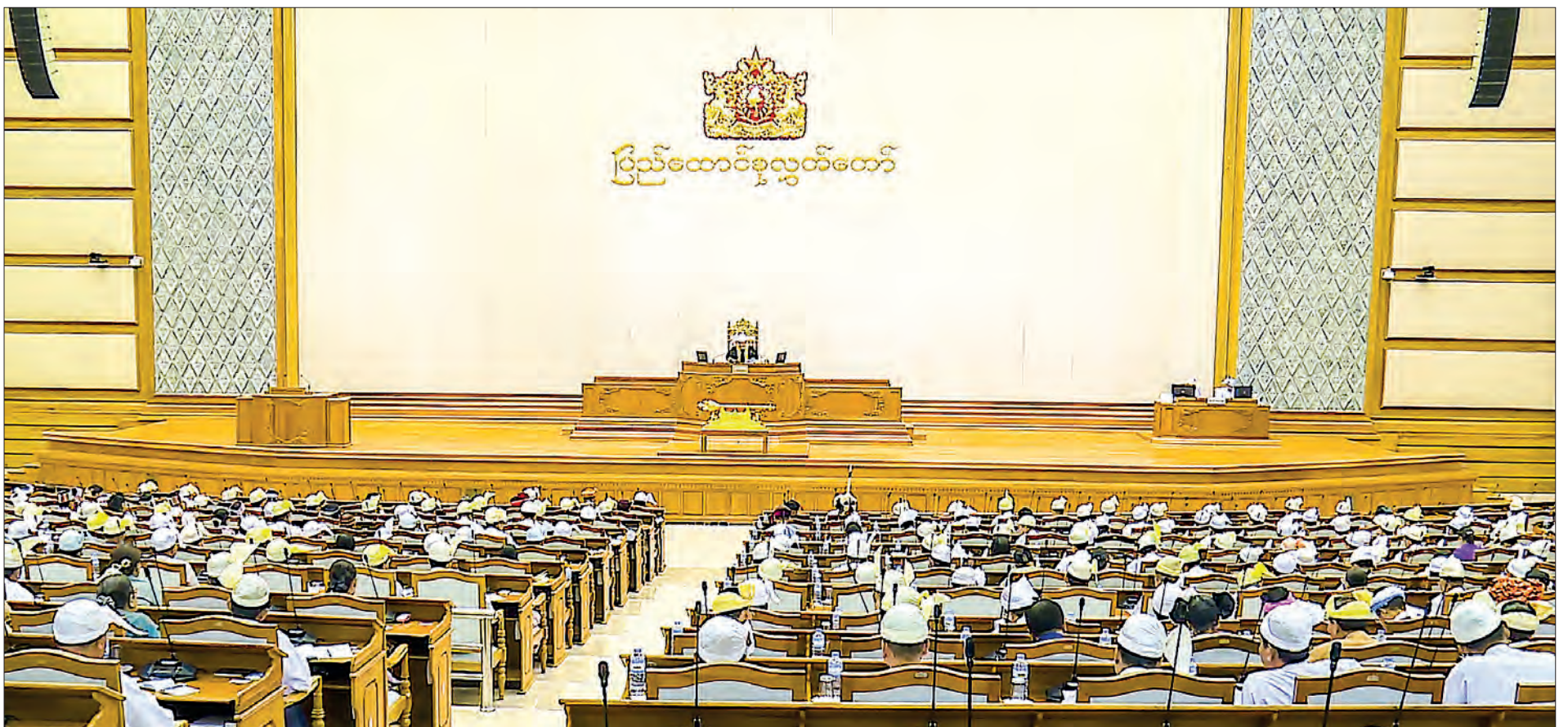


The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

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.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker leads Joint Bill Committee and Joint Public Accounts Committee



The first regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enters its fifth day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved appointment and duty assignment to U Aung Zaw Thein as Chair of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, 30 Union Ministers, Dr Thida Oo as Union Attorney-General, Daw Naing Thet Oo as Union Auditor-General, Dr Khin Naing Oo as CBM Governor, and U Soe Thein as Anti-Corruption Commission Chair.

The first regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the fifth-day meeting at its hall in the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe announced U Nyan Tun, U Myo Tint, U Kyaw Hsan, U Tu Maw, Daw Su Su Win, Daw Ohnma Aye, U Tint Wai and Dr Marlur Maw as members, and U Aung Zaw Thein as Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, as there was no objection to the nomination

of the tribunal.

Moreover, the Speaker declared 30 Union ministers nominated by the President-elect without any objections, and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved them. Those Union Ministers are U Khin Maung Yi, U Aung Kyaw Hoe, U Tin Aung San, U Mya Tun Oo, General Tun Aung, Lt-Gen Nyunt Win Swe, U Tin Maung Swe, Dr Kan Zaw, Lt-Gen Phone Myat, U Than Maung, Dr Thida Oo, Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, Dr Myo Thein Kyaw, Dr Thet Khaing Win, Dr Thet Thet Zin, U Htein

Lin, U Tin Oo Lwin, U Min Naung, U Myo Zaw Thein, U Hsan Oo, U Ko Ko Lwin, Dr Charlie Than, U Myint Kyaing, U Khin Maung Soe, U Tun Ohn, U Ye Myint Tun, Dr Maung Thin, U Myo Thant, Dr Soe Win and U Maung Myint.

The Speaker stated that Dr Thida Oo was nominated as the Union Attorney-General and Daw Naing Thet Oo as the Union Auditor-General by the President-elect. As there was no objection to their appointment, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved Dr Thida Oo as Union

Attorney-General and Daw Naing Thet Oo as Union Auditor-General.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said that the President-elect has submitted the list of eight Supreme Court Judges to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. As there was no objection, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved appointment of U Thaug Naing, U Thein Ko Ko, Daw Thin Thin Nwet, Daw Pyone Pyone Aye, Dr Ko Ko Naing, U Win Myint, Daw Soe Khet Khet and Daw Thin Thin Cho as Supreme Court Judges.

SEE PAGE 3

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.

Foreign state dignitaries send congratulatory messages to Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on his election of President

HE Mr Evgeny Grigoriev, member of the Government of Saint Petersburg, Chairman of the External Relations Committee of the Russian Federation, 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.

U Ko Ko Latt, Honorary Consul of Iceland to Myanmar, 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.

Honorary Consul of Iceland in Myanmar

Date: 8 April 2026

His Excellency
U Min Aung Hlaing
President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Nay Pyi Taw

Your Excellency,

On the distinguished occasion of your election as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, I have the honour, in my capacity as Honorary Consul of Iceland to Myanmar, to extend my warmest and most sincere congratulations.

Your Excellency's election reflects the confidence placed in your leadership at an important time for the nation. I am confident that under your guidance, Myanmar will continue its efforts towards peace, stability, and sustainable development for the benefit of all its people.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reaffirm my commitment to further strengthening the friendly relations between Myanmar and Iceland, and to promoting cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including trade, investment, and sustainable development.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and my best wishes for your continued success in this important responsibility.

Respectfully yours,

Ko Ko Latt
Honorary Consul of Iceland to Myanmar

HE Mr Rustam N Minnikhanov, Head of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Russian Federation, 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.

HE Mr Sergei Shoigu, Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, 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.

HE Mr Alexander Turchin, Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus, sent a congratulatory message to HE U Nyo Saw on his election as Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Sixth-Day Sitting Goes Live On Air

THE Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's first regular session will host its sixth-day meeting at 10 am on 10 April 2026 (today). The meeting will be broadcast live on MRTV Parliament Channel and MRTV Farmers Channel, as well as MRTV HD, MWD-HD, and MWD Variety-HD. — MNA

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and The Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

Nationwide organizations congratulate President Senior General Min Aung Hlaing

VARIOUS organizations, associations and committees have issued statements expressing their pride and offering congratulations on the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as President.

At the presidential election held on 3 April 2026, the Presidential Electoral College, comprising all representatives of

the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, elected Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who had previously been nominated as Vice-President by the representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw, as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Following the election, congratulatory statements were issued by the Zina Manaung

Pagoda Gilding and Comprehensive Construction Committee in Thakayta Township, the Micro, Small, Medium-scale Entrepreneurs Association (Nay Pyi Taw), the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and representatives of the Yangon Region Hluttaw, and the Yangon Region Sports and Youth Affairs Supporting Committee.

In their statements, these organizations expressed their heartfelt pride and extended their congratulations on his election as President by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. They also conveyed their best wishes for his good health and peace of mind, and for strength and dedication in carrying out his responsibilities to serve the interests of the

State, the people and religion.

They further expressed their hope that, under his leadership, Myanmar's economic sector particularly MSME businesses will achieve greater development and progress. They also wished him continued good health, safety, and protection from all adversities. — MNA/KZL

Message of Congratulations

THE Nay Pyi Taw Micro, Small, and Medium Entrepreneurs Association expresses its pride and congratulations to President-elect Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on his election as President, together with Vice-President 1 U Nyo Saw and Vice-President 2 Nan Ni Ni Aye, in accordance with the procedures for the presidential election.

The Association expresses its belief that under the leadership of the President, Myanmar's economic sector, particularly micro, small, and medium enterprises, will achieve greater growth and development.

Furthermore, the Association respectfully states that it will actively cooperate with the government and participate in efforts to promote economic development, industrial growth, and the creation of employment opportunities.

The Association also conveys its best wishes that the new government led by the President will enjoy good health and prosperity and successfully serve the interests of the State and the people.

*Chairperson
Micro, Small, and Medium Entrepreneurs Association
Nay Pyi Taw*

Congratulatory Message

THE Yangon Region Sports and Youth Affairs Supporting Committee extends its heartfelt pride and congratulations on the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The Committee respectfully conveys its best wishes that the President may be blessed with peace of mind, good health and happiness, and that he may diligently carry out the responsibilities of the State with a sound body and mind, contributing to the greater good of the nation.

With utmost respect, the Committee offers its sincere prayers and goodwill.

Yangon Region Sports and Youth Affairs Supporting Committee

Congratulatory Message

THE Speaker, Deputy Speaker and representatives of the Yangon Region Hluttaw extend their heartfelt pride and congratulations on the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

They respectfully convey their best wishes that the President may be blessed with good health and well-being, be free from all dangers and calamities, and be able to cultivate and practise noble virtues with diligence.

With utmost respect, they offer their sincere prayers and goodwill.

*Speaker, Deputy Speaker and representatives of
the Yangon Region Hluttaw*

Congratulatory Message

THE Zina Manaung Pagoda Gilding and Comprehensive Construction Committee in Thakayta Township extends its heartfelt pride and congratulations on the election of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The Committee respectfully conveys its best wishes that the President may be blessed with peace of mind, good health and happiness, and prays that he may, with a sound body and mind, diligently carry out the responsibilities of serving the interests of the State, the nation, and religion.

*Zina Manaung Pagoda Gilding and Comprehensive
Construction Committee, Thakayta Township*

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker leads Joint Bill...

FROM PAGE 1

Moreover, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved Dr Khin Naing Oo, U Zaw Myint Naing, U Thet Tun Aung, Dr Sanda Oo, Dr Yi Aye, U Tin Myint, Dr Hla Nyunt, Dr Zaw Oo and Dr Phyu Phyu Ei as members of the Central Bank of Myanmar, Dr Khin Naing Oo as the CBM Governor and U Zaw Myint Naing, U Thet Tun Aung and Dr Sanda Oo as CBM Deputy Governors.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw also approved U Kyaw Win Thein, Police Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe, Dr Tun Tun Oo, U Lun Baw, U Kyaw Soe Nyunt, U Toe Yi, U Tin Aung Win and U Min Han as members of the Anti-Corruption Commission and U Soe Thein as Chairman of the commission.

The Speaker stated that the nomination for the formation of the Joint Bill

Committee had been clarified on 2 April. So, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the formation of the Joint Bill Commission with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Jeng Phang Naw Taung as Chair, Daw Nwe Nwe Oo from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 2 (FPTP System) as First Vice-Chair, Dr Nanda Kyaw Swa from the Dagon Constituency as Second Vice-Chair, U Zin Min Htet from the Bago Region Constituency 1 (PR System) as Secretary, U Thein Tun Oo from the Amrapura Constituency as Joint Secretary together with members of the committee: Daw Than Than Aye (aka) Tekkatho May Thu from the Thingangyun Constituency, Dr Tun Tun Win from the Seikkyi-Khanaungto Constituency, Sai Wun Seng from the Mongkhat Constituency, Daw Nang Kyin (aka) Nang Sein from the

Taunggyi Constituency, Daw Zin Pa Pa Oo from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 2 (PR System), U Khaing Win Aung from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 3 (FPTP System), Daw Cein Ngaik Mang from the Chin State Constituency 1 (PR System), Defence Services Personnel Representatives Brig-Gen Win Myaing, Brig-Gen Myint Thaung and Captain Daw Phyo Phyo Wai.

With regard to the establishment of the Joint Public Accounts Committee, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Jeng Phang Naw Taung as Chair, U Chit Swe from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 2 (PR System) as First Vice-Chair, U Teza Kyaw from the Aungmyaythazan Constituency as Second Vice-Chair, U Than Aung from the Taninthayi Region Con-

stituency 2 (FPTP System) as Secretary and U Tin Aung Chit from the Aunglan Constituency as Joint Secretary together with members of the committee: U Myat Kyaw from the Kanbalu Constituency, Daw Khin Saw Mu from the Kangyidaunt Constituency, U Nyunt Hsaung from the Yamethin Constituency, U Than Shwe from the Thanbyuzayat Constituency, U Chit Wai from the Kayin State Constituency 1 (PR System), U Zaw Zaw Myint from the Rakhine State Constituency 2 (PR System), Khun Win Oo from the Kayin State Constituency 1 (PR System), Defence Services Personnel Representatives Brig-Gen Soe Nyunt, Brig-Gen Win Ko Ko and Colonel Phyo Min Win.

The sixth-day meeting of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's first regular session continues on 10 April. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Region & State Hluttaws approve formation of standing committees, appointment of ministers



Yangon Region Hluttaw.



Shan State Hluttaw.



The Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw.



Kachin State Hluttaw.



Chin State Hluttaw.



Sagaing Region Hluttaw.



Taninthayi Region Hluttaw.



Mon State Hluttaw.



Rakhine State Hluttaw.

AT yesterday's meeting of Kachin State Hluttaw, Daw Aye Aye Maw as Chief Justice of the State High Court, nominated by the President-elect, was approved without objections. The Hluttaw also approved seven ministries and state ministers, the Kachin State Advocate-General, the Auditor-General and State High Court Judges nominated by the State Chief Minister-elect and the formation of the standing committees of the State Hluttaw.

The Chin State Hluttaw Speaker sought approval for the appointment of state ministers at seven ministries with the discussions of four State Hluttaw rep-

resentatives.

Yesterday's Sagaing Region Hluttaw approved regional ministers at seven ministries in addition to the Shan Ethnic Affairs Minister and the Chin Ethnic Affairs Minister sent by the President's Office. The Hluttaw agreed on the appointment of U Hla Tun from the Nanyun Constituency 2 as Chair of the Naga Self-Administered Zone Leading Body and the formation of State Hluttaw standing committees.

The Taninthayi Region Hluttaw continued its session with the formation of regional Hluttaw standing committees, the nomination of chair and members, re-

sponsibilities, authority, rights and term.

The Mon State Hluttaw recorded the Mon State Chief Minister and individuals to be appointed as the state-level organizations and the formation of the standing committee.

The Deputy Speaker of the Rakhine State Hluttaw submitted the nomination of individuals for the standing committee to the Hluttaw. The Speaker of the Hluttaw urged the Hluttaw representatives wishing to object to the nominations of the standing committees to register their names no later than 4 pm on 9 April.

The Yangon Region Hluttaw ap-

proved the formation of 10 standing committees.

The Shan State Chief Minister-elect submitted the nomination of ethnic affairs ministers to the Shan State Hluttaw. Moreover, approvals were sought from the Shan State Hluttaw to form the Pa-O and Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Bodies.

The Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw Speaker stated the formation of six standing committees and their members, responsibilities, authority, rights and terms with the approval of the Region Hluttaw.

— IPRD/TTA

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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

Foreign delegates arrive in Nay Pyi Taw to attend new President's inauguration

THE delegations representing the foreign governments arrived in Nay Pyi Taw on the evening of 9 April 2026 to attend the Inauguration Ceremony of the new President, which will be held on 10 April 2026. They were welcomed by the deputy minister for Foreign Affairs and officials at the Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport. — MNA



Images depict foreign delegates being received upon arrival at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport.

Myanmar and India extend MoU on black gram, pigeon peas trading



This image shows the event marking the extension of the Myanmar-India MoU on black gram and pigeon pea trade cooperation.

A ceremony for the Exchange of Letters extension of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the trade of black gram and pigeon peas between Myanmar and India was held yesterday evening at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Deputy Minister for Commerce U Min Min and Indian Minister of State for External Affairs Mr Kirit Vardhan Singh made remarks at the event.

Permanent Secretary U Aung Thwin Oo and Indian

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur exchanged the Exchange of Letters on the extension of black gram and pigeon peas trading.

The MoU signed between the Ministry of Commerce of Myanmar and the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution of India was extended to further five years until the 2030-2031 financial year.

Under this agreement, Myanmar will be allowed to export annually up to 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas

to India. This extension is expected to enhance confidence among Myanmar's farmers, traders, and exporters in their production and export activities. Moreover, it can also strengthen bilateral relationships and mutual understanding between the two countries, and also create good outcomes and new pathways for cooperation in development measures.

After the ceremony, the dinner was served for the delegation led by the Indian Minister of State for External Affairs. — MNA/KTZH

Public Notice

1. The period from the 13th waning of Tagu to the 1st waxing of Kason, 1387 ME, marks the Maha Thingyan festival, the transition from the old to the new year.
2. During this period, the Myanmar people perform good deeds such as paying respect to elders, holding novitiation and ordination ceremonies, and releasing animals.
3. Moreover, there is also a tradition that one sprays another with scented water using Thabyay as a symbol of washing one's sins away from the previous year.
4. However, excessive merrymaking, particularly among youths, can lead to undesirable consequences such as causing injury through rough water play, teasing others beyond tolerance, conflicts, and traffic accidents.
5. Therefore, the traditional Myanmar Maha Thingyan festival 1387 ME shall be celebrated in accordance with the following objectives;
 - (a) To preserve and uphold the traditional Myanmar Maha Thingyan festival in accordance with customs and traditions,
 - (b) To enable the public to participate in the water festival joyfully and peacefully,
 - (c) To help people refresh themselves from fatigue with Thingyan water so they can carry out State duties with renewed strength in the New Year,
 - (d) To continue safeguarding and valuing Myanmar traditions, cultural essence, and national characteristics,
6. Therefore, the people are urged to avoid the following: -
 - (a) Behaviours and actions that refrain from Myanmar customs and traditions or appear inappropriate for the Myanmar people
 - (b) The use of abusive, rude, or religiously inappropriate language
 - (c) Rough or harmful water play actions and harassment that may cause injury or danger to others
 - (d) Any form of speech, Thangyat (satirical slam poetry), singing, or activity directly or indirectly that harms the dignity or reputation of individuals or organizations
 - (e) Wearing costumes that contradict Myanmar cultural norms or offend public sensibilities
 - (f) Excessive imitation of behaviours, speech, clothing, food, or dances that can diminish the respect and appreciation among people of other countries for the value of Myanmar's traditional Maha Thingyan, and excessive consumption of alcohol

NATIONAL

MoE Deputy Minister inspects Maubin (South) oil and gas field as output rises

DEPUTY Minister for Energy U Kyaw Naing Win, accompanied by departmental officials, visited the Maubin (South) oil and natural gas field yesterday.

During the visit, the Deputy Minister and his team inspected wells No 16, 18 and 20 at the Maubin (South) field. The Managing Director of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise briefed them on the analysis of gas-bearing sand layers in the wells, current production conditions, and plans for further development.

In response to the presentations, the Deputy Minister emphasized the need to adopt modern technologies to enhance oil and natural gas production from domestic fields. He also

expressed appreciation to staff involved in increasing production, particularly for efforts at Plot No 18 in the Maubin (South) field in the Ayeyawady Region.

Since drilling began at Plot No 18 on 26 February, the well has been producing approximately 1.6 million cubic feet of natural gas and eight barrels of condensate per day. Similarly, drilling at Plot No 20, which commenced on 15 March, has yielded around 1.5 million cubic feet of natural gas and seven barrels of condensate per day, while Plot No 16, drilled on 3 April, is producing about 1.6 million cubic feet of natural gas and eight barrels of condensate daily.

He further noted that,



Deputy Minister for Energy U Kyaw Naing Win and officials are pictured during their inspection of the Maubin (South) oil and natural gas field.

among Myanmar's onshore oil and gas fields, the Maubin (South) field produces natural gas with a high content of C3 (propane) and C4 (butane). These components can be used in the initial stage of producing LPG and naphtha. Gas derived from these products can then be distributed to fertilizer

plants, industrial facilities and compressed natural gas outlets for vehicles, making it a highly valuable resource. The Deputy Minister later presented awards and gifts to the staff.

The recent increase in natural gas production is expected to significantly support the energy needs of lower Myanmar and

enable greater distribution of natural gas for vehicles in Yangon, thereby helping to ease the current fuel shortage. Seismic surveys are also being conducted to identify new onshore oil fields, and the Ministry of Energy will continue to oversee exploratory drilling activities. — ASH/MKKS

India, Myanmar ink social welfare MoU



The signing ceremony for the construction of a Pre-school in Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw, is underway yesterday.

THE signing ceremony for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding the "Construction of a Pre-school in Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw" was held at 6 pm yesterday in the meeting hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

The project was proposed by the Department of Social Welfare, under the Ministry, as part of the Small Development Projects (SDP) agreement between the governments of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of India.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Thant Sin Lwin, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Than Soe, Minister of External Affairs of State of the Republic of India Mr Kirti Vardhan Singh, Head of the Embassy of the Republic of India to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur, Deputy Head of the Embassy of the Republic of India to Myanmar Mr Ashish Sharma, as well as permanent secretaries, directors-general, deputy directors-general, officials

from relevant ministries, and representatives from the Embassy of the Republic of India to Myanmar.

At the ceremony, Dr Than Soe and Mr Kirti Vardhan Singh delivered opening remarks on the project. Following the speeches, the MoU for the construction of a preschool in Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw, was signed by Director-General Dr San San Aye of the Department of Social Welfare and Mr Ashish Sharma.

The signing of this MoU will support the creation of safe, inclusive, and high-quality learning environments for early childhood development. The establishment of this preschool, which will nurture children's physical, intellectual, mental, and social growth, is expected to benefit human resource development and regional progress. Furthermore, it will contribute to strengthening cooperation and friendship between Myanmar and India. — MNA/TH

Trading amount and foreign exchange rate in the FE market on 9 April 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rate	3,663.4-3,668	558.2-558.40	125.5-125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	10,917,616.09	28,408,082.38	36,086,330.03	
The amount sold by CBM into the market			2,395,040.01	

FOREIGN currencies were traded in the market for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, pesticides, pharmaceutical products, raw materials, telecommunications equipment, industrial raw materials, car and motorcycle spare parts, construction materials, vegetable seeds, and consumer goods. From the CMP sector revenue, US\$1 million was allocated to the fuel sector, US\$1.36 million to the edible oil sector, and 2.40 million Thai baht was sold by the Central Bank of Myanmar to the food, agricultural products, and industrial raw materials sectors. — MNA/TH

Public Notice

THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No "1111" for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via short code No "1111" will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.

Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at short code "1111". Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission

NATIONAL

ABOUT 75 per cent of hotel rooms at Ngwehsaung and Chaungtha have already been booked in advance during the nine-day holiday of the Thingyan period, according to the Ayeyawady Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

In Ayeyawady Region, there are 126 hotels and guesthouses with a total of 5,475 rooms licensed by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, whereas 443 guesthouses with 6,813 rooms are licensed by the development committee, totalling 6,813 rooms. Meanwhile, a total of 12,088 rooms of 5,069 hotels, guesthouses and lodges

Thingyan holiday bookings hit 75% in Ngwehsaung, Chaungtha



Travellers and holidaymakers enjoy their time at Ngwehsaung and Chaungtha beaches. **PHOTOS: DIRECTORATE OF HOTELS & TOURISM**

ed advanced training for hotel staff. We are working together to ensure the beaches remain clean, beautiful, and sustainable. Nearly 75 per cent of hotels and guesthouses have already been booked for the Thingyan period. Visitors can enjoy a peaceful holiday by the sea and will be treated with traditional Thingyan delicacies such as Mote Lone Yay Paw, Mote Let Hsaung, Sagu, and other festive foods prepared by hotels and guesthouses,” said U Aung Thu Oo, director of the department.

During the last Thingyan festival, Ngwehsaung, Chaungtha, Shwethaungyan, and Gawringyi were crowded with hol-

are ready for visitors during the Thingyan period.

The region welcomed more than 1.9 million domestic and international visitors between January and December 2024,

and over 1.5 million visitors during the same period in 2025. From January to 31 March 2026, more than 690,000 visitors have arrived. During this early period of this year, more than

220,000 visitors visited Ngwehsaung beach, whereas more than 160,000 to Chaungtha and Shwethaungyan.

“We are ready to warmly welcome travellers who will

come to relax at the beaches during the upcoming Thingyan holiday. Hotels in Ngwehsaung and Chaungtha are prepared to provide the best services. Our department has also conduct-

idaymakers. Similarly, for this year’s Thingyan, about 75 per cent of hotel and guesthouse rooms at these beaches have already been reserved in advance. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Music Association to oversee performances during Thingyan



Thingyan revellers celebrate the holidays with lively pavilion performances.

THE Myanmar Music Association (Central) will supervise musicians’ performances during the Myanmar Thingyan Festival to ensure that they are in line with Myanmar culture and traditions.

This Myanmar New Year Thingyan Festival will be celebrated in all regions and states, districts, townships, wards and village-tracts as part of the welcome for the Myanmar New Year. It has also been announced that the festival will include

musical performances.

“The Thingyan Festival will include walking Thingyan events and musical performances nationwide, including in villages across districts and townships. The Music Association has previously warned all artists from various musical fields to perform in accordance with Myanmar culture and traditions. There are guidelines stating that singing and performances must align with cultural standards, and as there

are already music associations in townships across the regions and states, those associations will carry out monitoring,” said an official from the Myanmar Music Association (Central).

The Thingyan Festival will prioritize walking Thingyan events nationwide, and in addition to performances by well-known singers, there will be many other programmes highlighting Myanmar’s traditional culture and heritage. — ASH/MKKS

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 Thursday,

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

OPINION

Take care when using unsafe water during the Thingyan festival

MYANMAR is a country with rich cultural traditions and customs. Traditional festivals and activities of the ethnic groups are also held as seasonal festivals throughout the whole 12 months. Among these, the Thingyan festival is considered the most vibrant and happiest one, and it is attended by all ethnics. In fact, Thingyan festival is one of the monthly seasonal festivals as well as a traditional festival.

The traditional Myanmar Thingyan festival will fall in the near future. During this New Year festival, which takes place at the end of the old year, people follow the custom of gently sprinkling water on one another. This practice reflects the long-standing

The Thingyan festival is a joyful and refreshing time for the people of Myanmar. Traditionally, the Myanmar people celebrate this festival with rich cultural customs, including the gentle sprinkling of scented water on one another as a sign of goodwill, symbolically washing away the dirt and misfortunes of the old year. However, some revellers intentionally splash each other with unclean or dirty water, which can be harmful to health.

A safe and healthy festival environment allows everyone to enjoy themselves peacefully and comfortably. Therefore, during Thingyan water celebrations, people are advised to be careful and attentive to avoid accidents or health risks that could arise from overheated conditions or improper water play, ensuring a joyful and safe experience for all.

cultural heritage of the Myanmar people. Within the Thingyan festivities, people of all ages, including children and youth, playing with water are reminded to be careful and considerate so that everyone can celebrate safely without causing harm or accidents using water.

During Thingyan water celebrations, it is important to use clean water, as unclean or dirty water can easily cause skin irritation and the spread of diseases. Water from pipelines that may be contaminated or lead to infections or illnesses. Therefore, people are advised to use water carefully and avoid dirty or unsafe water. Participants should take care to prevent water from entering their eyes, ears, nose, or mouth while taking part in the festivities.

In addition, during Thingyan water celebrations, people should avoid participating in water splashing during extreme heat or strong sunlight and should take breaks in the shade when necessary. Outside, only clean water that is

A New Government and New Momentum in the New Year

By Dr Than Zaw Oo

IN A democratic system, elections are an indispensable process. Democracy embodies two essential dimensions: participation and competition. These two dimensions must be fully realized through free and fair elections, which constitute the very essence of democratic practice. Representatives, elected by the people in accordance with their free will, enter legislative bodies through the electoral process to represent the voice of the people. In doing so, parliaments serve as the fundamental pillars of law-making and as platforms through which the people's will is expressed.

The right to vote is a fundamental right of every citizen. This principle is enshrined in Section 38 (a) of the 2008 Constitution, every citizen shall have the right to elect and to be elected under the law. Furthermore, international

frameworks such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 21) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Article 25) guarantee the right to participate in elections. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women affirms equal electoral rights for women, while the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ensures that persons with disabilities can exercise their voting rights without barriers.

Despite the state's efforts to ensure inclusive participation, certain anti-democratic elements attempted to derail the process through "No Vote" campaigns and acts of terrorism. These included the destruction of polling stations and targeted attacks on civil servants and volunteers to incite fear. Nevertheless, democracy does not belong to any single individual or



During the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session held on 3 April, with 584 out of 586 representatives in attendance, the presidential election was conducted. PHOTO: GNLM

party. Despite such challenges, a total of 57 political parties participated, and the elections were successfully conducted in a free and fair manner.

During the first phase of the elections, international observers from countries including Russia,

Belarus, China, Kazakhstan, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Nicaragua, as well as a Japan-Myanmar association, monitored the process. In the third phase, observers from Cambodia, Vietnam, Nicaragua, Indonesia, Nepal, Belarus, and India, along with the International

Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), also participated. These observation groups generally provided positive assessments, recognizing the elections as credible and well-conducted.

Following the successful completion of free and fair elections,

legislative bodies at various levels were formed. Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw were elected, and standing committees were established to carry out parliamentary functions. Following the emergence of the new Hluttaws, the presidential election process commenced on 31 March. The electoral college, divided into three groups, nominated their respective Vice-Presidents:

- ❖ Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Group: Senior General Min Aung Hlaing was elected as Vice-President after receiving 247 out of 260 votes.

- ❖ Amyotha Hluttaw Representative Group: Nan Ni Ni Aye was elected as Vice-President, securing 117 out of 155 votes.

- ❖ Defence Services Personnel Representatives Group: U Nyo Saw was unanimously confirmed as Vice-President.

Subsequently, during the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session held on 3 April, with 584 out of 586 rep-

representatives in attendance, the presidential election was conducted. Among the candidates, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received the highest number of votes (429 votes) and was duly elected as the President. U Nyo Saw and Nan Ni Ni Aye were elected as Vice-Presidents.

This marks a significant milestone in Myanmar's political history, particularly with the emergence of the country's first female Vice-President. The inclusion of women in national leadership reflects a progressive step towards gender equality and inclusive governance. Following the conduct of free and fair elections, representative elected from various political parties, ethnic representatives, and independent members within the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw collectively exercised their equal rights and responsibilities in accordance with democratic principles. Through a unanimous vote, they elected Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. This process may be regarded as a significant democratic procedure reflecting representation, inclusiveness, and unity.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker declared Senior General Min Aung Hlaing from the group

of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives who won the largest number of valid votes was elected as the President. He also announced that U Nyo Saw and Nan Ni Ni Aye were elected as Vice-Presidents.

With the establishment of 31 Union-level ministries, including those dedicated to women's affairs and youth affairs, the new government is poised to enhance the role of women and young people in national progress. These developments represent positive momentum, and the formation of the new government in the new year is warmly welcomed as a step towards a peaceful, modern, and developed nation.

FEDERALISM means a system where different states have their own powers but still belong to one union. It is based on sharing power between the central government and the states through a common constitution.

If the central government is too weak and most power is given to the states, the country may face problems in development and national security. On the other hand, if the central government has too much power and the states have very little, dissatisfaction among the states may increase, and the system may become similar to a unitary system.

Countries like the United States and Switzerland are good examples of successful federal systems. In the United States, leaders often use the term "The Union" to show unity. States do not have the right to leave the union. In its early history, there were strong debates about federalism, but the addition of the Bill of Rights helped strengthen and stabilize the country.

In Myanmar, discussions about federalism have been difficult since independence. Problems such as misunderstanding between ethnic groups, different interpretations of terms, slow development, and narrow ethnic thinking have led to long-lasting conflicts.

The meaning of the "Panglong Spirit" "ဝင်လိုစိတ်ဓာတ်" has also been misunder-

The Federal Balance: Peace and the Union

By Dr Zeyar Win

stood. Originally, it meant that all ethnic groups would live together in unity, sharing both success and hardship equally. However, misinterpretations and narrow views by some leaders have contributed to internal conflicts.

In reality, arguing about whether the country is called a "Union" or "Federal" is less important. What really matters is how power is shared fairly between the central government and the states.

Looking back at history, the Panglong Conference (ဝင်လိုညီလာခံ) was not fully inclusive. It mainly involved leaders from the Bamar, Shan, Kachin, and Chin groups. Other groups, like Kayin and Kayah, were only observers. So, while it created a spirit of unity, it did not fully solve how the country should be organized.

There is a close connection between federal principles and the constitution. There is also a strong link between peace and how the union is built. The current system of seven states, seven regions, and self-administered zones is a practical structure.

In reality, no state belongs to only one ethnic group. For example, Shan State is not only for Shan people, and Ayeyawady Region is not only for Bamar people. People from different ethnic groups live across the country.

The structure of the Amyotha Hluttaw (House of Nationalities), which gives representation based on population, is reasonable. Giving equal representation to all states, regardless of size, may not work well in practice.

Also, the seven states and seven regions have equal status, and each has its own legislative body with some level of autonomy.

Under the 2008 Constitution, 25 per cent

of parliamentary seats are reserved for the military. This is intended to support a stable and disciplined democratic transition and protect national unity. Myanmar's history shows that weak understanding of democracy and political misuse led to instability in the past. Therefore, the military continues to play a role as a stabilizing force.

If people and leaders do not fully understand federalism, it may lead to confusion and instability. Moving from a centralized system to a federal one is complex and requires careful understanding and cooperation from all sides.

If civil society and the public do not understand federal principles, there is a risk of weakening the union. It is important to recognize that staying united brings more benefits than breaking apart.

The government is working to meet the needs of all ethnic groups as long as national unity is maintained. Now is a good time for

all groups to move beyond mistrust and work together through dialogue.

Federalism is suitable for countries with many ethnic groups and large territories. However, it must be handled carefully. Its success depends on the wisdom, openness, and cooperation of leaders and people.

For Myanmar, which is still developing, poorly managed federalism could worsen existing problems. A strong and stable federal

system can only be built through compromise, dialogue, and mutual understanding.

Myanmar is located between major global powers, so careful use of federal principles is important for national security and development. Ultimately, the people want peace, stability, and economic progress. These goals can only be achieved through internal peace and a shared constitutional agreement based on cooperation and trust.



NATIONAL

Doh Eain's women's team provides maintenance services

THE Women Maintenance Team, which comprises women only, has now started providing building preservation and maintenance services, according to Doh Eain.

With the support of the Embassy of Germany to Myanmar, the women maintenance team demonstrated their skill and enthusiasm by playing a vital role in the restoration of the over 100-year-old Thanlyin Heritage Centre.

"Through the restoration of this building, we have successfully proven our ability. We hope that the women's leadership will grow in the field of restoration for the future," said Doh Eain.

The women maintenance team has offered repair and maintenance services for houses, offices and buildings to be durable and safe. Details can be requested from the phone number 09 781872572 or email wmt@doheain.com.

Founded in 2017, Doh Eain is a Yangon-based organization that works on settlement and social projects. Doh Eain focuses on urban resettlement and heritage preservation, having led projects to transform many trash alleys into playgrounds and renovate heritage apartments. — MT/ZS



This image captures Doh Eain's women maintenance team.

Pyay's Shwesandaw Pagoda's southeast corner platform to expand



The Shwesandaw Pagoda in Pyay.



A member of the Board of Trustees accepting a donation from a contributor.

THE Board of Trustees of the Shwesandaw Pagoda in Pyay, Bago Region, has announced plans to expand the pagoda's southeast corner platform to 120

feet in length and 28 feet in width.

This expansion will significantly increase the space available on the platform for pilgrims. Once completed, the area will offer a prime vantage point for visitors to enjoy the scenic sunset over the Ayeyawady River and the beautiful view of the Ayeyawady Bridge.

The project is currently seeking donors to help fund the construction. The estimated cost is K200,000 per square foot, and interested donors may contact the Shwesandaw Pagoda Board of Trustees directly to contribute.

Additionally, on 31 March, the 19th annual offering of 1,000 items, including flowers, water, oil lamps, food, fruits, and banners, was held at the pagoda. The ceremony was organized by the Saturday Sweeping Association and the Dhammapalakari recitation group. — Htun Htun/ZN

ICCR's 77th anniversary celebrated in Yangon

THE Embassy of India in Yangon organized the 77th anniversary celebration of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) on 9 April at the Myawady Media Centre in Yangon.

ICCR was established to strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and foreign countries, as well as to promote cultural exchanges worldwide. The year 2026 marks the 77th anniversary of its founding.

Founded in 1950, the ICCR celebrates its foundation day annually on 9 April. According to the embassy,



The 77th anniversary celebration of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations is in progress.

this year is particularly significant as the ceremony was organized in honour of the visit to Myanmar by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs' Minister of State, HE Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh.

During today's ceremo-

ny, Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur delivered the welcoming remarks, followed by a keynote speech from Minister of State Mr Kirti Vardhan Singh. Additionally, teachers and students from the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre

(SVCC) performed various cultural songs and dances.

SVCC is an organization that actively organizes cultural programmes and is composed of expert instructors in music, dance, yoga, and the Hindi language. — MT/ZN



Zoo Lovers Day sparks call for environmental and wildlife conservation

ZOOS across the country, including the Yangon Zoological Gardens, have issued a call for public participation in environmental and wildlife conservation efforts starting from Zoo Lovers Day, which falls on 8 April.

Every year, Zoo Lovers Day is a special day for those who value and cherish animals and nature, highlighting the vital importance of zoos and encouraging everyone to participate in protecting

wildlife and global conservation initiatives.

While zoos were once viewed merely as places for recreation, they have now transformed into conservation centres. Modern zoos play several key roles, including safe havens for animals, education and research, breeding and reintroduction and genetic preservation.

According to zoo officials, Zoo Lovers Day is not only about celebrating

animals but also about striving to preserve wildlife and biodiversity for future generations. It noted that supporting zoos – whether by visiting, donating, or raising awareness – greatly helps ensure the world's magnificent creatures survive for many years to come.

Therefore, the public is urged to join hands in environmental and wildlife conservation efforts starting from this Zoo Lovers Day. — MT/ZN



This image shows a poster commemorating Zoo Lovers Day, observed on 8 April.

NATIONAL

MEODA works to ensure smooth edible oil supplies and logistics for Thingyan

THE Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association (MEODA) is leading efforts to ensure there are no shortages of edible oil and to facilitate smooth transport during the Thingyan, and it was discussed during a coordination meeting with the Oil Tank Terminal Supervisory Committee held on 7 April.

The MEODA vice-chair and the leader of the Oil Tank Terminal Supervisory Committee discussed the continuous arrival of oil tankers before Thingyan, efforts to store arriving oil in

terminals across the Yangon Region and ensuring no delays for ships to avoid extra charges for importers.

Instructions were given to ensure the smooth distribution of both edible oil and industrial raw material oil. Terminal operators were told to manage oil withdrawals effectively with distributors. Taw Win Ayekarit Company, which is responsible for transportation, is committed to ensuring oil reaches consumers before the holiday begins. A representative from MITS

discussed systematic storage procedures. Arrangements are being made for staff to remain on standby to receive incoming oil shipments.

The meeting emphasized the systematic storage of reserve oil imported in April to ensure tanks are filled. The MEODA reiterated its leadership role in maintaining a steady supply chain throughout the festival. Following the discussions, terminal managers explained their current situations and operational findings. — MT/ZN



A coordination meeting between the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association (MEODA) and the Oil Tank Terminal Supervisory Committee is underway.

Mister Myanmar 2026 winners chosen for global pageants

THE Mister Myanmar 2026 Grand Final was held at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in the Yangon Region, where four title winners were selected to represent Myanmar in international male pageants.

At the competition, Yu Gan won the Mister International Myanmar 2026 title, William Shein secured the Man of the World Myanmar 2026 title, Myo Min Khant was awarded the Mister Friendship Myanmar 2026 title, and KV received the Mister Eco Myanmar 2026 title.

Min Bhone Khant was named first runner-up, while Soe Htet Win secured the position of second runner-up.

The four winners selected from the Mister Myanmar 2026 pageant will represent Myanmar in their respective international male pageants to be held this year. — ASH/KZL



This image features the title winners of the Mister Myanmar 2026 pageant.

Yangon steps up breath tests, tightens traffic rules for Thingyan

THE Thingyan Festival period in Yangon will see motorists subjected to checks using alcohol testing devices (breathalyzers), according to the Yangon Region Government.

During the Thingyan Festival, drivers in Yangon Region are prohibited from drink-driving, reckless or disorderly racing, and dangerous manoeuvring on the roads. It is also banned to operate vehicles with removed exhaust pipes, without number plates, with fake or substituted number plates, or with doors or rear covers removed.



Vehicles are seen on the road during the previous Thingyan festival.

In addition, drivers are required to carry valid driving licences and vehicle registration documents. They are also prohibited from driving deregistered old vehicles, unregistered

vehicles, or vehicles under repair. Likewise, the mounting of international flags on vehicles, carrying loads beyond the designated weight limit in pickup trucks, and riding motorcycles or side-

car motorcycles within the Yangon City Development Committee area are not permitted.

Failure to comply with these regulations will result in effective legal action under existing laws. Drivers will be tested with breathalyzers, and those found to have consumed alcohol will face legal penalties.

At present, CCTV cameras have been installed at major junctions and traffic lights, and traffic violations will be prosecuted using recorded footage, the Yangon Region government has announced. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Thursday, 9 April 2026)

BAY INFERENCE: The weather has a few clouds over the North Andaman Sea and Central Bay of Bengal and is partly cloudy to cloudy over the South Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 10 April 2026: The weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady regions. Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and Chin States, scattered in Mandalay and Lower Sagaing regions and (northern and eastern) Shan State and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Shan states. In the area along the cumu-

lonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hails may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 April 2026: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 April 2026: Partly cloudy. — DMH

NATIONAL BUSINESS

CNG vehicles required to undergo annual inspection

THE Ministry of Energy declared that CNG vehicles which have not undergone annual inspection and CNG cylinder testing will be permanently removed from the CNG vehicle list starting from 1 May. The Automotive Natural Gas Department of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, operated under the Ministry of Energy, has been opening CNG filling stations in Yangon Region, Paleik in Mandalay Region, and Chauk and Yenangyoung townships in Magway Region to provide affordable natural gas to vehicles without any holidays and ensure smooth transportation of the people. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is natural gas compressed into cylinders at high pressure. If cylinders lack structural integrity, if valves are not secure, or if pipes are not robust, gas leaks can cause fire explosions, potentially harming users. Therefore, to ensure the safety of travellers, the Automotive Natural Gas Department conducts annual inspections with special attention. Only



A glimpse of a CNG (compressed natural gas) filling station.

vehicles that pass the inspection are issued a CNG usage permit book and card that authorizes the vehicle to legally operate using CNG and confirms that the fuel system complies with safety regulations.

Furthermore, cylinders that have been in use for five years since their manufacturing date must undertake their first inspection. After the second

five-year period, they undergo a second pressure test. These tests are systematically conducted by the CNG Vehicle Natural Gas Department using proper equipment. For cylinders exceeding 15 years of service life, extensions may be granted based on the manufacturing country and quality assurance, but most cylinders are designated as "Reject" and then destroyed.

Therefore, vehicle owners must conduct the mandatory annual inspections for the safety and security of the public. If an investigation finds that a vehicle owner is using expired cylinders without complying with regulations, the sale of gas to that CNG vehicle will be permanently suspended.

Consequently, the Ministry of Energy urges and informs

CNG vehicle owners to contact the CNG Department and carry out annual inspection and cylinder testing by 30 April 2026, to obtain a new CNG purchase book and card.

From 1 May 2026, vehicles that have exceeded five years without undergoing annual inspection will be permanently removed from the CNG vehicle list. Regarding vehicles for which the annual inspection was overdue, the following penalties will apply to them: three-month suspension to purchase CNG for one-year overdue, six-month suspension for two years, nine months for three-year expiry, and one year for four-year expiry. During the suspension period, gas will not be sold to those vehicles.

The Ministry of Energy notified CNG vehicle owners to strictly adhere to safety inspection programmes conducted by the Automotive Natural Gas Department to ensure safe and secure travel for passengers. — NN/KK

CBM continues to inject dollars into edible oil import sector

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has been continuously injecting US dollars into the edible oil import sector, with \$750,000 on 8 April in addition to transactions of 3.3 million baht.

CBM sold over \$1.22 million to edible oil-importing companies on 7 April.

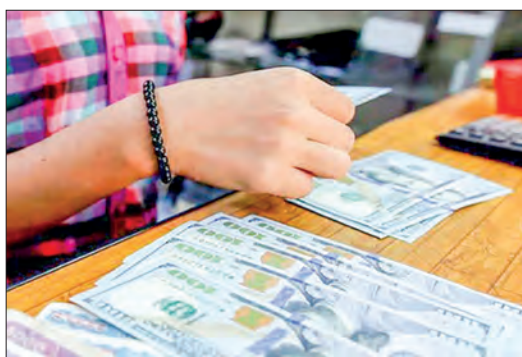
CBM sold over \$2.99 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$260,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 6 April, in addition to a \$279,000 sale.

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



An exchanger counts US dollar notes at a money changer's counter.

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 foreign currencies into the market, with a view to curbing 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

2nd ASEAN Rice Trade Summit 2026 addresses regional collaboration in rice trade

THE 2nd ASEAN Rice Trade Summit 2026 and Regional Rice Dialogue held on 4 April at Lotte Hotel in Yangon emphasized challenges of farmers, strengthening regional collaboration, enhancing food security and promoting sustainable rice production and trade among the regional countries.

Director-General Dr Marlar Myo Nyunt of the Foreign Economic Relations Department under the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and Director-General Dr Htein Lin of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization operated under the Ministry of Commerce, delivered remarks at the opening ceremony. The President of the Myanmar Rice Federation, the Secretary General of Cambodia Rice Federation, the Joint Secretary General

of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Lao NCCI) and members, the Honorary President of Thai Rice Exporters Association (TREA), the Chairman of Vietnam Food Association (VFA), and the SS Rice News Founder discussed matters related to challenges of the stakeholders in the rice industry, market situations and future collaborations.

MRF and representatives from Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam joined the Regional Rice Dialogue, where they addressed challenges of farmers, including increasing outputs amid high fertilizer prices and energy crisis, trade and investment promotion plans, seed research and development plans, and collaboration in the logistics sector, including better transportation and warehousing. — NN/KK



US entertainment and media giant Disney is planning to eliminate as many as 1,000 positions in the coming weeks. **PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA**

Disney to cut up to 1,000 jobs: WSJ report

US entertainment and media giant Disney is planning to eliminate as many as 1,000 positions in the coming weeks, The Wall Street Journal reported Wednesday, citing relevant sources. The company is preparing to make the sizable layoffs in one of the first significant moves

under its new CEO Josh D'Amaro, said the report, adding that many of the cuts will be in the company's recently consolidated marketing department.

Like many Hollywood studios, Disney has been trying to adjust to the smaller profits it earns from streaming compared

with what it used to make in linear television, as well as to diminished box office returns and intense competition from tech companies, according to the report. Disney is also trying to free up money to invest in digital businesses where it sees growth potential, the report said. — Xinhua

Indonesia inaugurates electric bus, truck assembly plant

INDONESIAN President Prabowo Subianto on Thursday inaugurated an electric bus and truck assembly plant in Magelang, Central Java Province. During the ceremony, Prabowo expressed hope that Indonesia will begin mass production of electric sedans by 2028, as the government intensifies efforts to build a domestic electric vehicle industry. The assembly

operation involves local manufacturers, underscoring efforts to build a domestic EV supply chain, local media reported.

The Indonesian government has begun phasing out fossil fuel-based official vehicles while promoting the adoption of electric public transportation, including buses, as part of its energy transition strategy. — Xinhua

Proposed citizenship rule for hiring in central Japan sparks controversy

A proposal by a local government in central Japan to reinstate a rule requiring its employees to hold Japanese citizenship is facing controversy after a survey of randomly selected residents to gauge public opinion was limited to Japanese nationals.

An ethnic Korean resident in Japan on Wednesday submitted a petition, urging the Mie prefectural government not to publicize the sur-

vey results due to the exclusionary manner in which it was carried out.

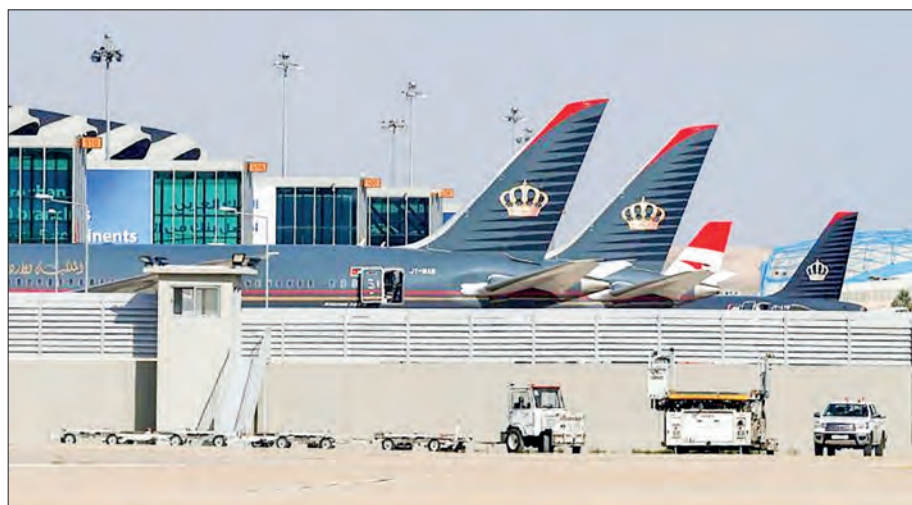
"The official messaging is reinforcing discriminatory attitudes," the man in his 30s said at a press conference.

Last December, Mie Governor Katsuyuki Ichimi said the prefectural government would be reviewing hiring practices from the standpoint of preventing information leakage outside Japan. — Kyodo

Jordan's national carrier faces operational challenges

ROYAL Jordanian (RJ) Airlines, Jordan's national flag carrier, has reported on Thursday significant operational impacts due to regional airspace restrictions amid ongoing Middle East tensions, though it maintains approximately 70 per cent of its network functionality.

According to RJ statements and reports from Jordan's state-run Al Mamlaka TV, the carrier continues to operate regularly to destinations with open airspace, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Lebanon, Europe, and North America. However, flights to Iraq, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Damascus remain suspended.



Planes that belong to the Royal Jordanian Airlines and other companies are parked at the Queen Alia International Airport in Amman, Jordan. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

To ensure safety, the airline has rerouted flights southward via Egyptian airspace, avoiding western and northern conflict zones. According to the

statement, these alternative paths have increased flight durations by approximately 30 minutes, resulting in a surge in fuel consumption and insurance

costs. Consequently, ticket fares have risen by 100 to 150 per cent across global carriers, including RJ, to cover these additional overheads. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (023)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (023)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-4-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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 ANDAMAN SEA GATEWAYS GROUPS OF COMPANIES LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (612W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (612W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-4-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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 MAERSK A/S

ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

War in the Middle East: latest developments

Iran's president discusses US truce with Azerbaijani, French counterparts

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Wednesday exchanged views with his Azerbaijani and French counterparts on the ceasefire between his country, the United States and Israel.

In a phone call with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, Pezeshkian highlighted Iran's deep distrust of the US government owing to its track record of "betraying diplomacy" and attacking the country two times over the past months in the middle of bilateral nuclear negotiations. — Xinhua

FMs of Saudi Arabia, Iran discuss easing tensions

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah received a phone call from Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, the Saudi Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

During the phone conversation, the two sides reviewed the latest regional developments and discussed ways to reduce tensions and restore security and stability, said the ministry on platform X. — Xinhua

Israel approves reopening of Karish gas field following ceasefire

The Israeli Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure said in a statement on Thursday it had approved the restart of operations at the Karish gas field, the country's third-largest, located in the Mediterranean Sea off its northern coast.

The field, operated under a state licence by London-based energy company Energean, was shut down on 28 February at the start of the US-Israeli attack on Iran.

Israel's largest natural gas field, Leviathan, was also temporarily halted but resumed operations last week. — Xinhua

US military to remain deployed around Iran

President Donald Trump on Wednesday (local time) said that



File photo shows the Shibushi National Petroleum Stockpiling Base in Kagoshima Prefecture in August 2023.

PHOTO: KYODO

the US military deployments will remain in place around Iran until the "real agreement" reached is fully complied with.

"All US Ships, Aircraft, and Military Personnel, with additional Ammunition, Weaponry, and anything else that is appropriate and necessary for the lethal prosecution and destruction of an already substantially degraded Enemy, will remain in place in, and around, Iran, until such time as the REAL AGREEMENT reached is fully complied with. If for any reason it is not, which is highly unlikely, then the "Shootin' Starts," bigger, and better, and stronger than anyone has ever seen before," Trump said in a post on Truth Social. — ANI

Vance: Open Hormuz or ceasefire ends

As Iran accused Israel of breaking the temporary ceasefire terms, US Vice-President JD Vance reiterated Washington's stance that Lebanon was not included in the ceasefire deal and warned that President Donald Trump "will not abide by the terms" if Tehran doesn't reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

Speaking with the reporters outside of Air Force Two as he

left Hungary, Vance said, "We are seeing signs that the Straits are starting to reopen... The deal is a ceasefire, a negotiation — that's what we give — and what they give is that the Straits are going to be reopened. If we don't see that happening, the President is not going to abide by our terms if the Iranians are not abiding by their terms." — ANI

Japan mulls extra 20-day worth of oil release

Japan is considering an additional release of its oil reserves providing 20 days of domestic consumption in May, as uncertainties remain over safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz even with the US-Iran ceasefire, a source close to the matter said Thursday.

The United States and Iran agreed to a conditional two-week ceasefire on Tuesday, shortly before the expiry of US President Donald Trump's self-imposed deadline for Tehran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz or face the destruction of its critical infrastructure. — Kyodo



This photo taken on 7 January 2026 shows the scenery of Aasiaat, Greenland, an autonomous territory of Denmark. **PHOTO: ZHANG QUANWEI/XINHUA/FILE**

Trump questions NATO reliability after talks with Rutte

US President Donald Trump said after the meeting with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte that the alliance will not help the United States if it needs assistance.

"NATO wasn't there when we needed them, and they won't be there if we need them again," Trump wrote on Truth Social.

The statement comes as most NATO allies have refused to participate in the US-Israeli aggression against Iran.

Trump also hinted at Greenland in his statement, reviving his long-stated desire to annex the island. — SPUTNIK

SPORTS

Myanmar National League expands to 12 teams



Players are seen in a forceful tackle during an MNL match.

THE Myanmar National League (MNL) will hold its 2026-2027 season with 12 teams. Due to team withdrawals, three clubs from MNL 2 earned promotion to fill the spots.

Following last sea-

son, Rakhine United and Yamanya United were relegated, while Chinland and Myawady moved up. Dagon Port withdrew, allowing Yangon City to join alongside other promoted teams.

The season will feature current champions Shan United, Yangon United, Dagon Star United, ISPE FC, Yadanabon FC, Thitsa Arman FC, Ayeyawady United, Maha United, Hantha-

wady United, Myawady, Chinland, and Yangon City. Fixtures will be announced later. Shan United leads historically with seven titles in 16 seasons. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Myanmar U17 kick off ASEAN Championship training in Indonesia

THE Myanmar U17 national team has arrived in Indonesia to compete in the 2026 ASEAN U17 Championship and has begun training sessions.

The tournament will be held from 11 to 24 April in Greater Surabaya, East Java, with all 12 member nations of the ASEAN Football Federation taking part. According to the group draw, Myanmar are placed in Group B alongside Thailand, Laos and



The Myanmar U17 national team.

the Philippines.

Myanmar will play their group matches against Laos on 12 April,

Thailand on 15 April and the Philippines on 18 April. The top team from each group and the best run-

ner-up will advance to the semifinals.

The Myanmar U17 team is coached by U Kyaw Zeya, and the tournament also serves as preparation for the AFC U17 Asian Cup to be held in May.

The team has been in training camp since late last year and played two friendly matches against India U17 on 3 and 5 March, drawing one and losing one. — Ko Nyi Lay/

Ambitious Como's Champions League bid tested by Serie A leaders Inter

COMO'S bid to reach the Champions League faces a key test on Sunday when Serie A leaders Inter Milan arrive lakeside trying to take another step towards a 21st league title.

A traditionally tiny club, and one more experienced with low-

er league football and bankruptcies than playing the continent's elite, Como sit fourth and are on course to qualify for Europe for the first time. Coach Cesc Fabregas has done such an impressive job that Como could make their continental debut in the

Champions League after a phenomenal second Serie A season under the former Spain midfielder.

Even a Conference League spot would be a triumph for the Indonesian billionaire Hartono brothers who through tobacco giant Djarum acquired Como, then

in the third tier, back in 2019.

It would also be a tribute to Michael Hartono, the elder of the two siblings, who died last month at the age of 86. Without him, Fabregas recently said, none of Como's success would have been possible. — AFP

OBITUARY

Asleep in Jesus

**U Percy Lao (98) years
Former City Engineer (RCD) &
WHO Consultant to Sri Lanka**

U Percy Lao, beloved husband of (Daw Nu Nu Yi), son of (U Htin Sein & Daw Thaug Tin), son in law of (U Kyin Hone & Daw Tin Tin), beloved father of U Thet Lwin, U Zaw Min-Mee Mee, Daw Nilar-Pedro Vargas, U Chit Htwe-Jane, beloved brother of (U Win Pe, U Thaw Na, Dr. Win Maung, U Ngwe Tun, U Aye Thar & Daw Tin Yi), grandfather of eight grandchildren was called to his heavenly home on 8 April 2026 at 7:15 AM local time at John Muir Hospital, Concord, California.

His remains will be entombed at Oakmont Memorial Park, Lafayette, California at 11:00 AM local time on 23 April 2026.

Croke Park boss eager to stage Fury-Joshua heavyweight clash in Dublin

THE long-awaited 'Battle of Britain' between former world heavyweight champions Tyson Fury and Anthony Joshua could take place outside the country at Dublin's Croke Park, according to the stadium's chief executive.

Fury, 39, reiterated on Wednesday ahead of his return from retirement against Arslanbek Makhmudov at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on Saturday that he wanted to face Joshua before the end of 2026.

The duo have almost got into the same ring on several occasions, only for contract disputes, fitness

issues and losses elsewhere to derail previous attempts to stage the super-fight.

Their camps had reportedly been close to an agreement before Joshua decided to take time out from boxing following a car crash which led to the death of two close friends in December.

The 36-year-old Joshua, however, is now back in training and was present for Derek Chisora's defeat by Deontay Wilder last Saturday. Croke Park, with a capacity of over 80,000 in the Irish capital, is one of Europe's largest stadiums. — AFP



British heavyweight boxer Tyson Fury is returning to the sport. PHOTO: AFP/FILE



THAILAND'S Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul delivered his government's policy statement to parliament on Thursday, prioritizing immediate economic relief from global energy shocks while laying the groundwork for long-term structural reforms.

Addressing the National Assembly, Anutin emphasized that the Bhumjaithai Party-led government will urgently shield citizens and businesses from the severe volatility in global oil and natural gas prices triggered by the ongoing conflict and maritime disruptions in the Middle East.

He said immediate actions include providing help to vulnerable groups affected by rising fuel costs, stabilizing prices for essential agricultural and industrial supplies, and accelerating the disbursement of the 2026 fiscal budget to inject liquidity into the economy. To further boost domestic consumption, Anutin said the incoming administration will drive the co-payment economic stimulus scheme and implement a comprehensive plan for household debt restructuring aimed at helping citizens and small- to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) re-enter the credit system.

Beyond crisis management, he outlined a strategic shift to upgrade Thailand's economic engines to escape the middle-income trap with plans to attract foreign investment in future industries such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors, and clean energy. To protect local SMEs, authorities will clamp down on illegal foreign nominee companies and tighten import mechanisms to ensure fair competition for locally manufactured goods, he told a joint parliamentary session. — Xinhua

Thai PM pledges economic relief, structural reforms in policy statement

Anutin pledged the Bhumjaithai-led government will urgently protect Thai citizens and businesses from global energy price volatility and maritime disruptions.



A general view of the Thai oil refinery in Sri Racha, some 110 kilometres from Bangkok. PHOTO: MIYUKI RYOKO / AFP / FILE

Iran President says Lebanon truce a key condition for ending war: media

IRANIAN President Masoud Pezeshkian, as reported by ISNA on 9 April 2026, stated that a Lebanon ceasefire is a key condition of Iran's 10-point plan to end the regional

war. In a call with French President Emmanuel Macron, Pezeshkian emphasized this demand, framing the truce as a sign of Iran's commitment to diplomatic res-

olution.

Pezeshkian told French counterpart Emmanuel Macron in a phone call that Tehran's "acceptance of the ceasefire is a clear sign of Iran's responsibility and serious will to resolve conflicts through diplomacy", ISNA said. He added that "establishing a ceasefire in Lebanon has been one of the key conditions of Iran's 10-point plan". Tehran said Wednesday its 10-point plan for securing an end to the war with the United States would require Washington to accept its uranium enrichment program and the lifting of all sanctions.

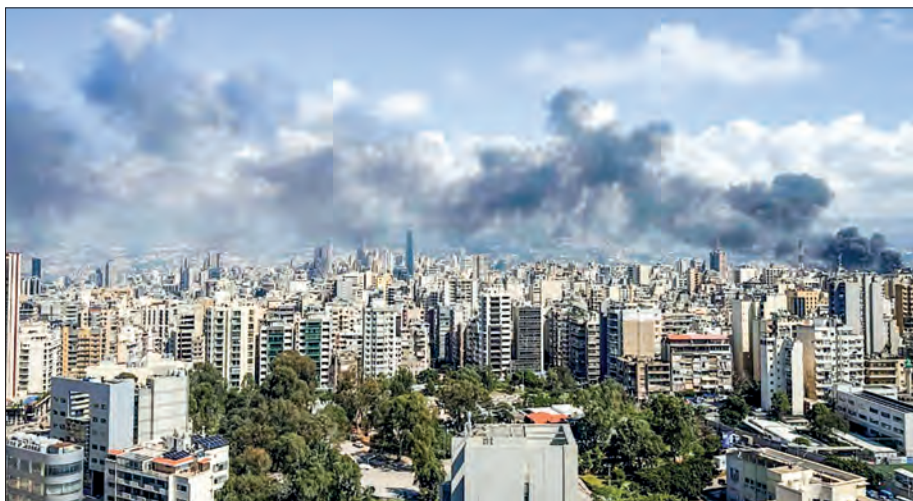
The Islamic republic claimed victory and said in a statement, released alongside a list of the 10 points published by state media, that the plan would require "continued Iranian control over the Strait of Hormuz, acceptance of enrichment, lifting of all primary and secondary sanctions". — AFP

Iran announces alternative routes in Strait of Hormuz

IRAN on Thursday announced two alternative routes for vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz, citing risks from sea mines in parts of the vital waterway.

"All vessels intending to transit the Strait of Hormuz are advised to take alternative routes to ensure maritime safety and avoid potential sea mine hazards," Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said in a statement carried by local media.

The move comes as Iran has agreed to temporarily reopen the strait — a key oil shipping lane that typically handles one-fifth of global crude — as part of a two-week truce. — Xinhua



Smoke rises from the site of an Israeli strike that targeted an area in Beirut on 8 April 2026. PHOTO: AFP