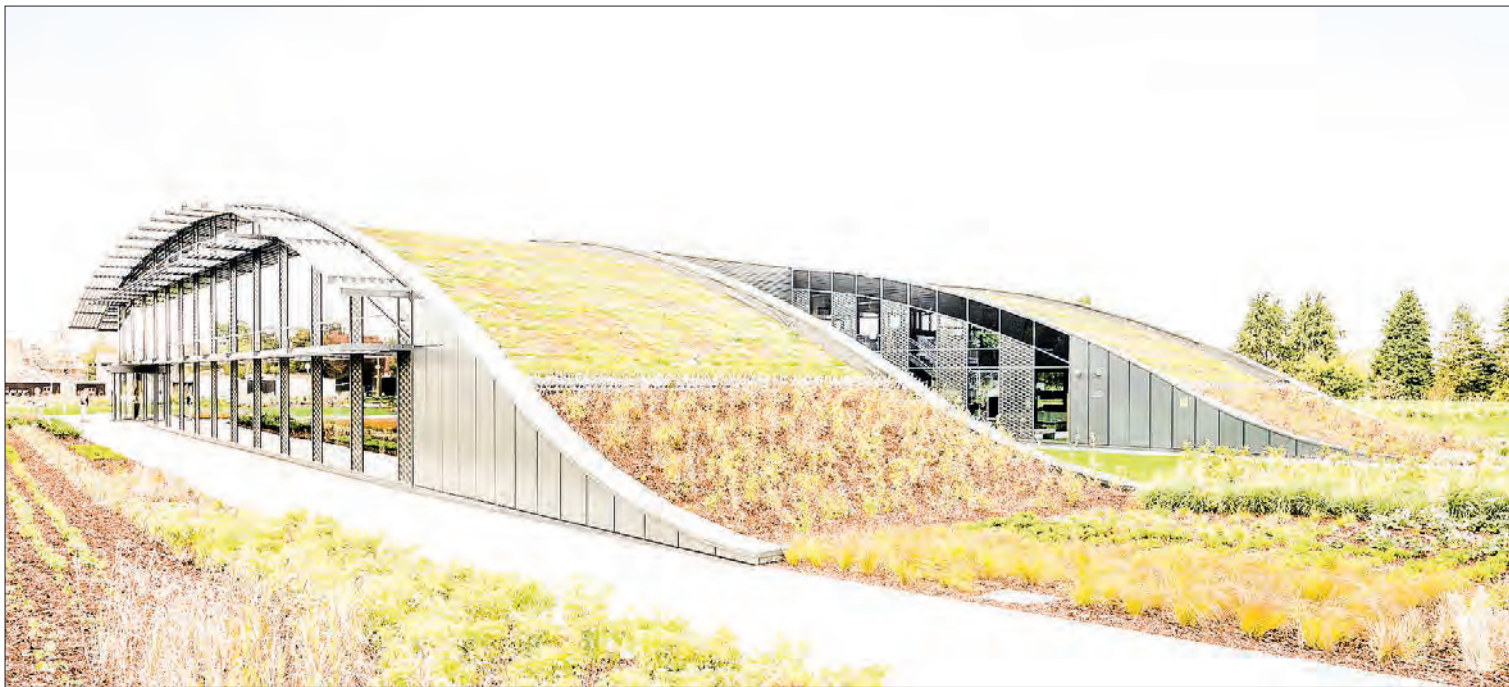


# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## Yezin Agricultural University research to reach global audience via CABI library

CABI is an international organization that provides technical assistance to support agricultural development and improve farmers' livelihoods. Myanmar has been a member since 1993.



This photo features a general view of the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI).

**R**ESearch publications from the Yezin Agricultural University will be distributed internationally through the digital library of the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI).

CABI is an international organization that provides technical

assistance to develop the agricultural sector and farmers' livelihoods, and Myanmar has been a member since 1993.

CABI CEO Dr Daniel Elger and Chargé d'Affaires ad interim and Minister of the Myanmar Embassy in London U Win Zeya Tun discussed ways to enhance cooperation between

Myanmar and CABI on 22 April. During the meeting, they also discussed cooperation in areas such as agricultural technology, human and animal healthcare, and expanded research collaboration.

In addition, they discussed opportunities to increase the number of Myanmar nation-

als attending CABI Academy courses to gain advanced agricultural technologies, to distribute research publications from Yezin Agricultural University internationally through the CABI digital library, and to strengthen links between CABI and Myanmar through subregional cooperation frameworks. — ASH/TH

### OPINION

Don't forget the lives of victims in earthquakes

PAGE 8

### NATIONAL PAGE 2



Pakokku Thihoshin Buddha Pujaniya Festival set for May

### BUSINESS PAGE 7



CBM sells over US\$4.6M to edible oil, CMP companies

## Yangon-Pathein road upgrading completed, key sections improved and maintained

ROAD upgrading works, including asphalt overlay and concrete paving along sections of the Yangon-Pathein Road, have been completed 100 per cent, according to the Ayeyawady Region Department of Highways.

The Yangon-Pathein Road stretches 95 miles and six furlongs, from Milepost 17/4 at the border between Yangon Region and Ayeyawady Region to Pathein. The section from Milepost 17/4 to 56/0 is being implemented under a BOT system by Oriental Highways Company Limited.

Upgrading works from Bo Myat Tun Bridge to Milepost 56/0 are being carried out by the company, while the Department of Highways is

responsible for the section from Mileposts 56/0 to 113/2.

At present, a six-mile section between Milepost 56/0 and Milepost 63/0, near the boundary between Kyaunggon and Pantanaw townships, has been upgraded into a 30-foot-wide concrete road. In addition, concrete paving work covering three furlongs, with a width of 30 feet at the entrance to Pathein, along with shoulder works, has been fully completed.

Although no new upgrading works are currently underway between Pathein and Ngwehsaung, maintenance and repair works are ongoing. — ASH/KZL



Images show the Yangon-Pathein road sections after asphalt overlay and concrete paving work.

# NATIONAL

## 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sixth Synod to be broadcast live on MRTV

THE 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sixth Buddhist Council, known as Chattha Sangayana, will be celebrated at the Maha Pasana Cave, Thirimingala Kaba Aye Hill, Yangon, for three days from 30 April to 2 May. The ceremony will be broadcast live daily on MRTV Parliament Channel.

The opening ceremony will be broadcast live on MRTV HD, MRTV Parliament Channel, MWD HD, and MWD Variety. HD and its joint venture TV channels, Readers' Channel, Sky Net Buddha Channel, Sky Net Up to Date Channel, HTV

Sports Channel, SNDSY Shwe Nadi Shwe Yi Channel, starting from 7:30 am on 30 April. It will be tuned live on Myanmar Radio, Shwe FM, Padamya FM, Pansawady FM, Mandalay FM, Cherry FM, FM Bagan, Thazin FM, Star FM, and Live Streaming will also be broadcast on MRTV Website, MRTV APP and Online.

In addition, the Dhamma Thabin ceremony to be held on the evening of 30 April will be broadcast on MRTV HD Channel with a delay after the 8 pm news. — MNA

## Pakokku Thihoshin Buddha Pujaniya Festival set for May



Throng of festival-goers are seen at a previous Thihoshin Buddha Pujaniya Festival.

THE Thihoshin Buddha Pujaniya Festival in Pakokku Township, Magway Region, will be held in May as usual, the festival trustees have announced.

The ancient Thihoshin Buddha Pujaniya Festival will be held for 16 days, from 23 May to 7 June. This year, the festival will also feature performances by the San Nay Moe

and Kaung Sitt Hein theatrical drama troupes to entertain visitors.

“During the ancient pagoda festival, many shops and stalls will be opened by local sellers and traders from near and far, including those selling modern clothing, cooking utensils, local food and consumer goods, farm produce, children's toys and bakery items.

In addition, children's play areas and playgrounds will be set up to entertain pilgrims. The festival will host a lively entertainment programme from 28 to 31 May by the San Yay Moe Drama Troupe and from 3 to 7 June by the Kaung Sitt Hein Drama Troupe,” said U Tin Win, a member of the pagoda board of trustees. — ASH/MKKS

## China Merchants Foundation delivers relief aid to quake-hit schools

THE China Foundation for Rural Development (CFRD) and the China Merchants Foundation jointly held a handover ceremony for social relief materials for earthquake-affected schools in Myanmar on the morning of 28 April at Basic Education Post-Primary School in Yekkansin Hill in Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw.

Dr Aye Aye San, Director of the Planning and Statistics Division of the Department of Basic Education, Mr Zhang Weikang, Deputy General

Manager of Sinotrans (Myanmar) Logistics Co Ltd, and Ms Lin Yuan, Director of the China Foundation for Rural Development (Myanmar Office), delivered speeches at the ceremony.

Desks and chairs, as well as water purifiers, were donated to five schools in Ottarathiri and Pubbathiri townships. Daw Hla Soe Nwe, Headmistress of Yakkansin Hill Basic Education Post-primary School in Lewe, delivered a speech of gratitude. — Bala/MKKS



A group photo session of the relief aid handover event.

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Tuesday 28 April 2026)

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 29 April 2026:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway, Regions and Kachin, Chin and (southern and eastern) Shan States, fairly widespread in Rakhine and northern Shan States, scattered in Bago Region and Kayah 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, Bago, Magway, Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Rakhine and Shan States. In the area along the cumulonimbus 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. The wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or

thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago and Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Shan States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 April 2026:** One or two rain or thundershower The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 April 2026:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 60 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 April 2026:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent. — DMH

## Congratulatory Message

MR Taye Atske-Selassie, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, sent a congratulatory message to U Min Aung Hlaing on the occasion of his election as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

### DoL Announcement: New Departure Procedures for Returning Myanmar Migrant Workers

THE Department of Labour has announced procedures for Myanmar nationals working abroad who return to Myanmar on leave and subsequently depart again.

1. Myanmar workers abroad who return to Myanmar on leave and wish to depart again for their respective workplaces must apply at least five working days in advance, excluding public holidays, using the prescribed form and supporting documents. After scrutiny, overseas departure permission is granted, and the list is announced daily on the Safe Migration Telegram Channel.
2. The department has found that some new workers attempt to bypass official procedures, such as registration, pre-departure training and medical examinations, by posing as “returning workers” and using forged leave letters to misuse the designated channel for returning workers and leave the country illegally. Therefore, the department conducts systematic verification to ensure safe migration and to prevent risks, including human trafficking.
3. To avoid delays, from 1 May 2026, workers returning to Myanmar on leave must obtain a “Letter of Permission for Leave” from their employer before arriving in Myanmar and proceed as follows:
  - (a) They must visit the Myanmar embassy, mission or consulate-general in the relevant country, present the leave letter, and obtain a recommendation letter.
  - (b) If there is no Myanmar diplomatic office in that country, they must visit the nearest Myanmar embassy, mission or consulate-general in another country or city to obtain the recommendation letter.
4. Workers returning from leave whose work permit, visa and workplace stated in the leave letter do not match the workplace shown on the OWIC card must apply for a new OWIC card upon arrival in Myanmar.
5. Therefore, workers returning to Myanmar on leave must obtain a leave letter from their employer and, in accordance with paragraph 3, submit it together with the recommendation letter from the Myanmar embassy when applying for overseas departure. If forged leave documents are submitted, overseas departure will be banned for a specified period, and the individual will be blacklisted.

Department of Labour

## MoFA Union Minister meets outbound diplomats for overseas posts



Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe addresses the meeting with officers and staff who will serve duties at Myanmar overseas missions.

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe delivered a speech at the meeting with officers and staff who will serve duties at the Myanmar Embassy, permanent representative offices, and consulates-general in foreign countries yesterday.

At the event, the Union Minister stated that only those who meet the specified criteria are selected for overseas assignments. As they represent the country, he emphasized the importance of strictly observing proper codes of conduct. He noted that due respect must also be given to the customs and cultures of the host countries where they will serve, and he encouraged them to continuously strive for self-improvement and to carry

out their duties with minimal errors.

He also stressed that civil servants must be loyal to themselves and to the State, and carefully consider their actions. He pointed out the importance of having an accurate understanding of their country’s political, economic, and geographical conditions, and the need to work for the benefit of the country and to enhance international relations. Personal development and unity among colleagues contribute to strengthening national characteristics.

The Union minister continued that in line with the guidance of the Head of State, all should make efforts to build friendly relations between Myanmar and neighbouring

countries, ASEAN member states, and regional countries, intending to restore the country’s original standing. He also encouraged them to effectively carry out the five core functions of diplomats and to do their utmost to serve the interests of Myanmar citizens residing abroad.

The Union minister concluded the meeting, saying to improve the diplomatic characteristics and highlighting that the most essential quality of a diplomat is loyalty, and encouraged them to continuously study and improve their communication, language, and negotiation skills. He also emphasized the importance of unity among staff and maintaining both physical and mental well-being. — MNA/KTZH

## MNPIFER Union Minister receives Russian Embassy’s Economic Counsellor

UNION Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Kyaw Hoe receives Counsellor in Economic Affairs Mr Andrei Iunak from the Embassy of the Russian Federation at Office 1, Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

The two sides frankly and cordially exchanged views on enhancing trade and economic cooperation

between Myanmar and Russia in both the government-to-government and private-sector levels, facilitating investment activities, reviewing the progress of ongoing joint investment projects, and discussing plans and areas of continued cooperation.

Directors-general and responsible officials from the Ministry of National Planning, Investment, and Foreign Economic Relations attended the meeting. — MNA



Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe holds talks with Russian Embassy’s Economic Counsellor Mr Andrei Iunak.

# NATIONAL

## Myanmar, Russia Eye Deeper Cooperation in Power, Energy Sectors

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Ko Ko Lwin received Russian Economic Counsellor Mr Andrei Iunak in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They discussed matters related to the implementation of issues discussed during the Union minister's visit to the Russian Federation in the second week of April. They also exchanged views on preparations to sign a

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation and Myanmar's Ministry of Electricity and Energy for cooperation and the provision of training programmes aimed at developing human resources, and enhancing cooperation between the two countries in the electricity and energy sectors. — MNA/KTZH



Economic Counsellor Mr Andrei Iunak of the Embassy of the Russian Federation calls on Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin.

## CBM Governor receives Thai Embassy Charge d'Affaires



Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Dr Khin Naing Oo meets the Thai delegation yesterday.

CENTRAL Bank of Myanmar Governor Dr Khin Naing Oo received Charge d'Affaires ad interim Mr Yordying Supasri of the Royal Thai Embassy to Myanmar, and his team at the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Thai charge d'affaires ad interim discussed banking matters between the two countries, expressing gratitude for the support of the CBM in facilitating the Thai private sector's trade and financial transactions, particularly regarding foreign exchange rates. He

welcomed the policy of gradually easing the conversion of export proceeds into Myanmar currency and conveyed the interest of Thai businesspeople in expanding investment in Myanmar using Thai baht, as well as further strengthening trade and investment ties. He also stated that technical assistance would be provided if needed.

The CBM Governor stated that the bank is working to achieve monetary stability, maintain exchange rate stability, reduce inflation, strengthen

the payment and settlement system, and ensure the stability of the banking sector, adding that the Thai baht can be used not only in trade but also in investment in Myanmar, while both sides discussed financial, trade, and banking matters as well as technical issues and agreed that the CBM would coordinate and cooperate with Thai banks openly and constructively.

The meeting was attended by the deputy governors and departmental heads of the CBM. — MNA/ TH

## Myanmar deports 14 undocumented foreign immigrants

MYANMAR deported four Indians, four Indonesians, three Bangladeshis, one Burundian, one Rwandan and one Laotian, totalling 14 individuals, involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities in Kayin State via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday.

Myanmar authorities officially handed the deportees the necessary legal documents to ensure their smooth repatriation.

Among the remaining 1,207

individuals to be deported, there are 746 who were charged under Myanmar Immigration (Emergency) Provisions Act section 3 (1)/13(1) and Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropics Substances Law, and 461 individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries.

— MNA/KTZH



Immigration processes are underway for the deportation of undocumented foreign entrants.

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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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

## MoHTC Union Minister meets departmental officials

UNION Minister for Hotels, Tourism and Culture U Maung Myint received Russian Economic Counsellor Mr Andrei Lunak in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The two sides frankly discussed matters relating to enhancing cooperation between Myanmar and Russia in the tourism and cultural sectors, continuing the implementation of points mentioned in the MoU signed between the two countries, strengthening collaboration between the government and private sectors in promoting tourism and cul-

ture, increasing bilateral tourist flows, and developing human resources.

At noon, the Union minister met the relevant officials of the ministry to ensure the systematic implementation of measures for sustainable hotels and the tourism industry.

The Union minister heard the reports made by the deputy minister, the permanent secretary, the director-general and other relevant officials.

He emphasized the need for closer cooperation between the government and private sectors



Union Minister U Maung Myint holds talks with departmental officials yesterday.

in implementing projects, and urged civil servants to strive in a balanced manner for the benefit of both the people and the country. He also stressed the importance of integrating mod-

ern technologies in line with the times to enhance operational efficiency, setting clear targets to attract more international tourists, promoting awareness of the true situation of Myanmar

to the international community, advancing tourism education to create more job opportunities and develop human resources, and fostering an inclusive tourism industry. — MNA/KTZH

## Air Quality Measurements in Yangon on 27 April

THE Environmental Conservation Department of Yangon Region conducts 24-hour monitoring of six Parameters: Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5), Particulate Matter 10 (PM10), Sulphur Dioxide (SO2), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2), Ozone (O3) and Carbon Monoxide (CO)-using Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station with Mobile Car (AQMS Mobile Car) and Compact Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQM 65) at three locations as follows: -

No	Air quality monitoring sites in Yangon Region	Parameters					
		PM 2.5	PM 10	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	O <sub>3</sub>	CO
1	Botataung Township, Yangon	Good					
2	International Business Centre, Hline, Yangon	Good					
3	Dagon Township, Yangon	Good					

### Air Quality Index - AQI

0-5	Good air quality
51-100	Acceptable air quality
101-150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups
151-200	Unhealthy
201-300	Very unhealthy
301-500	Hazardous

The measured air quality results may vary depending on factors such as temperature, wind speed and direction, humidity, rainfall, vehicle usage, dust dispersion due to hot and dry conditions, emissions from factories, and surrounding environmental conditions near the monitoring sites.

Environmental Conservation Department

## Trading Amount and Foreign Exchange Rate in the Market on 28 April 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	India rupee
Exchange rates	3,664.50~3,665.70	557.70~558.30	125.60~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	30,678,187.38	15,236,363.76	42,347,968.90	
The amount sold by CBM to the market				

THE amount of foreign currencies traded in the Foreign Exchange market was sold for the imports of edible oil, fuel oil, industrial raw materials, car/motorcycle spare parts, medicine and pharmaceutical raw materials, fertilizers,

wheat, and consumer foodstuffs. From the revenue of the CMP sector, US\$4.78 million was contributed to the edible oil sector, US\$5 million to the LNG sector, and US\$0.17 million to the CMP sector. — MNA

### 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

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

# NATIONAL

## Deadline extended to Aug for Myanmar workers in Thailand to apply for C of I booklets



A 7-Eleven store where Myanmar workers can pay the C of I booklet fees.

THE Thai Ministry of Labour has announced an extension until 17 August for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand to apply for a Certificate of Identity (CI).

According to Myanmar migrants in Thailand, this extension applies to those whose work permits expire on 31 March 2026, and who still need to complete their C of I process as part of their permit renewal. The Thai Ministry of Labour issued the notice to ensure workers have sufficient time to regularize their status.

To ensure that undocumented Myanmar workers can reside, travel, and work freely in Thailand while receiving legal benefits, C of I issuance centres have been established in Samut Sakhon, Samut Prakan, Surat

Thani, Chiang Mai and Chonburi.

Workers wishing to apply for a C of I can pay the service fee of 2,670 baht at any nearby 7-Eleven store. Upon payment, they can select their preferred C of I centre and appointment date. After making the payment at 7-Eleven, workers must bring the receipt provided by the store to their chosen centre on the scheduled date to complete the process. To avoid unnecessary additional costs from third-party agents, workers are encouraged to apply personally or through arrangements made by their employers. — MT/ZN

## UMTA hosts Airlines and Tourism Industry Forum

IN partnership with the Vietnam Tourism, the Airlines and Tourism Industry Forum will be held in order to promote collaboration between airlines and the tourism industry for mutual growth and development, according to the Union of Myanmar Travel Association.

Organized by the UMTA Airlines Commit-

tee and HRD Committee, this forum will explore business opportunities and strengthen cooperation for UMTA member businesses and related tourism enterprises.

It has been scheduled from 1 pm to 5 pm on 10 May at the UMFCCI Building in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon. The forum will feature insightful dis-

cussions with representatives from government ministries and airlines, and include both an international debate section and a domestic debate section.

Members are invited to attend, and questions can be sent in advance to this link [https:// forms.gle/J5Agf5VffpxyJPme6](https://forms.gle/J5Agf5VffpxyJPme6), it said. — MT/ZS



This image shows a poster for the Airlines and Tourism Industry Forum.

## Fire prevention activities carried out in Dawbon, marking 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myanmar Fire Brigade Day



IN honour of the upcoming 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myanmar Fire Brigade Day, officials of the Township Fire Services Department conducted fire prevention activities in Dawbon Township,

Bothtaung District, on the morning of 27 April. In this regard, the fire brigade, led by Deputy Fire Staff Officer U Htoo Htet Lin, and the ward administrators inspected homes in the

wards of Dawbon Township to ensure that no illegal fuel is stored, raise awareness about the proper use of fire extinguishers, and distribute pamphlets. — Chit Su Wai (IPRD)

### 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](http://www.moi.gov.mm/mal), [www.moi.gov.mm/km](http://www.moi.gov.mm/km), [www.moi.gov.mm/nlm](http://www.moi.gov.mm/nlm) and [www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper](http://www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper).

News and Periodicals Enterprise



## CBM sells over US\$4.6M to edible oil, CMP companies

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$4.6 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$13,400 to CMP companies on 27 April, along with transactions of over 2.3 million baht in the market.

CBM sold over \$3.59 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$3.33 million to LNG-importing companies on 24 April.

CBM sold over \$3.7 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$4 million to LNG-importing companies on 23 April.

CBM sold over \$3 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$1 million to LNG importing companies on 22 April.

CBM injected over \$44.84 million, 61 million baht and 700,000 yuan in March 2026, \$35 million, 34 million baht and over three million yuan in February and \$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 cur-



Edible oil displayed at one shopping centre.

rency 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

## IWUMD invites tenders for projects exceeding K200M

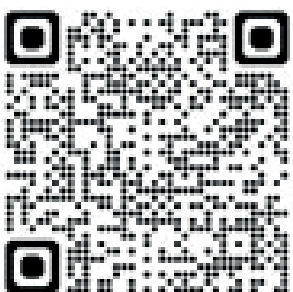
THE Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department in Mandalay Region has called open tenders for projects valued at over K200 million. Those projects include procurement of diesel, round steel bars, six-inch-by-nine-inch large stones, crushed stones and sand, and earthwork process (excavation/loading/transport), with an allocated budget of the region in the 2026-2027 financial year. Tender application is available at the Irrigation's Guest House, between 70<sup>th</sup> and 71<sup>st</sup> Streets, 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Mandalay, by 7 May.

The deadline for tender submission is at 4:30 pm on 7 May. The tender opening is slated for 8 May at the Irrigation's Guest House.

Late submission of the tender application will not be considered. Interested individuals can contact the Tender Committee during office hours by dialling 02 4039181 and 02 4066053. — NN/KK

### Public Notice for Filing Complaints

1. If a citizen's fundamental rights and legal rights enshrined in the Constitution, or the human rights provided under international and regional human rights treaties to which the State is a party, are violated, he or she may file a complaint with the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) under Section 30 of the MNHRC Law whether on their own behalf, on behalf of another person, or on behalf of a group of persons.
2. Complaints can be submitted by addressing the Chairperson, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, 27, 6½ Mile, Pyay Road, Hline Township, Yangon or to any of the Commission's branch offices located in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sittway, and Patheingyi, either by post, in person, via fax at 01 8654678 or through the Commission's email [info@mnhrc.org.mm](mailto:info@mnhrc.org.mm).
3. The following particulars must be clearly included in the complaint:
  - (a) Full name of the complainant; permanent address, and full contact details (telephone number, fax, and email if available);
  - (b) A detailed description of how the complainant's human rights were violated and what harm or loss was suffered, including supporting documents or photographic evidence, if available;
  - (c) A copy of the complainant's Citizenship Scrutiny Card must be attached;
  - (d) The complaint must be signed by the complainant to certify the correctness of the particulars of the complaint.
4. The Commission will review complaints and conduct investigations in accordance with the Commission's law and its procedures, and will coordinate with the relevant departments and organizations accordingly.



Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

## DICA removes 17 companies from blacklist, entry/exit ban

FOLLOWING full repatriation of export proceeds, 17 companies were removed from the blacklist and the travel ban on entering and exiting Myanmar, the Central Bank of Myanmar announced on 27 April.

According to the CBM's coordination, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Immigration and Population put some companies on the blacklist and banned board members from entering and exiting Myanmar, as they failed to bring export proceeds into the country. A total of 287 companies were flagged for export earnings violations between 1 January 2021 and 31 March 2025.

After full repayment of export earnings, 29 companies were removed from the blacklist and travel ban from entering and existing Myanmar on 30 December 2025.

At present, 17 more companies have brought in their outstanding export proceeds in full. Therefore, their directors were removed from the blacklist and the travel ban. Those companies are Yang Brothers National Co Ltd, Multi World Trade Co Ltd, Myanmar Yulin Co Ltd, NYK Global Diamond Crown Co Ltd, BAAB'S Myanmar Co Ltd, G Mogok Hair Co Ltd, Biopro (Myanmar) Co Ltd, Lucky Marine Products Co Ltd, Min Gamani Co Ltd, Do San Dara Aung Co Ltd, RRR Non Woven Manufacture Co Ltd, JMMSM (Myawaddy) Co Ltd, Zwe Tharaphu Co Ltd, Hao Yuan Co Ltd, Htoo Trading Co Ltd, and Rax Myanmar Co Ltd. — NN/KK

# OPINION

## Don't forget the lives of victims in earthquakes

**E**ARTHQUAKES are among the deadliest natural hazards, often striking without warning and causing devastating loss of life and long-lasting social, economic, and psychological harm. The historical records stated that recent earthquakes in countries such as Myanmar and Afghanistan are stark reminders of how these events can destroy infrastructure, displace entire communities, and affect generations long after the ground stops shaking.

The United Nations stated that earthquakes also have substantial economic consequences, accounting for more than a quarter of global disaster losses and causing trillions of dollars in damage over recent decades. Beyond direct destruction, they can trigger fires, tsunamis, and landslides, compounding damage across housing, health, education, and livelihoods.

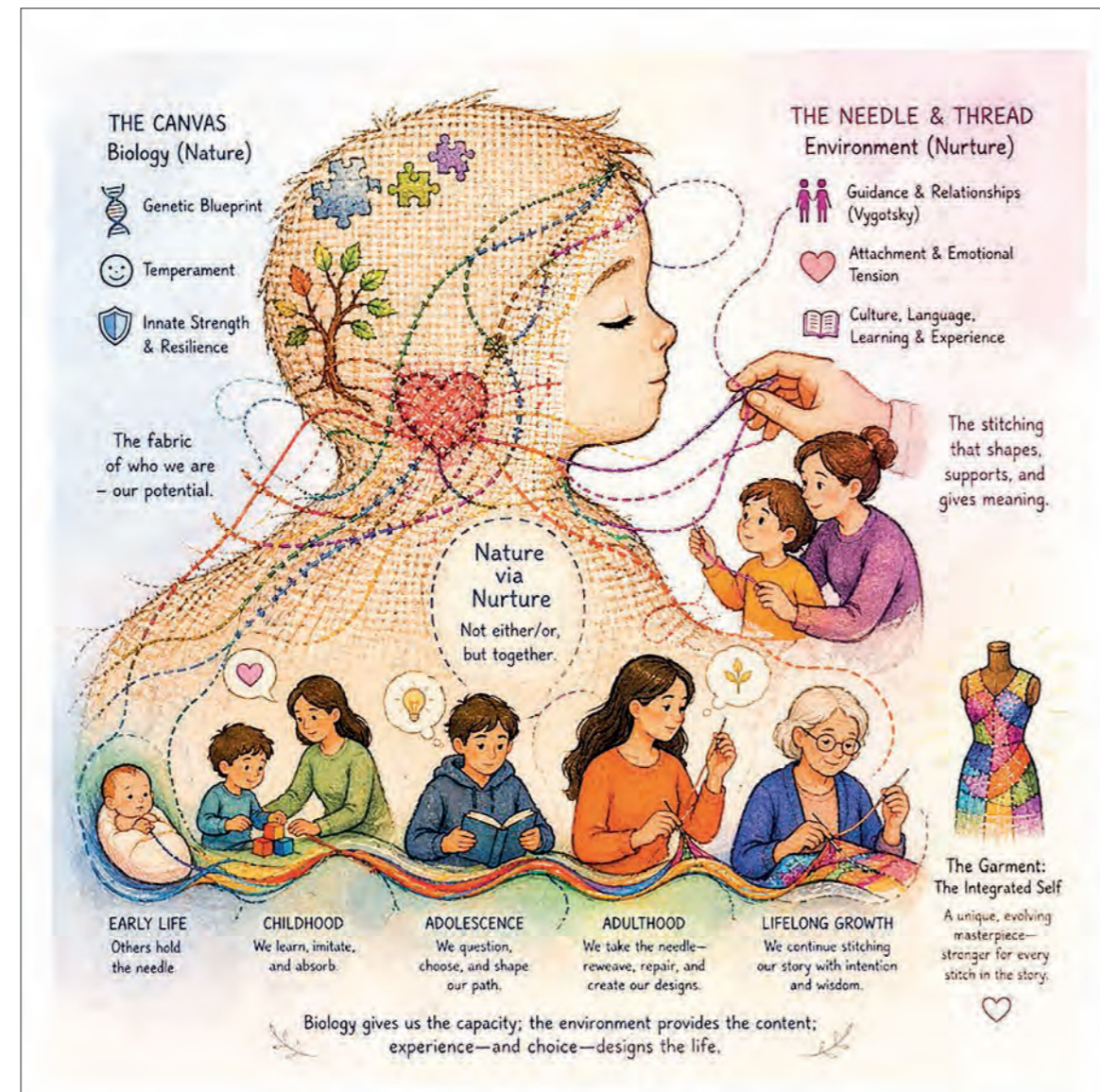
Earthquake risk is driven by factors such as rapid urbanization in seismic areas, weak or ageing infrastructure, poverty, inequality, and poor enforcement of building codes, making risk-informed development and resilient infrastructure essential. In acknowledgement of the grave consequences of these disasters, the United Nations has established the International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes, observed annually on 29 April.

The powerful Mandalay earthquake, which struck on 28 March 2025 with a magnitude of 7.7 on the Richter scale, has resulted in 3,739 deaths, 5,104 injuries, and 67 people reported missing. In addition, more than 63,000 residential buildings, as well as numerous schools, religious structures including pagodas and stupas, and roads and bridges, were damaged or destroyed.

A total of 2,688 personnel from search-and-rescue and medical teams were deployed by 25 countries. Moreover, humanitarian relief supplies and medicines amounting to a total of 2,472 tonnes were delivered by 19 countries. Myanmar will not forget the devastating Mandalay earthquake of 2025 and will always remember the support and assistance provided by countries during the emergency.

Earthquakes are natural disasters that cannot be predicted in advance, and compared to other natural hazards, they often result in severe loss of life and destruction of homes and property. Families are torn apart, with loved ones separated in death and survival. Property is lost, and towns and villages are devastated. Throughout both world history and Myanmar's history, powerful earthquakes have left tragic records due to their destructive force.

The theme for the commemorative day 2026 focuses on "Remember. Protect. Build Disaster Resilience". As such, all global people have to memorize the deadliest earthquakes which destroyed the lives and property of the people forever and seek the best solution to ease the destructive power of earthquakes, with the action of how to predict the possibilities of earthquakes for the sake of living beings of the world.



# From Given Cloth to Chosen Stitch: The Lifelong Weaving of the Self

By Khin Maung Myint

## A Metaphor Revisited

The image of the canvas and the needle captures a central truth in developmental psychology: human life is shaped through the interplay of biological endowment and environmental influence. The old divide between nature and nurture dissolves into a more precise reality – nature unfolding through nurture, in continuous dialogue with experience.

## The Biological Canvas

The “canvas” represents genetic inheritance and neurobiological structure. Each person is born with a distinct temperament, resilience, and range of potential responses. Epigenetics reminds us that genes are not rigid commands but responsive possibilities, shaped by lived experience.

Biology offers the capacity, not the conclusion.

## The Needle of Experience

Environment acts as the “needle and thread,” stitching meaning into this biological fabric. Caregiving, culture, language, and education shape the emerging self. The quality of these early stitches – secure or strained – determines whether the developing structure holds or distorts.

## Vygotsky and the Social Weave

The work of Lev Vygotsky places social interaction at the centre of this process. Higher mental functions first arise between individuals before becoming internalised. Through the Zone of Proximal Development,

guided support allows the child to achieve what would otherwise be beyond reach. Language becomes the thread that carries culture into the mind, gradually transforming external dialogue into internal thought. Over time, the guided becomes the guide.

## A Buddhist Reflection: Impermanence and Becoming

This developmental picture resonates deeply with principles in Buddhist philosophy. The doctrine of Anicca (impermanence) reminds us that the “canvas” itself is not fixed; it is constantly changing at both biological and experiential levels. The idea of Anatta (non-self) further challenges the notion of a solid, unchanging identity. What we call the “self” is not a finished gar-

ment but an ongoing process of stitching – conditions giving rise to patterns, which in turn dissolve and reform.

Equally, dependent origination (Paticcasamuppada) mirrors the psychological understanding that no aspect of development stands alone. Just as no stitch exists without thread, needle, and fabric, no human trait arises independently. Each thought, emotion, and behaviour emerges from an intricate web of causes and conditions – biological, social, and experiential.

## When the Needle Changes Hands

In early life, others hold the needle. With maturity, agency emerges. Here, Buddhist thought and psychology converge again:

through awareness and mindful reflection, individuals can observe their own patterns and gradually reshape them. Neuroplasticity provides the biological basis for what Buddhism has long emphasised – intentional mental cultivation can alter the structure of experience.

## The Unfinished Garment

The self is never complete. It is an evolving composition shaped by biology, refined by environment, and increasingly guided by conscious choice. We do not choose the clothes we are given, but we are not bound to wear them unchanged.

Biology gives the capacity; environment provides the content; awareness and intention refine the design.

# Steps Towards Peace: Myanmar's 100-Day Initiative

By Ms Monn

**T**HE pursuit of peace in Myanmar has long been a complex journey, marked by both profound challenges and enduring hope. As the nation enters a new political chapter in April 2026, the global community and the citizens of Myanmar are closely watching the initiatives of the newly formed administration. Under the leadership of President U Min Aung Hlaing, who was sworn in on 10 April 2026, the government has introduced a significant “100-day programme” aimed at stabilizing the nation through democracy, economic recovery, and, most crucially, a renewed focus on national reconciliation. Let us explore the constructive steps taken within this initial period and the potential they hold for forging a path toward a lasting and inclusive peace.

## The 100-Day Peace Offer: A Call for Dialogue

At the heart of the new administration's early agenda is a bold invitation to all armed resistance

groups and ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) to engage in a fresh round of peace negotiations. Announced during a cabinet meeting on 20 April 2026, the initiative sets a clear and ambitious 100-day window for groups to come to the table. By establishing a deadline of 31 July 2026, the government has signalled a sense of urgency and a desire to move beyond the protracted conflict that has affected the country for years.

One of the most visible and government's commitment to peace is translated into actionable policies. The inclusion of groups that have previously signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), as well as those that have remained outside the framework, suggests an attempt at a more inclusive approach to national solidarity.

## Humanitarian Gestures and Trust-Building

One of the most visible and

Key Milestone	Date	Description
Presidential Swearing-in	10 April 2026	Marking the transition to a new government structure.
100-Day Programme Launch	20 April 2026	Announcement of a comprehensive plan for peace and recovery.
Peace Talk Deadline	31 July 2026	The target date for concluding initial rounds of dialogue.

This invitation is backed by the establishment of the **National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee**. Led directly by the President, this committee is tasked with coordinating the complex logistics of multiparty talks and ensuring that the gov-

positive aspects of the new government's first 100 days has been the implementation of humanitarian measures designed to build trust and ease social tensions. In mid-April 2026, the government announced the pardon and release of over 4,000 prisoners. This large-

scale amnesty included several political figures and the deposed president, a move that many observers see as a necessary step towards de-escalating the political atmosphere.

“National solidarity is the bedrock upon which a strong, peaceful, and enduring Union must be built. Our 100-day initiative is an invitation to all stakeholders to

cused strategies of the past. These actions are intended to create a more conducive environment for political discussion, showing that the government is willing to make concessions to facilitate a broader reconciliation process. While trust remains a fragile commodity, such humanitarian gestures are essential precursors to any meaningful political settlement.

## Economic Recovery and the Peace Dividend

The 100-day programme recognizes that peace is inextricably linked to the economic well-being of the population. The conflict has severely disrupted livelihoods, trade, and infrastructure across Myanmar. Consequently, the government's peace initiatives are being integrated with an economic recovery plan that seeks to restore stability to the nation's markets and provide immediate relief to those most affected by the fighting.

The concept of a “peace dividend” is central to this strategy. By reducing the intensity of conflict through local and national ceasefires, the government aims to reopen vital trade routes and allow for the return of displaced persons to their homes. This dual focus on security and prosperity is a constructive acknowledgement that lasting peace cannot be achieved in a vacuum of economic hardship. The promise of infrastructure development and revitalized public services in conflict-affected areas serves as a powerful incentive for groups to consider the benefits of a negotiated settlement.

The emphasis on “National Solidarity” reflects a desire to move towards a federal system that respects the rights and identities of Myanmar's various ethnic groups. While the specifics of such a system are yet to be negotiated, the government's willingness to discuss federalism within the 100-day window represents a positive shift in rhetoric. It acknowledges that a centralized approach to governance has historically failed to address the root causes of ethnic conflict and that a more decentralized, inclusive model is required for a sustainable future.

## Strengthening the Framework for Democracy

A significant component of the current administration's narrative is the transition towards a more stable democratic framework. The 100-day programme includes preparations for future elections, which the government asserts will be more inclusive and representa-

of the nation's diverse political landscape. By framing peace talks as a prerequisite for a successful democratic transition, the administration is attempting to align its security goals with the long-term aspirations of the Myanmar people for self-determination and representative governance.

The emphasis on “National Solidarity” reflects a desire to move towards a federal system that respects the rights and identities of Myanmar's various ethnic groups. While the specifics of such a system are yet to be negotiated, the government's willingness to discuss federalism within the 100-day window represents a positive shift in rhetoric. It acknowledges that a centralized approach to governance has historically failed to address the root causes of ethnic conflict and that a more decentralized, inclusive model is required for a sustainable future.

## Navigating the Path Ahead

Despite the positive momentum generated by these early initiatives, the path to lasting peace remains fraught with obstacles. Several major ethnic armed or-

ganizations have expressed scepticism, citing the need for more fundamental changes to the political structure and greater guarantees of safety and autonomy. However, the value of the 100-day initiative lies in its role as a starting point. Peace processes are rarely linear, and the current government's efforts represent a renewed attempt to break the cycle of violence.

The international community's role will be crucial in providing the necessary mediation and support to ensure that these initial steps lead to a more comprehensive and inclusive dialogue. The 100-day peace initiative offers a glimmer of hope that a lasting settlement is possible. For the people of Myanmar, who have endured decades of conflict, the success of these early efforts could mean the difference between continued strife and the dawn of a new era of peace and prosperity. The coming months will be a critical test of the government's resolve and the willingness of all parties to embrace the difficult but necessary work of national reconciliation.

May Myanmar be eternally peaceful and prosperous.

## SCI/TECH: WORLD

# AI firms flex lobbying muscle on both side of Atlantic

*The policy document came just days after a public backlash forced the company to halt plans for a sexually explicit chatbot.*

AI developers are ramping up efforts to win over the hearts and minds of officials in Europe and the United States, hoping to sway governments as they weigh high-stake regulatory frameworks for the ever more powerful technology.

Flush with cash, the firms are also wooing the general public, insisting that artificial intelligence will be a force for good — and not a destroyer of jobs or an existential threat for humanity.

ChatGPT maker OpenAI unveiled this month a 13-page “Industrial Policy for the Intelligence Age” that calls for new taxation and expanded safety nets to ensure society withstands the arrival of superintelligent systems.



It has even bought TBPN, a technology-focused talk show, to help shape the narrative.

But the policy document also came just days after a public backlash forced the company to halt plans for a sexually explicit chatbot.

OpenAI has also faced legal challenges from families of teenagers who say ChatGPT caused harm and even suicide among young people, prompting the company to introduce an age-verification system. — AFP

ChatGPT maker OpenAI unveiled this month a 13-page “Industrial Policy for the Intelligence Age” that calls for new taxation and expanded safety nets to ensure society withstands the arrival of superintelligent systems.  
**PHOTO: AFP**

## Digital tools help bridge reading gap for rural Chinese children

IN a reading corner at Qixi Township Central School in Kaihua County, a mountainous area in east China’s Zhejiang Province, students sit with tablet computers, absorbed in stories as soft notification chimes mix with the sound of reading aloud.

Through smart devices and mobile networks, these children interact with an AI-powered assistant known as “Qian Xiaowa”, which helps them read classics and recite

poems, and recommends materials tailored to their abilities and interests.

“There are so many books and picture stories on the tablet that I had never read before,” said Wang Xiaoxiao, a 10-year-old fourth grader. “With a tap, I can hear standard pronunciation, whether it’s English stories or Chinese texts.”

This scene reflects a broader push to narrow China’s urban-rural reading gap via technology.

Qixi school sits at the source of the Qiantang River, where the borders of Zhejiang, Anhui and Jiangxi provinces meet. Most of its students are “left-behind children” raised by grandparents while their parents work elsewhere.

For years, the school’s library held only a few hundred books, many of them outdated or inappropriate for young readers, said Wang Wenhui, a teacher at the school. — Xinhua

## Maine governor nixes data centre moratorium in state

THE governor of Maine on Friday vetoed a temporary ban on building large data centres that aimed to rein in rampant construction driven by the AI race.

The buildout comes at a cost, as the power-hungry facilities strain local grids and drive up electricity bills.

Data centres also typically have massive footprints, taking

up land that could be used for housing, businesses, recreation or green space.

Legislators in Maine earlier this month endorsed what would have been the first data centre ban in the United States if it had been signed into law by Governor Janet Mills.

“A moratorium is appropriate given the impacts of massive data centres in other

states on the environment and on electricity rates,” Mills said in a statement announcing the veto.

Mills explained that her veto was based on the bill’s failure to make an exception for a data centre project in a part of the northeastern state where the closure of a mill three years ago had been a “devastating” economic blow. — AFP

## Billionaire Elon Musk enters courtroom showdown with OpenAI



Billionaire Elon Musk. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

JURY selection is to begin Monday in a high-profile legal battle between billionaire Elon Musk and artificial intelligence startup OpenAI, which he accuses of betraying its non-profit mission.

The clash in a courtroom across the bay from San Francisco pits the world’s richest man against a startup that Musk once backed and now competes against in the booming AI sector.

OpenAI’s ChatGPT is a formidable rival to the Grok chatbot made by Musk’s xAI lab.

While the lawsuit filed by Musk is part of a feud between him and OpenAI chief executive Sam Altman, it spotlights a debate whether AI should ultimately benefit the privileged few or society as a whole.

Court filings lay out how Altman tried to convince Musk to back OpenAI in 2015, acting as a co-founder for a non-profit lab whose technology “would belong to the world”.

Musk pumped some \$38 million into the lab before he left. — AFP

## Technician dies installing stage for Shakira concert in Rio

A technician was killed on Sunday in Rio de Janeiro setting up a stage where pop superstar Shakira is set to perform a free concert this week, authorities and organizers said.

Crews have been working for weeks to assemble a stage on the sands of the Brazilian city's Copacabana beach, where crowds are expected from around the world to see the Colombian singer perform on 2 May as part of her record-breaking world tour.

The man suffered crushing injuries to his legs in a lifting system, the fire department said in a statement.

Workers managed to free the man and he was taken to hospital, but he did not survive, the state fire department (CBMERJ) said.

"Unfortunately, the techni-



cian passed away in hospital," concert organizer Bonus Track said in a statement.

"Out of nowhere, we saw people running, and when we looked, the structure was on the ground," Antonio Marcos Ferreira dos Santos, 51, who was on the beach at the time, told AFP.

"People were saying that a man had gotten trapped underneath. People rushed over to pull him out." — AFP

Workers and machinery remain idle after the death of a worker in an accident that occurred during the setup of the stage for Colombian singer Shakira at Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 26 April 2026, the Colombian singer is scheduled to perform on 2 May. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Michael Jackson biopic dominates North American box office in opening weekend

LIONSGATE'S Michael Jackson biopic "Michael" dominated the North American box office in its opening weekend with US\$97 million, according to data from measurement firm Comscore released on Sunday.

"Michael" also took in a reported \$120.4 million from international markets for an estimated \$217.4 million worldwide through Sunday.

Directed by Antoine Fuqua, the film tells the story of Michael

Jackson's life beyond the music, highlighting both his life off-stage and some of the most iconic performances from his early solo career.

On the review-aggregation site Rotten Tomatoes, it holds an

approval rating of just 38 per cent based on 210 critic reviews, while its audience score stands at an impressive 97 per cent positive.

After leading the North American box office for three consecutive weeks, Universal

and Illumination's animated adventure film "The Super Mario Galaxy Movie" slipped to second place in this fourth weekend, grossing \$21.2 million for a North American total of \$386.5 million. — Xinhua

## Shenzhen builds '15-minute nursery circle' to ease the burden of families



Children listen to a teacher reading stories at a nursery centre in Huahong Community of Futian District in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, 17 April 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

SHENZHEN in southern China is building a "15-minute nursery circle" covering a child's first 1,000 days to ease the burden of families and encourage more births. Supported by the government, communities, and professional services together, the city has been working on the trans-

formation of public facilities to create accessible and affordable nursery options that are close to home. Currently, Shenzhen has set up 109,000 nursery slots with at least one public nursery facility or kindergarten offering nursery services in every subdistrict. — Xinhua

## Laterite wall at centuries-old Angkor Thom under restoration

AN archaeological team has been restoring the laterite wall of the centuries-old Angkor Thom in the UNESCO-listed Angkor Archaeological Park in northwest Cambodia's Siem Reap province, said a news release from the APSARA National Authority (ANA) on Monday.

Mao Sokny, a technical officer of the ANA's Department of Conservation of Monuments and Preventive Archaeology, said the work is underway at a 15-metre section of the laterite wall on the southwest side of Angkor Thom, near the Tonle Om Gate, which had deteriorated for a long time.

Built in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century under the reign of Jayavarman VII, Angkor Thom was the grand capital of the Khmer Empire, the news release said, adding that its enclosure wall extends about three kilometres

on each side, stands approximately eight meters high, and is surrounded by a moat. The ancient city is accessed through five monumental gates.

"The wall has been damaged due to age and natural factors," he said. "This has cre-

ated structural risks, including cracks, separation of laterite blocks, and falling stones."

Sokny said the western wing of the gate has also been affected, as the roof has disappeared, and only a few elements remain, such as statues and stone pillars. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 2 April 2026 shows the restoration site of the laterite wall of the Angkor Thom in Siem Reap province, Cambodia. **PHOTO: ANA/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

# ECONOMY WORLD

## Thailand projects lower growth, fewer tourists due to Mideast war



A man walks with a child with swimming gear along Nang Ram Beach in Pattaya on 26 February 2026.  
**PHOTO: AFP**

THAILAND'S economic growth and tourist arrivals are forecast to drop this year as the Middle East war roils global energy prices, the finance ministry said Tuesday.

The country's GDP growth is projected to dip to 1.6 per cent, the ministry said in a statement, down from 2.4 per cent in 2025.

Growth in the Southeast Asian nation is anaemic, with the tourism sector vital but arrivals yet to return to their pre-Covid highs.

The government said in February that this year's growth forecast was between 1.5 to 2.5 per cent.

Thailand expects about 33.5 million foreign tourists this year, about two million fewer than previously estimated, the ministry said on Tuesday.

Tourists from Europe and the Middle East have declined as a result of the US-Israeli war against Iran, which began two months ago and has driven up fuel prices, the ministry added.

Visitors from the Middle

East fell by a third in March compared to the same month last year, and European arrivals dropped around four per cent, while tourists from other Asian nations rose six per cent, according to Thai tourism ministry figures.

Thailand received nearly 33 million foreign visitors in total last year.

The country's core inflation was forecast to hit three percent this year, up from an earlier estimate of 0.3 per cent. — AFP

## Tourist arrivals to Vietnam's capital estimated to top 12 mln from Jan to Apr

VIETNAM'S capital Hanoi is estimated to have welcomed 12.14 million tourist visits in the first four months of the year, up 20.9 per cent from a year earlier, the Vietnam News Agency reported Tuesday.

Tourism revenue is expected to climb 22.8 per cent year on year to 50.86 trillion Vietnamese dong (about US\$2.03 billion), said the report, citing the municipal Department of Tourism.

In April alone, the city hosted an estimated 3.09 million visitor trips, up 13.3 per cent compared to the same period last year, with domestic travelers accounting for the majority at 2.31 million and international arrivals at more than 780,100.

The city has an accommodation network of 3,761 establishments offering more than 71,000 rooms, the report added. — Xinhua

## Indonesia offers zero-tariff relief on LPG, plastics for six months

INDONESIA will grant a six-month zero-tariff relief on imports of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and certain plastic raw materials to help ease soaring prices amid global supply pressures, a senior minister said here Tuesday.

At a press conference, Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Airlangga Hartarto said the measure targets the petrochemical industry, which has faced difficulties in securing naphtha

due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

The exemption will also cover polypropylene and polyethylene imports, he added.

Airlangga said that authorities plan regulatory measures to streamline import procedures and ensure continued supply for the industry and the packaging sector.

The government will review the policy after six months, he added. — Xinhua

## Crude extends gains on Iran talks, stocks diverge on central bank meetings

OIL prices jumped Tuesday on lack of progress towards re-opening the Strait of Hormuz while stocks diverged as attention turned back to the outlook for interest rates and company earnings.

The White House has refused to say if US President Donald Trump is inclined to accept Iran's latest proposals to end the two-month old conflict and re-open the crucial waterway.

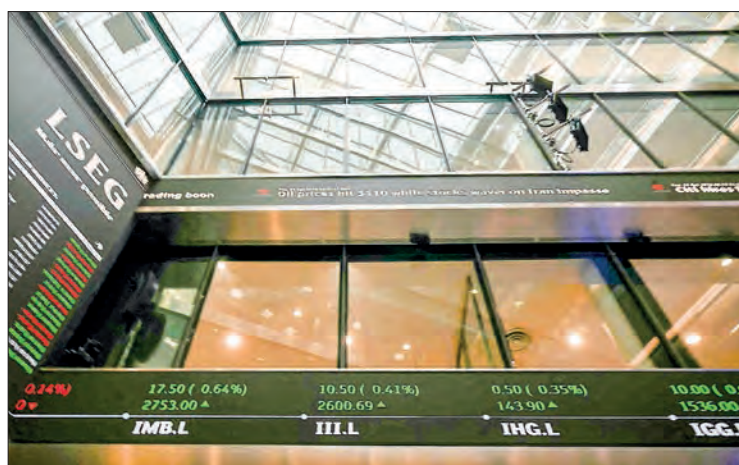
Oil prices rallied more than two per cent, with Brent holding above \$110 a barrel and WTI just a whisker below \$100 a barrel.

Hopes for a deal had been

rising going into last weekend but Trump dashed them on Saturday by scrapping a planned trip by his envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner to Islamabad.

Stock markets mostly fell in Asia, under further pressure after the Bank of Japan sharply raised its inflation forecasts for the current year and halved its growth projections owing to surging oil prices.

"The Bank of Japan left its key interest rate unchanged but signalled that it would be keeping a very close eye on inflation dynamics," said analyst Andreas Lipkow at CMC Markets. "This triggered profit-taking. A simi-



Digital screens shows a rise in BP stock prices at the London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) offices in London on 28 April 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

lar picture could emerge at the meetings of the US Federal Reserve and the European Central

Bank."

Tokyo, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Sydney, Singapore, Taiwan Prov-

ince of China, Mumbai, Bangkok, Manila and Wellington all closed lower, though Seoul rose again thanks to a resumption of the tech rally that has pushed the Kospi to a record high.

In Europe, shares were slightly higher in late-morning trading, boosted by energy companies, even as investors overall took a cautious stance ahead of a series of key central bank meetings.

In London, BP shares were up more three per cent after it reported strong first-quarter earnings, while in Paris TotalEnergies was up just under three per cent. — AFP

# 139<sup>th</sup> Canton Fair attracts 245,000 foreign buyers in first two phases

THE first two phases of the 139<sup>th</sup> China Import and Export Fair, also known as the Canton Fair, have attracted 245,000 overseas buyers from 219 countries and regions as of Monday afternoon, an increase of 2.2 per cent from the same period of the previous edition, according to the China Foreign Trade Centre.

A total of 140 overseas industrial and commercial organizations attended the fair. Another 344 leading enterprises from the United

States, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan and other places also participated, marking a 4.9 per cent increase from the same period of the previous edition.

This year's fair is being held in three offline phases in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, and will run until 5 May.

The second phase, held from 23 to 27 April, focuses on "quality home life," including building materials, furniture, household prod-

ucts, gifts and decorations. The third phase, scheduled for 1 to 5 May, will focus on toys, maternity and child-care products, home textiles, stationery, as well as health and leisure goods. Established in 1957, the Canton Fair takes place twice a year in Guangzhou. It is the longest-running of several comprehensive international trade events in China, and it has been hailed as the barometer of China's foreign trade. — Xinhua



A purchaser (R) views exhibits during the 139<sup>th</sup> edition of the China Import and Export Fair (Canton Fair) in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, 23 April 2026.  
**PHOTO: XINHUA**

## Google breaks ground on Indian AI megahub

TECH giant Google on Tuesday marked the ceremonial start of work on its largest artificial intelligence hub outside of the United States with a groundbreaking ceremony in India.

The firm promised in October 2025 to spend \$15 billion over five years to construct the vast centre in Visakhapatnam, a southeastern port in Andhra Pradesh state of around two million people, popularly known as "Vizag".

"Today marks the

first concrete milestone in Google's largest commitment to India's digital future," Bikash Koley, Google's Vice-President for Global Infrastructure, told the ceremony.

"This project represents a \$15 billion blueprint to deliver a full stack AI ecosystem," he added.

"At its core is our gigawatt scale data centre campus, purpose built for the immense computational demand of the AI era, powering services like Gemini and Google Search." — AFP

## Thai AirAsia implements flight schedules reduction by 30% in May-Jun

THAI AirAsia will reduce overall seat capacity by an average of 30 per cent between May and June to address the ongoing impact of skyrocketing global aviation fuel prices and the seasonal softening of mid-year travel demand, the airline announced on its website Tuesday.

For the domestic network, Thai AirAsia will scale back flight schedules at Suvarnabhumi Airport, retaining only direct services from Suvarnabhumi to Chiang Mai and Phuket during May and June, said Phairat Pornpathanan-

goon, chief executive officer of Thai AirAsia. At Don Mueang Airport, the airline will continue to operate its full network across all destinations, with flight frequencies strategically aligned to match actual passenger demand. On the international front, the airline will temporarily suspend and reduce frequencies primarily on Indian routes due to high operating costs. Meanwhile, operations across key markets such as China, East Asia, and ASEAN remain steady. — Xinhua

### Corrigendum: Open Tender Invitation

Reference is made to our advertisement for Myanmar Port Authority published on Page-13 of The Global New Light of Myanmar on 28 April 2026. Please note that the previous details were incorrect.

The correct information regarding the 5000 BHP ASD Tug (1-Unit) for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 fiscal years is provided in the full advertisement published next to this notice.

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SIMONE VOY.NO. (615W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SIMONE VOY.NO. (615W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-4-2026** 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  
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NAWATA BHUM VOY.NO. (337N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NAWATA BHUM VOY.NO. (337N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-4-2026** 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  
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

### Ministry of Transport Myanmar Port Authority Open Tender Invitation

1. The Ministry of Transport, Myanmar Port Authority, hereby invites qualified and interested companies to submit tender proposals for the construction of 5000 BHP ASD Tug (1- Unit) within 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 fiscal years, using foreign currency (USD).
2. Date and Time for Tender Forms Sale - During office hours from 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 to 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2026.
3. Location for Tender Forms Sale - Planning Section, Theinbyu Dockyard, Mechanical Engineering Department, No.557/559, Strand Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon.
4. Tender Opening Date, Time and Location - 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026, 13:00 hrs No. 10, Pansodan Street, Head Office, First Floor, Myanmar Port Authority, Kyauktada Township, Yangon.
5. If you need more detailed information, please contact us at telephone no. +95 9 515 8404, +95 9 401 010 293, and email: [cmeoffice.mpa@gmail.com](mailto:cmeoffice.mpa@gmail.com)

Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee  
Myanmar Port Authority

### MINISTRY OF COOPERATIVES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR SOLAR MINI-GRID PROJECT

The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, is inviting qualified and interested companies to submit proposals for implementing solar mini-grid electricity project in the following villages in Ayeyarwady Region:

Lot-ID	Project Village(s)	Location Site
Lot-1	Kyone Taing Village Village Group : Kyone Taing, Kankone Lay Eain Tan, Bamao (East), Ngakyin Chaung and Daunggyi Villages	Wakema Township, Ayeyarwady Region

Submission Deadline: Proposals must be delivered to the address below at 10:00 AM Local Time on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

Interested companies should visit the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development (MCRD) Website (<https://www.mcrd.gov.mm/>) or directly contact the following address for further information:

Department of Rural Development (Head Office)  
Office No.36/B, Pandita Road, Ottara Thiri Township, Naypyidaw  
Tel./Fax: +95 673 418633, 418635  
Email: [pl.hq@drdmyanmar.net](mailto:pl.hq@drdmyanmar.net); [drdnepmg@gmail.com](mailto:drdnepmg@gmail.com); [myomyonpd@gmail.com](mailto:myomyonpd@gmail.com)

Tender Committee

# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## A-bomb exhibition opens at UN headquarters during NPT meeting



An exhibition on the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki begins at the UN headquarters in New York on 27 April 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

AN exhibition opened Monday at the United Nations headquarters in New York to show the devastation from the 1945 US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as a monthlong nuclear disarmament conference is under way there.

The exhibition, organized by Nihon Hidankyo, Japan's leading group

of atomic bomb survivors, features photos and materials related to the nuclear attacks in the closing days of World War II. It will run through 1 June.

Jiro Hamasumi, 80, secretary general of the group, said, "I want to share the wish that no one else will ever have to experience the suffering we endured."

The exhibition was first held at the

2005 conference to review the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. At this year's event, about 50 panels with English explanations are displayed in the UN headquarters' lobby, showing the damage to the two Japanese cities after the bombings, injured children receiving medical treatment and the effects of radiation.

Items exposed to the bombings are also on display, including a clock that stopped at the time the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

The panels also highlight the Nobel Peace Prize that the group, also known as the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, received in 2024. One of the panels is on the speech at the Nobel award ceremony given by Terumi Tanaka, the 93-year-old co-chair of the organization, in which he called for "a human society free of nuclear weapons and war".

Steve Chapman, a 65-year-old San Francisco resident who visited the venue during a UN tour, looked at a photo of an injured child and said the exhibition showed how important it is to be aware of and to remember the damage caused by the atomic bombings. — Kyodo

## Climbers open Everest route past dangerous ice block

NEPALI guides on Tuesday opened the route past the icefall on Mount Everest, which was blocked for two weeks by a large chunk of dangerous ice.

A team of highly skilled mountaineers, known in Nepal as "icefall doctors", began fixing ropes and ladders on Everest last month, to prepare for the spring climbing season.

But a serac — a block of glacial ice — above the already treacherous Khumbu icefall disrupted their work, sparking fears of delays in the limited summit season on the world's highest peak.

"A team of 21, including eight icefall doctors, went up this morning, opening the route up to Camp 1," Lakpa Sherpa of 8K Expeditions, who coordinated the effort, told AFP.

"The serac is still there so the risk persists... We expect it will melt soon."

Sherpa said teams would work to set the route up to the summit to ensure there are no more delays.

The government has issued more than 900 climbing permits for various Himalayan mountains this season, including 425 for Everest.

A sea of tents to host more than 1,000



This photograph taken on 4 May 2024 shows mountaineers during their ascent to Mount Everest's summit, in Nepal. **PHOTO: AFP**

people — foreign climbers and support staff — has built up at the foot of Everest, readying to scale the 8,849-metre (29,032-foot) summit.

Climbers at the base camp have been anxiously watching the developments on the route. They must cross the icefall, a constantly shifting maze of crevasses and ice blocks, to reach higher on Everest.

"We are not yet sending people up," said Lukas Furtenbach of Furtenbach Adventures, saying he would await a decision from the committee which mobilizes the icefall doctors.

Nepal is home to eight of the world's 10 highest peaks and attracts hundreds of climbers each spring, when temperatures are warmer and winds calmer. — AFP

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Death toll rises to 14 in Indonesia train accident, president visits victims

THE death toll from a collision between two trains in Bekasi, West Java, Indonesia, has risen to 14, with 84 people injured, local officials said on Tuesday.

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto visited the victims at a hospital in Bekasi on Tuesday morning, saying that he extended condolences on behalf of the government and himself, and promising a quick investigation into the tragic event.

In an official statement on Tuesday, train operator KAI President Director Bobby Rasyidin said, "The latest data as of 8:45 am Western Indonesian Time (WIB) shows 14 deaths. The deceased has been taken to the Kramat Jati Police Hospital for further identification. Meanwhile, 84 injured victims have received medical treatment at various health facilities."

A commuter train on the Jakarta-Bekasi route was involved in a collision with a long-distance train operating on the Jakarta-Surabaya route at around 8:50 pm local time on Monday.

An investigation into the cause of the incident is being conducted by the rail operator and the National Transportation Safety Committee.— Xinhua

#### Cambodian, Thai FMs discuss border issue in Brunei

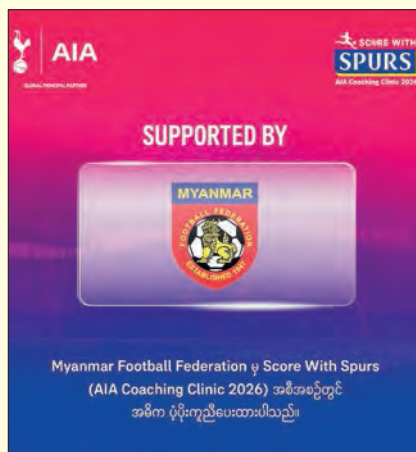
CAMBODIA'S Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn has discussed the border issue with his Thai counterpart Sihasak Phuangketkeow on the sidelines of the 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting in Brunei, said a Cambodian foreign ministry's news release on Tuesday.

Both sides held on Monday candid discussions on the border situation, including confidence-building measures and broader aspects of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

"Achieving lasting peace between our two countries — thereby contributing to peace, stability, and unity within ASEAN — requires genuine commitment and full respect for international law, the ASEAN Charter, as well as all existing treaties and agreements that bind us," Sokhonn said. Cambodia and Thailand agreed to an immediate ceasefire on 27 December 2025 after three weeks of armed conflict, which caused casualties on both sides. — Xinhua

# SPORTS

## Tottenham Hotspur coaches to train selected youth players for AIA Coaching Clinic 2026



An infographic from AIA's announcement showing the Myanmar Football Federation's "Score with Spurs" (AIA Coaching Clinic 2026) main sponsorship.

AIA Myanmar announced on 28 April that coaches from Tottenham Hotspur, an English Premier League club, will arrive to provide training for youth players selected through the "Score with Spurs" programme for the AIA Coaching Clinic 2026.

In the programme — where Tottenham Hotspur partners with AIA to train children across Myanmar and the Asia-Pacific — coaches from the club and the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) will be ready with football training equipment, AIA stated.

Furthermore, outstanding children will have the opportunity to participate in a 6-day elite training at the AIA-Spurs Elite Football Camp in Koh Samui, Thailand.

The selection process was held on the morning of 25 April at the National Football Academy (Artificial Turf) in Yangon. The participants were chosen from the attendees of the "MFF Summer Football Skills Course 2026 (Yangon Batch 1)", which is organized by the MFF.

The seven students selected are Zay Ye Paing, Yoon Yoon, Pyae Phyzo Zaw, Phone Pyae Lyan, Myu Hnin Cho, Nay Chi Tun and Khant Nyi Nyi Linn, and they will have a two-day training in world-class techniques. — Htun Htun/ZN



Myanmar women's national team players celebrate victory in a previous match. PHOTO: MFF

## Three-nation invitational tournament for Myanmar women's team

The Myanmar Football Federation will organize a three-nation invitational tournament for the Myanmar women's national team in early June in Yangon.

The tournament is scheduled from 1 to 7 June at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre and will feature host Myanmar alongside Thailand and Singapore. It will

follow a round-robin format, with the team earning the highest points crowned champion. The competition aims to support preparations for the Myanmar women's national team.

The team is currently coached on an interim basis by Daw San San Thein and has begun training since 27 April with a preliminary squad of 35 players. The squad

includes overseas-based players such as Win Theingi Tun, May Htet Luu, San Thaw Thaw and Phyu Phway, who will join later.

The Myanmar women's team exited at the group stage of the XXXIII SEA Games, after which Japanese head coach Yuki departed, and the team paused training due to a lack of international competitions. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



## Shan United reshuffles head coaches across all teams

SHAN UNITED, one of the most successful clubs in the Myanmar National League, has changed the head coaches of its all three teams ahead of the new season.

The club made changes to the senior team, U20 youth team and women's team. Head coach Han Win Aung, who led Shan United to record achievements last season and made the club the most successful in league history with three titles, will take charge of the U20 team for the upcoming season. He will also serve as a technical

adviser to the senior team.

Shan United has also parted ways with women's team head coach Zin Mar Wan, who contributed to the team's development.

As a result, the club will appoint new head coaches for both the senior and women's teams.

Shan United won the Myanmar National League title for a record seventh time last season, securing six consecutive championships and achieving notable success. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Head coach U Han Win Aung. PHOTO: MNL



# Iran-US diplomatic impasse continues despite Tehran's new proposal to end war

IRAN'S new proposal to the United States to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and end the two-month war — while postponing nuclear negotiations to a later stage — has failed to produce any breakthrough in the bilateral diplomatic impasse amid mounting global calls for de-escalation.

According to US media reports and officials familiar with the matter, the proposal, conveyed through Pakistani mediators, sets aside discussion of Iran's nuclear programme until the conflict with the United States and Israel has ended, and the deadlock over shipping through the Strait of Hormuz is resolved.

It marks Tehran's latest attempt to break a diplomatic deadlock that has persisted despite a fragile ceasefire reached earlier this month.

According to US online media outlet Axios, the new proposal is aimed at breaking the current stalemate in the talks and bypassing the internal disagreements within the Iranian leadership about the scope of nuclear concessions it is willing to make.

However, the latest proposal has received a cool response from Washington. US President Donald Trump dis-



This photo taken on 12 April 2026 shows a street view in Islamabad, Pakistan.

PHOTO: XINHUA

cussed the proposal with his national security team on Monday, the White House confirmed. Trump was unhappy with the proposal because it postpones discussion of Iran's nuclear programmes, an issue Washington insists must be addressed from the outset, Reuters reported, citing a US official familiar with the matter.

Washington has repeatedly demanded that Tehran give up its stockpile of enriched uranium and suspend uranium enrichment as part of any broader settlement.

White House spokeswoman Olivia Wales said the United States "will not negotiate through the press" and the

president has made his "red lines" clear to Tehran and the US public.

The latest diplomatic push comes as the conflict has dramatically reshaped the regional security landscape and disrupted global energy supplies.

On 28 February, Israel and the United States launched joint attacks on Tehran and other Iranian cities, killing Iran's then Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, senior commanders, and civilians. Iran responded with waves of missile and drone strikes targeting Israel and US interests in the Middle East, and a tightened control over the Strait of Hormuz.

A ceasefire was achieved between the warring parties on 8 April, followed by lengthy talks between Iranian and US delegations in Pakistan's capital Islamabad, which failed to yield an agreement. The United States later imposed its own blockade on the waterway.

At least six tankers loaded with Iranian oil have been forced back to Iran by the US blockade in recent days, Reuters reported, citing ship-tracking data. Iran's foreign ministry has condemned the seizures of Iran-linked vessels as "outright legalization of piracy and armed robbery on the high seas." — Xinhua

## First tanker loaded with liquefied natural gas leaves Gulf: Kpler

A ship fully loaded with liquefied natural gas (LNG) has passed through the Strait of Hormuz for the first time since the Middle East war virtually closed the route in early March, marine tracking firm Kpler said Monday.

The LNG carrier Mubaraz, operated by the Emirati national oil company Adnoc, left the Gulf some time in April with 132,890 cubic metres of LNG on board, having loaded at Das Island in the United Arab Emirates on 2 March, according to Kpler data analyzed by AFP.

Iranian forces virtually closed off the strait after the US and Israel launched strikes on the Islamic republic on 28 February, prompting it to retaliate across the region.

After peace talks with Iran failed, the US on 13 April launched a counter-blockade, turning back ships coming from Iranian ports and boarding others in Asia, including two oil tankers. — AFP

## King Charles to urge Trump to 'come together' with Britain

BRITAIN'S King Charles III will receive a full ceremonial welcome from Donald Trump at the White House and make a rare address to Congress on Tuesday as he seeks to mend a transatlantic rift over the Iran war.

On the second day of a four-day state visit, Charles is expected to call in his speech for "reconciliation and renewal", with the so-called special relationship between Washington and London under strain.

Much of the day will be given over to pomp and ceremony, with King Charles and Queen Camilla receiving a traditional arrival ceremony that's expected to feature a 21-gun salute and an inspection of troops.

The US leader and First Lady Melania Trump will then host the royals in the Oval Office behind closed doors. In the evening they will return to the White House for a grand state dinner.

The first day of the trip featured a more informal welcome, with the Trumps treating Charles and Camilla to tea and cakes in the White House



US President Donald Trump, First Lady Melania Trump, Britain's King Charles III and Britain's Queen Camilla pose by a model of Trump's proposed ballroom as they tour the White House beehive on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, DC, on 27 April 2026. PHOTO AARON CHOWN / POOL / AFP

before showing them beehives on the famed lawn.

In a symbolic moment just two days after a shooting at a gala dinner

attended by Trump, the US president showed off a painting of the assassination attempt he narrowly escaped in 2024. — AFP