

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing to make official visit to India

AT the invitation of Prime Minister of the Republic of India His Excellency Shri Narendra Modi, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar His Excellency U Min Aung Hlaing will pay an official visit to the Republic of India in the near future.

During the visit, the President of Myanmar will meet with the President of India and hold bilateral talks with the Prime Minister. Additionally, the President will receive Cabinet Ministers, Governors and representatives from business organizations. Furthermore, the itinerary includes visits to prominent infrastructure facilities. The President will engage in a cordial and open exchange of views to foster multifaceted cooperation across the economic, religious, cultural, and social sectors, thereby strengthening ties between the governments and peoples of the two countries.

The President will be accompanied by Union Ministers and officials during this visit. — MNA



Tourism Rebounds in Hpa-an as Visitor Arrivals Surge

WITH its beautiful early-monsoon sceneries, Hpa-an has attracted a lot of attention, and visitor numbers are rising again.

In Hpa-an, it is the most beautiful time from June to October, because of green mountains, misty landscapes and green paddy fields, and these unique characteristics make it a popular tourist destination.

“Visitors enjoy travelling to Hpa-an in the monsoon because its natural scenes look more beautiful in the rain. And the visitor arrival was seen as larger in mid-May, and it is likely to continue rising in June. Hpa-an is a popular destination among visitors for taking a monsoon vacation, and many people have made preparations for travelling,” said a resident. In addition, Hpa-an’s monsoon photos have been widely spread on social media pages, and travel companies have promoted monsoon trips to Hpa-an. Due



This image showcases the scenic beauty of the destinations in Hpa-an.

to early bookings, some hotels have been unable to accommodate guests in June.

Famous tourist attraction places in Hpa-an include Kawgun Cave, Rathepyan Cave, Kyaukkalal, Mount Zwegabin,

Mount Kyainn, Sadan Cave, Kawkath-aung Cave, Mount Taungwine, Loonya Blue Lake, Naungkhaline Blue Lake, Bayintnyi Cave, Naunglone Valley and Night Market. — MT/ZS

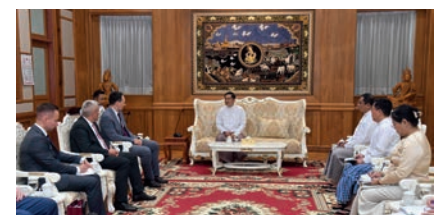
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Russian firm sparks Pangpet Steel Mill power station revival

NATIONAL

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of U Thein Win, Director-General of the Department of Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana under the Ministry of Religious Affairs, after the one-year probationary period.

Condition of Southwest Monsoon Advancement into the Central Myanmar areas

Issued on 28 May 2026

SOUTHWEST monsoon has advanced into the Central Myanmar areas and the Northeast Bay of Bengal. — DMH

Public Notice: Government to Permit EV Imports in Exchange for Deregistered Vintage Vehicles

THE National-Level Leading Committee on the Development of Electric Vehicles and Related Industries announced that arrangements are underway to allow the replacement of older, inefficient vehicles with electric vehicles (EVs).

The initiative aims to curb public fuel wastage, reduce traffic accidents caused by weakened vehicle integrity, and minimize environmental damage from excessive exhaust emissions. Under this scheme, owners can import one suitable EV by voluntarily or systematically deregistering classic or unserviceable vehicles. Eligible categories include:

- Vehicles over 20 years old from the year of manufacture.
- Vehicles deemed beyond repair for safe driving.
- Vehicles under 20 years old that are voluntarily deregistered by their owners.

To apply, owners must submit the official Vehicle Deregistration Certificate Form (d) issued by the Road Transport Administration Department (RTAD). Following scrutiny and approval by the Leading Committee, the Central Bank of Myanmar will sell the necessary foreign currency for the EV import at an appropriate exchange rate.

Ministry of Commerce

Chinese Consulate-General donates solar lights in Mandalay



The handover ceremony of donation by China's Consulate-General is in progress.

THE Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China in Mandalay has donated solar lights and solar street lamps at a ceremony held at the Zhou Enlai prayer hall at the Shwezigon Pagoda.

Officials said the donation was part of ongoing support for local development, with 300 solar lamp-posts also extended to PyinOoLwin, Meiktila and NyaungU.

The handover ceremony saw consulate officials and representatives of the Shwezigon Pagoda Board of Trustees, who received the equipment and expressed thanks. — MNA/KZL

Ayeyawady Region wins 3 World Environment Day awards

ACCORDING to the Environmental Conservation Department under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Ayeyawady Region won three awards in the 2026 World Environment Day commemorative awards programme.

Maung Thant Htoo Lwin, a Grade 9 student from No 6 Basic Education High School in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region, won the first prize in the high school-level essay competition.

In addition, under the 2026 National-Level Environmental Management Awards for cities, villages and factories/businesses with outstanding environmental management, Shwe Wah Nadi Agriculture Co Ltd, a rice milling and processing business in Nyaungdon, Ayeyawady Region, also received an award.

Similarly, in the National Clean and Green School Award 2026, Basic Education Primary School (Yaungpyitkwin) in Ywathit Village, Yekyi Township, Ayeyawady Region, won the first prize in the primary school category. — ASH/MKKS



The slogan for this year is displayed on a poster marking World Environment Day 2026.

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Thursday, 28 May 2026

BAY INFERENCE: The southwest monsoon has advanced into the Central Myanmar areas and Northeast Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea, South Bay, Eastcentral and Northeast Bay of Bengal. The weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 29 May 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Sagaing Region, scattered in Mandalay, Magway Regions and Kachin, Chin, and northern Shan States, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Kayah, and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavyfall in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and Mon State. 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 and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and 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 the 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 the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. The sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. The wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along the Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Moderate to strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bangle.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA ON 29 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA ON 29 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

NATIONAL

Board of National Bank of Belarus First Deputy Chairman calls on Vice-President U Nyo Saw

VICE-PRESIDENT of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyo Saw received a delegation led by Mr Alexander Egorov, First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Belarus, at the hall of the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

They frankly discussed the further strengthening diplomat relations and friendly ties between Myanmar and Belarus, the signing of the memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the central banks of both countries,

and the measures to cooperate on banking services, which can contribute to bilateral trade and investment between the central banks.

Also, present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Khin Latt, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Zaw Myint Naing and officials. The First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Belarus was accompanied by Hanoi-based Belarusian Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Uladzimir Baravikou, and officials. — MNA/TTA



Vice-President U Nyo Saw receives Mr Alexander Egorov, First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Belarus, and the delegation yesterday.

Myanmar, China sign cooperation agreement on 2026 Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund projects



The deputy minister and the Chinese ambassador sign the agreement in the presence of Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe.

THE signing ceremony of the Agreement of Cooperation on Projects of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund (2026) was held on 28 May 2026 at the M-Gallery Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw.

The Agreement was signed by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar in the presence of U Tin Maung Swe, Union Minister for For-

ign Affairs. Also present at the ceremony were the Union Ministers and senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Ministry of Industry and MSME Development and Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs

U Tin Maung Swe delivered the opening remarks, highlighting the significance of the signing ceremony as 2026 marks the 10th Anniversary of the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation. He appreciated China for its consistent support to the Mekong countries through the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund (LMCSF). He recognized that the LMCSF has been instrumental in implementing people-centred development projects and has significantly contributed to the socioeconomic development of the people in the region. Since 2017, Myanmar has received 140 projects, which are valued at US\$40.46 million. For 2026, Myanmar will implement eight projects, and these projects will contribute to the country's efforts in promoting agriculture, energy, environmental conservation, water resource management, MSME development and cultural cooperation.

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MoFR Union Minister receives delegation led by BNBB First Deputy Chairman

UNION Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Kan Zaw received a delegation led by Mr Alexander Egorov, First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Belarus, yesterday at Office 26 of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Nay Pyi Taw.

They cordially discussed matters relating to Myanmar-Belarus bilateral cooperation, as well as trade, investment, banking and loan-related issues.

Also attending the meeting were Deputy Minister U Han Win Aung, the permanent secretary, and responsible officials under the Ministry.

In the afternoon, representatives from Belarus's Belinvestbank JSC and the managing directors of Myanma Economic Bank, Myanma Foreign Trade Bank, and Myanma Investment and Commercial Bank signed the Banking Arrangements. — MoFR



Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw holds talks with First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Belarus Mr Alexander Egorov and the delegation yesterday.

NATIONAL

Forthcoming Hluttaw sessions to prioritize Anti-Online Scam Bill

SPEAKER of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Khin Yi received Ms Gwyn Lewis, United Nations Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator ad interim in Myanmar, at the hall of the Pyithu Hluttaw at the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the Speaker said that Myanmar regained its independence in 1948 and became a member of the United Nations. Concerning the political history of the nation, Myanmar has been experiencing the impacts of internal armed conflicts. Some crises were based on the voting fraud in the 2020 election, triggering the internal unrest. Consequently, a large number of the population faced loss of life and property. Moreover, the country severely suffered from the impacts of cyclone Mocha, Typhoon Yagi and the devastating Mandalay earthquake within the past five-year period. Despite hardships, the election was held in three phases successfully, starting in 2025.

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives elected by the people in the election are taking responsibili-



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi receives United Nations Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator ad interim Ms Gwyn Lewis yesterday.

ties for the legislative, executive and judicial pillars. The Pyithu Hluttaw primarily emphasizes the legislative measures. The government has adopted the strategic plan to carry out the tasks benefiting the people with momentum. The primary duties of the legislative measures will help people live in peace under the legal protection, and amend and supplement the existing laws and enact new ones in line with the current day and system.

The government is con-

stantly exposing and arresting telecom fraud in cooperation with neighbouring and regional countries and international organizations. Moreover, the Anti-Online Scam Bill has been drafted, and upcoming Hluttaw sessions will prioritize the promulgation of the bill into law. The Hluttaw carries out its tasks in coordination with the government to address the requirements of the people. Hluttaw representatives represent the people and send the wishes of

the people to the government as a bridge. Hence, the Speaker urged the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator ad interim to cooperate with the Hluttaw in the humanitarian aid, national development and rehabilitation measures.

The UN Resident Coordinator stated that efforts are underway to ensure the safe and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance to temporarily displaced persons. She pledged to cooperate in carrying out re-

habilitation and reconstruction work for towns and villages damaged by natural disasters. She added that efforts to eradicate narcotic drugs, promote coffee cultivation as a substitute for poppy, and help seek markets for such products would contribute to improvements in education, healthcare, and regional development within the area.

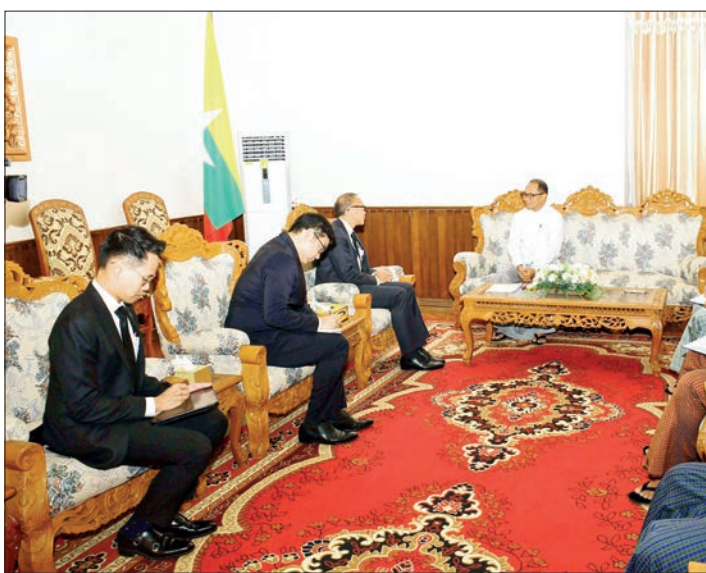
She continued that the international community recognizes Myanmar's effective efforts in combating online fraud and suppressing narcotic drugs, and that she would make every possible effort to further strengthen relations with Myanmar. She added that cooperation would also be provided in mine-clearance operations to enable temporarily displaced persons to return and resettle in their native areas. She further stated that she would cooperate in meeting Myanmar's needs and in the country's development activities.

Also, present at the meeting were Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Maung Maung Ohn and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office. — MNA/TTA

MoFA Union Minister receives delegation led by Thai FM's Adviser

U Tin Maung Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received the delegation led by Mr Kallayana Vipattipumiprates, Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

Both sides discussed matters relating to the enhancement of existing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries, closer cooperation at regional and international levels, including ASEAN, promoting trade and investment, as well as strengthening collaboration in combatting



The delegation led by Mr Kallayana Vipattipumiprates, Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, calls on Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe.

illegal trade and cross-border crimes along the border, and on environmental conservation. — MNA

Myanmar, China sign cooperation agreement on 2026 ...

FROM PAGE 3

The Union minister reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to working closely with China and other member countries to promote peace, prosperity, sustainability and inclusive development in the region.

Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, also delivered the

remarks.

The Mekong-Lancang Cooperation is a sub-regional cooperation mechanism which was officially launched in 2016 with the aim of promoting sustainable and inclusive regional development among six member countries, namely Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA

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NATIONAL

Servicemen must strive to enhance Tatmadaw's capabilities

DEPUTY Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Kyaw Swa Lin held a meeting with trainees and instructors of infantry platoon commander, company commander and commanding officer courses in Bahtoo Station yesterday afternoon.

On the occasion, the General said that as peace and stability of the State is important to uphold Our Three Main National Causes, which represent the country's national interests and to build a Union system based on democracy and a federal system, it is required to train and enhance the capabilities of each Tatmadaw member to build a strong, firm, and highly capable Tatmadaw.

He continued that Myanmar is located at a geopolitical pivot, situated between two major powers with different political systems. Due to the historical background and geographic position, it is essential to firmly pursue a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system that reflects the will of the people and is appropriate for the country. It is also necessary to



The Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief meets trainees and instructors from the Bahtoo Station yesterday.

build a Union based on democracy and a federal system.

He added that to achieve this, national stability and peace are indispensable. Therefore, all Tatmadaw members must strive to enhance the capabilities of Tatmadaw so as to ensure national stability and peace, which are essential requirements for this process.

He underlined that military officers are required to remain

loyal to the State and Tatmadaw. In addition, they must study and learn the history of the country and Tatmadaw.

The General stressed that Tatmadaw members must undergo continuous training to remain always ready for combat, without distinction between infantry and other branches. They must also continuously engage in reading and studying knowledge that is beneficial to

them.

He highlighted that if each individual carries out their assigned duties with awareness and mindfulness, their work will be able to achieve success.

The General cordially greeted the trainees and inspected the trainee hostels. He coordinated with officials for systematic measures and maintenance of hostels for relevant training courses.

Also, present at the meeting were senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of the Eastern Command and officials.

At the three-storey lecture hall of the Tatmadaw (Army) Combat Forces Training School (Bahtoo), the General heard reports on the training and four military building tasks by the commandants and the deputy commandants of the Tatmadaw (Army) Combat Forces Training School (Bahtoo), the Tatmadaw (Army) Officer Training School (Bahtoo) and the Tatmadaw (Army) Warrant Officer and Non-Commissioner Training School.

In response, the General instructed that instructors are required to train trainees with dedication when teaching military knowledge and skills, ensuring that they master the content thoroughly. They must also teach the trainees so that they become knowledgeable and skilled to the same level as the instructors' own understanding, ability, and expertise, and fulfil the needs of the trainees. — MNA/TTA

MoFA Deputy Minister receives Belarusian Ambassador to Myanmar

DEPUTY Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Ko Ko Kyaw received Mr Uladzimir Baravikou, Ambassador of Belarus to Myanmar, residing in Hanoi, on 28 May 2026 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

Both sides cordially exchanged views on further enhancing bilateral engagement through reciprocal visits, implementation of the agreements, closer cooperation between the



The Belarusian ambassador calls on Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw yesterday.

two Foreign Ministries, strengthening the existing cordial relations, expanding cooperation

in various sectors and opening of the Belarusian Embassy in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

MSWRR Deputy Minister inspects Tiddim rehabilitation work

DEPUTY Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Than Soe inspected rehabilitation and reconstruction work in Tiddim and provided donations, construction materials and relief supplies for affected residents.

The deputy minister, who chairs the rehabilitation and reconstruction committee in Chin State, attended a donation ceremony at the Tiddim Township General Administration Department office together with officials and committee members.

Authorities gave iron



Deputy Minister Dr Than Soe is pictured during his inspection tour of rehabilitation work in Tiddim, Chin State.

sheets, nail, cement and relief assistance for 85 households, including two-week food supplies and cash assistance worth more than K21 million.

Officials also inspected damaged government

buildings and homes in Tiddim, ongoing rehabilitation work jointly carried out by the government, Tatmadaw and locals, and visited patients receiving treatment at the town's 100-bed hospital District. — IPRD/KZL

NATIONAL

CBM Governor receives First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Belarus

CENTRAL Bank of Myanmar Governor Dr Khin Naing Oo received a delegation led by Mr Alexander Egorov, First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus, at the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Both sides held frank and friendly discussions on strengthening cooperation between the two central banks. The talks focused on enhancing closer collaboration to deepen mutual understanding, supporting stronger banking-sector cooperation to facilitate economic and trade linkages between the two countries, assisting commercial banks in both countries, and organizing joint training programmes to improve the capacity of central bank staff.

Following the discussions, a Memorandum of Understand-



The signing ceremony for the bilateral cooperation MoU is underway yesterday in the presence of CBM Governor Dr Khin Naing Oo.

ing (MoU) on cooperation between the central banks was signed, in the presence of the CBM Governor, by CBM Deputy Governor Dr Sanda Oo and First Deputy Chairman of the Board of the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus Mr Alexander Egorov.

By signing the MoU, the two central banks will be able to enhance cooperation in ar-

reas such as monetary policy, macroeconomic policy, and banking systems through open exchanges of views, closer collaboration in financial and banking services, and the sharing of information. The agreement will also support cooperation between commercial banks in both countries involved in trade and economic activities. — MNA/MKKS

Diesel prices slump further across domestic market

DIESEL prices continued declining in the domestic oil market, although gasoline prices consistently increased.

Fuel oil reference prices this week ending 28 May were set at K4,585 per litre for Octane 92, K4,650 for Octane 95, K4,460 for diesel and K5,485 for premium diesel. The diesel price was down by K360 per litre compared to last week's price. Meanwhile, the gasoline prices (Octane 92 and Octane 95) showed an uptick this week.

The price index set by Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), the pricing basis for many refined products in South-East Asia, influences the domestic fuel prices, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

The committee is govern-

ing the market to ensure a stable price and secure supply. Furthermore, the Central Bank of Myanmar has been injecting foreign currencies into the fuel oil sector to help cut the price.

Under the guidance of the Supervisory Committee, the Petroleum Products Regulatory Department has been issuing daily reference wholesale prices to ensure price stability for energy consumers.

The committee is inspecting the fuel stations to see whether they are overcharging. Authorities are taking action against those retailers of fuel stations under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law 2017 if they are found overcharging rather than the set reference rate.

As per the statement, 90 per cent of fuel oil in Myan-

mar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally. Domestic fuel prices are highly correlated with international prices. The State is steering the market to mitigate the loss experienced by the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to that of regional countries.

Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices than Myanmar did. However, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies, and the prices are about 60 per cent lower than those of Myanmar. Every country lays down different policy patterns to fix oil prices, the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil stated. — NN/KK

Myanmar repatriates 75 citizens rescued from Cambodian online scam centres

THE Myanmar Government consistently makes arrangements to ensure that its citizens living abroad can return home safely and as quickly as possible whenever they encounter difficulties overseas, by coordinating through Myanmar embassies and consulates-general with the relevant countries.

As part of these efforts, the Myanmar Embassy in Phnom Penh coordinated with Cambodian immigration authorities to assist 45 Myanmar men and 30 Myanmar women who had fled online scam workplaces so that they could return to their homeland.

They were repatriated on 28 May by Tatmadaw aircraft and arrived back at Yangon International Airport at around 1 pm.

The Government has been assisting Myanmar nationals facing difficulties while working abroad by arranging their return to Myanmar through coordinated support from Myanmar embassies and consulates-general. The workers and their family members have expressed their sincere gratitude to the Government, the Myanmar Embassy and the consulate-general for their assistance and rescue efforts. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/MKKS



Myanmar nationals are pictured ahead of their return home. PHOTO: KANU

MABA to mark 10th Anniversary with Mandalay-Japan Festival, Fair

TO mark the 10th Anniversary of the Myanmar-Japan Business Association (MABA), the Mandalay-Japan Festival and Annual Sales Fair will be held on 6 and 7 June at the Mingala Mandalay Promotion Area in Mandalay.

The festival and sales fair are being organized with the aims of promoting cultural exchange between Myanmar and Japan, strengthening trade cooperation through product exhibitions between the two countries, and creating networking opportunities for potential investors.

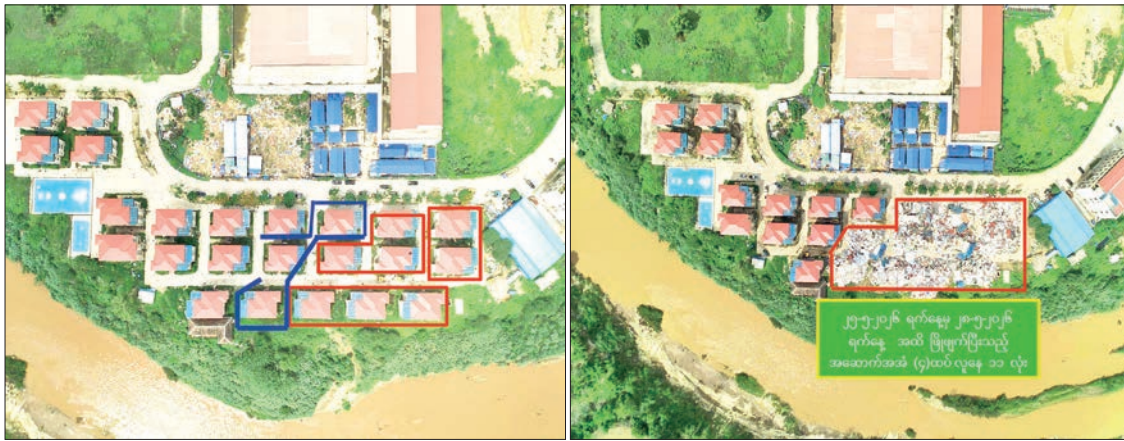
The sales fair will feature booths and exhibition stalls from

SMEs based in Mandalay and sponsors, as well as exhibition booths from member companies of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Myanmar.

During the festival, arrangements will also be made for visitors to enquire about studying, travelling and working opportunities in Japan. Bingo game programmes will be organized for all visitors attending the event, and prizes will include cash awards, a leisure trip worth K4 million, a K2.5 million cash prize, water purifiers valued at around K1.5 million, and other lucky draw programmes. — ASH/KZL

NATIONAL

Online scam hubs demolished in Shwe Kokko



Drone images reveal the extensive network of scam-related facilities in the Shwe Kokko area of Myawady, Kayin State.



THE government continues to conduct joint operations in the Shwe Kokko and the KK Park areas, where suspects commit telecom fraud and online gambling activities. The combined teams comprising security personnel and administrative bodies

are involved in these operations, which include entering the areas, dismantling and removing illegal buildings, and taking further action in accordance with the law. Yesterday, a further three four-storey buildings were systematically demolished in the

Shwe Kokko area. Of the 77 illegal buildings identified for demolition, 57 structures will be destroyed by machinery and 20 by controlled explosions. Out of 57 buildings, three four-storey buildings used for online scams were systematical-

ly demolished using machinery yesterday, and as 12 buildings had already been demolished up to date, 65 buildings remain for demolition. The government considers the eradication of telecom fraud and online gambling crimes as

a national responsibility and, to ensure that such activities can no longer operate within Myanmar, will continue its efforts in coordination not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

Mon State DRD holds 2026-2027 development tender meeting

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development held a tender clarification meeting on 27 May for regional development projects to be implemented during the 2026-2027 financial year at the Mon State Department of Rural Development office.



A tender clarification meeting is underway on 27 May.

At the ceremony, Chairman of the Tender Committee and Mon State Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Myint Maung Lay delivered the opening remarks.

Following this, Mon State Director of the Department of Rural Development U Saw Myint Tun explained the tender rules and regulations as well as the procedures that participating companies must follow. Attendees also raised questions and discussed matters related to

the tender process.

According to officials, projects to be implemented during the 2026-2027 financial year with Union government funding, totalling K1,679.95 million, include six rural water supply projects and nine production road projects.

In addition, projects funded by the Mon State government with a total allocation of K2,984.36 million will include 10 rural water

supply projects and 20 rural production road, bridge, and village road projects.

The Mon State Department of Rural Development stated that the projects will be implemented within the current financial year through contracts awarded to successful tender-winning companies across townships under the department's supervision. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

25 online scammers arrested in Muse



Photos reveal detained suspects and confiscated scam-related materials.

MYANMAR authorities arrested 28 online scammers and gambling items in Swansaw ward of Muse of Shan State (North).

The combined force raided a house in Swansaw ward yesterday afternoon. They arrested five Chinese nationals and 23 Myanmar nationals together

with 96 mobile phones, 35 all-in-one computers, one laptop, one heavy power station, one small power station, three Wi-Fi devices and five battery motorcycles.

Offenders will face legal action under the law. — MNA/KTZH

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OPINION

ARTICLE POEM

Enriching youth intellect through reading

LITERATURE can be seen as a teacher that instructs and disciplines the human heart, as well as a close companion that guides and shapes one's life. For young people who are still inexperienced in life, it is necessary, as preparation before facing the struggles of life, to seek out and gather as much knowledge as possible from literature.

When reading literature, it is also necessary to select works that are beneficial and that can provide nourishment for one's heart, life, people, and country. Today, with the rapid growth

of social media, it is clearly seen that harmful or "toxic" content is spreading widely from various sources. Therefore, young people need to learn to choose reading materials that can support the development of their lives and way of thinking by improving their intellect, and to discard toxic information from the content available on social media. It is observed that among today's youth, the habit of reading is becoming increasingly rare. In order to develop good reading habits, young people are encouraged to begin cultivating the regular practice of reading. As they read and study a wide range of beneficial literature, including fiction and non-fiction literary works, their own hearts and interests will naturally guide them in identifying the types of literature they prefer.

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To be able to protect the motherland, young people are urged to start striving to improve themselves from this age onward. They should build a good life in companionship with knowledge and education, and in the course of their lives, take the good lessons from the many experiences they encounter while avoiding the bad ones. As such, they have to try hard to shape themselves to become future leaders who make their parents proud and are relied upon by the nation, equally capable and in step with the times.

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Today, various forms of social media are rapidly influencing society day after day. Due to the nature of media, its influence continues to expand, and in some cases, it also gains strength through the actions of individuals. As a result, the new generation of young people has gradually become more distant from books and literature and more closely connected to social media. Therefore, all young people must be aware that through social media, harmful news and toxic content can strongly damage and undermine the hearts and minds of the younger generation.

It is observed that among today's youth, the habit of reading is becoming increasingly rare. In order to develop good reading habits, young people are encouraged to begin cultivating the regular practice of reading. As they read and study a wide range of beneficial literature, including fiction and non-fiction literary works, their own hearts and interests will naturally guide them in identifying the types of literature they prefer.

VESAK Day 2026 has been commemorated mainly in Buddhist-majority countries in recent days.

This article deals with a few misunderstandings and misconceptions of certain basic doctrines of Buddhism made by a few Western personages.

Father Sangermano's Misunderstanding

Father Vincenzo Sangermano (22 April 1758-28 July 1819) was a Catholic priest who lived in what was then the Kingdom of Burma from 1783 to 1806. His book *A Description of the Burmese Empire* was published posthumously in Italian and later translated into English. The revised English translation was published in 1883.

There are quite a few comments made by Sangermano about Buddhist doctrine. I will mention only a few misstatements that the Barnaby priest made.

The first statement Sangermano made was that Gautama Buddha was a 'God' (or at least the Burmese Buddhist considered the Buddha as a 'God'). That is incorrect. In canonical Buddhism, the concept of Creator/God is rejected. Ancient India of 2,500 years ago had religious sects or doctrines which postulated the concept of a Creator. Hinduism also has the Concept of Creator, Preserver and Destroyer.

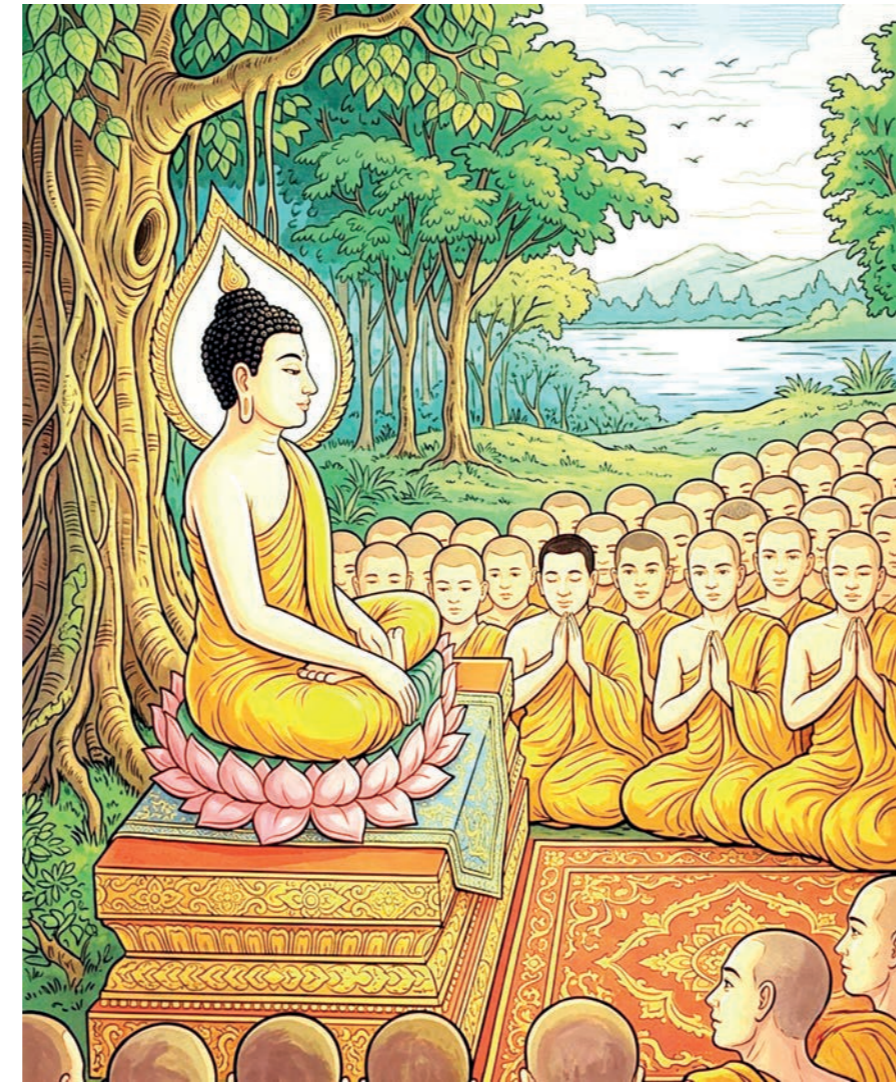
Canonical Buddhism had no such doctrine. The ancient Indian concept of Creator significantly, if not radically, differed from those of the Abrahamic religions of Christianity and Islam, with its 'only begotten Son' (Christianity) and 'Prophet/Prophets' (Islam as well as aspects of Christianity). The (mis) attribution of the (Abrahamic) concept of 'God' in that the Buddhists considered Gautama Buddha as a 'God' was a categorical mistake of Sangermano.

Sangermano also misstated that Gautama Buddha, after his (His) meditative practices, obtained 'divinity'. *The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (9th edition) defines 'divinity' (among others) as 'the quality of being a God or like God: the divinity of Christ'. After six years of ascetic and meditative practice, Gautama Buddha achieved 'enlightenment', not 'divinity' as stated by Sangermano.

Sangermano also wrote that according to the Burmese Doctors (Sangermano's words: he apparently meant Burmese learned religious scholars of his time in the late 18th and early 19th century), the Buddha went through 410,000 world systems before obtaining enlightenment. Here Sangermano may have underestimated the numerous lives Gautama Buddha or other Buddhas have to go through and

A few Westerners' misconceptions about Buddhism: An encapsulated commentary

By Myint Zan



the efforts the embryo Buddhas had to make before obtaining enlightenment.

The transliterated Burmese phrase *lay thin chay hnin kabara ta their* proximately (so to speak) is about four trillion and one hundred thousand world systems. An anthropologist and Burma scholar, Melford Spiro (26 April 1920-14 October 2014) wrote in his book *Buddhism and Society: A Great Tradition and its Burmese Vicissitudes* that a world system, according to Buddhist metaphysics, lasts much longer than the sun's death in modern astronomy (about five billion years from the current time)!

Sangermano's statement that the Buddha was a 'God' and that the Buddha obtained 'divinity' can be described as his misunderstanding of canonical, doctrinal Buddhist doctrines. The

410,000 (sic, as stated by Sangermano) world systems as well as the four trillion and 100,000 world systems (sic), I opine, belong to supposed Buddhist metaphysics and Buddhist folklore.

Two critiques (rather than full misstatements) on Buddhism by Lin Yu Tang and Somerset Maugham

In his best seller, but to yours truly overrated, *The Importance of Living* (first published 1938) the author Lin Yutang (10 October 1895-26 March 1976) in one of his comments wrote thus:

QUOTE

There are several views of mankind: the traditional Christian theological view, the Greek pagan view, and the Chinese-Taoist Confucianist view. (I do

not include the Buddhist view because it is so sad.)

UNQUOTE

Though arguably based on or even if Lin Yutang's view of the 'sad Buddhist view' is a misstatement, it is not as wrong or misconceived as those made by Sangermano. It can perhaps be stated (with some indulgence) that Yutang is entitled to his opinion. With that, I will dismiss Yutang's dismissive opinion of Buddhism.

William Somerset Maugham (25 January 1874-16 December 1965) published *The Gentleman in the Parlour: A Record of a Journey from Rangoon to Haiphong* in 1930. He had a few comments on Buddhism as well. I do not have a copy of the book currently. From my firm memory, he commented to the effect that 'just because a rose, in due course, wilts and dies', why shouldn't people enjoy the beauty of the rose while it blooms. The implication was: it is true that people (or some people) aged, got sick, and all eventually die, why shouldn't they not enjoy the ordinary pleasures of life before sickness, old age, disease and eventually, inevitably death takes place? This, I recall, was Maugham's critique of (in essence) the Buddhist concept of *Dukkha* (Pali language: roughly, 'suffering', being awry, see below). Again, one should grant that Maugham was entitled to his opinion.

Pope John Paul II's misunderstanding (if not distortion): the statement that Buddhism considers the world as 'evil'

In his *Crossing the Threshold of Hope* (first published 1994), Pope John Paul II (as he then was, later 'Saint John Paul II') (18 May 1920-2 April 2005) stated that 'Buddhism considers the world as evil'. Like his common co-religionist Sangermano's remarks of 180 years ago, the Pope was, if not ingloriously wrong then greatly mistaken.

Perhaps the misinformed Pope mistook, misinterpreted or perhaps distorted the Pali word *Dukkha* as 'evil'. *Dukkha* has been 'proximately' translated as 'suffering', and all the English translations use the word 'suffering' to connote *Dukkha*. A former Catholic nun and author, Karen Arm-

strong (born 14 November 1944), stated in one of her books that *Dukkha* can also be translated as the state of being 'awry'. That definition or exposition may also not fully capture the essence of *Dukkha*.

In the first of Four Noble Truths of Buddhism the following sentence (in translation and elaboration) appears: 'One could wish that the suffering of birth, the suffering of old age, the suffering of physical and mental pain and sickness, the suffering arising from having to part from loved ones, the suffering of having to deal, to stay with unloved, hateful persons should not happen to me but that wish cannot, ought not be fulfilled is also suffering'.

In his novel *Creation* (first published 1981), Gore Vidal (3 October 1925-31 2012), using one of his characters in the historical novel, explained the above exposition by saying 'Not getting what you want is suffering, getting what you want is also suffering'. Vidal, I submit, perceived an aspect of Buddhism better than Pope John Paul II did.

Is Buddhism the 'search for the good'?

All the above comments from Sangermano (early 19th century), Maugham (1930), Lin Yutang (1938), and Pope John Paul II (1994) were written records.

In 1982, a Michigan Law School classmate (we were in the same class in one subject), now a distinguished scholar and law Professor in the United States, mentioned to me that 'Buddhism (in his opinion) is a search for the good'. Compared with Pope John Paul II's comment that 'Buddhism considers the world as evil', it is somewhat more satisfying.

Still, can Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam also be designated in the generic rather than the philosophical, theological sense of the word as 'search for the good'? Partly yes and partly 'no'. The definition of what is 'good' or 'the highest good', *summum bonum*, may be different among different religions, perhaps even among various sects of the same religion.

In the third Noble Truth of Buddhism, *Nibbana* (Pali), *Nirvana* (Sanskrit), is the *summum bonum* of Buddhism. Without defining or elaborating on this highest good in Buddhism, the fourth Noble Truth laid down the eight-fold noble path to reach that goal. They are: right view, right intention, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, right concentration. Buddhism may be the search for the good both intra-religiously and generically. Concomitantly, it also stipulates, exhorts, recommends

rather than commands (contra the Ten Commandments) that Buddhists try to practice them not only in the 'search for the good' but to obtain the 'good' which in the Buddhist context is *Nibbana*.

Among the personages (so to speak) who had commented on Buddhism publicly in writing, only Lin Yutang, who was born in China, can be described (in part) as a non-Westerner. But Lin Yutang was largely trained in the West. He indeed had introduced Chinese philosophical thought and Chinese literature to the West. But his dismissive comment that he would not include the Buddhist view of mankind because it is so sad cannot be discerned in other more (shall we say) understanding Westerners like Maugham, Vidal, especially Karen Armstrong and my anonymous former classmate.

In his 1966 book *Social Dimensions of Law and Justice*, jurist Julius Stone (7 July 1907-3 September 1985), writing as a bourgeois social scientist, stated that in observing Marxist and Soviet legal theory as an outsider, 'the doors of cognition could forever be barred'. Resorting to legal Latin *a fortiori* ('all the more so'), the doors of cognition in matters of religious concepts, especially to those who wear or have blinkers (like Father Sangermano and Pope John Paul II), may be 'forever barred'. For those who are more open-minded, cognition, even some understanding, perhaps somewhat better than 'through a glass darkly' (1 Corinthians 13:12) can be achieved in cross-cultural and cross-religious discourse.

Freedom in Simplicity

By Moon Cherry K, (A Modern Free Verse Poem)

<p>Life is a journey far too short.</p> <p>In this temporary world, I embrace the gentle breeze and the warmth of sunlight.</p> <p>Whenever I am with the people I love, I live freely like a little child.</p> <p>I work hard to move forward in life, while learning to live in harmony with everyone.</p> <p>Pride and ego</p>	<p>drift away like dry leaves carried by the wind.</p> <p>And within this simplicity, I continue to live with freedom, peace, and a quiet heart.</p>
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ရိုးရှင်းမှုထဲက လွတ်လပ်ခြင်း

ဘဝဆိုတာ တိုတောင်းလွန်းတဲ့ခရီးတစ်ခု။

မမြဲတည်တံ့ကမ္ဘာမြေကြီးမှာ လေပြေနေ နေရာပြန်လည်ကို ရွေးကောက်မယ်။

ချစ်ရသူတွေနဲ့ရှိနေချိန်တိုင်း ကလေးငယ်တစ်ယောက်လို လွတ်လပ်စွာနေထိုင်မယ်။

ဘဝတက်လမ်းအတွက် ကြိုးစားအားထုတ်သလို လူတိုင်းနဲ့လည်း လိုက်လျောညီထွေစွာ နေထိုင်မယ်။

အတ္တနဲ့မာနတွေကို လေထဲလွင့်သွားတဲ့ သစ်ရွက်မြောက်တော့လို့ လွှင့်ပစ်လိုက်မယ်။

ပြီးတော့... ဒီရိုးရှင်းမှုထဲမှာပဲ လွတ်လပ်အေးချမ်းစွာ ရှင်သန်သွားမယ်။

NATIONAL

China's Yunnan Media Group, Myanmar's Swe Myo Pauk-Phaw Magazine sign media cooperation MoU

THE signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Yunnan Media Group of China and the Swe Myo Pauk-Phaw Magazine, which is published monthly in Myanmar language, to cooperate on news, content provision, and technology, was held last night at the Myanmar Sport Hotel inside the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The ceremony was attended by officials from the Printing and Publishing Department under the Ministry of Information, Myawady Television, Vice-President of Yunnan Media Group Ms Zhang Ying, and other officials, and representatives from the Myanmar-China Cooperation Association (MCCA) and Swe Myo Pauk-Phaw Magazine, along with invited guests.

At the ceremony, Vice-President of Yunnan Me-



The MoU signing ceremony is underway at yesterday's event.

dia Group Ms Zhang Ying, and Daw Khin Khin Lay, Publisher of Swe Myo Pauk-Phaw Magazine and Chairperson of the MCCA, signed the MoU in the presence of attendees.

Swe Myo Pauk-Phaw Magazine has been published

since 2020 and has launched its own application, while its programme titled "A Variety of Pleasures and Wealth of Knowledge from Swe Myo Pauk-Phaw" is also broadcast on Myawady Television. — MNA/TH

GVP funds of K48.7M disbursed in Kunhing

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Kunhing Township, Shan State (South), held a ceremony on 27 May in Hokyel Village, to disburse Green Village Project revolving funds.

At the ceremony, Township Head of the Department of Rural Development U Aung Kyaw Hein explained that the revolving funds were being provided with the objectives of creating employment opportunities and increasing household incomes for rural residents, as well as implementing village development activities through the increased project funds.

The project officer then

explained the interest rates, repayment periods, and regulations to be followed in the loan disbursement process before transferring K48.7 million in Green Village Project revolving funds to members of the project committee in Hokyel Village.

Following this, under the supervision of the Kunhing Township Department of Rural Development, members of the Green Village Project committee disbursed low-interest revolving funds totalling K48.7 million directly to 24 beneficiaries in Hokyel Village. Among them, 17 agricultural workers received K32.2 million, while seven traders received K16.5 million. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)



Public Notice

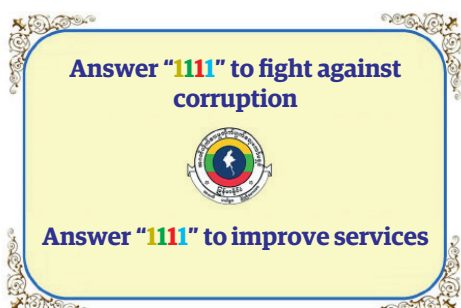
THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

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



Air Quality Measurements in Yangon on 27 May

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

No	Air quality monitoring sites in Yangon Region	Parameters				
		PM 2.5	PM 10	SO ₂	NO ₂	O ₃
1	Botahtaung Township, Yangon	Good				
2	International Business Centre, Hline, Yangon	Good				
3	Dagon Township, Yangon	Good				

Air Quality Index - AQI

0-50	Good air quality
51-100	Acceptable air quality
101-150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups
151-200	Unhealthy
201-300	Very unhealthy
301-500	Hazardous

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

Environmental Conservation Department

NATIONAL

Cooperative training centres open enrolment for new business accounting intake

THE Cooperative Accounting Vocational Training Centres in Magway, Mandalay, Taunggyi, Mawlamyine, and Patheingyi cities are recruiting first-year admission of a three-year Business Accounting Course that will start on 16 June 2026, according to the Department of Cooperatives, the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development.

Applicants who are unmarried citizens in good health, passed Grade 9 (new Curriculum), and who can comply with the regulations and complete the full course are eligible to join the course.

The trainees will receive a Certificate in Business Accounting upon successful completion, in addition to connecting job seekers with employers.

Those who complete the three-year course and meet the eligibility requirements are entitled to transfer to Cooperative Colleges to pursue their further studies. Outstanding graduates can transfer to the University of Cooperative and Management Studies for advanced post-graduate and master's programmes. Interested individuals can enroll the course at Cooperative Accounting Vocational Training Centre (Magway), located in the South of Magway Station, Aung Myitta (D) Ward, near Myinkin Village, Magway Cities: 09 254412338, 09 691905321, Cooperative Accounting Vocational Training Centre (Mandalay), located at Plot 177, 83rd Street, between 25th and 26th Streets, Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay Region at 09 420701634, 09 793595364, 09 2110649, 09 665691918, Cooperative Accounting Vocational Training Centre (Taunggyi), in the corner of Bogyoke Aung San Road and Anawrahta Road, near Hotel La Vista in Pyidawtha Ward, Taunggyi, Shan State at 081 2121320, 09 428667053, 09 43133243, Cooperative Accounting Vocational Training Centre (Mawlamyine) on Ayadaw Road, Bogon Ward, Mawlamyine, Mon State at 09 425288735, 09 423736449, 09 792181042, 09 425267008 and Cooperative Accounting Vocational Training Centre (Patheingyi) in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region at 09 697445302, 09 250422952, 09 697053455, 09 451089404. — NN/KK

Stakeholders gather for rice export zone awareness drive



The awareness workshop on the Rice Export Zone is in progress.

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) announced that an awareness workshop on the Rice Export Zone (REZ) was held using a hybrid system on 27 May at the Mingalar Hall of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

During the workshop, officials discussed experiences regarding REZ operations during the 2026 summer rice season, as well as upcoming plans for the 2027 monsoon rice season. Additionally, responsible personnel explained the financial and operational fundamentals

of the REZ project, the procedures to be followed by participating exporter companies, loan withdrawal methods, loan terms and conditions, and regulations regarding breaches of terms.

Furthermore, sectoral discussions were carried out for cooperating with farmers, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), and the use of high-quality pure seeds and organic fertilizers.

The workshop was attended by the deputy director-general of the Department of Agriculture, departmental officials, and members from the MRF and other related organizations.

During the event, officials from the companies offered suggestions on coordinating and amending Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that present practical bottlenecks and difficulties in operations, and raised questions regarding REZ processes. Representatives from the relevant departments and associations then clarified these points. — MT/ZN

Officials inspect vocational motorcycle repair training in Patheingyi

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development conducted a field inspection on 27 May at Thudawgon Village, Patheingyi Township, to monitor the ongoing vocational basic motorcycle repair and maintenance training being implemented for the 2026-2027 financial year.

The training programme aims to provide rural residents with practical vocational skills that can support livelihood opportunities and self-employment.

Director-General U Myo Naing Aung of the Department of Rural Development, Director U Nay Htet Shein, Deputy Director U Zeya Zaw Myo, and Patheingyi Township Head Daw Thi Thi Aung, together with village officials, visited the training site and observed trainees participating in practical lessons.

The director-general also met trainees and encouraged them to seriously study and practice the technical skills during the training period so they would be able to establish their own businesses in the future. He also stressed the importance of completing the course within the designated period and coordinated necessary support based on village needs.

According to officials, the Patheingyi Township Department

of Rural Development is providing the training free of charge from 1 to 30 May this year over a 30-day period to create employment opportunities suited to local conditions for rural communities.

A total of 20 trainees from 10 villages, namely Thudawgon, Kanni, Hlegyawgon, Tunpalun, Wunthay, Phayagon, Zeegon, Kyakandaunt, Kyaungpangon, and Einchaunglay villages, are attending the training course. — Sein Lwin (Rural)



YGH opens new rest facility for caregivers

A new resting place for caregivers has been available at the Yangon General Hospital, starting from 27 May.

It is the fourth building that allows caregivers to stay overnight at the hospital.

"It's really necessary. We really thank the officials for giving support to the public like that. May they serve the public better. And this is a really good plan. It's delightful," the public comments stated.

YGH said it is grateful that there are private donors who

come to donate 700-1,500 meal boxes on a daily basis.

Starting from 20 May, a new outpatient unit for elderly care will be opened every Wednesday from 9 am to noon. Professors from six specialist departments — Department of Medicine, Department of Diabetes and Endocrinology, Department of Orthopaedics and Trauma, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Department of Dermatology and Department of Oral Medicine — will provide medical service for older people in the same location. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL BUSINESS

YSX stock trading values exceed K1.63B in Apr



A view of the main electronic ticker board inside the Yangon Bourse.

THE grand trading value of the eight listed companies on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) topped K1.63 billion from 332,880 shares traded in April 2026, according to YSX's statistics.

At present, shares of eight listed companies – First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd (TMH), the Ever

Flow River Group Public Co Ltd (EFR), Amata Holding Public Co Ltd (AMATA) and Myanmar Agro Exchange Public Co Ltd (MAEX) are traded in the securities market.

MTSH topped the trading on equity with over K902 million from 149,074 shares, followed by FPB with stocks worth K266 million from 65,113 shares, MAEX with K215 million from 54,801 shares, FMI with over K123 million from

9,572 shares, EFR with K91 million from 50,094 shares, MCB with K27.736 million from 2,936 shares, AMATA with K2.66 million from 677 shares, and TMH with K1.97 million from 613 shares.

The stock trading values were estimated at K2.88 billion with 693,616 shares traded in March 2026. The stock trading value in April is down by over K1.25 billion compared to that of March. — NN/KK

CBM pumps US\$1.7M into forex market

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.5 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$3,520 CMP companies on 27 May, along with over \$214,000 worth of non-trade transactions.

CBM continued to sell over \$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, into 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 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



Highways Dept bids to procure materials for infrastructure projects

THE Special Task Force of the Department of Highways in Langkho District, southern Shan State, will invite open tenders for the procurement of materials worth over K200 million needed for road and bridge projects to be implemented during the 2026-2027 financial year using the Union State Budget.

The materials are to be delivered to designated stockpile locations. The tender form is available at the Assistant Director's Office by 10 June. The deadline for submission of tender applications is 4 pm on 11 June.

The tender opening will take place on 12 June at the Office of the Assistant Director, Department of Highways in Langkho. Individuals can enquire for further details through the department at 09 254601953 and 081 87012. — NN/KK

Russian firm sparks Pangpet Steel Mill power station revival



Glimpses of the No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet) in southern Shan State.

A Russian company is cooperating in efforts to enable the operation of the Heat Recovery Power Station (HRPS) at No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet) in Shan State (South), according to reports.

The Heat Recovery Power Station (HRPS) project is being jointly implemented by the Ministry of Industry and

MSME Development in cooperation with TPE Co Ltd of Russia.

Once completed, the HRPS will be capable of generating 40 megawatts of electricity by utilizing waste heat produced from the Waste Heat Boiler of the Romelt Furnace. The electricity generated will enable the steel mill's smelt-



ing operations to run on its own power supply, while surplus electricity will be transmitted and sold to the national grid.

It is also reported that the long-standing objective of establishing the steel mill has now achieved a certain level of success. An oxygen and nitrogen production workshop, which will help the main smelting furnace of the factory reach the required molten iron stage, has already been successfully opened. Efforts are continuing to successfully commission the remaining two facilities – the Heat Recovery Power Station and the Romelt workshop. — ASH/KNN

Tandora launches India's first digital marketplace for auction properties

INDIA'S growing Non Performing Asset (NPA) space has created a strong need for a more transparent and accessible system for buying and selling bank auction properties.

Addressing this gap, Tandora has officially launched India's first dedicated digital marketplace for bank auction properties, bringing together buyers, investors, banks, Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs), and financial institutions on a single platform.

Tandora is a joint venture between Jeevan Group, a Chennai based banking solutions com-

pany with expertise in debt syndication and NPA resolution, and Mind Spark Technologies, a Florida headquartered technology company specializing in web, mobile, and data analytics solutions.

Designed as a complete property auction ecosystem, Tandora goes beyond conventional listing portals by offering buyers assistance across the entire process, including property discovery, legal and physical due diligence, auction participation, loan assistance, title transfer, and possession formalities. — ANI

China, US to work out tariff deal arrangements and implement soon: commerce ministry

CHINESE and US economic and trade teams will maintain close communication on tariff issues, work out specific arrangements and advance implementation as soon as possible, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce said Thursday.

Tariffs have long been one of the key issues in China-US economic and trade relations, He Yadong, spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce, said at a regular press conference.

Under the strategic guidance of the two heads of state, both teams have had in-depth exchanges on tariff issues and made arrangements in this regard. "I would like to reit-



An aerial drone photo taken on 11 July 2023 shows new energy vehicles for export at a terminal of Taicang Port, east China's Jiangsu Province.

PHOTO: JI HAIXIN/XINHUA/FILE

erate that China hopes the US side will honor its commitments and create favorable conditions for expanding economic and trade cooperation between

the two sides," the spokesperson said.

He added that the two sides have agreed in principle to discuss, under the trade council, a

reciprocal tariff reduction framework arrangement on products of equivalent scale and worth US\$30 billion or more on each side. — Xinhua

French AI firm Mistral announces deals with BMW, Airbus

FRENCH AI firm Mistral announced Thursday partnerships with BMW and the aerospace group Airbus as it aims to boost growth by fostering links with defence and industry giants.

The Paris-based company said it would be in-

involved with car-crash tests and plane design.

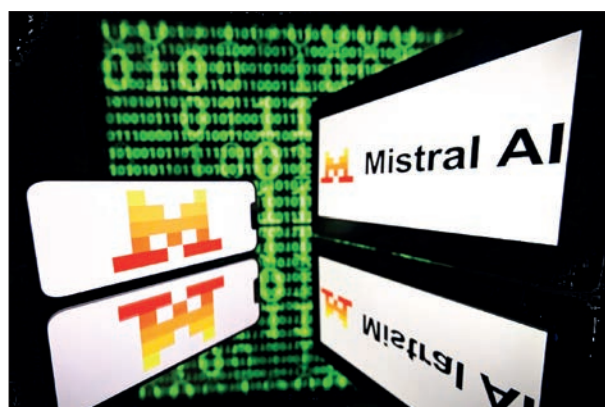
"The most important use cases for AI are located in research and development and the creation of physical objects," chief executive Arthur Mensch told hundreds of guests at the company's first AI con-

ference in Paris.

Mistral is already closely tied with ASML, the Dutch firm producing chipmaking equipment indispensable for the high-end semiconductors, which invested in the French company last year.

"It's an interesting new market where Europe is strong... Europe has significant high-end manufacturing companies," Mensch had told reporters ahead of Thursday's event.

The company this month bought an Austrian start-up, Emmi AI, that specializes in digital simulations for industry, after earlier snapping up the French cloud computing start-up Koyeb. — AFP



The Paris-based company said it would be involved with car-crash tests and plane design. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Nissan 5 execs receive \$8.7M remuneration amid 2 years of net losses

NISSAN Motor Co's five executive officers, including President Ivan Espinosa, received remuneration totalling 1.39 billion yen (\$8.7 million) for the financial year ended March, even though the company reported two straight years of net losses, a shareholders' meeting notice showed Thursday. As the struggling Japanese

automaker is in the midst of overhaul efforts that include the cutting of 20,000 jobs globally by financial 2027, Espinosa has voluntarily returned half of his performance-linked payment, according to the notice. An executive's remuneration consists of fixed, performance-based and stock compensation. — Kyodo

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

- Open Tender is invited for supply of the following item in Yuan.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description
1	12(T)15/MR(ML/NPT) Yuan/26-27	Procurement for Remanufacturing of (2) Units of Battery Electric Locomotives from original 1600HP ALSTOM Diesel Electric Locomotives

Closing Date & Time – 26.6.2026(Friday) (2:30)PM

- Tender documents are available at our office starting from 29.5.2026 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanmar Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon, Phone- 95-1-294352, 291994, 291985.

ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

Mexico, US starting talks to review free trade pact

The US-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) agreement is vital for the Mexican economy as the US accounts for over 80 per cent of its exports.



Mexico's Secretary of Economy, Marcelo Ebrard, speaks during an event to announce the results of the public consultation on the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), at the offices of the Ministry of Economy, in Mexico City on 9 March 2026. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

MEXICO and the United States are starting talks to revise the North American free trade agreement, officials said Wednesday, with negotiations overshadowed by tariff pressure from US President Donald Trump and cross-border security issues.

The US-Mexico-Canada

(USMCA) agreement is vital for the Mexican economy as the US accounts for over 80 per cent of its exports. The treaty is set to be updated every six years. The first round of the bilateral talks, being held in Mexico City, will run until Friday.

Mexican President Clau-

dia Sheinbaum said Wednesday she was optimistic the neighbors could reach an agreement.

"It is going to be a very productive dialogue," she said, noting that Economic Secretary Marcelo Ebrard had met with US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer the previous evening. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

China calls for vigilance against remilitarized Japan

A Chinese defence spokesperson on Thursday called on the international community to jointly contain Japan's neo-militarism.

Jiang Bin, a spokesperson for the Ministry of National Defense, made the remarks in response to a media query about Tokyo framing China as a "security threat" in the Pacific, while rejecting China's criticisms of its neo-militarist moves.

Jiang pointed out that in recent years, Japan has seen sharp hikes in its defence budget, developed and deployed offensive weapons, eased restrictions on exporting lethal weapons, pushed to revise the pacifist Constitution, clamored to be a war-capable nation, and even touted abandoning the three non-nuclear principles. — Xinhua

IRGC strikes US base used in attack on Iranian facility

IRAN'S Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said on Thursday that it struck the US military base from which an attack was launched on a facility near the Iranian city of Bandar Abbas.

Following pre-dawn US military airstrikes on a facility near Bandar Abbas airport, the US military base from which the attack was carried out was struck at 4:50 am (00:20 GMT), Press TV reported, citing a statement from the IRGC. The IRGC warned that any act of aggression against Iran will not go unanswered, and that Iran will act even more decisively if attacks are repeated. — SPUTNIK

Norway to join nuclear deterrence initiative

NORWEGIAN Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store said Wednesday that Norway will join French President Emmanuel Macron's nuclear deterrence initiative, while stressing that the decision will not change Norway's basic policy on nuclear weapons.

Store travelled to Paris on Wednesday for talks with Macron. Speaking to Norwegian media, he said Norway's decision was based on the current security situation in Europe and that Europe must assume greater responsibility for its own security. Store also emphasized that Norway's nuclear weapons policy remains unchanged. Norway will not allow nuclear weapons to be stationed on its territory in peacetime, he said, adding that Norway will not contribute financially to France's nuclear weapons programme. — Xinhua

Khamenei charts post-war economic roadmap for Iran's Parliament

IN a direct directive to the Twelfth Majlis, Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei, on Thursday, signalled a strategic shift towards economic consolidation as the nation navigates the challenges of a post-war environment.

In a message marking the third year of the current parliament's tenure, the Supreme Leader outlined a comprehensive agenda designed to stabilize the Iranian economy. He empha-

sized that the legislative branch must now function as a pillar of national recovery, focusing on critical metrics including inflation control and liquidity management.

In a post on X, he said, "Parliament members should prioritize economic stability, inflation reduction, liquidity management, production prosperity, reform of the Seventh Development Plan, and the addition of provisions related to the ren-

ovation and reconstruction of damages from the second and third imposed wars as their main agenda, and delineate the roadmap for the government's actions and other sectors in the current conditions and the post-war era."

He added, "Representatives of the nation must devote all their energies to synergistic governance with the government, on the path of merit-based modernization of the country." — ANI



Commuters drive past a large billboard depicting Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei on a street in Tehran on 20 April 2026. **PHOTO: ATTA KENARE / AFP / FILE**

SPORTS

Barcelona reach agreement with Newcastle's Gordon



Anthony Gordon waves farewell to Newcastle supporters after his last game at Saint James' Park against West Ham. **PHOTO: AFP**

BARCELONA reached an agreement with Newcastle on Wednesday for the transfer of England international Anthony Gordon, the La Liga champions told AFP, confirming reports in the Spanish press. The 25-year-old winger, who has been named in England's World Cup squad, is expected to be Barca's first summer signing, as the club looks to strengthen its attack following the departure of its veteran Polish striker Robert Lewandowski.

According to an internal source contacted by AFP, the Catalan giants, once again allowed to sign players without financial restrictions, had their offer of 70 million euros (\$81 million) plus 10 million euros in bonuses accepted by the Premier League club. The official announcement of Gordon's move is expected by the end of the week, the club said. According to the Catalan press, Gordon's arrival, as a left winger who can also play centrally, does not rule out other potential attacking signings. — AFP

Myanmar drawn in AFC U20 Development Phase Group K

THE Asian Football Confederation will introduce a new format for the 2027 AFC U20 Asian Cup qualifiers, with Myanmar placed in Development Phase Group K.

According to the draw held on 28 May, the qualifiers will consist of eight regular groups and three Development Phase groups. Myanmar failed to qualify for the main qualifying section due to poor results in previous campaigns and will instead compete in the Development Phase.

Myanmar were drawn alongside the Maldives, Brunei and Sri Lanka in Group K. The top two teams with the highest points from the three Development Phase groups will advance to next year's qualifiers.

The qualifiers will be held from 31 August to 6 September, with Myanmar hosting the Group K matches.

The Myanmar U20 team is currently coached by Japanese head



Myanmar football players are seen in a training session. **PHOTO: MFF**

coach Yuji and will also compete in the ASEAN U19 Championship in Indonesia from 1 to 13 June. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Neymar had not been picked for his national team in almost three years before coach Carlo Ancelotti selected him in Brazil's World Cup squad. **PHOTO: AFP**

Neymar a doubt for Brazil's World Cup opener due to injury

BRAZIL forward Neymar is a doubt for the start of the World Cup after injuring his calf, requiring two to three weeks of treatment, the national team's doctor Rodrigo Lasmar said on Thursday.

The 34-year-old Santos star will miss Brazil's two pre-World Cup friendlies against Panama and Egypt, but may also be out of their tournament opener against Morocco on 13 June.

An MRI scan "identified a grade two muscle injury... our expectation

is that he will be available in two to three weeks," Lasmar said at Brazil's pre-tournament training centre just outside Rio de Janeiro.

Neymar joined his international teammates at the training centre on Wednesday but sat out the first session.

He has missed Santos's last few matches due to what his club coach Cuca had called "a slight injury". — AFP

'No future plans, other than a hangover,' says Palace boss Glasner

OUTGOING Crystal Palace boss Oliver Glasner said he had made no plans for his future other than "flying back to London with a hangover" after taking charge of his last match with the club.

Glasner guided Palace to the UEFA Conference League title with a win over Rayo Vallecano on Wednesday in Leipzig, the club's third trophy since he took over in 2024 — adding to the FA Cup and the Community Shield. Speculation has swirled about the Austrian's future since he announced his departure in January, with reports of a move to another Premier League club or a potential return to Germany. Glasner

though said his only plan was to celebrate.

He said he does not have the "desire or the energy to speak with another club, because I felt duty bound to give 100 per cent of Oliver Glasner (to Palace)." "I haven't even thought about anything past tomorrow," he continued.

"Today's a day for celebrating, and anyone who knows me knows I'm completely focused on this and haven't been able to do anything else except concentrate on the final.

"And I can really let loose, and I'm going to do that with the players today. — AFP



Crystal Palace manager Oliver Glasner won three titles with the club but will leave in the summer. **PHOTO: AFP**



ROOTED in the principles of equality, the relationship between Russia and Kazakhstan is thriving and developing dynamically, Russian President Vladimir Putin highlighted.

Putin noted that both nations harmonize their efforts across all areas of mutual engagement.

"We work across all areas," Putin said during the talks, emphasizing the sweeping range of bilateral cooperation.

Trade between Russia and Kazakhstan increased by more than nine per cent in the first quarter of 2026, Russian President Vladimir Putin said.

"Last year, the trade amounted to over \$28 billion, and this year it increased by more than nine per cent in the first quarter," Putin said.

It is Russia that is currently the leader in direct investment in the economy of Kazakhstan, and Astana will continue to work in this vein, Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev said.

Russia and Kazakhstan currently have 177 joint projects with total investments of around \$53 billion, Tokayev also said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to Kazakhstan is of great importance for security on the Eurasian continent, Tokayev said.

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Tokayev thanked Russian President Vladimir Putin for the agreement to build a nuclear power plant in Kazakhstan. — SPUTNIK

Putin lauds Kazakhstan as one of Russia's premier trade allies

Last year, the trade amounted to over \$28 billion, and this year it increased by more than nine per cent in the first quarter.



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev attend a welcome ceremony upon Putin's arrival at Nursultan Nazarbayev International Airport in Astana, Kazakhstan on 27 May 2026. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

China home to over 5,000 AI companies



A humanoid robot interacts with visitors during the World Smart Industry Expo 2025 in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, 7 September 2025. **PHOTO: WANG QUANCHAO/XINHUA**

THE number of Chinese artificial intelligence (AI) companies has surged from just over 1,400 to more than 5,000 in the past five years, according to data released by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology at the World Smart Industry Expo currently underway in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

China has set up over 40,000 smart factories, 11 national pilot zones for AI innovation and application, as well as 17 national demonstration zones for intelligent connected vehicle testing, said Xin Guobin, vice minister of industry and information technology.

Xin added that a 60-billion-yuan (about US\$8.4 billion) national AI industry investment fund has been launched, accompanied by rules on AI ethics, China-BRICS center for AI development and cooperation, and over 240 standards for core AI technologies. — Xinhua

Indian Government revamps AI curriculum

THE Government of India is working on a comprehensive overhaul of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) curriculum to align academic learning with emerging technological trends and industry requirements.

According to the Ministry of Electronics & IT, the initiative aims to improve student readiness by strengthening practical exposure, upgrading pedagogy, and addressing infrastructure gaps in advanced AI fields such as Generative AI, Machine Learning Operations (MLOps), and foundational model development. Union Minister for Electronics & IT Ashwini Vaishnaw held a high-level meeting with the AI Curriculum Taskforce and industry representatives in New Delhi regarding this initiative. — ANI