The Challenge of Shared Power (Contemporary Federal Democratic Vision)

The current democratic fed-

eral aspiration reflects a more complex psychological stage – one that accepts plurality and seeks to manage it through dialogue and shared authority. It recognizes that unity in Myanmar must be negotiated, not imposed. This requires institutional fairness, tolerance of difference, and a civic culture that values participation. Such a system is demanding, but it offers the only sustainable path to a uni-

on that reflects its people.

### Building Confidence Through Rights and Trust

The most critical foundation for the future is not ideology, but lived experience. Public confidence will grow only when people feel, in their daily lives, that their human rights are recognized, protected, and respected – not selectively, but universally. For decades,

many have experienced exclusion, fear, and the absence of basic protections. Without addressing this, no system – however well designed – can command genuine loyalty.

Trust is built through visible guarantees: fair treatment under the law, freedom from arbitrary harm, and the assurance that identity, voice, and dignity are safeguarded. When citizens begin to feel secure in their rights, fear

recedes, participation increases, and a shared sense of belonging can emerge.

A durable union will not be secured by past slogans or future promises alone. It will depend on whether people can finally experience the state not as a source of control or uncertainty, but as a protector of their rights and dignity. Only then can trust take root – and only then can a diverse nation begin to see unity not as an obligation, but as a shared and chosen future.

# NATIONAL

## 126 undocumented foreign entrants arrested in Tachilek

THE Myanmar government emphasizes the elimination process of online scams and gambling, which harm the international community as well as the entire world, as a national duty.

The authorities arrested 126 foreigners operating online scams and gambling in Tachilek Township, Shan State (East), together with gambling facilities, yesterday.

Based on reports that online scams and illegal gambling operations were being conducted in Tachilek Township of Shan State (East), a combined team of security forces carried out an inspection. At around 1:30 pm yesterday, about 13,000 metres northwest of Tachilek and about 3,000 metres southwest of Panku Village, they discovered



Images show undocumented foreign immigrants arrested in Tachilek in connection with telecom fraud and online gambling.

a compound consisting of nine buildings. These included one building (120 feet by 60 feet) used for online scam operations, one building (200 feet by 60 feet) serving as a combined kitchen, dining

hall, and dormitory along with an operational area, one additional operational building, one shop (35 feet by 30 feet), one storage facility (40 feet by 35 feet), two dormitories (40 feet each), one

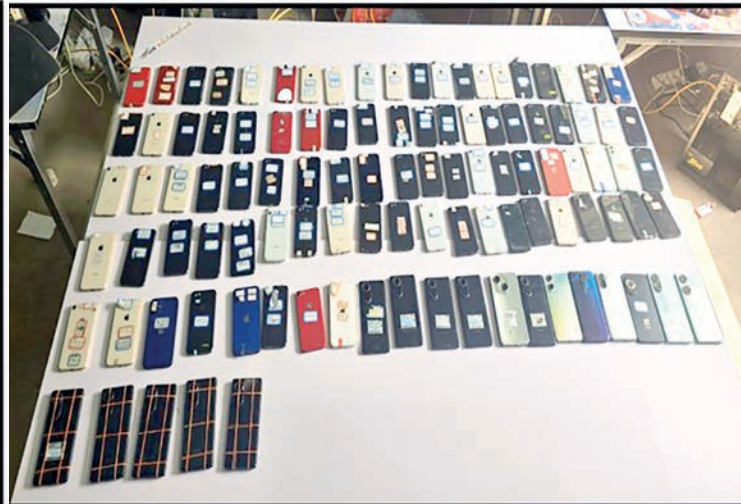
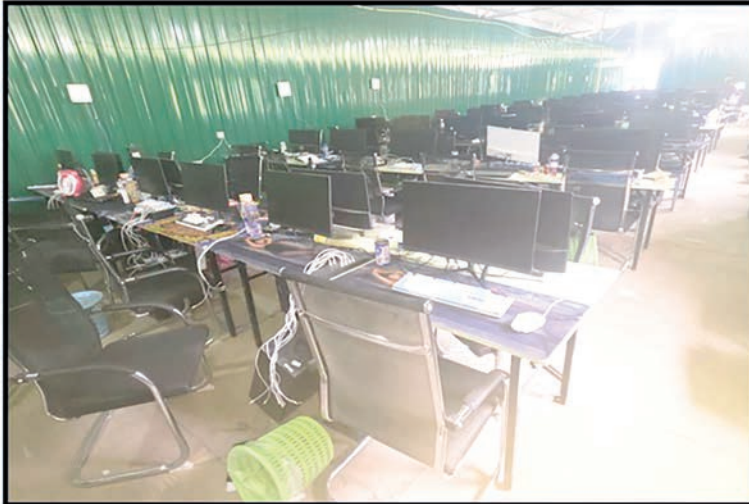
entrance/exit gate building (15 feet by 12 feet) and one toilet facility (60 feet by 5 feet).

Inside the compound, authorities apprehended 126 illegal foreigners involved in

online scam and gambling activities—122 Chinese men, three Chinese women, and one Lao woman. Seized items included 120 monitors, 97 system units, 46 all-in-one computers, 12 Starlink devices, 12 Wi-Fi routers, 105 mobile phones, and one generator.

The seized items will be managed in accordance with the procedures, and the offenders will be taken action against effectively.

The State is actively continuing efforts to combat telecom fraud and illegal gambling activities, and the foreigners involved in online gambling will be transferred to their respective countries through legal inspection on humanitarian grounds and bilateral relationships. — MNA/KTZH



These photos show scam related materials confiscated during the telecom fraud and online gambling crackdown in Tachilek, Shan State (East).

## Security forces seize narcotics worth over K15 billion in Mandalay

THE Government has designated the fight against narcotic drugs, which pose a threat to the entire human race, including future generations, as a national priority, and efforts are being intensified not only through increased inspections and the exposure of drug trafficking and consumption but also through vigorous joint enforcement operations conducted in co-operation with neighbouring countries.

In line with these efforts, security forces acted on a tip-off from a responsible citizen regarding drug traffickers in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay. At approximately 8:30 am on 6 April 2026, security personnel

apprehended Aung Kyaw Soe and his wife, Thu Zar Than (aka) Thida, on 54 (B) Road, between 128<sup>th</sup> and 129<sup>th</sup> Streets in G Ward, Pyigyidagun Township.

A subsequent search of their residence in Daung yway Village, Amarapura Township, led to the seizure of approximately 9.922 million stimulant tablets (valued at K1,500 per tablet) and 5.5 kilogrammes of heroin (valued at K25 million per kilogramme). The total estimated value of the seized narcotics is approximately K15.02 billion.

According to the confessions of those detained, the narcotics were delivered to the couple's home in Amarapura by Aik Chuan (who remains at

large), a resident of Kutkai in Shan State (North). The drugs were reportedly sent under his direction for redistribution within Mandalay by Aung Kyaw Soe and Thu Zar Than.

Legal proceedings are underway to ensure the suspects face effective action in accordance with the law, while efforts to identify and arrest other accomplices continue. The public is informed that any information regarding narcotic drugs may be reported to the relevant authorities in confidence. Informants and those who assist in the apprehension of offenders will be granted anonymity and rewarded appropriately. — MNA/MKKS



Two offenders are seen alongside seized drugs.



# NATIONAL

## Auditions open for T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 3

ACCORDING to T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar, auditions are now being accepted for Season 3 of the country's largest and only Thai singing competition, featuring a grand prize of \$3,200.

It is open to anyone aged 18 and older from across Myanmar. This year, the organizers have upgraded the ticket system to ensure a smoother registration and avoid booking errors. The event will also feature enhanced security and improved flow management.

Cash prizes and trophies include: Winner: \$3,200 + trophy + special gifts from Gold Sponsors; first runner-up: \$1,600; second runner-up: \$1,000; third to seventh runner-ups: \$400 each.

For the audition, applicants must submit a video clip of themselves singing a Thai song. The registration period is from 4 April to 7 May. The Top eight finalists will be announced

on 23 May. Winners and 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Runner-ups from Season 1, as well as the eight finalists from Season 2, are not eligible.

The organizers will fully cover travel and accommodation expenses to Yangon for the eight selected semi-finalists. Audition videos must be submitted by 7 May via: <https://www.tpopstar.com/2026/index.php/submit-the-audition>. The official song list and YouTube channels for reference are available at [www.tpopstar.com](http://www.tpopstar.com). Performances by the Top 8 will be judged by artists from Thailand. Details regarding the voting system will be announced on the official page, with online voting accounting for 10 per cent.

Organized by the Royal Thai Embassy, T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar aims to promote the soft power of Thai music, increase interest in the Thai language, and strengthen the bilateral friendship. — MT/ZN



This image displays a poster for the T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 3 competition.



The recreated attire of Konbaung Dynasty generals. (PHOTO: KO KHANT MIN HTIN, MISTER KV MYEIK, MISTER MYANMAR MYEIK 2026).

## Recreating Konbaung generals' attire from historic Parabaik

THE attire of Konbaung Dynasty generals has been recreated using historical Parabaik as primary reference, according to Myat Theinkha Nge of Myat Taw Win Royal Dress Service.

The project aims to showcase the authentic styles and designs used during that era, and this restoration is a collaborative effort involving Myat Theinkha Nge, photographer Ko Khant Min Htin, Mister KV Myeik, and Mister Myanmar Myeik 2026.

“This was filmed as an artistic project, with the Mister Myeik winner modelling the attire. It is the first time we have recreated this specific general's uniform. We had to source velvet in the exact original colours. Every detail, from the neck ornaments and belts to the small components of the suit, was modelled strictly based on historical evidence,” said Myat Theinkha Nge.

The project took approximately six months to complete.

The team relied on Parabaik records and photographic evidence.

Myat Theinkha Nge also expressed delight at the growing trend of modern youth valuing and wearing traditional attire. Currently, there is a rising demand for traditional Myanmar outfits, not only for local rentals but also from Myanmar students studying abroad in countries like South Korea and Japan to wear at graduation and other formal events. — MT/ZN

## GDSSCF-backed UNICEF project for quake-hit children launched

A project to support the well-being and safety of earthquake-affected children in Myanmar, funded by the Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund (GDSSCF) and implemented by UNICEF, has been launched, according to the Embassy of China to Myanmar.

The launch ceremony was held in Yangon on 2 April and was attended by Counsellor Ouyang Daobing from the Chinese Embassy, UNICEF Deputy Representative to Myanmar Ms Julia Rees, and relevant officials.

Counsellor Ouyang Daobing said the Chinese Embassy is willing to further deepen cooperation with UNICEF to ensure the project achieves greater results and brings more benefits to children in disaster-affected areas.

Similarly, UNICEF Deputy Representative Ms Julia Rees expressed appreciation for China's support, noting that UNICEF will continue to cooperate closely

with the Chinese Embassy and utilize its strengths to ensure the project meets its intended outcomes.

The project will provide safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene supplies, as well as child protection support and services for earthquake-affected children and their families in Myanmar. It is expected to benefit approximately 116,000 people. — ASH/KZL



An official explains the support programme for earthquake-affected children in Myanmar.

## YESC pushes back Apr power bill deadlines

THE last dates for electricity bills for April have been changed, the Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation (YESC) stated in an announcement.

It read there are Thingyan holidays in April, and YESC has changed the deadline for paying the electricity bill for March in order to be convenient for the convenience of the electricity end-users in Yangon Region.

The announcement further said that the last

dates have been changed; 21 April in place of 17 April, 23 April in place of 19 April, 27 April in place of 23 April and 28 April in place of 25 April. “This announcement covers nationwide,” said an official from YESC Kyauktada Township.

For the convenience of the public, bill counters at township electricity offices will be closed from 11 to 19 April, and the bill payment can be made from 1 to 10 April and from 21 to 29 April without the closing days. — MT/ZS

# NATIONAL

## Garment accounts for highest export in five years

MYANMAR mostly exported garments and petroleum products, which are primarily imported in the five years from the 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY, according to the Department of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce.

Out of 20 export items in the past five years, garments ranked first with 26 per cent in the 2021-2022 FY, 32 per cent in the 2022-2023 FY, 28 per cent in the 2023-2024 FY, 25.44 per cent in the 2024-2025 FY and 28.29 per cent in the 2025-2026 FY (until February). Myanmar's garment products are exported to 85 countries, including Japan, Germany and Poland.

The second largest export during the five years was natural gas, mostly exported to China and Thailand, with 21 per cent in the 2021-2022 FY, 24 per cent in the



Female labour force working at a garment factory running on a Cutting-Making and Packaging basis.

2022-2023 FY, 23 per cent in the 2023-2024 FY, 21.87 per cent in the 2024-2025 FY, and 28.29 per cent in the 2025-2026 FY until February.

Petroleum products were placed first among the top 20 import items, with 28 per cent in the 2021-2022 FY, 31 per cent in the

2022-2023 FY, 32 per cent in the 2023-2024 FY, 35.42 per cent in the 2024-2025 FY and 25.29 per cent in the 2025-2026 FY until February.

These petroleum products were imported from 27 countries, including Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand.

Furthermore, other import items are yarn and fabrics (CMP raw materials), iron and steel (construction and industrial use), machinery and mechanical appliances, palm oil, fertilizers, plastic raw materials, electrical distribution and installation equipment, motor vehicles and vehicle parts, chemical products, pharmaceuticals, lace and knitted fabrics (CMP raw materials), dry batteries, various types of paper, wheat grains, wheat flour, non-metallic minerals, construction materials, ships and ship parts, oil drilling equipment and related supplies, railway and railway equipment, metal finishing products, and motorcycles and spare parts. — ASH/KK

## Yangon's Jivitadana Sangha Hospital to provide healthcare assistant training

THE Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (Yangon) will offer four-month healthcare assistant training (batch 12) starting from 4 May 2026, free of charge at the hospital on Komin Kochin Road, Bahan Township.

Myanmar citizens between 18 and 25 years are eligible to attend the training. They must have at least taken the matriculation exam. They must be unmarried. The trainees will be provided lunch, but they must arrange accommodation themselves. Qualified trainees will be connected to work in the general public hospitals upon completion of the training.

The application form is available at the administration division of the hospital. Those interested can apply by 24 April 2026, along with a health certificate, police verification, ward administrator's verification, citizenship ship scrutiny card, education certificate and commitment letter of single status.

An oral test will be held on 28 April. Incomplete documents will not be accepted. Individuals can enquire about details by dialling 01 9541795 and 09 683817970 of the Jivitadana Sangha Hospital. — NN/KK

## CBM sells over US\$3M to edible oil and fuel import sectors

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$2.99 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$260,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 6 April, in addition to transactions of \$279,000.

CBM sold over \$2.48 million to edible oil-importing companies on 3 April, along with transactions of over \$3.24 million and 1.78 million baht.

CBM announced on 2 April that it would pump \$49 million into the fuel oil sector. Moreover, CBM also sold \$2.35 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$4.1 million to fuel oil-importing companies on that day, in addition to transactions of over \$7 million and three million baht in the

foreign exchange market.

In addition to transactions of large amounts of foreign currencies (yuan, dollar, baht) in the foreign exchange market, CBM has been injecting US dollars to stabilize the foreign exchange market and calm the oil prices.

CBM sold over \$35 million, 34 million baht and over three million yuan in February. CBM sold over \$43 million, 65 million baht and over four million yuan in January 2026.

CBM injected forex into the market, with a view to curbing the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notifi-



Greenbacks are seen at the money exchange counter.

cation 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

## YCC to host Myanmar International Machinery & Equipment Expo 2026

MYANMAR International Machinery & Equipment Expo 2026 will take place at Yangon Convention Centre (YCC) from 5 to 7 July, featuring factory produc-

tion equipment, engineering and construction machinery, auto maintenance and repair tools, power equipment, agricultural machinery and general parts and

components.

It will provide a one-stop procurement and technology exchange platform for the transformation and upgrading

of Myanmar's industrial manufacturing industry. With a strong presence of international brands, domestic businesses can expand networks, explore the latest tech-

nology and create new business opportunities. Interested individuals can enquire details on the Myanmar Machine & Equipment Expo Facebook page. — NN/KK

**Myanma Port Authority**  
Open Tender Invitation for three Tugs

- The following three Tugs, at the present controlled by the Myanma Port Authority will be auctioned through an open tender system;
  - Tug Cathay – 3 (Mild Steel Hull)**
    - (1) IMO Number - 9447500
    - (2) Register Tonnage - 153 MT
    - (3) LOA - 21.96 M
    - (4) Breadth - 7.32 M
    - (5) Draft - 3.20M
  - Tug Cathay – 7 (Mild Steel Hull)**
    - (1) IMO Number - 9489132
    - (2) Register Tonnage - 144 MT
    - (3) LOA - 21.96 M
    - (4) Breadth - 7.32 M
    - (5) Draft - 3.20M
  - Tug Cathay – 21 (Mild Steel Hull)**
    - (1) IMO Number - 9311933
    - (2) Register Tonnage - 122 MT
    - (3) LOA - 21.81 M
    - (4) Breadth - 7.00 M
    - (5) Draft - 2.90 M
- The tender process will be taken place in accord with Paragraphs 23/24 of Directive No.(1/2017). Issued by the president office.
- The interested companies (both local and international) are invited to enter this tender. The vessels can be checked in Patheingyi(Bassein) port limit area, Ayeyarwady Region.
- The tender application forms can be purchased and submitted in accordance with the following date, time and place; (Remark: International companies need to submit an endorsement by the Myanmar embassy in the respective country.)
  - Address (to purchase) : Store Department, Botataung Township
  - Date & Time (to purchase) : 8-4-2026 to 5-5-2026 (formal day & time)
  - Address (to submit) : Myanmar Port Authority (Tender Room)
  - Date & Time (to submit) : 7-5-2026 (1300)
  - Date & Time (Tender opening) : 7-5-2026 (1400)
- Since the vessels will be auctioned due to the Port Act 1908, section-11 and Myanma Port Authority Law 2015 section 66(b), Myanma Port Authority has right to cancel either partially or as a whole of this tender at any time, if it is needed to do so for some applicable reasons.
- For detailed information, please contact the following contact points:
  - Marine Department - 018246380, 018387117 (ex) 211
  - Store Department - 018610230

Myanma Port Authority  
Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee

## Singapore Q1 real estate investment hits record high

SINGAPORE'S real estate investment sales surged to 15.4 billion Singapore dollars (about US\$12 billion) in the first quarter of 2026, up 10 per cent quarter on quarter and 166.5 per cent year on year, setting a new first-quarter record, global property consultancy Knight Frank's report showed Monday.

The strong start to the year was underpinned by a low-interest-rate environment, which lowered borrowing costs and narrowed pricing gaps, enabling previously stalled transactions to materialize. Investors were also actively repositioning portfolios, selectively divesting assets to recycle capital and fund future acquisitions, further boosting activity, according to the report.

By sector, residential investment sales totalled 4.4 billion Singapore dollars, down 1.8 per cent quarter on quarter. — Xinhua

## Australian EV sales hit record high in Mar: industry data

ELECTRIC vehicle (EV) sales in Australia hit a record high in March amid rising fuel prices driven by the oil supply crisis.

According to official data released on Tuesday by the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries (FCAI), battery EVs accounted for 14.6 per cent of all new vehicle sales in Australia in March, up from 7.5 per cent in March 2025.

The FCAI said it represents a new record-high monthly market share for EVs in Australia. Tony Weber, chief executive of the FCAI, said in a statement that more Australians are considering a shift to EVs due to the disruption to fuel supply caused by the conflict in the Middle East.

The Australian Institute of Petroleum said that the national average price for unleaded petrol hit a record-high of 2.53 Australian dollars (about US\$1.75) per litre in the week to 29 March, prior to federal, state and territory governments cutting the sales tax on fuel for three months. — Xinhua

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NAWATA BHUM VOY.NO. (335N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NAWATA BHUM VOY.NO. (335N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-4-2026** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**

### PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, **Ruili Cheng Shan Import and Export Trade Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Co.,Ltd** to **Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Luco	Lufenuron 5% + Profenofos 50% EC	Provisional Registration	P2026-6919

Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd  
Tel: 09-250406611

### Changing Trade Name for Registered Pesticide

The Pesticide manufactured by **Ruili Cheng Shan Import and Export Trade Co.,Ltd** and distributed by **Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Co.,Ltd** is changing trade Name as follow.

No.	Previous Name	New Name	Registration No.
1	Lu Maw	Shwe Brother	P2026-6922

Any Objection regarding to this changing can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Co.,Ltd.  
No.CA-316, Cherry 1<sup>st</sup>, FMI City, Hlaing Tharyar Township, Yangon Division, Myanmar.

### PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, **Ruili Cheng Shan Import and Export Trade Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Co.,Ltd** to **Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Paw Lwin	Emamectin Benzoate 4% + Indoxacarb 16% SC	Provisional Registration	P2025-6772

Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd  
Tel: 09-250406611

### Changing Trade Name for Registered Pesticide

The Pesticide manufactured by **EastChem Co.,Ltd** and distributed by **Royal Super Star Co.,Ltd** is changing trade Name as follow.

No.	Previous Name	New Name	Registration No.
1	Dime 400 EC	Poe Shin Plus	F2020-2668

Any Objection regarding to this changing can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

Royal Super Star Co.,Ltd.  
67<sup>th</sup> street, Between 36<sup>th</sup> & 37<sup>th</sup> street, Mahar Myaing (1) Quarter, Mahar Aung Myae Township, Mandalay, Myanmar.

# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## After milestone-rich lunar flyby, astronauts start trip home

THE Artemis II astronauts wrapped up their lunar flyby as they continue their journey back to Earth on Tuesday, bringing with them rich celestial observations including little-known lunar craters, a solar eclipse and meteor strikes that scientists hope will open doors.

Their eyes glued to the spacecraft windows for nearly seven hours, the team of four who spent their day breaking records and making history were treated to a view of the Moon unlike any other.

“Humans probably have not evolved to see what we’re seeing,” said Victor Glover. “It is truly hard to describe. It is amazing.”

The crew reported in vivid detail features of the lunar surface and later witnessed a solar eclipse, when the Moon passed in front of the Sun.



This screengrab from a NASA livestream shows the Orion spacecraft approaching the Moon on 6 April 2026. The four astronauts embarking on NASA’s flyby of the Moon became on 6 April the humans to travel furthest from our planet, as they began the lunar observation that is core to their mission. The Artemis II team broke the distance record set by the 1970 Apollo 13 mission, which they are expected to surpass by 4,105 miles (6,606 kilometres) when they reach this journey’s anticipated furthest distance from Earth — 252,760 miles (406,778 kilometres) — later today. **PHOTO: HANDOUT / NASA / AFP**

They also described flashes of light — meteor strikes — on the Moon’s surface.

“I can’t say enough how much science we’ve already learned,” Kelsey Young, lead scientist for the Artemis II mission, told the astronauts.

“You really brought the Moon closer for us today, and we cannot say thank you enough.”

### Trump praises ‘modern-day pioneers’

But even after becoming the furthest humans ever to travel from Earth, their day was not over: the bleary-eyed astronauts remained in good spirits as they took a late-night call from US President Donald Trump.

Unlike the Artemis astronauts and NASA administrator Jared Isaacman, Trump at age 79 is old enough to remember the Apollo programme. — AFP

## Trump warns ‘whole civilization will die’ in Iran if ultimatum expires

PRESIDENT Donald Trump warned that “a whole civilization will die” in Iran on Tuesday if the country does not heed his ultimatum to accept US war demands. “A whole civilization will die tonight, never to be brought back again. I don’t want that to happen, but it probably will,” Trump wrote on his Truth Social

platform. Trump did not give details but he has already said the US military could bomb Iran’s bridges, power plants and other civilian infrastructure into the “stone age”.

Trump has announced a deadline of midnight GMT Tuesday for Iran to end its de facto closing of the Strait of Hormuz,

a narrow, strategic waterway used to transport oil and other commodities.

On Monday, he said a temporary cease-fire proposal being circulated was insufficient.

Iran has rejected US pressure, with state media reporting that the authorities are insisting that instead of just a cease-fire it wants a full end to the war. In his Truth Social post, Trump left the door open for a last-hour agreement.

“Now that we have Complete and Total Regime Change, where different, smarter, and less radicalized minds prevail, maybe something revolutionarily wonderful can happen, WHO KNOWS? We will find out tonight,” he wrote. Trump said Monday that starting late evening in Washington, DC on Tuesday, US forces would destroy “every bridge in Iran” and cripple “every power plant” in the country — something that many experts say would be a blatant war crime. — AFP



US President Donald Trump speaks during a press conference at the White House in Washington, DC, the United States, 6 April 2026. Trump said Monday that Iran could be “taken out” in one night and that night “might” be Tuesday evening, the deadline Trump set for Iran to make a deal and reopen the Strait of Hormuz. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

## Survey finds US leadership top geopolitical concern in ASEAN

A survey published Tuesday by a Singapore-based think tank found that the US leadership under President Donald Trump was the top geopolitical concern for respondents in South-East Asian countries, cited by 51.9 per cent.

The finding demonstrated “anxiety about inconsistencies in policy and the credibility of long-term commitments,” the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute said.

The survey, conducted from 5 January to 20 February, also found that trust in the United States in member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations had declined from 47.2 per cent last year to 44.0 per cent this year. The think tank’s survey polled about 2,000 people from the private and public sectors in South-East Asia as well as academics and researchers. — Kyodo

## Laos issues extreme heat alert amid rising temperatures

LAO authorities have issued an extreme heat warning, forecasting temperatures of up to 42 degrees Celsius across Laos from 6 to 10 April. The alert, issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology on Monday, advises residents to take precautions as a mass of hot air continues to cover all regions, combined with prevailing westerly winds.

Peak temperatures are like-

ly to occur in the afternoons over several consecutive days. Forecasters also warned of possible isolated thunderstorms, lightning and hail in some areas.

Authorities highlighted increased risks associated with the extreme heat, including fire hazards and heat-related illnesses such as heat stroke, particularly among children and older adults. — Xinhua

# SPORTS

## Atletico rings changes for Champions League as injuries limit Barcelona's options

FC Barcelona and Atletico Madrid resume their three-game stretch in 11 days on Wednesday night when they meet in the first leg of their Champions League quarterfinal.

Barcelona won the first meeting last Saturday, coming from behind to beat Atletico 2-1 at Metropolitan Stadium after goals from Robert Lewandowski and Marcus Rashford cancelled out Giuliano Simeone's opener.

Wednesday could offer a very different picture though, with the return leg shifting to Camp Nou and Atletico expected to field a much stronger lineup.

Atletico coach Diego Sim-

eone rested several key players at the weekend. Ademola Lookman, Julian Alvarez and David Hancko were unused substitutes, while Marcos Llorente was not in the squad. All four are expected to return to the starting lineup.

Central defender Marc Puyol and goalkeeper Jan Oblak are also available again after injury and should start, along with left-back Matteo Ruggeri.

That would give Atletico a side much closer to the one that overwhelmed Barcelona 4-0 in the first leg of the recent Copa del Rey semifinal between the two teams. — Xinhua



Atletico Madrid's Spanish forward (47) Omar Janneh (2L) and Barcelona's Spanish midfielder (6) Pablo Gavi (2R) vie for a header during the Spanish league football match between Club Atletico de Madrid and FC Barcelona at Metropolitan Stadium in Madrid on 4 April 2026. PHOTO: AFP

## Sinner keeps run going by crushing Humbert in Monte Carlo

WORLD No 2 Jannik Sinner cruised past Ugo Humbert 6-3, 6-0 on Tuesday in the second round of the Monte-Carlo Masters.

Following his impressive "Sunshine Double" in March at the Indian Wells and Miami Masters 1000 tournaments, winning the two titles without dropping a set, the 24-year-old Italian made a flawless start to the season's first clay court event.

Imperious on hard courts,

Sinner is still seeking a major title on this surface, although he came close last year when he led by two sets and had three championship points before losing a five-hour, five-set, French Open final to Carlos Alcaraz.

"It was a good performance from my side," Sinner said adding the first clay event "is never easy". "You have to change your game style a little bit, how you approach certain situations," he said. — AFP

## Salai Thang Khee Shein to fight at ONE Friday Fights 150

MYANMAR fighter Salai Thang Khee Shein will compete in ONE Friday Fights 150, set to take place in Bangkok, Thailand, on 10 April.

He will face Thai fighter Choddie as he looks to build momentum. Salai Htan Khee Shein has fought twice in ONE so far, recording one win and one loss, with his most recent victory coming via second-round knockout against Yodudon.

His opponent, Choddie, is more experienced in ONE competition, having fought eight bouts with a record of four wins and four losses.

ONE Championship is now giving Myanmar fighters more opportunities to compete. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Myanmar fighter Salai Thang Khee Shein. PHOTO: ONE

## Athens in running to host inaugural world marathon championships

NEGOTIATIONS are underway for Athens to host the inaugural world marathon championships in 2030, World Athletics announced Tuesday.

The marathon race will remain part of the World Athletics Championships in 2027 and 2029, but from 2030 will become a standalone annual event, with men and women competing in alternate years.

"We are delighted to be exploring the possibility of a standalone World Marathon

Championships with Athens, the place where this iconic discipline was born," World Athletics president Sebastian Coe said in a statement.

The origins of the marathon — which is now run over 42.195 kilometres (26.2 miles) — go back to ancient Greece with the race for men first introduced in the modern Olympic Games in 1896.

The women's marathon made its Games debut in Los Angeles in 1984.

"Few events in sport carry the weight and resonance of the marathon; it is both a test of the very highest performance and a celebration of mass participation," said Coe.

"This is an opportunity to create a dedicated global celebration of marathon running, held in a setting that honours its heritage while shaping a modern championship that reflects the scale and spirit of the global running community." — AFP

## Makhmudov hails heavyweight 'legend' Fury ahead of London clash

ARSLANBEK Makhmudov says he is relishing the chance to measure himself against boxing "legend" Tyson Fury at London's Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on Saturday.

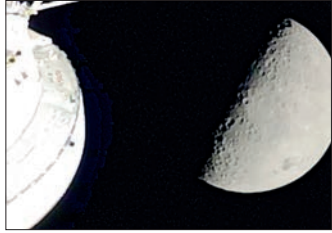
Canada-based Russian Makhmudov, 36, will be going up against 37-year-old two-time former world heavyweight champion British boxer Fury. Makhmudov, however believes he can beat the local hero, even if he remains seemingly unsure of his route to victory.

"I don't know how I will beat (Fury), but

of course I believe I will win," Makhmudov told the Guardian. "This guy, he is a legend, one of the best heavyweights in history."

He added: "Tyson Fury is the professor of mind and boxing. A lot of boxing is mental and he is a master. But boxing is also spiritual. I am going to be strong, spiritual and smart.

"You can say this is a war between mental and spiritual and we'll see who is more successful. Inshallah it is spiritual." — AFP



# Thailand's new coalition govt sworn in



Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul and new cabinet ministers take an oath in front of King Maha Vajiralongkorn at Dusit Palace in Bangkok, Thailand, 6 April 2026. **PHOTO: BUREAU OF THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

**T**HAILAND'S new coalition government led by Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul was sworn into office on Monday evening, following a royal endorsement last week.

The 35-member cabinet recited the oath of allegiance before an audience with King Maha Vajiralongkorn in a traditional ceremony held in the Dusit Palace in Bangkok.

Anutin and seven deputy prime ministers attended the ceremony, along with other cabinet ministers and their deputies.

The prime minister later chaired a special cabinet meeting at the government house. Anutin is set to present his policy statement to parliament in the coming days, the final step required before the new administration can officially assume its duties.

Anutin, 59-year-old Bhumjaithai Party leader, was re-elected for a second term as the prime minister of the South-East Asian country following his victory in a parliamentary vote in March. — Xinhua

## Russia may extend ISS operation until 2030, calling for space arms race ban: Roscosmos chief

RUSSIA does not rule out extending the operation of the International Space Station (ISS) until 2030, Dmitry Bakanov, head of Russia's state space corporation Roscosmos, said on Tuesday.

"A year ago, there were discussions about the need to wind down the ISS as soon as possible, but now we are talking with our American counterparts about keeping it operational until at least 2028, and possibly even 2030," Bakanov said during the Space with Knowledge educational marathon.

Meanwhile, a number of ISS partners have blocked Russia from organizing flights to the station for cosmonauts from other countries, the Roscosmos chief added.

"Cooperation in space should have no boundaries when its purpose is noble: to help people," Bakanov said.

Also, Russia is calling for the development of a legally binding instrument to prevent an arms race in space, he said.

"I would like to emphasize in particular that in international forums, Russia advocates the inviolability of the principles of the peaceful use of outer space," Bakanov said.

Russia is holding the Space Week from 6 to 12 April. This year the event marks the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's first historic manned spaceflight on 12 April 1961.

The Space Week is organized by Roscosmos. — Xinhua

## China emerges as key supply hub in ASEAN+3 production network, says regional research institute

CHINA has become a primary hub in the production network of the ASEAN+3 region, comprising ASEAN member states plus China, Japan and South Korea, the Singapore-based ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) said Monday.

The past two decades have seen a fundamental structural shift underpinning the region's resilience, the institute said in its ASEAN+3 Regional Economic Outlook 2026.

"From the supply side, regional production networks have evolved from a Japan-centred hub into a denser, more interconnected architecture anchored by China," it said, noting that this was supported by China's expanding manufacturing capacity, logistics infrastructure, and central position in intermediate goods trade.

"These supply linkages reflect interdependence rather than unidi-

rectional dependence," the report said.

On the demand side, ASEAN+3 has emerged as a major source of global final demand, collectively larger than the United States, with intraregional demand now far more

significant than two decades ago.

This relationship is also two-way: within ASEAN+3, China is the dominant demand hub, while other economies are key sources of final demand for Chinese exports, the report noted. — Xinhua



This aerial drone photo shows a view of a new energy battery production base of South Korean EV battery maker SK On Jiangsu Co Ltd in Yancheng, east China's Jiangsu Province, 16 October 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**