

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Myanmar Earns US\$17M from Fishery Exports in Apr

According to the Myanmar Fisheries Federation, Myanmar exports seafood products, including hilsa, rohu, river catfish, seabass, eel, shrimp and crab, to foreign markets through more than 140 fishery cold storage facilities, while the relevant department annually renews operating licences for the facilities.

MYANMAR delivered over 10,000 metric tonnes of fish in April of the current financial year 2026-2027, generating over US\$17.35 million, according to the Department of Fisheries.

Myanmar sent over 8,900 metric tonnes of fish by sea, with an estimated value of \$14.64 million. Over 2,480 metric

tonnes of fish worth \$2.7 million were exported to neighbouring countries via the land borders.

Myanmar exported over 18,160 tonnes of fishery products in April this FY. Myanmar steadily exports seafood to 40 countries, including China, Thailand, Bangladesh and Japan through maritime

and border trade channels.

Seafood, including hilsa, rohu, river catfish, seabass, eel, shrimp and crab, is shipped to foreign markets, according to the Myanmar Fisheries Federation. There are over 140 fishery cold storage facilities, and the department grants annual licence renewals. — NN/KK



The photo shows fishing vessels operating in the waters of the Myeik Archipelago.

29,000 tourists visit Shwethaungyan Beach in Apr

SHWETHAUNGYAN Beach in Patheingyi Township, Ayeyawady Region, was packed with 29,243 tourists and homegrown travellers in April 2026, Daw Cherry Myint from the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association (Shwethaungyan Beach) said.

Shwethaungyan Beach is thronged with tourists and domestic visitors throughout the year, providing hospitality services from over 20 hotels and guesthouses.

“Shwethaungyan Beach attracted 29,243 visitors. Most of them are day-trip travellers. The Kyauk Maungnama Elephant Camp near the beach is the top destination that captures the attention of the visitors as well. Consequently, the number of visitors has grown month over month. The association is also ensuring beach quality improvement to meet the satisfaction of the beach enthusiasts”, she added. Each hotel at the beach maintains and cleans the beach area (sand and water) in front of it to support visitors’ experience and comfort, maintains and decorates landscaping within the hotel compound, maintains clean hotel corridors, and serves local foods to guests.

Moreover, the beach has good accessibility, safety, facilities and sustainable management. It offers horseback riding, motorbike, and motorboat rentals. Local food products, handicrafts and souvenirs stalls are also eye-catching. — ASH/KK



This image captures the Shwethaungyan Beach crowded with visitors in April 2026.

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UN Peacekeeping Officer Course commences

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31 AA, PDF Members Return to Civilian Life

BUSINESS PAGE 7



Careful harvesting of Shwehintha mangoes to enhance quality, market value

NATIONAL

Myanmar Gazette

Head of Service Organization transferred and appointed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred and appointed Dr Thaung Hteik, Rector of the University of Patheingyi of the Department of Higher Education under the Ministry of Education, as Rector of the University of Yangon from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

3 News Agencies Banned from Publishing, Broadcasting Activities

ACCORDING to Section 6 (b) of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise Law, if the Ministry of Information receives a report regarding the evidence that a publication suspected of violating any provisions under Section 8 of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise Law, or becomes aware of such cases on its own, the Ministry may conduct an investigation, and revoke the registration certificates or suspend it for a specified period.

The holders of news agency business registration certificates – U Ye Thwin Hein of Myaelatt Athan, U Win Zaw Naing of Red News Agency, and U Zin Min Htet of Asia Citizens News Agency – failed to comply with the provisions under Section 8 (b) of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise Law and published and disseminated content harmful to national security, the rule of law, and public peace and tranquillity. Therefore, the news agency licences granted to them have been revoked starting from 23 April 2026, and it is also hereby announced that these news agencies are banned from publishing or broadcasting with the use of any kind of media or technology.

Ministry of Information

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Monday, 11 May 2026

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 17:30 hrs MST today, the Low Pressure Area over the Southwest Bay of Bengal (off the North Sri Lanka coast) still persists. It is likely to become more marked during next 48 hours. The weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 12 May 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Kayin, Chin, Mon States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway and Ayeyawady Regions and Rakhine State. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin and Mon States. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by 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 moderate in Myanmar waters. The wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 May 2026: One or two rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 12 May 2026: One or two rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Public invited to explore excavation, research of Bagan pagoda foundations



Ancient pagodas and temples in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone.

THE Research Section of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch) under the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture conducts excavation and research activities to understand the foundation systems built beneath the ancient pagodas and temples from different historical periods in the Bagan Region.

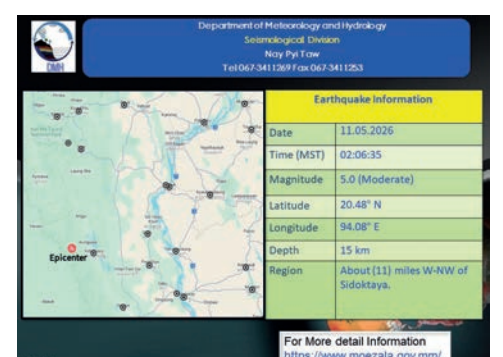
Since 2023, excavation and research have been carried out on the foundation systems of 12 ancient buildings from different periods, and in 2026, the work will continue at Ngakwe Nadaung Pagoda (No 1603) near the Mee Malaung Monastery west of the Thatbyinnyu Temple, Paukpinya Pagoda (No 1614) in front of the Bagan Archaeological Museum,

and ancient building No 1905 located east of Min Oh Chantha Pagoda on the NyaungU-Old Bagan road.

According to the director of the department, the researchers, students, and anyone interested in archaeological excavation and research are welcome to visit and observe the excavation work. — Dipa Lin (IPRD)/KTZH

EARTHQUAKE

A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.0(M) with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 11 miles west-northwest of Sedoktara), latitude 20.48°N, longitude 94.08°E, with a depth of 15 kilometres, about 73 miles southwest of the NyaungU Seismological Observatory was recorded at 2 hours, 6 minutes, and 35 seconds MST on 11 May 2026. — DMH



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NATIONAL

UN Peacekeeping Officer Course commences

THE UN Peacekeeping Officer Course, jointly organized by the Myanmar Tatmadaw and Indian Armed Forces, was opened at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The course is being conducted with the aim of enabling officers and other ranks of the Myanmar Tatmadaw to comprehensively know the duties and obligations of the peacekeeping process of the United Nations.

The opening ceremony was also attended by senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur, Defence Attaches, officer instructors of the Indian Armed Forces, officer trainees of the Myanmar Tatmadaw and officials.

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief



Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Kyaw Swa Lin poses for the documentary group photo at yesterday's opening event.

(Army) General Kyaw Swa Lin and officials observed the documents related to the participation of the Indian Armed Forces in the UN Peacekeeping process, and the records on joint

exercises in the training of the UN peacekeeping process between the Myanmar and Indian armed forces. Officials conducted them around the displays.

The General delivered an

opening address while the Indian Ambassador made a speech.

The General and attendees watched a video clip on "Indian Army Contribution to the United Nations Peacekeeping Opera-

tions". The leader of the training instructor from the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) of India reported on the objective of the training course and the exercise in the UN peacekeeping process.

The General, the Indian Ambassador and the leader of the training instructor exchanged commemorative gifts.

It is the ninth training in which 30 officers from Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) will attend. They will be lectured on the history of the UN peacekeeping process, the organizational setup, rules and undertakings, the ethics of UN peacekeeping forces, the protection for civilians and children, the military-civilian cooperation, patrolling, the serving the convoy security, the construction of the base for the company, and the Blue Helmet exercise in practical and theoretical processes. It will last till 22 May. — MNA/TTA

Myeik district outstanding students return from study camps, competitions



Outstanding students are seen warmly welcomed at Myeik Airport.

OUTSTANDING students from Myeik District for the 2025-2026 academic year returned to Myeik yesterday after taking part in study tours to outstanding students' camps.

They were warmly welcomed back at Myeik Airport by the Taninthayi Region Education Officer, officials, students and parents.

During the welcoming ceremony, the outstanding students were greeted by Region Education Officer U Win Naung,

district and township education officers, school heads, teachers, officials, students and parents.

Afterwards, in the airport hall, the regional education officer and officials met the students. The regional education officer delivered a congratulatory speech, and the students shared their experiences from the study camps.

The students from Myeik District included two Grade-9 students, two Grade-10 students, two Grade-11 students

and one Grade-12 student.

They had visited outstanding students' camps in PyinOoLwin, Inlay Lake, Ngwehsaung and Nay Pyi Taw, and returned to Myeik yesterday by air from Yangon.

The students represented Taninthayi Region in competitions held at the study camps. In the quiz competition, Maung Yan Paing Oo, a Grade-9 student from BEHS No 3 Myeik, won first prize. — Khaing Htoo (IPRD)/MKKS

Yangon General Hospital Updates Outpatient Hours for GI Ward

THE Yangon General Hospital (YGH) said on 11 May that the Department of Gastroenterology's outpatient ward timetable has been changed.

According to the new timetable, new patients will be accepted on Monday and Thursday, and old patients will be accepted on Tuesday and Friday, while both old and new patients with inflammatory bowel disease will be accepted on Wednesday.

Previously, the GI Department's outpatient ward was open from 8 am to 10 am on Monday,

Thursday and Friday and from 1 pm to 4 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win visited YGH on 2 May and met the hospital officials. During the meeting, he emphasized the wider scope of the universal health coverage, reducing the patient waiting time, offering more systematic medical services and a warm relationship towards the public and patients and ensuring an employee code of conduct. — MT/ZS



An outpatient ward at the Yangon General Hospital.

NATIONAL

31 AA, PDF Members Return to Civilian Life

A total of 31 AA and PDF members entered the legal fold yesterday. These returnees included seven AA members from different townships of Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Region, and 24 PDF members from different townships of Ayeyawady and Mandalay regions.

The handover ceremony took place at Ayeyawady Hall of the South-West Command Headquarters with the attendance of Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Aye Kyaw, Commander Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw Khine and other relevant officials.

At the event, the return-

ees handed over three MA-1s, two M-22s, one grenade, 338 bullets and six magazines. The chief minister and commander rewarded K25 million for five rifles, K300,000 for one grenade, and K9.3 million per returnee, totalling K34.6 million.

Those who intend to re-join the legal framework are encouraged to promptly contact and report to the nearest Tatmadaw bases or police stations. They will be welcomed and accepted, provided with the necessary assistance and support, and cash rewards for any arms and ammunition. — MNA/KTZH



A handover ceremony for returnees is in progress yesterday in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region.

Dengue prevention activities intensified in Dawbon



House inspections are underway during the dengue prevention activities in Dawbon Township, Yangon Region.

DENGUE fever prevention activities were intensified in Bamaraye Ward, Dawbon Township, in Botahtaung District yesterday under the supervision of the Yangon Region Public Health Department.

Dr Myo Myint Hein and officials from the Department of Public Health of Yangon Region, and township med-

ical officer Dr Myo Myo Khaing and staff from the Department of Public Health of Dawbon Township conducted house inspections on water containers and flower vases for mosquito larvae, added larvicide (abate) to water storage containers, and educated residents on dengue prevention methods. — Chit Su Wai (IPRD)/KTZH

MRCS, ICRC hold Red Cross Awareness Workshop in Nay Pyi Taw

MYANMAR Red Cross Society, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, conducted a Red Cross dissemination workshop at the headquarters of the Myanmar Red Cross Society in Nay Pyi Taw from 9 to 11 May, according to the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

The workshop was organized to enable participants to gain a comprehensive understanding of the values of the Red Cross Movement, the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross, Red Cross activities, and its duties and responsibilities. A total of 30 Red Cross volunteers from townships in Nay Pyi Taw attended the workshop.

At the opening ceremony of the workshop, Myanmar Red Cross Society President Dr Myo Nyunt, Chairman U Aung Cho of the Nay Pyi Taw Red Cross Supervisory Committee, and Movement Cooperation Coordinator Mr Patrick Nyongesa from the International Committee of the Red Cross delivered opening remarks.

Officials from the Myanmar Red Cross Society, representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Red Cross volunteers from townships in Nay Pyi Taw who would attend the training also took part in the opening ceremony. — ASH/MKKS

This photo depicts the Red Cross dissemination workshop being held at the headquarters of the Myanmar Red Cross Society in Nay Pyi Taw.





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NATIONAL

72 DPLA, TNLA, PDF members reintegrate into society

THE government is inviting members of various armed groups, including the PDF, to return to the legal fold, while providing those who comply with the necessary assistance and support.

A total of 72 DPLA members: 16 males and 40 females, TNLA members: three males, and PDF members: 11 males and two females, entered the legal fold yesterday. These returnees are from Nawnghkio, Kyaukme and Hsipaw townships in Shan State (North), and the handover ceremony took place at the North-East Command Headquarters with the attendance of Commander Maj-Gen Aye Min



Oo and other relevant officials. The returnees signed pledges, and then they were formally handed back to their parents or guardians.

Those who intend to rejoin the legal framework are encouraged to promptly contact and report to the nearest Tatmadaw bases or police stations. They will be welcomed and accepted, provided with the necessary assistance and support, and cash rewards for any arms and ammunition. — MNA/KTZH

A handover event for returnees is underway yesterday at the North-East Command Headquarters.

YRTC reviews YBS records of undisciplined drivers at weekly meeting



YRTC Vice-Chairman U Chit Ko Ko delivering a speech during the awareness seminar for YBS drivers.

VICE-CHAIRMAN U Chit Ko Ko of the Yangon Region Public Transport Regulatory Committee (YRTC) stated that the management committee meets every Tuesday to review records and take action against YBS drivers who violate traffic regulations, during the opening of the Awareness Course 5/2026 at the YRTC office.

He noted that approximately 7,500 YBS drivers operating 3,700 vehicles transport about 1.7 million commuters daily. Due to a rising number of drivers violating regulations, educational seminars are now being held twice a month.

He emphasized that drivers are the key players in ensuring road safety on public highways. He urged drivers to ensure doors are fully closed before departing

from bus stops. He also issued a warning: any driver found guilty of causing a fatal accident due to overtaking, driving against traffic, running red lights, or speeding will be permanently blacklisted and banned by YRTC.

YRTC's monitoring and enforcement system includes telematics technology via the Traffic Control Centre, CCTV records, and drug testing. He explained that reckless driving causes immense grief and tragedy for both the victim's family and the driver's own dependents. YRTC's efforts aim to reduce accidents and ensure commuters can travel safely through systematic and cautious driving. He urged drivers to reduce greed and strictly follow instructions to decrease the number of accidents and fatalities. — MT/ZN

China-Myanmar firms launch high-quality KN hybrid corn seeds

HUBEI Kannong Seed Company, based in China, and Myint Moe Naing Company in Myanmar jointly launched three hybrid maize varieties – namely Kannong maize (KN-008), (KN-8), and (KN-909) – which will be produced locally. The event was held at the Grand Amara Hotel (Jade Villa) in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, on 5 May.

"This event aims to promote the production of maize seeds by Hubei Kannong Seed

Company, based in China and our company in Myanmar for distribution to farmers. The maize seeds we will jointly produce are suitable for Myanmar's tropical climate and resistant to pests. Kannong maize varieties (KN-008), (KN-8), and (KN-909) are high-yielding. These seeds will be produced locally. We will produce, register, and distribute them to farmers," said an official from Myint Moe Naing Company.

The maize varieties are

suitable for Myanmar's climate, resistant to pests, and capable of yielding up to five tons per acre.

Subsequently, the General Secretary of the Federation of Danu Ethnic Affairs (Central) signed an MOU with the General Manager of Hubei Kannong Seed Company, while the Chairman of the Hilly and Plain Regions Development and Product Marketing Committee also signed a separate MOU with him. — ASH/TH



This photo features the hybrid corn seed launch ceremony.

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

Mya Sein Yaung project funds disbursed in Mongshu

THE Mongshu Township Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, allocated Mya Sein Yaung (Emerald Green) Village Project revolving funds to residents in Wanping Village, Mongsan Village-tract, Mongshu District in southern Shan State yesterday. The initiative aims to help rural people expand systematic agricultural businesses and implement village development projects using the generated interest.

During the event, Daw Myint Thida Han, Head of the Mongshu Township Rural Development Department explained the objectives of the revolving

fund. Following this, the project officer discussed the interest rates, repayment periods, and rules that must be followed by the beneficiaries. A total of K20.2 million was then officially handed over to the village project committee members.

Under the supervision of the Township Head and staff, the village committee members further disbursed the funds to 21 local members who will engage in agricultural activities. This marks the third round of fund distribution for Wanping Village, providing low-interest loans directly into the hands of the villagers to support their livelihoods. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)



The head of the Mongshu Township Rural Development Department explains the Mya Sein Yaung (Emerald Green) project funds.

Contestant introduced to media ahead of MGI All Stars International 2026 in Thailand

A press introduction ceremony for beauty queen Thet San Anderson, who will represent Myanmar in the upcoming MGI All Stars International 2026 to be held in Thailand, took place on 10 May at Wyndham Grand Yangon in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region.

“I had been planning to take part in this competition for quite a long time. Initially, the contest was expected to be held around February, but the dates were repeatedly postponed, and it will now begin on 16 May in Thailand. Ever since competing in Miss Universe, I have continuously worked hard in preparation for this pageant. I would also like to ask everyone to continue supporting me in the upcoming MGI All Stars competition, just as they did in the previous contest,” said Thet San Anderson.

The MGI All Stars International 2026 competition will be held in Damnoen Saduak,



This photo displays beauty queen Thet San Anderson, who will represent Myanmar in the MGI All Stars competition, seen during the press introduction ceremony.

Bangkok, Thailand, from 16 to 30 May. Contestants representing countries including Mexico, Thailand, Venezuela, the Netherlands, China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Peru, Zambia, Ecuador, India and Myanmar will take part in the event.

In addition to winning the title of Miss Universe Myanmar 2024, Thet San Anderson

also received the titles of Miss Astonishing, Miss Fashionable Award, Miss Body Perfect, Golden Ratio, Miss Gorgeous and Miss Elegant by Seinnandaw. She previously represented Myanmar alongside international contestants in the 73rd Miss Universe 2024 competition hosted by Mexico. — ASH/KNN

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.
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.

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Careful harvesting of Shwehintha mangoes to enhance quality, market value

IN this year's mango season, Shwehintha mango quality has improved, and there are just a few imperfect fruits among the produce, said border fruit traders.

Farmers will need to choose a harvest time depending on the weather, so that their mangoes will look fresh and beautiful and can fetch a good price, said a trader.

"I see many farmers are harvesting mangoes even after it has rained. I would like to suggest that they consider the weather before harvest, so that their fruits will be attractive on shelves," he said.

For exporting, it is best to let

the mangoes cool for a certain period before packaging them in the dry season, he said.

In this mango season, Shwehintha mango quality has improved with just a few flaws. However, in the domestic market, consumers still believe that Seintalone mango is the best. So, traders say they are eager to introduce the flavour of Shwehintha mango and its quality to foreign markets, especially Chinese consumers. — MT/ZS

This image illustrates Shwehintha mangoes and Seintalone mangoes.



Trading Amount and Foreign Exchange Rate in the Market on 11 May 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	India rupee
Exchange rates	3,648~3,669	557~558.70	124.9~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	11,542,296.23	8,475,531.52	139,936,932.79	
The amount sold by CBM to the market				

Foreign currency transactions in the foreign exchange market were for the importation of edible oil, fuel oil, car/motorcycle spare parts, medicines and pharmaceutical raw materials, animal feed, wheat, industrial raw materials, fertilizers, and packaging materials. Of the revenue generated from the CMP sector, US\$2.17 million was allocated to the edible oil sector, while US\$156.75 million was reinvested in the CMP sector. — MNA

CBM injects over US\$70M, THB28M into market in Apr

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) made transactions of over US\$70 million and 28 million baht in the forex market in 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 foreign currencies into the market, with a view to curbing the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's



The office building of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Yangon.

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 al-

lowed 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

DICA: 400 companies fail to file AR in Apr

FOUR hundred companies were struck off the register in April 2026 as they failed to file annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA notified those companies which failed to file their AR on the MyCO were struck off the register from the date of the directive, under 430 (F) of the Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA's notification. The DICA report showed the failure of 200 companies in January and February, respectively. A total of 7,300 companies in 2025 and 19,000 in 2024 also failed to submit the AR.

The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

All registered companies need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

Under Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit

annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, under Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, thousands of companies were suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the Register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000. If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. — NN/KK

OPINION

Honour nurses serving healthcare at grassroots levels

INTERNATIONAL Nurses Day is celebrated around the world every 12 May, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. The International Council of Nurses (ICN) commemorates this important day each year by choosing a theme and producing an IND report and resources. ICN has announced the theme for International Nurses Day (IND) 2026: "Our Nurses. Our Future." Empowered Nurses Save Lives.

According to the ICN, the International Nurses Day focus sends a clear message that to maximize the full life-saving impact of the nursing workforce, the council will empower nurses with safe, fair work environments and full nursing practice, influence, and leadership. The theme comes at a critical time, as global health faces unprecedented challenges from workforce shortages, rising health care demands, and increasing effects of conflict and climate change.

In Myanmar, two universities of nursing have been established and opened in Yangon and Mandalay to produce nursing graduates. In addition, more than 20 nursing training schools nationwide will be upgraded to institutes in order to produce nurses with higher educational qualifications and in greater numbers. These efforts will accelerate the improvement of the health sector by enabling hospitals and clinics throughout the country to provide healthcare services for the public effectively.

healthcare services to the people, joining hands with surgeons.

To become an outstanding and competent nurse capable of providing comprehensive and adequate healthcare services for patients, it is necessary to possess two essential qualities: personal attributes and professional skills. Nurses must strive to fully develop the qualities that a good nurse should possess, such as compassion and kindness, patience, adaptability and flexibility, effective communication skills, and the ability to skillfully manage and resolve patients' stress and emotional difficulties.

In Myanmar, two universities of nursing have been established and opened in Yangon and Mandalay to produce nursing graduates. In addition, more than 20 nursing training schools nationwide will be upgraded to institutes in order to produce nurses with higher educational qualifications and in greater numbers. These efforts will accelerate the improvement of the health sector by enabling hospitals and clinics throughout the country to provide healthcare services for the public effectively.

From historical times to the present day, nurses have been at the forefront of providing nursing and healthcare services to help relieve the illnesses of patients and ensure their mental and emotional well-being. In public healthcare, nurses provide care for sick persons, prevent illnesses, promote better health among healthy individuals, and provide care in rehabilitation processes. Therefore, nurses are key personnel of the Ministry of Health who play a vital role in achieving Universal Health Coverage that is accessible to all people.

According to statistics from the World Health Organization, the nursing and midwifery workforce accounts for nearly 50 per cent of all human resources in the health sector. Therefore, highlighting their extremely important role is essential in order to provide quality healthcare services to the public. Despite serving at the grassroots level, nurses play a key role in providing

From Heritage to Prosperity: The Power of Cultural Tourism

By Si Thu Kyaw (MoHTC)

MYANMAR is a nation richly endowed with cultural traditions and heritage. From its own language, customs, cuisine, traditional attire, music, dance, and arts to its historical monuments, religious structures, and unique ways of life, both tangible and intangible cultural elements continue to flourish in magnificent diversity. A form of tourism rooted in these cultural inheritances has long existed prominently in Myanmar. For this reason, Myanmar has traditionally been introduced to the world tourism community as a "cultural destination".

Within the tourism sector, the mere mention of Myanmar often brings to mind Bagan, followed by Mandalay and Sagaing – world-renowned destinations where visitors can vividly experience the country's rich cultural heritage. Likewise, the colonial-era buildings in Yangon evoke memories of history and stand as tangible representations of Myanmar's cultural legacy. Beyond these physical attractions, the intangible cultural traditions of Myanmar's ethnic communities have also earned recognition on the global tourism stage.

Myanmar is not alone in utilizing its cultural wealth to promote tourism. Countries across the world that possess rich cultural

heritage actively showcase and promote their cultural assets, striving for recognition through international heritage listings and preservation initiatives. Consequently, Cultural Tourism and Heritage Tourism have become indispensable components within the tourism development agendas of many nations. It has even been remarked in a tourism workshop that to truly understand a country's tourism industry, one must first study its culture, traditions, and heritage sites.

During a pilgrimage to Bagan, I once gazed peacefully upon the graceful Bu Pagoda standing along the Ayeyawady River while viewing it from a small boat drifting upon the water. The river flowed continuously beneath the pagoda, symbolizing movement without end. In many ways, tourism resembles that river, constantly flowing and continuously evolving.

As tourism studies became more widely discussed within academic institutions, scholars increasingly emphasized the multidimensional nature of tourism. Tourism is economic in nature. It promotes peace. It contributes to the preservation of culture and the environment. It creates opportunities for women, youth, and marginalized communities. Today, in the age of information technology and digital transformation, tourism

continues to move dynamically alongside technological progress.

This raises an important question: Is cultural tourism evolving in step with the modern era? The words "culture" and "modernity" may at first appear contradictory. I once encountered this debate during an online tourism discussion forum where participants questioned whether promoting cultural tourism in the digital age could be considered conservative. Initially, one may confuse the term "conservative" with "conservation". However, the debate centred on whether reviving and promoting cultural tourism in the digital era represents a return to outdated traditions or even a step backwards against modernization.

Although merely theoretical discussions, such debates are highly valuable because conversations specifically focused on cultural tourism have become increasingly rare today. More attention is now given to other tourism-related policies and emerging trends. Likewise, tourism research and academic writings have diversified significantly, leading scholars to explore a wide range of contemporary tourism topics rather than concentrating solely on cultural tourism.

Returning to the original

question, it is impossible to definitively state whether cultural tourism is inherently conservative. This is because Cultural Tourism simultaneously embodies both conservation and development. On one hand, cultural tourism seeks to preserve historical heritage, traditional lifestyles, ethnic customs, festivals, clothing, and artistic expressions from disappearing. Religious sites, pagodas, festivals, and sacred spaces often enforce restrictions against inappropriate attire, disrespectful behaviour, alcohol consumption, and drug use. Such regulations exist not only in Myanmar but also in Buddhist-majority countries such as Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia, all of which actively promote tourism while preserving their cultural values.

Similarly, many heritage destinations prohibit the construction of modern buildings and uncontrolled commercial development within heritage zones. Areas are carefully divided into Heritage Zones, Buffer Zones, and Commercial Zones to ensure proper management. Guidelines outlining acceptable and unacceptable behaviour are also established to protect the lifestyles and traditions of local communities.

Therefore, promoting culture in tourism does not mean alter-

ing or commercializing culture itself. Rather, it means utilizing culture as a medium through which tourism can be developed. If tourism expansion relies on imitating, distorting, or excessively modifying cultural traditions merely to attract visitors, the authenticity of the culture will eventually be lost, threatening the sustainability of tourism itself.

At the same time, there are also strong reasons why cultural tourism cannot simply be labelled conservative. As previously mentioned, tourism is inherently dynamic and constantly evolving. When tourism is developed based on cultural heritage, infrastructure, and local communities, it generates tax revenues for governments and creates employment and income opportunities for local people. In this sense, cultural tourism is progressive and development-oriented.

Japan serves as an excellent example. Despite being one of the world's most technologically advanced nations, cultural tourism remains one of the primary driving forces behind Japan's tourism industry. In 2025, Japan welcomed over 40 million international tourists, and studies indicate that nearly 70 per cent of these visitors travelled specifically



The Bu Pagoda is located on the bank of the Ayeyawady River near Bagan. PHOTO: PAGODA HISTORY BLOGSPOT

to experience Japanese culture. Major cultural attractions include historical temples and heritage sites, traditional festivals and performing arts, Japanese cuisine, and kimono culture.

Furthermore, Japan continues to preserve and promote "Omotenashi", the deeply rooted Japanese spirit of hospitality, within its tourism and hospitality sectors. Thus, cultural tourism exists delicately between preservation and progress.

While visiting Japan, I once experienced its famous traditional ramen. Although the dish retained its authentic cultural essence, the dining experience itself reflected modern innovation, cleanliness, and technological advancement. In other words, Japan enhances visitor experiences through innovation without compromising the authenticity of its cultural herit-

age.

The same principle can be observed throughout Japan's tourism destinations. The country possesses 26 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, of which the vast majority are cultural heritage sites. These heritage locations are carefully preserved while also being made highly accessible and convenient for visitors through modern infrastructure and technology. As a result, tourists experience both cultural authenticity and technological sophistication simultaneously. Therefore, Japan's cultural tourism can be described as both conservative and progressive at the same time.

In today's technological era, the flow of tourism continues to accelerate rapidly. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has already become integrated into many aspects of the tourism industry. Significant-

ly, the theme for World Tourism Day 2026 is "Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism". This theme highlights the importance of reshaping tourism through digital technology and AI.

Amid global conflicts, economic crises, and climate change, the tourism industry must adapt swiftly to remain resilient and sustainable. Moreover, overtourism at major destinations must be effectively managed to ensure long-term sustainability, particularly in cultural heritage sites and cultural tourism destinations.

Therefore, for cultural tourism to continue contributing meaningfully to national economies and sustainable development, it is essential to preserve the past, utilize the present wisely, and build the future responsibly.

Myanmar's Treasure Trove: Unlocking National Potential Through Mineral Wealth and Modernization

By Soe Khant Lin

MYANMAR, a country endowed with abundant natural resources, stands out as a "Treasure Trove" due to its remarkable mineral wealth. Globally renowned for producing exquisite Rubies and Jade, Myanmar's mineral resources are unparalleled. Gold, highly esteemed among the Myanmar populace, is also extensively found throughout the country. Furthermore, Myanmar possesses Rare Earth Elements, which are strategically significant in the modern world. Beyond these resources, the country is home to numerous other valuable minerals.

Recently, an exceptionally large ruby, known as the Giant Ruby, weighing 2,200 grammes (11,000 carats), was discovered. Earlier, in 1990, the SLORC Ruby, weighing 99.29 grammes (496.25 carats), was found. Six years later, in 1996, another remarkable ruby, known as the Giant Ruby, weighing 4,290 grammes (21,450 carats), was discovered. More recently, in 2022, the NaSaKa Ruby, weighing 557.85 grammes (2,789.25 carats), was also unearthed. Myanmar's most prominent ruby-producing region is Mogok, situated in Mandalay Region, which

has earned international recognition as the "Ruby Land".

In addition, Myanmar jade is one of the most renowned mineral products globally. The largest jade deposits are located in Hpakant, Kachin State. China is widely recognized as the primary market for Myanmar jade, driven by its deep cultural and commercial appreciation of the gemstone.

Gold is another significant mineral resource found in Myanmar. Gold deposits are distributed across various regions of the country, including Kachin State, Mandalay Region, Mon State, and Tanintharyi Region. Gold has long held a prominent position in Myanmar society. Many Myanmar individuals craft and wear gold jewellery as a symbol of wealth and status, while others purchase and preserve gold as a long-term financial asset for the future. The value of gold in

Myanmar has consistently increased year after year, and in recent times, younger generations have also become increasingly interested in both wearing and investing in gold.

Rare Earth Elements, which are among the world's most valuable strategic minerals, are also extracted in Kachin State. These minerals are of immense importance in the contemporary era because they are indispensable in the production of smartphones, tablets, laptops, and computers used daily by students, professionals, and businesses worldwide. Moreover, rare earth elements are essential components in the manufacturing of electric vehicles (EVs), making them critically important to the advancement of modern technology and global industries.

The discovery and abundance of such valuable mineral resources clearly demonstrate that Myanmar is a nation of immense worth and potential. The country's mineral products are not only highly valuable but are also internationally recognized for their exceptional quality. When compared with many countries around the world, only a limited

number possess such a wide range of precious natural resources as Myanmar.

Despite the government's efforts to support technological development, Myanmar still faces significant challenges in maximizing the value of its natural resources. The practical implementation of modern extraction and processing technologies remains limited, hindering the country's potential for economic growth and national development.

To address this issue, Myanmar must successfully integrate advanced technologies with systematic and efficient resource management practices. By doing so, the country can significantly increase its national revenue and contribute to its overall economic prosperity.

Therefore, in addition to governmental support and assistance, Myanmar must establish stronger Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) between the government and the private sector. These partnerships will enable the effective and sustainable utilization of natural resources, fostering economic growth and national development.

SCI/ENVIRON WORLD

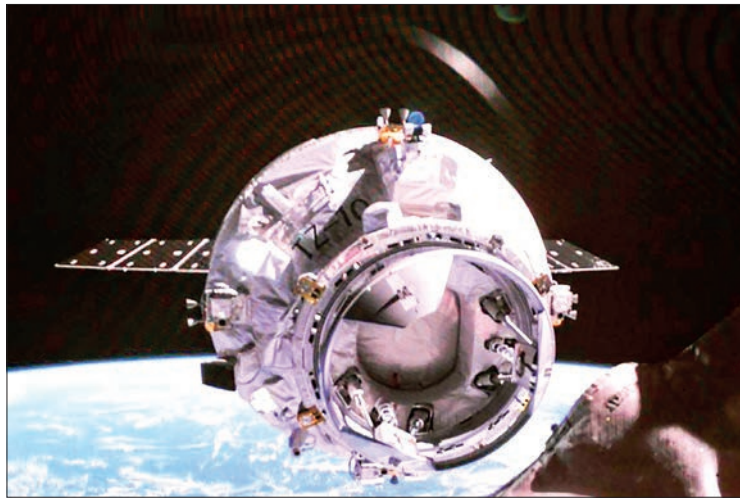
China launches Tianzhou-10 cargo craft to send space station supplies

CHINA launched the cargo craft Tianzhou-10 from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site on Monday morning to deliver supplies, including artificial human embryos, ultra-thin solar cells and a greenhouse gas monitor, for its orbiting Tiangong space station, according to the China Manned Space Agency.

The Long March-7 rocket, carrying Tianzhou-10, blasted off at 8:14 am (Beijing Time) from Wenchang, south China's Hainan Province, the agency said.

After about 10 minutes, Tianzhou-10 separated from the rocket and entered its designated orbit. Its solar panels soon unfolded. The agency declared the launch a complete success.

At 1:11 pm (Beijing Time), Tianzhou-10 successfully docked at the rear docking port of Tianhe, the core module of China's



This image captured at Beijing Aerospace Control Centre on 11 May 2026 shows China's cargo craft Tianzhou-10 approaching the space station combination. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

space station Tiangong. The Shenzhou-21 crew members on-board the space station will enter the cargo craft and transfer the payloads as scheduled.

Tianzhou-10 is loaded with

essential supplies, including one extravehicular spacesuit, consumables for the crew's on-orbit stay, propellants, and payloads for scientific experiments.

The cargo spacecraft de-

livered about 6.2 tonnes of supplies to orbit, comprising over 220 items. These cargoes are essential for sustaining the on-orbit operations and daily life of the Shenzhou-23 and Shenzhou-24 astronaut crews, as well as the space station's routine operation and maintenance, according to the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), the spacecraft's developer.

The experimental cargo includes zebrafish embryos, mouse embryos, and stem cell-derived artificial human embryos. The artificial human embryos, though not true life forms and unable to develop into human babies, will help simulate the earliest stages of human development, according to reports from the state broadcaster CCTV.

The embryo experiments in orbit will help establish a space-

based embryo research system spanning lower vertebrates to higher mammals. The biological research will provide insights into how the space environment, specifically microgravity and radiation, affects reproduction and development, laying a foundation for long-term human habitation in space. Among the payloads are flexible solar cells. With a thickness of just 80 micrometres — roughly the same as a human hair — these cells can be folded and rolled, allowing a greater number of solar panels to be packed into the same amount of space. Subjecting this new technology to the extreme space environment for real-world testing will help verify and improve its long-term power-generation stability, paving the way for supplying energy to China's large-scale satellite internet constellations. — Xinhua

Australian govt to invest more in national science agency

THE Australian government will invest an additional 387.4 million Australian dollars (about US\$280.7 million) into the country's national science agency over the next four years to ensure sustainable delivery of ground-breaking research, a senior minister said on Saturday.

"Publicly funded science is absolutely critical to the national interest and to solving some of Australia's biggest challenges," said Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science Tim Ayres in a media release.

The freshly announced funding for the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) is in addition to the \$278 million announced in 2025, and on top of its existing approximately \$1 billion annual funding allocation, according to the release.

This investment will ensure the CSIRO can meet the longer-term costs of operating critical science and research infrastructure, and meanwhile, maintain greater workforce stability to deliver the research and technological breakthroughs Australian industries rely on, said the release.

The CSIRO said on Saturday that the additional funding provides greater certainty and workforce stability over the funding period, adding that it will still cut jobs of up to 350 roles as announced last November. — Xinhua

Antarctic sea ice decline driven by ocean heat may speed global warming: study



View of an iceberg at the Gerlache Strait, which separates the Palmer Archipelago from the Antarctic Peninsula, in Antarctica on 20 January 2024. **PHOTO: JUAN BARRETO / AFP**

A rapid decline in Antarctic sea ice since 2015 has been driven by "a cascade of ocean and atmospheric changes" that could accelerate global warming, new research has revealed.

The study found a "triple whammy" of interacting climate processes tipped the Southern Ocean into a new state, which triggered a sudden and dramatic decline in Antarctic sea ice after 2015, said

a statement from Australia's University of New South Wales (UNSW) released Monday.

Greenhouse gases and ozone depletion strengthened Antarctic winds, drawing warm, salty water to the surface and releasing heat, triggering a feedback loop that keeps sea ice in a prolonged low state, said Aditya Narayanan, a visiting research fellow at UNSW Sydney.

Antarctica may now be

shifting its state from a buffer against global warming to an amplifier of it, said Narayanan, lead author of the study published in *Science Advances*.

Antarctic sea ice helps "drive the planet's ocean overturning circulation", moving warm surface water poleward and sinking cold, dense water that regulates Earth's climate, he said, adding that sea ice supports a highly productive ecosystem, from algae to krill, whales and penguins.

"What started as a slow build-up of deep-sea heat under the Antarctic sea ice was followed by a strong mixing of water, ending in a vicious feedback cycle where it's too warm to let ice recover," Narayanan said.

The Southern Ocean's layers, with cold, relatively fresh water sitting on top of warmer, saltier water below, act as a lid, trapping heat at depth, but this barrier has weakened, the research showed. — Xinhua

Formula One engines to change again in 2027

Motorsport's governing body said that an agreement had been reached "in principle" between the 11 team bosses and five power unit manufacturers to restore the primacy of combustion power over electric power as early as 2027.

FORMULA One bosses have responded to the criticism of this season's power unit modifications by agreeing to "further evolutionary changes" before a revamp for the 2027 season, the FIA announced on Friday.

Motorsport's governing body said that an agreement had been reached "in principle" between the 11 team bosses and five power unit manufacturers to restore the primacy of combustion power over electric power as early as 2027.

"The measures agreed in

principle today for 2027 would see a nominal increase in internal combustion engine power by 50 kilowatts with a fuel-flow increase and a nominal reduction of the energy recovery system deployment power by 50 kilowatts," the FIA said in a statement.

This decision, which still has to be discussed in detail let alone approved, would in effect put an end to the 50/50 parity in hybrid engines — half electric, half combustion — introduced this season by the FIA. — AFP



Red Bull's Max Verstappen endured a frustrating time at the Japanese Grand Prix. PHOTO: POOL/AFP



A total of 22 films are competing for the prestigious Palme d'Or for best film which will be handed out on 23 May. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Cannes 2026: Heavyweights and rising stars compete for coveted Golden Palm Award

A total of 22 films are competing for the prestigious Palme d'Or for best film which will be handed out on 23 May.

Arthouse heavy-hitters such as Spain's Pedro Almodovar, Japan's Hirokazu Kore-eda or Romania's Cristian Mungiu will be up against emerging talent such as Belgian prodigy Lukas Dhont and France's Lea Mysius.

There is industry buzz around "Hope" by South Ko-

rean director Na Hong-jin, starring real-life partners Michael Fassbender and Alicia Vikander, as well as AI- and technology-themed "Sheep in the Box" by acclaimed Japanese director Hirokazu Kore-eda.

The nine-person jury this year will be headed by South Korean director Park Chan-Wook but will also feature US celebrity Demi Moore, star of "The Substance".

Unlike previous editions which have featured Tom Cruise productions "Mission: Impossible" or "Top Gun", no major US studios have chosen Cannes to launch a blockbuster.

Hollywood has traditionally provided some razzle-dazzle and mass-market entertainment alongside the more edgy, independent cinema in the Cannes programme.

Reasons for their absence include cost-cutting, their growing preference for tightly controlled social media-led launches, and the risk that a mauling from the Cannes critics can doom a movie. — AFP

Horse festival celebrates beauty, heritage of Egyptian Arabian horses

UNDER Cairo's vibrant afternoon sky in Nasr City, handlers paraded elegant Egyptian Arabian horses across a sandy arena at the Aseel Egyptian Horse Festival. Breeders, judges, and enthusiasts watched intently from shaded tents at the Armed Forces Equestrian Club.

Held 7-10 May and organized by the General Association for Horses and veterinarian Hatem Settin under the Ministry of Agriculture, the event drew global experts for a three-day beauty

championship and auction finale.

Horses shone one by one before judges evaluating posture, movement, elegance, and breed traits. "Assessment hinges on quality, beauty, movement, and appearance," said international judge Mohamed Zaghoul, an Egyptian breeder. "Egyptian Arabians are among the world's best and most beautiful — all 100 per cent Egyptian. Egypt boasts ancient heritage; horses grace Pharaohs' temples, museums, and antiquities." — Xinhua



A breeder leads a horse during the Aseel Egyptian Horse Festival in Cairo, Egypt, 8 May 2026. PHOTO: AHMED GOMAA/XINHUA

ECONOMY WORLD

Oil rises, stocks diverge on US-Iran deadlock

GLOBAL stock markets diverged and oil prices rose on Monday after US President Donald Trump rejected Iran's terms for ending the war in the Middle East.

European stocks traded cautiously, with London edging higher while Paris and Frankfurt fell.

That came after a mixed session in Asia, where Tokyo declined and Chinese indices advanced.

The stalemate between the US and Iran dashed investors' hopes of an imminent peace deal and heightened concerns over further violence and disruptions to oil supplies through the Strait of Hormuz.

Trump described Tehran's response to the latest US outline for peace talks as "TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE" in a brief social media post.

Iran said it had demanded the release of its frozen assets and the end of a US blockade of its ports.

Oil prices spiked more than four per cent following the exchange, before easing slightly during midday trading in London.

"The price of oil remains highly reactive to news around the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, both positive and negative," said Kathleen Brooks, research director at trading group XTB.



A man walks past an electronic quotation board displaying the Nikkei 225 stock prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange along a street in Tokyo on 11 May 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

"Signs that tankers are getting through the Strait, even if it is a trickle, could weigh on the oil price in the coming days,"

she added.

In Asia, Tokyo fell, Hong Kong was little changed and Shanghai jumped more than

one per cent.

Seoul climbed around four per cent, supported by a rally in tech stocks.

A tech-led surge driven by strong quarterly earnings and optimism about artificial intelligence has pushed several markets to record highs despite the Mideast crisis.

In Tokyo, Nintendo shares plunged almost 10 per cent after the Japanese gaming giant warned Friday of lower profits this year and said it would hike the price of its Switch 2 console.

Investors this week will also be closely watching a high-stakes summit between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping. — AFP

London Heathrow airport traffic dips due to Mideast war



Staff (R-in uniform) from Qatar Airways help assist people with questions at their check-in area at London Heathrow Airport in west London on 1 March 2026, as flights are severely disrupted following the US and Israel's strikes on Iran. **PHOTO: AFP**

LONDON'S Heathrow Airport announced Monday that passenger numbers dropped in April as the Middle East war disrupted global air travel.

The airport handled 6.7 million passengers last month, down 5.3 per cent from one year earlier, Heathrow said in a statement.

Heathrow, Europe's busiest airport, said that the decline reflected "the ongoing impact of the Middle East conflict on some markets and short-term adjustments to travel plans".

"While we have seen some

short-term disruption linked to the Middle East conflict, demand for travel remains strong with current fuel supplies stable," said the airport's chief executive Thomas Woldbye.

"April was still our busiest month so far this year, underlining the strength of a global hub airport that can adapt quickly in times of uncertainty," he added.

The number of transit passengers, however, rose 10 per cent year-on-year in April, matching a similar increase recorded in the previous month, as passengers rerouted through

London.

Gulf airlines Emirates, Etihad and Qatar Airways have built their business model on connecting passengers on long-haul flights across the globe.

But following the outbreak of the war on 28 February, Iran fired missiles and drones at Israel and US allies in the Gulf, reaching airports and other key infrastructure. The operations of the Gulf airlines were severely disrupted, and some passengers chose to avoid travel through the Gulf region and opt for alternative transit routes. — AFP

S Korea's exports surge 43.7% in first 10 days of May

SOUTH Korea's exports surged in double digits in the first 10 days of May owing to soaring demand for locally-made semiconductors, customs office data showed Monday.

The outbound shipment totalled US\$18.43 billion in the period from 1 to 10 May, up 43.7 per cent compared with the same period last year, according to the Korea Customs Service.

It marked an all-time high for the cited period, surpassing the previous record of \$16.8 billion set in 2024. — Xinhua

Malaysia Airlines' passenger traffic up 30% in Mar

MALAYSIA Airlines said Monday that its passenger traffic increased by 30 per cent, with positive momentum continuing into April as traffic grew by eight per cent year on year.

The sustained growth reflects stable underlying demand for travel across key markets, even as the broader air travel environment continues to evolve, the airline said in a statement.

The airline also maintained on-time performance (OTP) above 90 per cent throughout April, marking the second consecutive month of average OTP above the 90 per cent level, while consistently exceeding its 85 per cent target since January. — Xinhua

Afghan, Uzbek private sectors sign US\$112 mln agreements

THE private sectors of Afghanistan and Uzbekistan have signed 10 cooperation agreements worth US\$112 million, Afghanistan's Ministry of Industry and Commerce announced Monday.

The agreements were signed following joint business meetings attended by officials from Afghanistan's Ministry of Industry and Commerce and representatives from Uzbekistan, according to the ministry. The agreements, covering cooperation in trade, investment and industrial production, aim to strengthen economic ties between the two neighbouring countries. — Xinhua

Calbee to sell potato chips in monochrome packaging due to naphtha shortage

JAPAN'S leading potato chip maker Calbee Inc will start selling some of its potato chip products in black-and-white packaging due to a tighter supply of oil-derived naphtha stemming from the Middle East conflict, sources familiar with the matter said Monday.

Naphtha is commonly used as a printing ink solvent. The company has already notified retailers of the change, other sources in the retail industry said.

The bicolour packaging will be used for its main products, including Potato Chips Lightly Salted and Consomme Punch, to be shipped from late May, the sources said. According to a survey released in late April by an association representing industries and consumer groups, more than 70 per cent of some 100 companies that responded said they will likely raise prices if naphtha supply concerns persist. — Kyodo



This photo taken on 11 May 2026 shows bags of potato chips produced by Calbee Inc. PHOTO: KYODO

Toyota to build new SUV plant in India, begin output in 2029

TOYOTA Motor Corp said Monday it will build a new plant in India to produce sport utility vehicles at a pace of 100,000 vehicles a year to meet growing local auto demand.

The plant, the fourth in the country, is scheduled to start operations in the first half of 2029 and will create about 2,800 local jobs involving stamping, welding, painting and assembly, the Japanese automaker said.

It did not release the type of vehicle model to be manufactured or the total investment amount.

"The new plant will be positioned to steadily

deliver vehicles not only to customers in India but also to customers in surrounding regions," Toyota said in a release.

The factory will be built in Maharashtra for the company's joint venture firm Toyota Kirloskar Motor. TKM currently runs two factories in the country, with a third slated to begin operations this year, bringing the company's total annual output in India to around 400,000 units.

Auto sales in the country topped those of Japan for the first time in 2022, making India the world's third-largest auto market after the United States and China. — Kyodo

China's NEV output, sales expand in Apr

CHINA'S production and sales of new energy vehicles (NEVs) posted year-on-year growth in April, industry data showed on Monday.

NEV output rose 5.5 per cent year on year to 1.32 million units, while sales increased 9.7 per cent to 1.34 million units, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM).

Of total new car sales in April, NEVs accounted for 53.2 per cent, the data showed.

In the first four months of the year, China's auto production and sales totalled 9.61 million and 9.57 million units, respectively. NEV production and sales reached 4.29 million and 4.3 million units



A woman learns about a new energy vehicle at a car dealership in Tancheng County, Linyi City, east China's Shandong Province, 10 April 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

respectively during the period.

During January-April, the country's vehicle exports surged 61.5 per cent year on year to 3.13 million

units, with NEV exports surging 120 per cent to 1.38 million units.

CAAM deputy secretary-general Chen Shihua said that while auto pro-

duction and sales edged down slightly year on year in April, the cumulative decline in the first four months has narrowed further. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CHINNA MON VOY.NO. (2604)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CHINNA MON VOY.NO. (2604)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-5-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 4 VOY.NO. (SSL005)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 4 VOY. NO. (SSL005)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-5-2026** 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 SUPER LIGHT LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC SHENZHEN VOY.NO. (617W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCC SHENZHEN VOY.NO. (617W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-5-2026** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HE SHUN VOY.NO. (0B813S1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HE SHUN VOY.NO. (0B813S1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **12-5-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: **2301185**

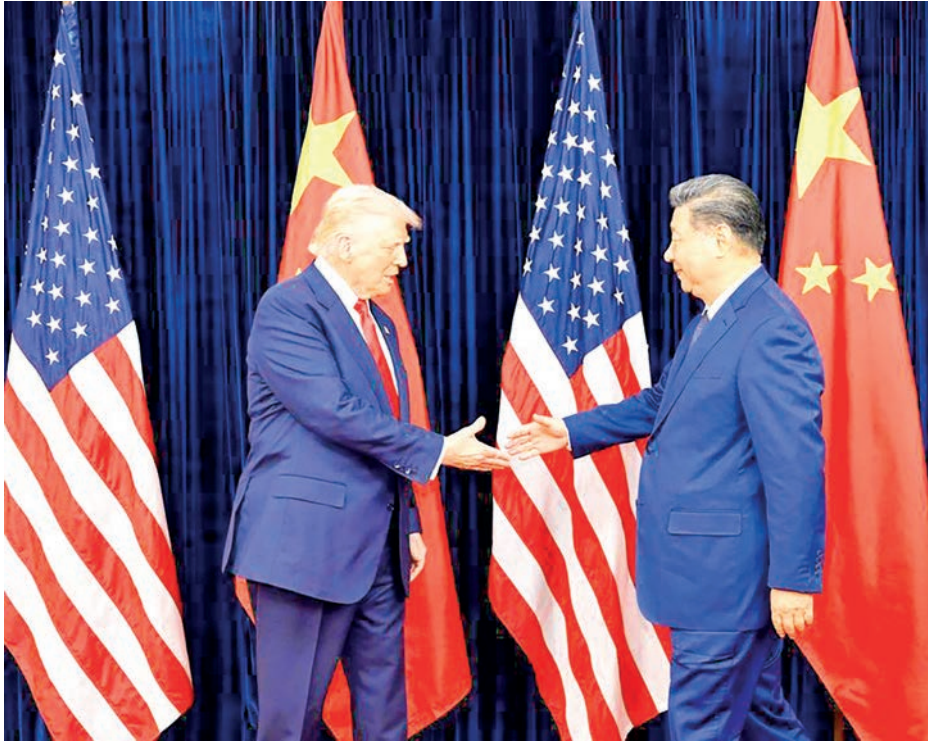
Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Xi, Trump to discuss bilateral relations, world peace and development



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets US President Donald Trump in Busan, South Korea, 30 October 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINESE President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump will have an in-depth exchange of views on major issues concerning China-US relations and world peace and development, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said on Monday.

Guo made the remarks at a regular news briefing when asked about Trump's upcoming state visit to China, scheduled from 13 to 15 May, which will be the first visit to China by a US president in nine years.

Xi and Trump met last time in October 2025 in Busan, the Republic of Korea. Head-of-state diplomacy plays an irreplaceable strategic guiding role in China-US relations, he said.

China is willing to work with the United States in the spirit of equality, respect, and mutual benefit to expand cooperation, manage differences, and inject more stability and certainty into a turbulent and changing world, Guo said. — Xinhua

2 Indians on hantavirus-hit ship safe: authorities

TWO Indian nationals aboard a hantavirus-hit ship are safe and asymptomatic, officials said Monday.

The information was shared by the Indian embassy in Madrid, Spain, in a statement issued on Sunday night on social media.

The embassy said that it was informed by the Spanish National Centre for Emergency Monitoring and Coordination that the two Indian nationals who were travelling as crew members have been evacuated to the Netherlands, where they will be quarantined as per relevant health safety protocol.

"The Ambassador is in close contact with the Spanish authorities and the two Indian nationals (crew members) and is regularly monitoring the situation to assure the well-being and safety of the Indian nationals," the statement read. — Xinhua

Former Thai PM Thaksin released on parole

THAILAND'S convicted former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra was released from Bangkok's Klong Prem Central Prison on Monday after being allowed to complete the remaining four months of his one-year sentence on parole.

Thaksin made a public appearance at around 7:40 am local time, reuniting with family members in front of the prison, where he had served two-thirds of his sentence required by standard parole criteria.

He and his family paid tribute to the Thai flag, expressed gratitude to the supporters, and then left by car at around 7:55 am local time.

As he departed to report to a Bangkok probation office, crowds of supporters wearing red shirts greeted the former prime minister as they gathered outside the prison compound under tight police security.

According to the Department of Cor-



Former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra (C) greets supporters after being released on parole from the Klong Prem Central Prison in Bangkok, Thailand, 11 May 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

rections, Thaksin was among over 850 inmates granted early release at a parole committee meeting last month, citing his

age of over 70 and the fact that he had less than a year of jail time left to justify the eligibility. — Xinhua

French woman from hantavirus-hit cruise ship tests positive

A French woman who travelled aboard the hantavirus-hit cruise ship MV Hondius tested positive for the Andes hantavirus during her return to France, French Health Minister Stephanie Rist said Monday.

The woman was among five French nationals evacuated from the cruise ship and repatriated to France on Sunday, developing symptoms during the repatriation flight.

The woman's condition worsened overnight and she was transferred to a specialized infectious disease hospital for treatment, Rist said.

The minister also announced that 22 close contacts of hantavirus cases had been identified in France and ordered to isolate. — Xinhua

3 taken to hospital after unusual odor detected inside JR train near Tokyo

A family of three were taken to hospital following an emergency call reporting a suspected spraying incident inside a JR Tokaido Line train running near Tokyo on Sunday, according to police.

The 35-year-old mother, who was with her husband and their one-year-old daughter, said her throat felt irritated,

but otherwise they did not sustain major injuries. Some other passengers in the same train car noticed a strange smell, but it was not clear whether anything was actually sprayed, the police said.

The firefighters inspected the train, which was stopped at Kawasaki Station in Kanagawa Prefecture, but no harmful

gas was detected. — Kyodo

The photo shows police officers at JR Kawasaki Station in Kanagawa Prefecture, where a JR Tokaido Line train stopped after a suspected spraying incident on 10 May 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**



SPORTS



Joshua Van of Myanmar celebrates after defeating Alexandre Pantoja of Brazil by TKO in a flyweight title bout during UFC 323 at T-Mobile Arena on 6 December 2025 in Las Vegas, Nevada. PHOTO: IAN MAULE/GETTY IMAGES/AFP

Joshua Van Set for Title Defence Against Ex-Champ Alexandre Pantoja

UFC flyweight world champion Joshua Van, who has recently defended his title, is likely to face former champion Brazilian Alexandre Pantoja Passidomo as his next priority opponent in a potential title defence bout.

According to comments from the UFC CEO, it was hinted that former champion Pantoja may be allowed to challenge for the title again. Joshua Van also issued a challenge to Pantoja after the recent title defence bout. In the title challenge bout held on 6 December last year, Pantoja suffered a hand injury early in the match and was forced to concede defeat, losing his championship belt. As a result, he is

reportedly eager to regain the title.

Joshua Van secured a victory in his first-ever world title defence bout, which took place on 10 May Myanmar Standard Time, by defeating Japanese fighter Tatsuro Taira via referee stoppage in the fifth round at one minute and 32 seconds. As a result, Joshua Van successfully defended his championship belt with a seven-fight winning streak and also earned a substantial cash reward. At only 24 years old, if he can maintain his current performance level, he is expected to hold the world championship title for a prolonged period. — Shine Htet Zaw/TTA

Late Trossard goal keeps Arsenal five points clear, leaves West Ham staring at relegation

LEANDRO Trossard scored a late goal as Arsenal edged West Ham United 1-0 on Sunday, restoring its five-point lead over Manchester City at the top of the Premier League and possibly condemning West Ham to relegation to the second division.

In a tense game that could have gone either way, Trossard exchanged passes with Declan Rice and saw his shot deflected into the net from 15 metres with just seven minutes left to play.

There was late drama when West Ham striker Callum Wilson fired the ball into the Arsenal net in the fifth minute of stoppage time, but the goal was ruled out after a VAR check.

West Ham's defeat means Nottingham Forest and Leeds United are now safe from relegation, while Tottenham Hotspur can move four points clear of West Ham with a home win over Leeds on Monday.

The three earlier kickoffs on Sunday all ended in draws, with Burnley salvaging some pride at home to UEFA Europa League finalist Aston Villa.

Jaidon Anthony put the already relegated home side ahead, while Ross Barkley equalized for Aston Villa in the 42nd minute. Aston Villa took the lead through Ollie Watkins in the 56th minute, only for Zian Flemming to make it 2-2 two minutes later. — Xinhua

Yangon hosts Region/State Badminton Tournament at National Stadium



This photo shows the men's individual competition.

THE Region and State Badminton Tournament was held yesterday morning at the National Badminton Court on Anawrahta Road, Lanmadaw Township, Yangon.

The tournament was opened by the Patron of the Yangon Region Sports and Physical Education Committee and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu.

Afterwards, the Yangon Region chief minister, regional ministers, officials from the Department of Sports and Physical Education, and officials from the Myanmar Badminton Federation greeted the participating teams.

The Yangon Region chief minister and officials watched the first-day matches of the women's team competition, as

well as the men's singles and women's singles badminton matches.

The tournament features 15 men's events and 12 women's events, with 235 athletes, coaches and administrators from Kachin State, Magway Region and Kayin State participating.

The tournament will continue until 15 May. — Bala/MKKS

China beats Japan to claim 12th straight men's title at table tennis team worlds

CHINA secured a record-extending 12th consecutive men's team title at the World Table Tennis Championships on Sunday with a 3-0 victory over Japan behind another stunning comeback from Liang Jingkun.

Just one day after rallying from two games down against France's Alexis Lebrun in the semifinals, Liang repeated the feat against Japan's top player Tomokazu Harimoto.

Liang struggled early on, dropping the opening two games 11-8 and 11-4 as Harimoto dictated play with relentless pace and aggression. But the Chinese player gradually found his rhythm and turned the match around with fearless attacking play, taking the next two games 11-9 and 13-11.

Harimoto appeared on course for victory after building an 8-3 lead in the deciding game, only for Liang to produce a late surge. Roaring af-



Gold medallist team China holds up the trophy during the awarding ceremony of the men's teams final match between China and Japan at the ITTF World Team Table Tennis Championships Finals in London, Britain, on 10 May 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

ter every winner, Liang reeled off eight consecutive points to complete an 11-8 victory and ignite celebrations inside the arena.

"From yesterday to today, I feel like I've been reborn," Liang said afterwards. "To come back from 2-0 down in two matches at a team world championships

means a lot to me. I'm proud that I never gave up."

World No 1 Wang Chuqin then overcame rising Japanese talent Sora Matsushima in four games. After losing the opener, Wang steadied himself to win three straight games and put China within one point of the title. — Xinhua



Chang'e-6 samples reveal secrets of Earth-moon asteroid bombardment

USING lunar samples collected by the Chang'e-6 mission, Chinese scientists have discovered a significant shift in the types of asteroids bombarding the Earth-Moon system between 4.3 billion and 2.8 billion years ago, transitioning from the dominance of non-carbonaceous ones to the arrival of carbonaceous ones.

The results of the study, carried out by researchers from the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGGCAS), were recently published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Planets*.

For scientists, the moon records the history of asteroid impacts in the solar system over the past four billion years. The research team isolated 40 impact clasts containing tiny metal particles from the lunar far-side soil, which act as "time capsules" preserving a record of ancient collisions.

Based on the mineral composition associated with these metals, the team categorized them into two distinct groups. Those preserved in basaltic debris represent asteroid fragments accumulated over the last 2.8 billion years following

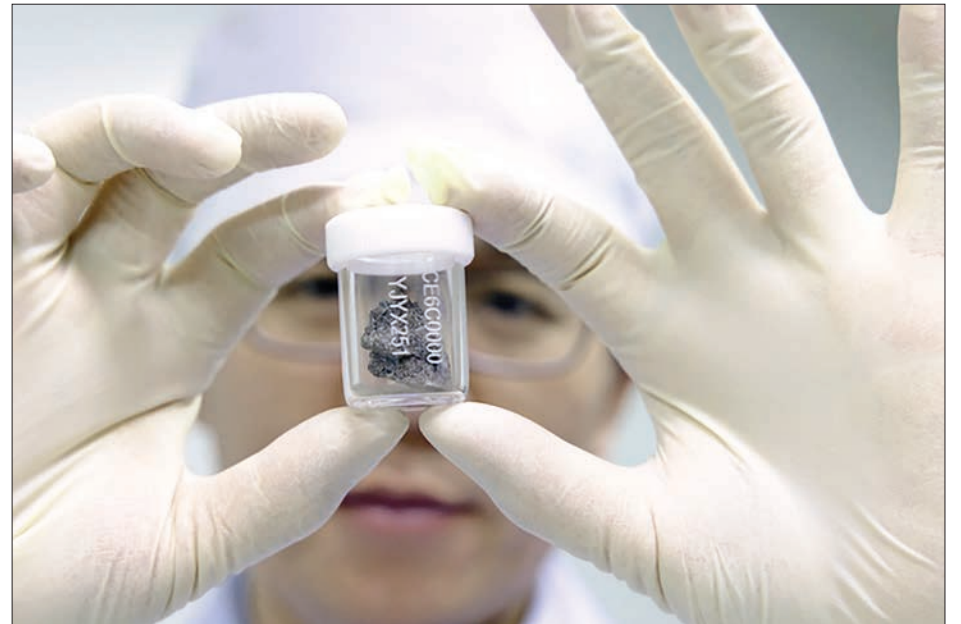
basaltic eruptions, while those originating from older lunar highland anorthosites splashed from other regions record impact events dating back as far as 4.3 billion years.

The analysis revealed a stark contrast in impactor types over the ages. The 13 ancient clasts showed metal particles corresponding primarily to ordinary chondrites and iron meteorites from the inner solar system, with carbonaceous asteroid metals accounting for less than eight per cent.

However, in the 27 younger clasts, the proportion of metals from carbonaceous asteroids rose to approximately 26 per cent. This indicates that the contribution of carbonaceous asteroids increased significantly between 4.3 billion and 2.8 billion years ago.

This finding has major implications for human understanding of how water arrived in the inner solar system. While carbonaceous asteroids are rich in water and organic matter, and are believed to be a key source of Earth's early water, the study suggests their impact history is characterized by a "lag".

Because these water-rich asteroids



A researcher shows a lunar sample retrieved by the Chang'e-6 mission at the lunar sample laboratory in the National Astronomical Observatories of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in Beijing, capital of China, 24 September 2024. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

appeared later — when the solar system's impact flux had already decayed significantly — the total volume of water and volatiles they could deliver to the Earth-moon system was likely limited compared to previous assumptions.

The team attributes this shift to three

potential mechanisms: the migration of giant planets that scatter carbonaceous asteroids inward, the Yarkovsky effect driving gradual orbital drift, or the collisional breakup of large carbonaceous bodies, which generates vast debris fields. — Xinhua

No end to deadlock as Iran, US reject talks terms

IRAN said Monday it had demanded the release of its frozen assets and the end of a US blockade of its ports, after President Donald Trump angrily rejected Tehran's terms for ending the Middle East war.

The sharp exchange of messages raised the spectre of a return to open conflict in the Gulf, dashed hopes of a quick negotiated deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz to commercial shipping and sent oil prices higher.

Trump reacted with fury after Iran responded to the latest US proposed outline for peace talks with a counter-offer he deemed, in a brief social media post, "TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE".

The impasse unnerved global energy markets, with international benchmark Brent crude prices rising 4.65 per cent to \$99.95 a barrel during early Monday trade in Asia.

The US leader did not say what had offended him in Iran's response, but Tehran's foreign ministry said it had called for an end to the US naval blockade and to the war "across the region" — imply-



This US Navy handout photo released on 7 May 2026 by US Central Command Public Affairs, shows the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Rafael Peralta (DDG 115) implementing a maritime blockade against the Iran-flagged crude oil tanker vessel Stream while the latter was attempting to sail towards an Iranian port on 26 April 2026. **PHOTO: US NAVY/NAVCENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS/AFP**

ing a halt to Israel's strikes targeting Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Crucially, ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baqaei told reporters, Iran de-

manded the "release of assets belonging to the Iranian people, which have for years been unjustly trapped in foreign banks". — AFP

Indian PM urges public to cut fuel consumption, curb gold purchases

INDIAN Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appealed to citizens to reduce their consumption of fuels like petrol and diesel, and to shun buying gold over the next year to save foreign exchange.

Addressing a public rally in India's southern state of Telangana on Sunday evening, Modi also stated that the work-from-home culture should be encouraged, and that people must opt for car-pooling for travelling between their homes and offices. India usually imported nearly 85 per cent of its crude oil needs, and was one of the world's largest importers of gold.

"The Prime Minister's appeal comes at a time when global crude oil prices have surged from nearly \$70 per barrel to around \$126 per barrel due to escalating tensions in West Asia and disruptions around the Strait of Hormuz," reported All India Radio. — Xinhua