

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Kachin State Boom: 91 New Tourism Licences Issued



This photo captures one of the well-known hotels in Kachin State.

ACCORDING to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, licences were issued for 22 new hotels, 23 new guesthouses and 46 new tour companies in Kachin State during the past five years.

At present, a total of 66 hotels, 31 guesthouses with 2,950 rooms al-

together, and 81 tour companies are operating in Kachin State.

In order to promote the development of the hotel sector and improve service quality, upgrading training courses is being conducted so that tourists can be provided with quality services.

Among the well-known tourist destinations in Kachin State are the snow mountain region and mountain-climbing tours in PutaO District, the Mulashidi Suspension Bridge, Malikha Waterfall, Nat Kyun, Gubar Rest House and Kaunghmulon Pagoda. — ASH/KZL

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Yangon Fertility Centre transforms lives of over 5,400 women since launch

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Myanmar demolishes more scam-linked buildings in Shwe Kokko

Yangon-Mandalay Rail Route Expanded with Two More DEMU Trains



A Yangon-Mandalay-Yangon express train ready for its journey.

THE Myanma Railways operated DEMU air-conditioned passenger express trains 3Up/4 Down and 5Up/6Down for the Yangon-Mandalay-Yangon route starting May 2026. Due to strong passenger demand and popularity, a modern air-conditioned DEMU express train, 9Up/10Down, will be introduced starting from 1 June 2026, according to the following schedule:

No	Train No	Trip		Departure/Arrival		Duration
		From	To	Departure	Arrival	
1	9Up	Yangon	Mandalay	08:30	18:30	10 hours
2	10Down	Mandalay	Yangon	08:30	18:40	10 hours 10 minutes

The new 9Up/10Down trains will stop at Toegyaungkalay, Bago, Pyu, Toungoo, Nay Pyi Taw, Pyawbye and Thazi stations along the Yangon-Mandalay-Yangon railway.

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NATIONAL

U Htun Aung Kyaw appointed as Ambassador of Myanmar to Republic of Nicaragua

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Htun Aung Kyaw, Ambassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Nicaragua. — MNA

Public Invitation: Submit Recommendations on Anti-Online Scam Bill

THE Anti-Online Scam Bill was published in State-run newspapers on 14 May 2026 for public review and feedback. The Bill is scheduled for deliberation during the Second Regular Sessions of the Third Hluttaws.

Members of the public are warmly invited to submit their recommendations and suggestions to the addresses listed below. All submissions must be received by 2 June 2026.

- (1) Director-General, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office
- (2) Director-General, Pyithu Hluttaw Office
- (3) Director-General, Amyotha Hluttaw Office — MNA/MKKS

New bird-watching training course set for nature enthusiasts

ACCORDING to the Forest Resource Environment Development and Conservation Association (FREDA), a bird-watching training course will be opened soon for bird lovers in Myanmar.

This is the first time that a bird watching training course will be organized and it will cover identifying and observing bird species which are significant in the ecosystem and their habitats and behaviours.

Those who are interested in environmental and ecosystem conservation and wish to grow a new hobby for recreation can join it. The opening date will be announced on FREDA's Facebook page, and inquiries are also welcome to the chatbox, said FREDA. Established in 1995, FREDA is a non-political, non-governmental organization that actively advocates for the forestry sector in Myanmar. — MT/ZS



Bird enthusiasts enjoy bird watching. PHOTO- WILD WINGS GROUP



YCC to host Myanmar Food & Beverage Expo on 26-28 June

MYANMAR Food & Beverage (Myanmar HORECA Expo) will take place at the Yangon Convention Centre on 26-28 June, featuring raw materials for food businesses, equipment, industry technologies, cooking demonstrations

by famous chefs, culinary displays and cooking competitions.

This event is a good platform for restaurant operators, suppliers, distributors, industry experts, and young people interested in the F & B industry

to expand networking opportunities for professionals and local businesses.

Interested business entities can register through 09 409 4000 55, 09 409 4000 66, 09 409 4000 77, 09 43125185 for display. — NN/KK

13th KBZ Home Loan Days to launch with special promotion

KBZ Bank, in partnership with VAM Real Estate, will host the 13th KBZ Home Loan Days this weekend, offering exclusive event promotions ranging from K1 million to K10 million.

The two-day property exhibition will run from 30 to 31 May, between 10 am and 4 pm daily, at the KBZ Home Loan

Centre inside the KBZ West Shwegondine branch near the Yuzana Hotel.

According to KBZ Bank, the event serves as a one-stop shop featuring a diverse portfolio of apartments, condominium units, and detached houses,

all backed by guaranteed clear legal ownership. Buyers will be eligible for promotional cash savings between K1 million and K10 million, depending on their selected property.

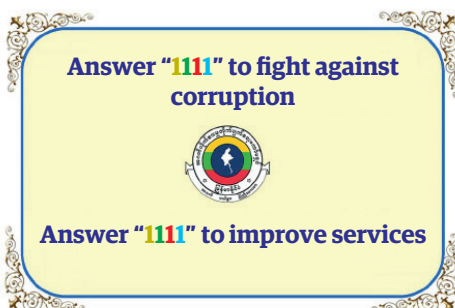
Prospective buyers seeking further details can contact the event hotlines at 09 444111102/03 or 09 444000700/800. — MT/ZS

This image displays an advert for the 13th KBZ Home Loan Days.

Public Notice

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

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



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

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

Anti-Corruption Commission



NATIONAL

Yangon-Mandalay Rail Route Expanded with Two More DEMU Trains

FROM PAGE 1

Ticket prices remain unchanged at K48,000 for upper class and K34,000 for first class for the whole journey.

DEMU passenger express trains 11Up/12Down operate on the Yangon-Mandalay-Yangon

rail route, while 7Up/8Down and 31Up/32Down operate on the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon section.

Tickets for these trains can be purchased online in advance through the Online Railways Ticketing and Payment (ORTP)

system. Tickets for whole journeys can be purchased up to seven days in advance, while tickets for intermediate stations can be purchased up to five days ahead.

Similarly, on the Yangon-Mandalay railway, mod-

ern air-conditioned DEMU trains 15Up /16Down run on the Bago-Yangon-Bago rail route. Moreover, short-distance RBE trains operate as Tha-301Up/Tha-302Down on the Mandalay-Thazi-Mandalay railway. Tha-401Up/Tha-

402Down on the Thazi-Nay Pyi Taw-Thazi railway, Tha-501Up/Tha-502Down on the Nay Pyi Taw-Toungoo-Nay Pyi Taw rail section, and Tha-601Up/Tha-602Down on the Toungoo-Bago-Toungoo railway. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar and China Forge Stronger Ties in Info-Sector Cooperation

UNION Minister for Information U Htein Linn received a delegation led by Ms Cao Shumin, Deputy Head of the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Minister of the National Radio and Television Administration (NRTA), at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Information yesterday morning.

The meeting was also attended by the deputy minister for Information and departmental officials, while the delegation was accompanied by Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to further strengthening bilateral cooperation in the media sector, facilitating cultural exchanges, enhancing friendly relations between the peoples, jointly producing documentaries and drama series, exchanging innovative collaboration in the youth and technological sectors, and signing memoranda of understanding (MoU) on media



Union Information Minister U Htein Linn receives the Chinese delegation led by Ms Cao Shumin, Deputy Head of the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Minister of the National Radio and Television (NRTA), yesterday.

sector cooperation.

Afterwards, Ms Cao Shumin and her delegation, accompanied by the Union minister, visited Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) in Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw. There, they toured the exhibition of documentary photographs showcasing bilateral media cooperation between Myanmar and China, the audio recording session of “Fun Chinese Lessons”, the filming of Myanmar-China friendship songs

in the virtual studio, the news broadcast in the news channel studio, the rehearsal of the Myanmar-China friendship song “Shan Paepoat” performed in both Myanmar and Chinese languages at the auditorium, and the Diamond Jubilee Museum.

In the afternoon, Union Minister U Htein Linn hosted a luncheon for the Chinese delegation at the Horizon Lake View Resort in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA/TH

Falam rehabilitation and reconstruction boosted as vital aid delivered

CHIN State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Than Soe, along with Minister for Chin State Security and Border Affairs Colonel Khin Maung Htwe and committee members from Union ministries, arrived at Falam from Haka yesterday morning by military helicopter to inspect the rehabilitation tasks.

The city hall in Falam's Far Toi Ward hosted a gift ceremony for the city's reconstruction. The deputy minister and the minister of State Security and Border Affairs talked about the primary needs of Falam's residents and government

employees, including access to drinking water, healthcare, education, and solar power. They also discussed everyone cooperating for Falam's rehabilitation.

The deputy minister and the Minister of State Security and Border Affairs provided rehabilitation assistance such as corrugated iron sheets, nails, cement and relief items for 73 households from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and rice, oil, salt, beans, and fish paste worth K6,250,860 for two weeks, which were received by the town elders and officials on behalf of residents. — District IPRD/MKKS



Deputy Minister Dr Than Soe and officials warmly greets town elders and local ethnic communities at yesterday's event.

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UN environment programme

#NowForClimate

“ ရာသီဥတုပြောင်းလဲမှုတိုက်ဖျက်ဖို့ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကြိုးပမ်းဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့ ”
“A Global Call for Climate Action”

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

Vital rehabilitation supplies despatched to Tiddim via Sagaing



Rehabilitation materials are transported to Tiddim, Chin State.

TATMADAW regained full control of Falam, Tiddim and Tonzang townships in Chin State, and is also working together with relevant authorities and locals to carry out rehabilitation and reconstruction activities in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State.

As part of these efforts, construction materials needed for reconstruction work, including cement, roofing sheets, nails, commodities and kitchen utensils, were transported from Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay by military aircraft on 25 May and arrived in Kalay Township.

The rehabilitation items and commodities provided by the government arriving in Kalay were transported to Falam

by vehicles via Kalay on 26 May.

The construction materials, such as cement, iron sheets and nails, and household commodities provided by the government, which are currently in Kalay, were transported to Tiddim and Tonzang by vehicles yesterday morning, and the materials arrived in Tiddim in the evening.

Upon arrival, the transported goods were received by responsible officials and will be further distributed directly to residents. Remaining goods will continue to be delivered to Tonzang, and the government will continue to provide necessary assistance systematically based on regional needs. — MNA/KTZH

Yangon specialists to provide two days of free medical care at Pathein Hospital

UNDER the programme organized by the Ministry of Health, a medical team comprising senior specialists from Yangon General Hospital and the Yangon 500-Bed Specialist Hospital will provide free medical treatment at Pathein General Hospital for two days, from 30 to 31 May.

Participating specialists include professors/heads of departments like cardiology, diabetes and endocrinology, hepatology, gastroenterology, neurology and neurosurgery from these two

hospitals.

Moreover, professors/senior specialists from thoracic medicine, nephrology, oncology, pediatric oncology, and pediatric neurology from the above two and Yangon Children's Hospital will also join the programme.

Patients who are going to receive medical checkups can register by providing their name, age, address, and the specialist they wish to consult at the reception desk located at the Outpatient Department (OPD) entrance of the Pathein General Hospital Emergency Unit.

According to an announcement by the Pathein Hospital, patients do not need to appear in person to register. — MT/ZN



Pathein General Hospital, where the medical specialist team will be providing free treatments.

Tatkon village project greenlights K38.3M in fresh funds



The disbursement ceremony for rural business funds is in progress yesterday in Tatkon.

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, held a ceremony yesterday in Magyibin Village, Tatkon Township, to disburse Green Village Project revolving funds totalling K38.3 million.

During the event, Township Head of the Department of Rural Development Daw Zin Lin Htet explained that the re-

volving funds were being provided to help rural residents create employment opportunities, increase household incomes, and systematically expand small-scale agriculture and livestock businesses. She also noted that interest earnings generated from the project would support future village development activities.

Project officials and staff further clarified the loan inter-

est rates, repayment periods, and regulations that beneficiaries must follow. The township head then formally transferred the revolving funds to members of the Green Village Project committee.

Following the ceremony, village project committee members disbursed low-interest loans totalling K38.3 million directly to 80 beneficiaries in Magyibin Village. The recipients included 52 individuals engaged in agricultural activities who received K28.4 million and 28 individuals involved in livestock breeding who received K9.9 million.

According to officials, the revolving fund programme is intended to strengthen rural livelihoods and support sustainable income-generating activities within the community. — Sein Lwin (Rural)

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

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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

Frontline Tatmadaw members receive warm welcome home

A ceremony to warmly welcome back the triumphant frontline Tatmadaw members who courageously served duties in Kya-in-Seikgyi Township of Kayin State and its vicinity areas was held at the local battalion in Myeik in Taninthayi Region, yesterday.

Commander of the Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han, along with personnel, departmental of-

officials, members of Myanmar War Veteran Organization, military officers, other ranks and locals, welcomed back returning troops with heartfelt enthusiasm.

They also welcomed home victorious Tatmadaw members with sprigs of Eugenia and presented the cash prizes to the returnees. The event included traditional dance and music performances. — MNA/MKKS



Triumphant Tatmadaw troops are seen being welcomed back at the Coastal Region Command Headquarters.



Victorious Tatmadaw members are pictured receiving a warm welcome home.

Nay Pyi Taw locals cheer return of frontline Tatmadaw troops

A ceremony to honour and welcome back Tatmadaw members returning from the frontline after carrying out duties related to local security and stability in and around Shwegyin-Bawkahta was held yesterday evening at a local battalion in Lewe of Nay Pyi Taw Council Territory. The event was attended by Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Kyi Thaik, along with personnel from the Nay Pyi Taw Command, relevant officials, departmental personnel, residents and students.

The returning troops had carried out military operations on the front lines day and night to help ensure that ethnic communities across various regions and states could live and work in peace, with the security of their lives and property safeguarded, and to maintain national stability and peace.

The commander and party welcomed back the returning Tatmadaw members with sprigs of Eugenia. The event also featured traditional dance and music performances. — MNA/MKKS

Pyinmana fuels green growth: 11th round of village funds disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, disbursed the 11th round of Green Village Project revolving funds totalling K54.8 million in Ywatha Village, Pyinmana Township, yesterday.

The revolving funds were provided to support rural residents in gaining employment opportunities, increasing household incomes, and expanding systematic small-scale agricultural and livestock businesses.

At the ceremony, Township Head of the Department of Rural Development Daw Nay Chi Zar Wai met with village elders and members of the Green Village Project committee and explained the objectives and benefits of the revolving fund programme.

Project officials and staff also clarified project details, interest rates, repayment terms, and loan regulations before the township head formally transferred K54.8 million in revolving funds to members of the village project committee.

Following the ceremony, village-level project committee members disbursed low-interest loans directly to 134 beneficiaries in Ywatha Village. The recipients included 37 agricultural workers who received K17.35 million, 80 livestock breeders who received K29.75 million, and 17 traders who received K7.7 million.

According to officials, the revolving funds are intended to strengthen sustainable livelihood activities and support long-term rural economic development in the community. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

Yangon Fertility Centre transforms lives of over 5,400 women since launch



Senior doctors and nurses are seen together with a healthy and cheerful baby born through the use of assisted reproductive technology at the Central Women's Hospital (Yangon).

THE Fertility Centre at the Central Women's Hospital (Yangon) has been open for married couples wishing to have children, and more than 5,400 patients have received treatment there as of 25 May. The centre is providing

services, using technologies such as in vitro fertilization (IVF) and intrauterine insemination (IUI).

The Fertility Centre was opened in 2022. In 2023, treatment using IUI was provided to 15 patients, while 61 pa-

tients received treatment in 2024 and 157 patients in 2025.

During April and May 2026, procedures using IVF technology have continued for 12 couples to help them conceive children. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

Myanmar demolishes more scam-linked buildings in Shwe Kokko

MYANMAR authorities have continued demolishing illegal buildings used for online scams and gambling operations in the Shwe Kokko area.

Authorities said three additional four-storey residential buildings were systematically demolished using heavy machinery. The buildings were allegedly used in online fraud and gambling activities.

A joint task force comprising security personnel, administrative bodies and local officials is carrying out inspections, clearing operations and destruction of equipment

seized from scam centres in Shwe Kokko and KK Park.

Officials said a total of 77 illegal buildings had been identified for demolition, including 57 structures to be destroyed by machinery and 20 by controlled explosions. With the latest demolitions, nine buildings have now been destroyed, while 68 remain pending demolition.

Authorities added that Myanmar will continue cooperating with neighbouring countries to prevent online scam operations from re-establishing inside the country. — MNA/KZL



An aerial drone view of the demolition of illegal structures in Shwe Kokko, Myawady, Kayin State.



A scam-related facility is seen before and after the demolition.

Jul JLPT online test vouchers available from 1 Jun

FOR the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), which is scheduled to be held in July, an online test voucher, which is required to prove on the test day, will be available as of 1 June, said the Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA).

An online test voucher can be downloaded from 1 June to the test date, and it will have to be printed out in colour; showing the soft copy is unacceptable. With a colour-print online test voucher, an original document of identity card is

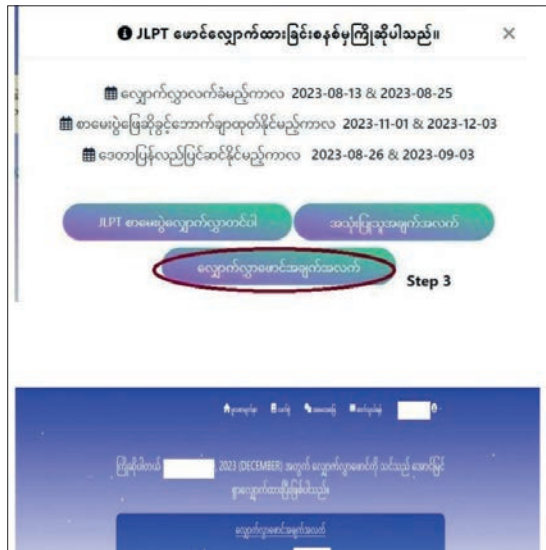
required to bring on the exam day. Eligible identity cards are 10-year-old or 18-year-old NRC, a valid passport, a valid driving license, a birth certificate (only for under 10 years old) and a religious membership ID (only for novices, monks and nuns).

This is the link for downloading the online test voucher - Individual - <https://jlpt-maja.org.mm/> and School - <http://schoolform.jlpt-maja.org.mm>. The online test voucher includes 3 pages about seat number, test date, time and place, test rules and test site

map, and all pages will need to be printed out and brought to the exam station.

In addition, eight passcodes filled in the application form (Form C) are also required to see the online result. Test takers will need to check whether the level, seat number, name and date of birth, test site and check-in time are correct.

For more details, enquiries can be made to MAJA via 01 7571015 for Yangon and 09 255162533 for Mandalay. — MT/ZS



Guideline for downloading an individual online test voucher.

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Wednesday 27 May 2026

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea, South Bay and Eastcentral Bay of Bengal. The weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 28 May 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Sagaing Region and Kachin, Kayah, Eastern Shan States, fairly widespread in Mandalay, Magway Regions and Chin, Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Yangon, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady Regions and Kayin, Mon States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan States. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in the Delta, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 mile per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet in the Delta, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. The sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of thundery activities in the Central Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent. — DMH

YCDC hits market with first trial batch of nutrient-rich oyster mushrooms

THE Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) has successfully launched commercial sales of high-protein, nutrient-rich oyster mushrooms following a successful experimental harvest in North Okkalapa Township, according to the Mayangon District Department of Markets and Commodities Centre under YCDC.

The trial cultivation was conducted by the end of April, and the mushrooms were distributed to the consumers. “We are conducting trial cultivation of Pleurotus by different departments under YCDC. The harvested mushrooms are already being sold in the market at prices cheaper than those outside. At the Gagyi Market in North Okkalapa, mushrooms are being harvested daily from the cultivation site, although the daily yield varies. The main aim is to help staff by providing an affordable curry. Efforts are also underway to produce the spawn bags ourselves. Since the mushrooms can be cultivated year-round, they are considered a good product for



Pleurotus – high-protein nutrient-rich oyster mushrooms – are organized for distribution and sale commercially. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**

commercial production,” said U Nay Lin, head of department.

The YCDC operates mushroom plantations in different districts in addition to vegetables, which are being planted in extra land areas of the markets.

At the North Okkalapa

Gagyi Market cultivation site, spawn bags costing K1,600 each are planted in batches ranging from 1,000 to 3,000 bags at a time. Each spawn bag yields about 16 Kyattha (a Myanmar measurement equivalent to tical) in the first harvest. By the second harvest, the cost

of the spawn bag is recovered, while the third to fifth harvests generate profit.

The mushrooms are priced at K12,500 at the farmyard and at K20,000 per viss in the market. Efforts are being made to shift from purchasing spawn bags to producing them inde-

pendently. Although production tends to decrease during the summer season, year-round cultivation is possible. Consumers have increasingly recognized Pleurotus as a marketable mushroom dish, and based on experiences gained during the rainy season trials, production will continue through winter and summer as well.

The trial cultivation is being carried out to enable the public to consume locally produced Pleurotus instead of imported mushrooms, with efforts underway to expand production as an affordable food product accessible to all social classes. The Pleurotus, straw mushroom and Rishi mushroom all possess medicinal properties. About six Kyattha of mushrooms contain about 22 to 35 calories, 80 to 90 per cent water content, around 3.1 grammes of protein, about 0.3 gramme of fat, and 1 to 2 grammes of fibre. Low in calories but rich in protein, fibre, vitamins, and minerals, mushrooms are regarded as a natural medicinal food. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 27 May 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	India rupee
Exchange rates	3,664.90~3,669.00	558.10~558.70	125.60~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	15,823,847.33		13,741,821.83	
The amount sold by CBM to the market				

The foreign currency amount traded in the foreign exchange market was for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, car/motorcycle spare parts, pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical raw materials, industrial raw materials, wheat, fertilizer, asphalt, construction materials, communication materials, and paper. From the CMP sector revenue, US\$1.50 million was contributed to the edible oil sector, US\$0.21 million to the non-trade sector, and US\$3,529.85 to the CMP sector. — MNA

CBM continues US dollar injection to edible oil import sector

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) continued to sell over US\$707,000 to edible oil-importing companies and \$32,700 to CMP companies on 26 May.

CBM sold over \$3.03 million to edible oil-importing companies, \$2.5 million to LNG-importing companies and \$34,474 million to CMP companies on 25 May, in addition to \$4,930 worth of non-trade transactions.

CBM injected \$1.9 million, purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis, to edible oil-importing companies on 22 May.

CBM sold over \$2.33 million to edible oil-importing companies, \$1.5 million to LNG

companies and \$16,603 to CMP companies on 21 May. Furthermore, CBM also made over \$353,000 worth of non-trade transactions on the same day.

CBM announced on 20 May that it would sell \$81 million to fuel oil businesses. CBM injected over \$2.067 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$4,000 to CMP companies on that day, in addition to \$22,984 worth of non-trade transactions.

CBM pumped over \$1.45 million into edible oil-importing companies and over \$518,800 to CMP companies, along with \$518,830 worth of non-trade transactions on 19 May.

CBM sold over \$2.34 mil-

lion to edible oil-importing companies and over \$30,170 to CMP companies on 18 May.

CBM injected foreign currencies into the market, with a view to curbing the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

OPINION

Efficiently use electricity without wastage

MYANMAR does not yet have sufficient generation capacity in the electricity distribution sector to fully supply all citizens nationwide. However, electricity is being distributed as evenly as possible, and projects are continuously being implemented to generate electricity from renewable energy sources.

It is necessary to make preparations to ensure that hydropower plants can operate at full capacity during the upcoming rainy season. In Myanmar's power generation mix, hydropower plants and natural gas power plants are being used to meet base-load electricity demand.

The Ministry of Electric Power and Energy is working to increase electricity generation and distribution through various methods. Engineers and skilled technicians are carrying out demanding and hazardous tasks such as installing electrical cables, conducting power system testing, and exploring and developing generation sites in remote forested and mountainous areas, often under risky conditions. The electricity generated through such efforts must be used efficiently by the public without wastage.

If hydropower can be utilized more and the use of natural gas can be reduced, the saved natural gas can be allocated more effectively for other industries, including fertilizer factories and other production facilities. This would support the growth of the country's overall industrial output. Therefore, efforts must be made to generate electricity at full plant capacity and to ensure that it is efficiently distributed to the public.

Relevant authorities need to raise public awareness to avoid illegal use of electricity, unnecessary lighting, and the use of electricity. By exercising disciplined and responsible consumption, electricity can be conserved and redirected to areas that are still without a power supply. Therefore, as responsible citizens, everyone must use electricity systematically and efficiently.

The Ministry of Electric Power and Energy is working to increase electricity generation and distribution through various methods. Engineers and skilled technicians are carrying out demanding and hazardous tasks such as installing electrical cables, conducting power system testing, and exploring and developing generation sites in remote forested and mountainous areas, often under risky conditions. The electricity generated through such efforts must be used efficiently by the public without wastage.

Hydropower plants are naturally capable of operating at full capacity during the monsoon season, when sufficient water is available for electricity generation. However, at present, some hydropower plants and sections of the national power grid have been damaged by acts of terrorism. As a result, during periods of high summer temperatures and reduced water levels in reservoirs, electricity generation has had to rely more heavily on natural gas to meet demand.

Hydropower plants must also be re-inspected and necessary repairs carried out. In the event of any faults or damages, spare parts should be stocked in advance according to each respective area, and transport vehicles and machinery should be kept ready for rapid response and repairs. Since the increased electricity output will need to be integrated into the national grid, it is also necessary to carry out advanced inspections to ensure the reliability and durability of substations and related equipment.

AFTER working hard all day, I came home feeling utterly exhausted. As I sat down, I remembered a short, funny story my grandpa used to tell me about work-life balance.

It goes like this...

Once, there was a very hard-working employee. One day, he excitedly asked his boss:

"Sir! If I work super hard for our company and put in overtime day and night without resting, what will happen next year?"

The boss gently patted the worker's shoulder, looked deep into his eyes, and replied happily:

"Well... if you really work that hard, I will be able to buy another brand-new Rolls-Royce next year!"

The Lesson Behind the Joke

The lesson from this story forces us to stop and think: Are we giving away our valuable time just to make someone else successful?

This short joke highlights a dark and sad truth about today's corporate world. Selfish bosses often make massive profits from their workers' hard work, but when it comes time to distribute the rewards, the boss takes the

lion's share. To put it simply, the "Lion's Share" means taking almost everything for oneself. Even though a team works together on a project, only one person claims all the rewards and profits at the end. The phrase comes from one of Aesop's Fables. In the story, a lion goes hunting with a fox and a wolf. They catch their prey and try to split the meat, but the lion claims every single piece for himself. He says, "I get one piece because I am the king, I get another piece because I am the strongest. And I get the last piece because I am the smartest." In the end, he leaves nothing for the others.

Some employers love to claim that their workers are "like a family". In reality, however, they often use their employees' free time, health, and social lives as

fuel to run their own success engines. Workers log overtime and sacrifice their holidays, yet the bosses take almost all the rewards. Employees are not just steps on a ladder for selfish business owners. Greedy bosses say, "If you work hard, the company will grow." But when the company thrives, the workers' lives often stay exactly the same while only the boss gets richer with new cars and houses.

Finding Work and Life Balance

By Augustin

"Lion's Share".

To put it simply, the "Lion's Share" means taking almost everything for oneself. Even though a team works together on a project, only one person claims all the rewards and profits at the end.

The phrase comes from one of Aesop's Fables. In the story, a lion goes hunting with a fox and a wolf. They catch their prey and try to split the meat, but the lion claims every single piece for himself. He says, "I get one piece because I am the king, I get another piece because I am the strongest. And I get the last piece because I am the smartest." In the end, he leaves nothing for the others.

The Reality of the Modern Workplace

Some employers love to claim that their workers are "like a family". In reality, however, they often use their employees' free time, health, and social lives as



Work-life balance does not mean just bringing your body home; your mind must rest, too.

you work hard, the company will grow." But when the company thrives, the workers' lives often stay exactly the same while only the boss gets richer with new cars and houses.

Selfishness Is Not Sustainable

A business can only achieve long-term success if everyone

wins. In a healthy "Win-Win" environment, workers receive fair rewards for their hard work, such as bonuses, promotions, and genuine respect. If a boss always takes the lion's share, workers will lose their motivation, and the company will eventually lose its best talent.

Therefore, this joke serves as a strong warning. We must

always evaluate whether we are sacrificing our own lives just to build a "golden house" for someone else. While it is good to be loyal to your job, choosing a fair workplace that truly values your dedication is an essential life lesson.

Work-Life Balance

Today, a job is no longer just about earning a living; it has also become a symbol of social status and success. Because of this, many people get lost in their careers, wondering whether they are "living to work" or "working to live". As the joke reminds us, while you are working yourself to death, someone else is usually enjoying the rewards.

Here are three ways to redefine your relationship with work and find true balance:

1. Redefining Success
We often think success only means climbing the corporate ladder and earning a higher salary. However, a truly successful life also includes having a warm

family waiting for you, time for your hobbies, and good health. Never forget that to your boss, you are just an employee who can be replaced. But to your family, you are the whole world, and you are completely irreplaceable.

2. Learning to Say "No"

A major reason we lose our work-life balance is that we accept every single task out of fear or guilt. When you take on too much, your performance drops, and you lose your personal time. Work hard and focus during office hours, but when the workday ends, learn to turn down work calls and emails to protect your peace.

3. Prioritizing Self-Care

Even a phone needs to be recharged when its battery dies. Similarly, the human brain and body require rest. If you constantly worry about your job, you will experience burnout. Taking just one day a week to completely disconnect – whether you read a favourite book, take a short trip,

or simply rest quietly – will give you fresh energy for the week ahead.

Achieving True Balance

A job should only be a part of your life, not your whole life. Work hard, but do not sacrifice your happiness, health, and loved ones for a paycheck.

True work-life balance is not just about splitting your time between the office and home; it is about being fully present wherever you are.

If you come home early but keep stressing over work emails, your time at home is wasted. If your mind is elsewhere while you are with your family, you are not truly "home".

Conversely, if you worry about home while you are at work, your tasks will take longer to finish. Focusing completely on your job allows you to finish faster and leave on time.

Work-life balance does not mean just bringing your body home; your mind must rest, too. Work as hard as you can while you are at the office, but the moment you step across your doorstep, leave those duties behind. Step into your role as a partner, parent, or child with your whole heart. That is true balance.

Language, Culture, and Thought

By Maung Maung Aye

LANGUAGE, culture, and thought are deeply connected in everything we do as human beings. Culture provides the shared knowledge that we learn from our families and communities. Language is the tool we use to express that knowledge through words, sentences, and gestures. Thought is the mental process that helps us understand, organize, and use both culture and language. None of these three can exist fully without the others. For example, without culture, language would have nothing to talk about; without language, culture could not be passed from one generation to the next; and without thought, we could not make sense of either one. This relationship is the foundation of how human beings communicate and live together.

Culture can be simply defined as the knowledge that we learn from other people. It includes things like customs, beliefs, values, and rules for behaviour. However, not all knowledge is cultural. There are three main types of knowledge. First, there is shared cultural knowledge, which includes things we learn from our group, such as how to greet someone or what foods to eat.

Second, there is shared non-cultural knowledge, which includes facts that everyone knows regardless of culture, such as the fact that fire burns or that water is wet. Third, there is non-shared non-cultural knowledge, which includes personal experiences that only one person knows, like what you ate for breakfast this morning. Among these three types, shared knowledge is the most important for successful communication. When two people share the same cultural background, they understand each other more easily because they do not need to explain every little detail.

To use language and culture, our minds rely on two important tools: memory and inference. Memory is the storage system where we keep everything we already know, including facts, experiences, and words. Inference is the process of working out

new ideas based on what we already remember. In simple terms, memory gives us the pieces, and inference helps us put those pieces together to solve new problems. For example, knowing that 9 times 9 = 81 comes directly from memory because we have memorized multiplication tables. But when faced with 23 times 19, we cannot rely on memory alone. Instead, we use inference to break down the problem, apply rules we know, and calculate a new answer. Both memory and inference are essential for understanding sentences, learning new words, and participating in conversations.

All of our knowledge is stored in the mind as concepts. A concept is a mental category that groups similar things, such as "birds", "furniture", or "kindness". Within each concept, some examples are more typical than others.

These typical examples are called prototypes. Take the verb "break" as an example. In the sentence "John broke the window", a human agent intentionally applying force – this feels completely natural. This is a prototype of a break. In the sentence "The hammer broke the window", a tool directly causing the breaking is understood because hammers are associated with breaking, though the agent is non-human. This sentence is less typical. Considering the sentence "The table broke the window", the meaning sounds odd or even wrong because a table is just a piece of furniture. It lacks the prototypical features of intention or direct tool use.

Prototypes shift dynamically when people from different cultural backgrounds interact. For example, in a culture where meals are always shared family events, as in Myanmar, the verb eat might prototype as social and seated. In another culture where eating on the go is common, the proto-

type is individual and fast. When these two groups communicate in a shared language, each uses inference to adjust their prototype, creating a temporary, negotiated "blended prototype" for that conversation.

Meaning is the general sense of a word or a sentence. In most cases, meaning is a mental concept that exists in our minds. However, some words do not have a full mental picture; instead, they only guide our understanding. For example, words like "the", "of", and "very" are more like instructions for how to connect other words. Language also changes depending on social context. We speak differently to a teacher than to a close friend. This social flexibility explains two important phenomena: code-switching (switching between languages or dialects in the same conversation) and group identity (using certain words or accents to show belonging to a particular group). Sentences express propositions, which are complete ideas

that can be true or false. Understanding a sentence almost always requires inference, because speakers rarely say everything explicitly. Some common sentences, like proverbs or famous quotes, are stored directly in memory as ready-made chunks.

To conclude, language is mostly part of culture, but not entirely. Some aspects of language and thought appear to be natural or universal across all human beings. Thought itself is the broader category that includes both language-based thinking and cultural knowledge. When we communicate,

we constantly move between memory and inference, using shared cultural knowledge to fill in the gaps. Language provides the words, culture provides the shared background, and thought provides the engine that makes it all work. Understanding these connections helps us become better communicators, better language learners, and more aware of how our own minds operate. In short, language uses shared knowledge from culture and works through thought, with memory and inference helping us understand meaning and communication at every step.



SCI/ENVIRON: WORLD

Earthquake risk in New Zealand's largest city higher than assumed: study

South Auckland's Mangatangi Fault can trigger a major magnitude 6.8 earthquake.

NEW research has identified an active fault near New Zealand's largest city, suggesting earthquake risk for Auckland may be higher than previously understood.

The Mangatangi Fault, running along the Hunua Ranges about 50 kilometres south of the city, is capable of generating an earthquake of up to magnitude 6.8, said a press release by the University of Auckland on Wednesday.

The study, published in the New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics, found the fault has ruptured within the past 10,000 years. Any fault that has

moved in the past 125,000 years is considered active.

"If the whole fault ruptured, there would likely be serious consequences for people living in South Auckland, and possibly further into central Auckland as well," said geologist James Muirhead from the University of Auckland, the study's co-author.

This is the first time a fault-line in the Auckland region has been radiocarbon dated, highlighting limited knowledge of its seismic history, Muirhead said, adding that Auckland's hazard "may be significantly higher than the public and policymakers believe". — Xinhua



A full rupture would result in serious consequences for South Auckland, with strong shaking potentially extending directly into central Auckland. **PHOTO: PIXABAY**

Chile's once-dirty Mapocho river enjoys new lease on life

SOME 1,000 people jogged along the banks of the Mapocho River in Santiago one Sunday afternoon, an activity that would have been unthinkable a few years ago due to its heavily polluted waters. For decades, 97 per cent of Santiago's waste ended up in the 110-kilometre river flowing through the city, which almost resembled an open-air sewer as its stench forced passersby to hold their noses.

Now, the Chilean capital's almost 10 million residents are breathing a sigh of relief after a novel sanitation process has transformed the once-dirty waterway. "It's a source of pride to bring back something that had been all but lost, but is now in perfect condition," Eulogio Cancino, 58, breathlessly told AFP at the finish line of a 10-kilometre (six-mile) race organized to celebrate the river's reinvigoration. — AFP



Aerial view of a wastewater treatment plant, known as biofactories, where the waters of the Mapocho River are treated in Santiago on 7 May 2026. **PHOTO: FRANCO FAFASULI / AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

China successfully launches new communication technology test satellite

CHINA sent a new communication technology test satellite into space from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern island province of Hainan on Wednesday.

The satellite was launched at 12:16 am (Beijing time) aboard a modified Long March-7 carrier rocket and has entered its preset orbit.

The satellite is primarily intended for verifying multi-band, high-speed satellite communication technologies.

This mission marked the 645th flight of the Long March carrier rocket series. — Xinhua

Asia's first 10-year synthetic cell roadmap unveiled

A Chinese-led international collaboration has unveiled Asia's first decade-long roadmap for building synthetic cells, a landmark blueprint that charts a systematic path toward creating artificial life from scratch.

Spearheaded by Liu Chenli, director of the Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology (SIAT) at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the initiative brought together over 100 laboratories across six Asian countries: China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. The roadmap was published on Tuesday in the journal Nature Biotechnology.

This marks the first time Asia has produced a systematic development blueprint around the concept of an artificial single-cell life form, setting new scientific benchmarks for synthetic cell research over the next decade, China Media Group (CMG) reported on Wednesday. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Eva Longoria says she has never watched 'Desperate Housewives'

EVA Longoria has revealed that despite starring in *Desperate Housewives* for eight seasons, she has never watched the show, according to E! News.

Speaking on a recent episode of the *Dinner's On Me* podcast hosted by Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Longoria said she still has no interest in revisiting the ABC drama, which aired from 2004 to 2012.

"Everybody's re-watching it. It was, like, number two the other day on streaming," she said. "I keep getting notifications like, 'Do you wanna watch *Housewives*?' I go, 'No, I don't. I'm fine. I made it,'" Longoria said, according to E! News.

Longoria played Gabrielle Solis throughout the show's eight-season run and said there are currently no plans from creator Marc Cherry to revive the original series.

"Marc never wants to," she said while discussing the possibility of a continuation. Reflecting on the show's demanding production schedule, Longoria added, "This was a time where we did 24 episodes a year for a decade." — ANI

Canada introduces temporary border measures over Ebola concerns

THE Canadian government on Tuesday announced a series of temporary border measures to reduce the risk of the Ebola virus entering and spreading within Canada.

According to a news release from the Public Health Agency of Canada, in response to the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and rising risks in Uganda and South Sudan, Canada will suspend immigration documents for residents of these countries for 90 days, starting Wednesday at 23:59 Eastern Time.

Individuals of these three countries holding previously approved temporary resident visas, electronic travel authorizations or permanent resident visas will be barred from traveling to Canada, said the release.

The processing of new applications from residents of these countries will also be temporarily paused, added the release.

According to an additional measure, effective 30 May at 23:59 Eastern Time until 29 August, Canada will enforce a mandatory 21-day quarantine for Canadian citizens, permanent residents, persons registered under the Indian Act, and foreign nationals who have visited the affected areas within the previous 21 days and do not have symptoms, while travellers who have symptoms will be isolated at a hospital for further assessment under the Quarantine Act. — Xinhua

Pilgrims 'stone the devil' at hajj gripped by intense heat

More than 1.7 million pilgrims are participating in the Hajj pilgrimage.



A sweet maker makes Maamoul cookies, a traditional treat for Eid al-Adha, at a pastry shop in Damascus, Syria, on 26 May 2026. PHOTO: AMMAR SAFARJALANI/XINHUA

MUSLIM faithful ritually stoned the devil on Wednesday in the climactic ceremony of a hajj pilgrimage held in intense heat and against the backdrop of a war that has plunged the wealthy Gulf into crisis.

From dawn, crowds of pilgrims gathered in the valley of Mina, southeast of the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, to throw pebbles at concrete

pillars symbolizing the devil.

It reenacts the Prophet Abraham's stoning of the devil at three places where Satan is said to have tried to dissuade him from obeying God's command to sacrifice his son Ishmael.

The white-robed pilgrims have been contending with searing desert heat as they perform the days-long, mostly

outdoor rituals, with temperatures reaching 44C in Mecca and Mina on Wednesday.

After more than 1,300 died at the 2024 hajj, when temperatures soared past 50C, Saudi authorities ramped up anti-heat measures including giant fans, mist sprayers, cooled floors and trucks distributing drinking water. — AFP



On 25 May 2026, residents and commuters panicked after noticing the giant structure visibly shaking. PHOTO: ANI

Lionel Messi statue secured with ropes after locals report swaying in wind

THE statue of football icon Lionel Messi installed at VIP Road in Lake Town was secured with ropes on Wednesday after locals complained that it was swaying in the wind, prompting authorities to conduct an immediate inspection of the structure.

Following the complaints, officials visited the site to assess the stability and safety of the

installation.

The precautionary measures were taken to ensure that the large structure remains secure amid changing weather conditions and public safety concerns.

A contractor speaking to ANI said, "We came to see Messi's statue swaying in the wind.

The statement comes as of

officials continue to monitor the structure closely and evaluate whether additional reinforcements or modifications are required to ensure long-term stability of the installation. The statue depicts Messi holding the FIFA World Cup trophy, symbolising his historic triumph with Argentina at the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. — ANI

ECONOMY WORLD

Indian pharma sector sees rising renewable energy adoption



The study highlighted that sustainability adoption in the pharma sector is being accelerated by overseas regulations and procurement requirements. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/AFP/FILE**

Major Indian pharmaceutical giants are rolling out comprehensive sustainability portfolios to hit net-zero targets.

INDIA'S pharmaceutical sector is witnessing a steady shift towards renewable energy adoption and stronger sustainability practices, driven largely by rising pressure from regulated export markets such as Europe and the UK, according to a study by ICRA ESG Ratings Limited.

The report said renewable energy (RE) consumption across a sample of 53 pharmaceutical companies rose from 17 per cent in FY2023 to 25 per cent in FY2025, reflecting a gradual move towards cleaner energy sources. Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) manufacturers recorded the sharpest rise, with RE usage increasing from 21 per

cent to 31 per cent during the period, while formulation manufacturers improved from nine per cent to 17 per cent.

Integrated players saw RE adoption rise from 20 per cent to 30 per cent. "Renewable energy (RE) is the central decarbonisation lever; procurement mode matters," the report noted, adding that large export-oriented firms are increasingly adopting open-access and group-captive renewable power procurement models. The study highlighted that sustainability adoption in the pharma sector is being accelerated by overseas regulations and procurement requirements. — ANI

German council of economic experts cuts 2026 growth forecast

GERMANY'S council of economic advisers cut its 2026 growth forecast on Wednesday, warning that the Middle East war, surging energy prices and persistent US trade protectionism were placing fresh strain on Eu-

rope's largest economy after years of stagnation.

The German Council of Economic Experts, a panel of five economists appointed by the German president, said it now expected the economy to expand by just 0.5 per cent

this year, down 0.4 percentage points from its previous forecast issued last autumn, with the revision driven primarily by the war in the Middle East.

"After a prolonged period of weak growth since 2019, the German economy is facing increased pressure to adapt as a result of recent geopolitical developments," the council said in its spring economic outlook.

The war and the resulting sharp rise in crude oil and gas prices, along with US trade policy, were weighing on economic activity and eroding purchasing power through a deterioration in Germany's terms of trade, it said.

The council warned that the main downside risk to the outlook was that the war could drag on longer and cause more severe economic disruption than currently assumed. — Xinhua



Rising energy prices and US trade policy are further depressing economic activity and eroding purchasing power due to a decline in the country's terms of trade. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

S Korea's population mobility rises in Apr



The population mobility rate gained 0.7 percentage points over the year to 12.1 per cent in April. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/PIXABAY**

SOUTH Korea's population mobility rose in single digits last month due to higher housing transactions, statistical ministry data showed Wednesday.

The number of those who changed residence to a different province or town totaled 506,000 in April, up 6.3 per cent compared to the same month of last year, according to the Ministry of Data and Statistics.

The growth was driven by a fast increase in home sales. Policy effects such as the rural basic income also contributed to attracting new residents to rural areas.

The population mobility rate, which gauges the number of people moving to a different region for every 100 people, gained 0.7 percentage points over the year to 12.1 per cent in April. — Xinhua

JAL to launch Moon payload service, aims to preserve heritage

JAPAN Airlines Co said Tuesday it will launch a service to transport items of cultural significance to the Moon, citing the risks of losing them amid climate change, large natural disasters and conflicts.

Under an agreement between JAL group trading house Jalux Inc and startup ispace Inc, the ARGO Trans-Lunar Heritage Project would carry payloads such as regional specialties and companies' signature products, with applications for transport slots to begin Wednesday.

If the project is realized, JAL would become the world's first airline to transport items to the

Moon.

The service will use a lunar lander planned to be launched by ispace in 2028 to carry such items in special boxes capable of withstanding and storing the items in the lunar environment.

The boxes will measure about 20 centimetres in length and width and roughly 10 cm in height, with the interior divided into segments.

In a joint press release, the three companies said they aim to preserve and pass on valuable cultural assets by storing them outside Earth so that they can be accessed by the future generations. — Kyodo

China's second homegrown large cruise ship completes maiden sea trial

CHINA'S second domestically built large cruise ship, the Adora Flora City, returned to port in Shanghai on Wednesday after completing a 12-day maiden sea trial, marking a milestone in the country's push to mass-produce large cruise ships.

A team of 937 professionals from 12 countries completed 149 tests and verification tasks during the trial, assessing the ship's manoeuvrability, automation systems, safety and comfort, and emissions performance, according to the shipbuilder, China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC).

Alessio Pinizzotto, project manager at Italian multinational company Registro Italiano Navale (RINA),



Cruise ship Adora Flora City berths at a port in east China's Shanghai, 27 May 2026. PHOTO: FANG ZHE/XINHUA

said RINA had followed all major testing procedures for the Adora Flora City and described the vessel as "a very competitive ship" in the Asian market.

"All consumption and

environmental parameters have been aligned, and, most importantly, so was safety," Pinizzotto said, adding that the ship had been built in a short period of time with advanced

technology.

"This shows the shipyard has greater potential to grow and become competitive in the global cruise ship industry," Pinizzotto noted. — Xinhua

Samsung Electronics wage deal approved by union vote

A tentative wage agreement between Samsung Electronics and its labor unions was approved in a union vote, paving the way for a temporary settlement of a labour dispute at South Korea's largest company.

The joint bargaining group of Samsung

Electronics unions said Wednesday that 73.7 per cent, or 46,142 unionized workers, voted in favor of the agreement in a six-day ballot that ended at 10:00 am local time Wednesday.

Of 65,593 eligible union members, 62,616 cast ballots, posting a turnout

of 95.5 per cent. Under union rules, the deal was finalized as more than half of eligible voters took part and a majority voted in favor.

Under the tentative agreement reached last Wednesday, Samsung Electronics management

and labor agreed to introduce a special bonus pool for the device solutions (DS) semiconductor division funded by 10.5 per cent of business performance, raise average wages by 6.2 per cent and establish a housing loan programme. — Xinhua



Supplied image shows a rendering of Japan Airlines Co's special box capable of storing items on the lunar surface. PHOTO: KYODO

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (0B81BS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (0B81BS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-5-2026** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MAERSK MONGLA VOY.NO. (542S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MAERSK MONGLA VOY.NO. (542S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **28-5-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V RUI AN VOY.NO. (106545)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RUI AN VOY. NO. (106545)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-5-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-4** 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 CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO., LTD

ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

Chinese FM meets Guterres on strengthening UN role

Wang said global turmoil is rising, conflicts are spreading, and the United Nations faces major challenges.



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, meets UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on the sidelines of a UN Security Council high-level meeting in New York, on 26 May 2026. **PHOTO: LI RUI/XINHUA**

CHINESE Foreign Minister Wang Yi met UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Tuesday on the sidelines of the UN Security Council high-level meeting on upholding the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and strengthening the UN-centred international system.

During the meeting, Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Par-

ty of China Central Committee, said the current international situation is fraught with turbulence and regional conflicts are erupting in multiple locations, and the United Nations is facing severe challenges while simultaneously being subject to heightened expectations.

As the rotating president of the UN Security Council for May, China took the initiative to convene the high-level

meeting on upholding the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and strengthening the UN-centred international system, in a bid to join with all nations in reaffirming the Charter's founding spirit, revitalizing the authority of the United Nations, and forging the broadest possible consensus towards these ends, Wang said. — Xinhua

Iranian missile likely hit HMM Namu

SEOUL: South Korea's Foreign Ministry has stated that an Iranian-made antiship missile was "highly likely" used in an attack earlier this month on the HMM Namu in the Strait of Hormuz. The targeted vessel is operated by the prominent South Korean shipping company HMM.

Attributing the findings di-

rectly to national intelligence assessments, South Korea's Yonhap news agency cited the country's First Vice-Foreign Minister Park Yoon-joo as saying the government came to the conclusion based on a "technical analysis". According to the agency, this extensive forensic review included evaluating the warhead's shape and

gas debris colour to identify the origin of the weapon.

Elaborating on the specifics of the incident, Park stated that the HMM Namu came under attack from a pair of unidentified aircraft on 4 May. He explained that the initial warhead was successfully incinerated, whereas the subsequent one detonated. — ANI

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trump appoints Bondi to AI panel

US President Donald Trump has appointed former Attorney-General Pam Bondi to an advisory committee focused on AI policy, according to a report from US media Axios on Tuesday.

The White House has not yet made a statement.

Bondi was diagnosed with thyroid cancer shortly after departing the Justice Department, said the report, citing a source. She underwent treatment and is recovering, according to the report. — Xinhua

5 of 7 people trapped in Laos cave found alive

FIVE of seven people trapped in a flooded cave for a week in Laos were found alive on Wednesday, Laotian and Thai rescuers said.

Seven Laotian villagers entered the cave in central Xaysomboun province, about 125 kilometres (78 miles) northeast of the capital Vientiane, on 20 May, Laotian state media said this week.

They were searching for gold but instead got trapped inside the cave after heavy rain triggered flash flooding, blocking their exit, it added.

"We've found five people alive and all safe. There are still two people we are searching for," a Laotian volunteer rescue group said in a social media post. — AFP

Thousands rally for EU on Georgia Independence Day

THOUSANDS of Georgians staged a pro-Europe rally in the capital Tbilisi on the country's Independence Day on Tuesday, to protest what critics say is the government's democratic backsliding and anti-Western tilt.

The Black Sea nation has been mired in political turmoil since parliamentary elections in 2024, which the opposition says were rigged. Opposition parties have refused to recognize the new parliament and government.

Tensions deepened after the government shelved EU membership talks with Brussels un-

til 2028. That triggered months of street protests followed by a crackdown on demonstrators, opposition figures, civil society groups and independent media.

Waving Georgian and EU flags, thousands of protesters marched through central Tbilisi before staging a rally outside parliament amid a heavy police presence, an AFP journalist saw.

Many held placards reading: "We are Europe" and portraits of jailed former president Mikheil Saakashvili, who pushed for close ties with the West while in office. — AFP



People gather to celebrate Georgia's Independence Day at the Freedom Square in Tbilisi, Georgia, 26 May 2026. **PHOTO: ALEXANDER IMEDASHVILI/XINHUA**

SPORTS

MFF reappoints Yuki Tatsuro as women's technical director

THE Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) has reappointed Japanese coach Yuki Tatsuro as the Women's Football Technical Director.

Yuki Tatsuro originally joined Myanmar football in 2023 as Women's Football Technical Director before later being appointed head coach of the Myanmar women's national team. During his time in charge for over two years, the national women's team achieved notable progress, including reaching the SEA Games final, winning a silver medal at the 2023 Cambodia SEA Games, claiming the title at the 2025 Nepal Four-Nation Invitational Tournament, and finishing as runners-up at the 2025 ASEAN Women's Championship.

However, following a group-stage exit at the 2025 Thailand SEA Games,



he stepped down from his coaching role. He later went on to manage Yangon United FC in the Myanmar National League before parting ways at the end of the season.

In his role as technical director, Yuki is expected to focus on long-term development plans for women's football in Myanmar, including improving youth systems across U15, U17 and U19 levels. He will also work on strengthening the women's football academy system, aiming to develop the next generation of players from the grassroots level to international standards. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Japanese coach Yuki Tatsuro – part of the long-term development plans for women's football in Myanmar. PHOTO: MFF

Arteta adamant English title can inspire Arsenal to Champions League glory

MIKEL Arteta is "fully convinced" Arsenal can be crowned champions of Europe for the first time this weekend after ending their 22-year wait for a Premier League title.

The Gunners face reigning European kings Paris Saint-Germain in Saturday's Champions League final in Budapest after wrapping up their first

Premier League title since 2004.

A star-studded Paris Saint-Germain, who thrashed Inter Milan 5-0 in last season's final, are widely regarded as favourites to lift the European Cup once again.

But Arsenal manager Arteta believes the confidence gained by winning the Premier League will inspire the

Gunners to upset the odds.

"You could sense the energy, you can sense the positivity and the confidence in the players and everybody around the club," he said.

"We have an amazing opportunity to write new history in our football club, and we are convinced that we're going to do it. — AFP

Myanmar boxers to compete in Benkei Fight event in Japan

	VS	
ニャン リンアウン (20=ミャンマー)		政所 博 (25=KWORLD3)
WBC スフライ級32位 OPBF フライ級8位 WBOAP スフライ級8位 日本 スフライ級10位		

Nyan Lin Aung Vs Ryou Mandokoro (53.52 Kg)

	VS	
花田 颯 (23=KWORLD3)		ザウザウ ナイン (22=ミャンマー)
IBF スフライ級15位 OPBF スフライ級13位		

Hayate Hanada Vs Zaw Zaw Naing (55.34 Kg)

	VS	
ジンジン ミンティ (19=ミャンマー)		辻 永久 (20=KWORLD3)

Zan Zan Min Htet Vs Toki Tuji (52.16 Kg)

Myanmar and Japanese fighters competing in the Benkei Fight Boxing Tournament.

THREE Myanmar boxers will compete in the Benkei Fight Boxing Tournament to be held in Osaka on 13 June, according to the Myanmar Boxing Commission.

In the 55.34-kilogramme division,

Zaw Zaw Naing will face Hayate Hanada. In the 52.16-kilogramme division, Zan Zan Min Htet will take on Toki Tuji, while in the 53.52-kilogramme division, Nyan Lin Aung will compete against Ryou

Mandokoro.

The Myanmar Boxing Commission has previously organized up to the Professional Boxing Matches-9 tournament in Myanmar. — Bala/KZL

Myanmar's Saw Min Min to fight at ONE Friday Fights 157

THE ONE Friday Fights and The Inner Circle event will take place on 5 June in Bangkok, where Myanmar fighter Saw Min Min will feature in a bout.

Saw Min Min is scheduled to face Thai fighter Yodlekpet in what will be his sixth fight under ONE. He began competing in ONE Friday Fights in 2025 and previously recorded a knockout win against Australian fighter Throbridge, but suffered a knockout loss earlier this year to Thai fighter Detchawilak.

His upcoming opponent, Yodlekpet, has extensive experience in ONE, having competed in 16 bouts with 10 wins and six losses, and is currently on a two-fight winning streak. — Nyi Myat Thawda/KZL



Two competing fighters are pictured on the poster.

Barcelona legend Alexia Putellas to leave the club after 14 years

FC Barcelona legend Alexia Putellas announced on Tuesday that she will leave the club after 14 years in which she has established herself as one of the greatest players in women's football.

The 32-year-old, who joined Barca at 18, made the announcement in a video reflecting on a career in which she has helped take "the women's team further than we ever imagined." "At the beginning, being a football player wasn't even recognized as a profession (for a woman)," she said adding that she was "privileged to have been part of this change." "I have no words to describe what it's been like to experience this alongside all my teammates," continued Alexia. — Xinhua



Australian Foreign Minister meets PM Modi, discusses growing India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

PM Modi said India and Australia will keep working for a free and secure Indo-Pacific.

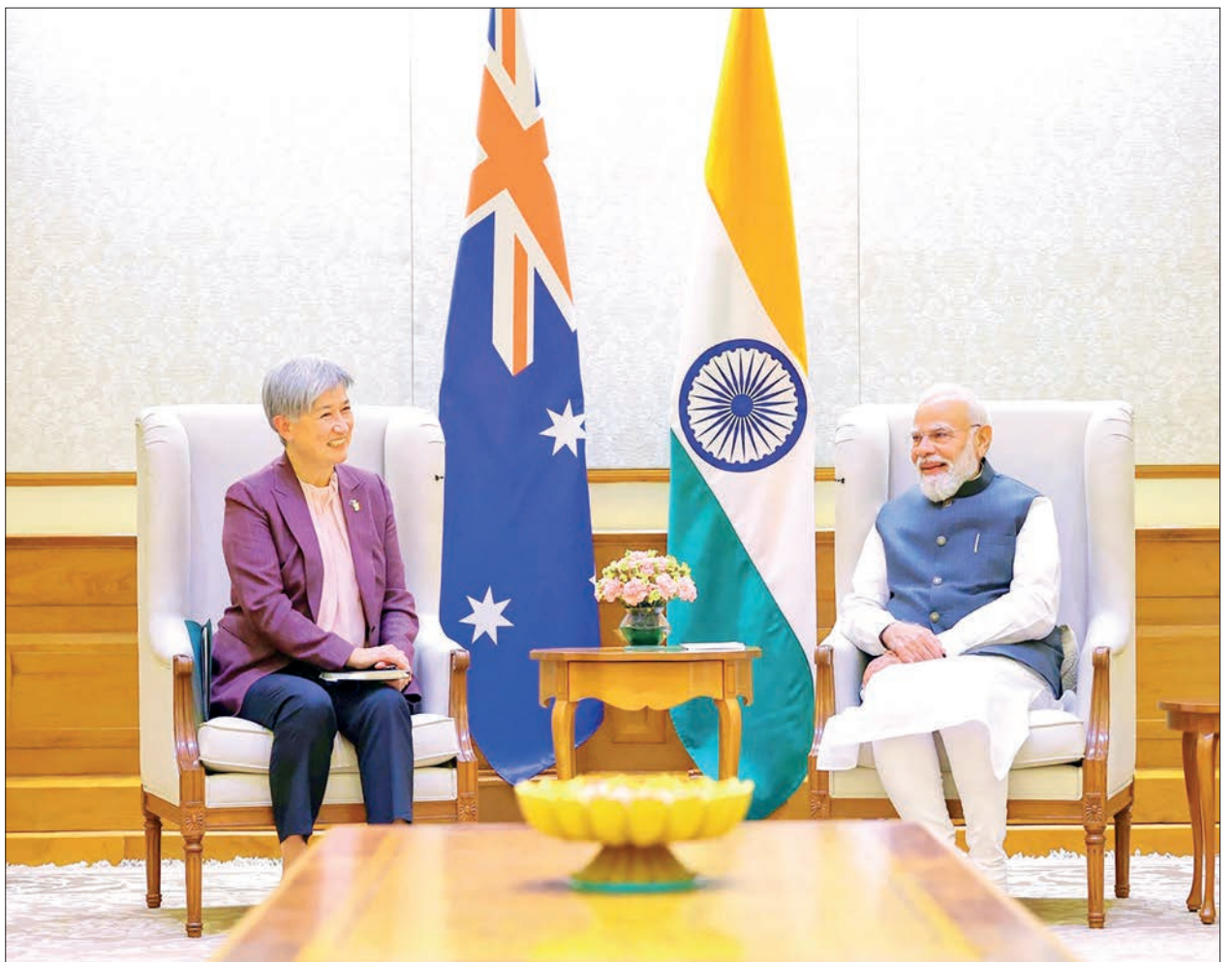
PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong and discussed the growing India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

In a post on X, PM Modi said that India and Australia will continue to work for a free, open, secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

“Happy to receive Senator Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia. We discussed the growing India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in areas such as defence, trade, technology and ensuring supply chain resilience.”

“India and Australia will continue to work for a free, open, secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific,” PM Modi said.

Penny Wong, who took part in the Quad Foreign Ministers’ meeting, later said the grouping is taking forward a number of new initiatives. “At every meeting that we have had, we have been focused on momentum and on making sure we deliver outcomes which are real.” — ANI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong in New Delhi. **PHOTO: X/@NARENDRAMODI/ANI**

China to refine AI-related legal framework

CHINESE courts will refine judicial rules governing issues related to artificial intelligence (AI) and data property rights over the next five years, a senior judge from

the country’s top court said Wednesday.

Liu Guixiang, a senior member of the adjudicatory committee of the Supreme People’s Court, told a press conference that Chinese courts would step up research and the formulation of new judicial guidelines covering emerging industries during the 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030).

Relevant rules will focus on new business forms in the digital economy and aim to improve adjudication standards in areas including data rights, data transactions and AI-generated content, Liu said.

The move is designed to promote deeper integration between digital technologies and the real economy, while helping improve the country’s foundational systems for data as a factor of production, Liu said. — Xinhua

Iran, Oman in talks on procedure for ships’ passage

IRAN and Oman are holding negotiations to determine a new procedure for the passage of ships through the Strait of Hormuz, Deputy Secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council Ali Bagheri Kani said on Wednesday.

“Iran and Oman, as adjacent coastal states, are negotiating together to determine a new mechanism for passage through the Strait of Hormuz,” the official told reporters on the sidelines of the first International Security Forum.

The conditions and order of passage through the Strait of Hormuz will be completely different compared to how it was before the outbreak of the conflict over Iran, the official added. — SPUTNIK



The State Council Information Office (SCIO) holds a press briefing on advancing comprehensive law-based governance of China in Beijing, capital of China, 27 May 2026. **PHOTO: SHAN YUQI/XINHUA**