

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## Myanmar President Visits Key Indian Port in Mumbai

To bolster trade relations with India, Myanmar is upgrading its major maritime ports to enhance cargo capacity and streamline cross-border shipping logistics.



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing views maritime operations at Mumbai's Jawaharlal Nehru Port yesterday.

**T**HE high-level Myanmar delegation led by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, currently in New Delhi, India, on an official visit, left the Palam Airbase of New Delhi for Mumbai by special aircraft yesterday morning.

The President-led Myanmar delegation was seen off at the airport by Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh, officials of the Indian government, and families of the embassy and the military attaché office.

Arriving at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport in Mumbai in the afternoon, the President and party were welcomed by Governor of Maharashtra State, Shri Jishnu Dev Verma, and officials of the state government, the Myanmar Consul-General in Kolkata and staff families.

The President and delegation mem-

bers visited the Jawaharlal Nehru Port, where the Trust Authority of the port Chairperson, Shri Gaurav Dayal IAS, welcomed them.

At the meeting hall, officials extended greetings that the Port Trust Authority warmly welcomed the high-level Myanmar delegation led by President U Min Aung Hlaing. They also explained the facts about the port, use of high technology machinery at the port, operations of maritime trade and measures of the port as an economic partnership of Myanmar, generating revenue from use of the port for the nation, efforts to enhance capacity of the port, development of infrastructure and operating digital system, functioning the port as a green port, giving PPP model service, and conducting training to share port functions.

Officials made clarification with a video clip on functions of the port and a

project documentary video clip on preparations to build the Vadhavan Port.

In response, the President said that as Myanmar is also working on port construction, they visited this port, an international-standard major facility. Based on the clarification, it is a world-class port ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> globally and the number one port in India, and it operates under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) system. Myanmar has Yangon Port and Thilawa Port as two major ports, and Thilawa Port is a port connected to a Special Economic Zone.

They stated that their visit to the port was for the purpose of observing it in order to upgrade state-owned ports in Myanmar. Relevant officials would continue discussions on areas where cooperation between the two countries could be carried out. Based on the clarifications, the port has high operational capacity with

the implementation of green areas and green energy initiatives. His visit aimed to promote bilateral trade, and Myanmar's ports will be upgraded to further enhance trade relations between the two countries.

He continued that if training courses on port management and related fields are offered, Myanmar would send trainees to participate.

The President and party visited the Jawaharlal Nehru Port. The President asked officials about things he wanted to know.

Jawaharlal Nehru Port is located in the Nhava Sheva area, east of Mumbai, in Maharashtra State, India. It ranks 23<sup>rd</sup> globally in terms of trade capacity and is the largest among India's 12 major ports. The port handles 50 per cent of India's container traffic and plays a key role in the country's trade sector, with strong connectivity to South-East Asia. — MNA/TTA

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Standing Committees, Government Urged to Overhaul Checks and Balances

# NATIONAL

## Public Notice: Htaukkyant Driving Licence Office Commences Operations 8 June

THE Road Transport Administration Department (Yangon) under the Ministry of Transport is conducting driving licence tests for applicants in Yangon Region through an online booking system at the Ywathagyi office.

In addition to the existing Ywathagyi office, a new driving licence tests branch office in Htaukkyant will open on 8 June 2026. As a result, applicants wishing to take the driving licence tests will be able to access the nearest office more conveniently by making appointments via the online booking system, thereby saving time.

For online booking, please visit [www.rtad.gov.mm](http://www.rtad.gov.mm).

**Road Transport Administration Department**

## MRTV to Broadcast AYA Tri-Nation Women's Cup 2026 Live

THE AYA Tri-Nation Cup 2026 women's national football tournament, which Myanmar will host, will be held from 3 to 9 June at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The Myanmar women's national football team will play against Uzbekistan at 5 pm on 3 June, the Thailand team will play against Uzbekistan at 5 pm on 6 June, and the Myanmar women's national football team will play against Thailand at 5 pm on 9 June.

All the matches will be broadcast live on the MRTV Sports Channel and the MRTV Entertainment Channel. — MRTV

## Public Notice

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

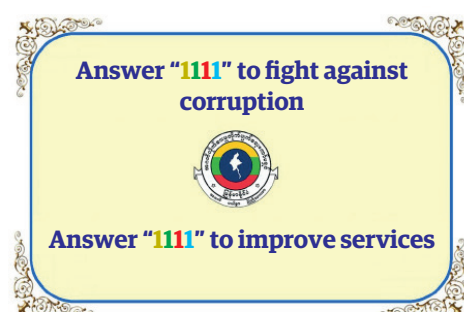
The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No "1111" for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

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*



## An interview with Ma Eaint Chit Thu, winner of Thuta Sonelin Buddhawun

### Ma Eaint Chit Thu (Grade 9)

My name is Ma Eaint Chit Thu. I live in Nyaungphyu Sakham Ward, Taunggyi, southern Shan State. There are five people in my family: my father, mother, elder brother, younger sister, and me. During my school days, I received an outstanding student award in Grade 6, an Essay Award in Grade 8, and awards for poetry that I personally composed, reaching both township and state levels. I attended No 12 Basic Education Middle School for primary education and No 10 Basic Education High School for middle school. I regularly read at the school library.

As I am smart at the religious training and Dhamma school course, Sayadaw urged me to participate in the Buddhawun competition. I learnt during my summer holidays to take part in, and also want to know the Dhamma of Buddha more deeply. I first studied the six volumes and eight books of the Maha Buddhawun compiled by Mingun Sayadaw. From there, I continued studying eight major sections, including basic culture, the histories of the Twenty-Eight Buddhas, the Dhammapada and the 550 Jataka stories, basic Abhidhamma, basic meditation, the history of Theravada Buddhism, the Aetadabwe Hterima, disciples and lay devotees, and explanations of Pali terms and meanings. To be able to successfully answer like this, I studied continuously throughout the 75-day summer holiday. I spent entire days studying and reviewed my lessons again in the mornings and evenings. Since the subject matter concerned the Buddha's teachings, I felt great spiritual satisfaction while studying. One of my fondest memories was preparing for the competition together with friends, like paying homage to the Buddha, reciting Patthana, reading together, asking each other ques-



Ma Eaint Chit Thu (Grade 9). PHOTO: M2NNS

tions, and even staying together. These experiences remain warm and joyful memories.

At the township-level competition, I ranked first among 100 participants and advanced to the state level. At the state level, I was selected as the best performer among the top 15 contestants and qualified for the central-level competition. The prize I received was the first prize at the 12<sup>th</sup> Nationwide Thuta Sonelin Buddhawun after I had successfully answered all ten difficult questions.

Representing my state as a Buddhist contestant filled me with immense pride and happiness. Above all, I was overjoyed to have the opportunity to offer my knowledge through the study and recitation of the Buddha's teachings. As the competition progressed through each stage, the questions became more difficult. My success was made possible through the guidance and support of my teachers. The encouragement of my parents and friends strengthened my determination. Sayadaw also supported me with my health. Whenever my studies became overwhelming, I took a short break, paid homage, counted the beads, and then returned to my lessons. Doing so helped me remember what I had studied more effectively.

One of the questions that

played a key role in my winning first prize asked how many Buddhas there were from Dipankara Buddha to Sobhta Buddha, and I had to think carefully. As I recalled the Twenty-Eight Buddhas and gave my answer, hearing that it was correct made my heart race with excitement and joy.

I would especially like to pay my deepest respects and gratitude to the Chairman Sayadaw, who organized the competition, the monks and laypersons involved, my teachers who taught me Buddhist literature, my parents who constantly encouraged me, and every individual who supported me along the way.

Finally, I would like to share a message for my younger generation. As Buddhist youths, it is not enough merely to inherit Buddhism by tradition. We should personally understand and embrace our faith, study the Buddha's teachings deeply, cherish and value our religion, and become responsible young people who preserve and protect our race, religion, and Sasana. There is no shade cooler than the shade of the Buddha. May every good Buddhist cherish and uphold the Sasana, and may each of us contribute in our own way to enhancing the dignity and honour of our nation. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

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# NATIONAL

## President U Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Governor of Maharashtra State

**P**RESIDENT of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing who is currently in Mumbai, India, on an official visit, held a meeting with Maharashtra State Governor Shri Jishnu Dev Verma yesterday afternoon.

Arriving at the Maharashtra Lok Bhavan, Mumbai (Governor's House), the President and the Myanmar delegation were cordially welcomed by the governor.

The President and the Governor of Maharashtra State held a meeting. It was

also attended by Union ministers and party, and the Myanmar Ambassador to India. The Governor of Maharashtra State was accompanied by state ministers, the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar and officials.

At the meeting, they openly discussed

the good relations along the history as the two countries are good neighbours, the progress of friendly ties and cooperation, bilateral relations between the peoples of both countries, efforts of the high-level Myanmar delegation to further promote trade and investment between Myanmar and India, gratitude expressed by the Myanmar government and the people to India for its good neighbourly assistance when Myanmar faced natural disasters, and promotion of multi-sector cooperation between the two countries.

After the meeting, the President and the Governor had documentary photos taken together with the attendees. When the President and party arrived at the venue where the Governor would host a dinner in their honour, the state band played the national anthems of both countries.

The Governor of Maharashtra introduced his entourage to the President, who also presented his entourage.

The Governor hosted the dinner for the President and high-level Myanmar delegation members. During the dinner, the state band played songs from both countries.

After the dinner, the President signed the guest's book of Maharashtra Lok Bhavan Mumbai (Governor's House). The President and party enjoyed music entertainment of the state band. The President and the Governor presented cash awards and cordially greeted them. — MNA/TTA



Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing and Maharashtra State Governor Shri Jishnu Dev Verma stand for a commemorative photo during yesterday's event.

## Myanmar delegation led by Vice-President U Nyo Saw leaves for Russia

**T**HE Myanmar delegation led by U Nyo Saw, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, departed from Yangon by air yesterday morning to attend the 29<sup>th</sup> Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) 2026 to be held in Saint Petersburg in the Russian Federation.

The delegation was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Union Minister U Myint Kyaing, Yangon Region

Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, the Commander of Yangon Command, regional ministers and officials of the Embassy of the Russian Federation to Myanmar.

The Vice-President was accompanied by Union Ministers U Aung Kyaw Hoe, U Htein Linn, U San Oo, U Ko Ko Lwin, U Khin Maung Soe and U Tun Ohn, along with Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw, departmental heads and officials. — MNA



Vice-President U Nyo Saw and Myanmar delegates are seen before leaving for the Russian Federation.

# NATIONAL

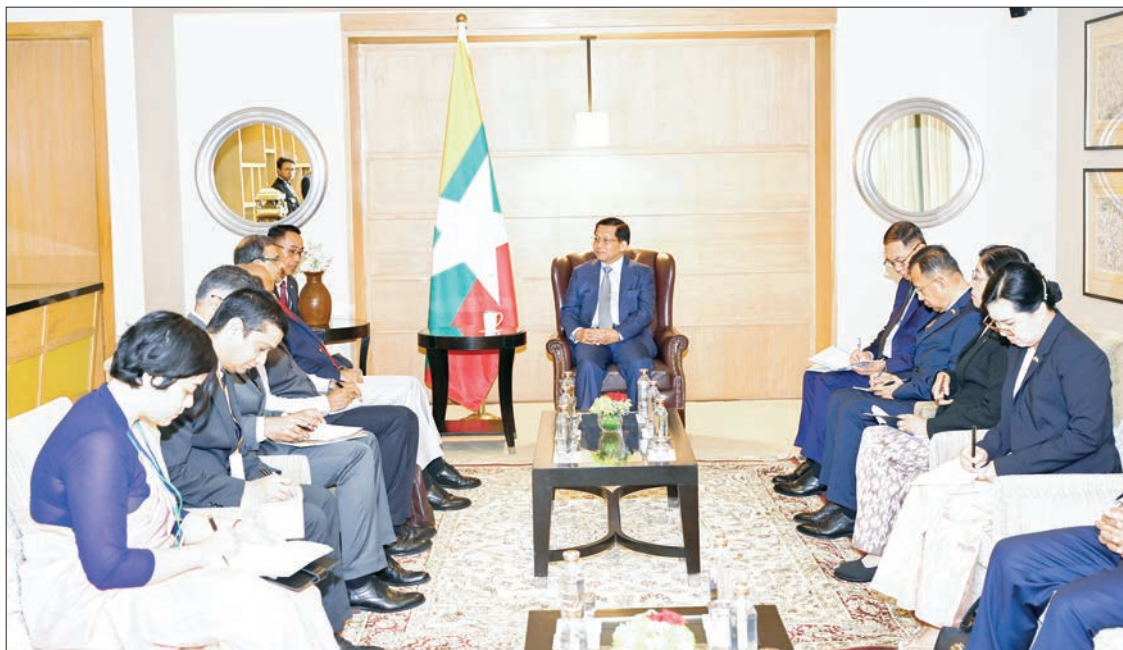
## Myanmar, India Pledge to Boost Trade and Economic Ties

To streamline trade payments, the central banks of Myanmar and India are strengthening their banking cooperation to ensure faster and more efficient cross-border transactions.

**S**HRI Sanjay Malthotra, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Min Aung Hlaing, who is in New Delhi, India, on an official visit, yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they discussed the improvement of bilateral trade and the economic sector between the two countries, the promotion of cooperation in all sectors, and cooperation in banking services in both countries in order to ensure further swift and smooth payment in the trade process in a cordial manner.

They also exchanged views



Governor of the Reserve Bank of India Shri Sanjay Malthotra pays a courtesy call on Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing.

on the ongoing process of Rupee-Kyat direct payment in the trade sector, efforts of India to share banking systems with the banking staff of Myanmar, and exchange of experiences in the digital payment system between the two countries.

Also, present at the meeting were Union Ministers U Khin Maung Yi and U Tin Maung Swe, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar Dr Khin Naing Oo and delegation members.

The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India was accompanied by officials of the Ministry of External Affairs of India. — MNA/TTA

## Standing Committees, Government Urged to Overhaul Checks and Balances



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe meets the standing committees of the Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday.

HLUTTAWs are institutions entrusted not only with the responsibility of legislation but also with the legal authority to exercise mutual checks and balances over the executive and judicial pillars, said U Aung Lin Dwe, Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, at the meeting with standing committees of the Amyotha Hluttaw at its building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

He continued that standing committees are important Hluttaw committees that have the authority to communicate with

and summon for hearings the Union Government, as well as other Union-level bodies established under the Constitution, to question and discuss matters with them, and to require the submission of necessary evidence.

The Speaker noted that the four standing committees have distinct responsibilities and play a central role in implementing the Hluttaw's functions. Their duties include scrutinizing and deliberating on bills, examining matters relating to the Union's budget measures,

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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.  
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## Pyithu Hluttaw resumes first-day meeting of second regular session

HLUTTAW will intensify efforts to promote national development, ensure that the people can live in peace and safety, and enact laws that safeguard the public interest, said Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Khin Yi at the first-day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw, which commenced at its convention hall at the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker said that as one of the primary duties of the Hluttaw is legislation, it is necessary to assess whether existing laws are consistent with current conditions and policies, and whether they serve national development and the public interest. If necessary, they should be improved through amendment, supplementation, repeal, or the enactment of new laws, and these efforts should be carried out more comprehensively throughout the Hluttaw term.

He stressed that Hluttaw committees not only participate in the enactment of laws but are also required to examine whether the rules, regulations, by-laws, orders, notifications, directives, and procedures issued by various organizations empowered under existing laws are consistent with both existing legislation and the laws enacted by Hluttaw. They must also ensure that laws are properly adhered to by all institutions and citizens within the country and facilitate mutual oversight, coordination, and support in this regard.

He urged Hluttaw representatives to work collectively toward ensuring that the people can live in safety, peace, and development under the protection of the law, and toward building a legislative branch that the public can rely on.

At the Hluttaw meeting, four Defence Services Personnel Representatives for the Pyithu Hluttaw took the affirmation in the presence of the Speaker and signed the affirmation form.

The Speaker announced that, out of 351 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives entitled to at-



The first-day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw is underway yesterday.

tend the first day of the second regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw, 350 were present at today's meeting, resulting in an attendance rate of 99.72 per cent. Accordingly, it was declared that the meeting had achieved quorum and was duly opened.

Information was submitted to the Hluttaw and recorded regarding the activities of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw during the intersession period between the first and second regular sessions of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw put congratulatory messages sent by State leaders and relevant bodies to the Pyithu Hluttaw and Deputy Speaker on record.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Han Win Aung replied to the question raised by U Kyaw Nyein Aung from the Tachilek Constituency.

He stated that the Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue is implementing tax assessments on the purchase and sale of motor vehicles by preparing and setting annual standard values in advance according to vehicle types, in order to ensure that no tax evasion occurs. He further explained that these annual standard values are designed to be uniform across vehicle categories so as not to impose a burden

on taxpayers and to enable voluntary tax compliance. However, due to fluctuations in vehicle prices, there may be discrepancies between market prices and the standardized values.

The department has already implemented the IDS (IRD Documentation System) by establishing and inputting approved standard values for motor vehicles based on their year of manufacture, focusing on vehicles that are most commonly traded in the market. In setting these standards, information is obtained from the Myanmar Automobile Manufacturers and Distributors Association as well as motor vehicle showrooms, and the department will continue to review and update the standards every six months. The department makes the process more convenient for the public to ensure greater transparency, with arrangements to implement an online Vehicle Automatic Valuation System (VAVS).

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Kyaw Naing Win made clarifications regarding the questions raised by Sai Tun San (aka) Sai Hsae Han from the Langkho Constituency. He said that the Ministry is implementing measures to prevent shortages and ensure an adequate supply of fuel. Reference retail prices are verified for each township and published daily in

newspapers for public awareness to prevent retailers from overcharging and to ensure that the public can purchase fuel at fair and reasonable prices.

Fuel stations are being supervised to sell fuel in accordance with the officially designated reference prices, and where complaints are received and verified as valid, effective legal action is taken in accordance with the law. If fuel imports from neighbouring countries are restricted in towns in eastern Shan State, arrangements have already been made to stabilize prices by securing fuel supplies through companies importing fuel by sea, and to transport and distribute fuel along the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Taunggyi-Kengtung Union highway. Regular and surprise inspections are being conducted at fuel stations across Shan State to verify whether actual shortages exist, and efforts will continue to prevent the sale of fuel at excessive prices and to protect against exploitation by business operators through monitoring and investigation.

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Aye Kyaw replied to the questions raised by Sai Tun Lin of Mongnai Constituency. He stated that an 11 kV cable at the exit of Kholan from the 11 kV Kengtawng internal feeder power line was installed with seven concrete poles and

two wooden poles. The feeder power line is being supplied electricity from a 11/0.4 kV, 50 kVA transformer from the 33/11 kV, 5 MVA substation at the Kengtawng power station to electrify the 11/0.4 kV, 50 kVA transformer of the water pump installed at No 569 light infantry regiment in Kengtawng of Shan State. Now, the two wooden poles have been replaced with concrete poles.

Deputy Minister U Aye Kyaw also replied to the questions raised by U Kaung Thet San from the Hsipaw Constituency, saying that engineers and staff of the ministry have repaired the 66kV Hsipaw power substation and the 66 kV Mangsan-Hsipaw power cable after Tatmadaw reoccupied Hsipaw. Two diesel generators owned by the Shan State government electrify 40 departmental offices for six hours per day, and the ministry provides fuel for the generators. The ministry has submitted a report to the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee to help supply electricity to Hsipaw through the 66 kV Mangsan-Hsipaw power cable. Upon completion of the coordination, the Hsipaw power substation will electrify 11 urban wards of Hsipaw.

The Deputy Minister also replied to questions raised by U Kyaw Than from the Manaung Constituency. Regrading of electricity storage capacity of lead acid battery and malfunctions of capacitor at the PCS (PV) panel and the 625 KVA diesel generator of the PV500 kW battery-diesel hybrid system power station could not supply electricity starting from July 2022 in Kh-aohnmaw Village in Manaung Township, Rakhine State. Hence, Posco Daewoo Co Ltd has assigned a local company, KST Co Ltd, to carry out the necessary repairs and restoration work.

Repair work had to be temporarily suspended and could not continue due to the prevailing security conditions in Rakhine State. So, electricity supply was resumed from 1 January 2024 using only the diesel generator.

# NATIONAL

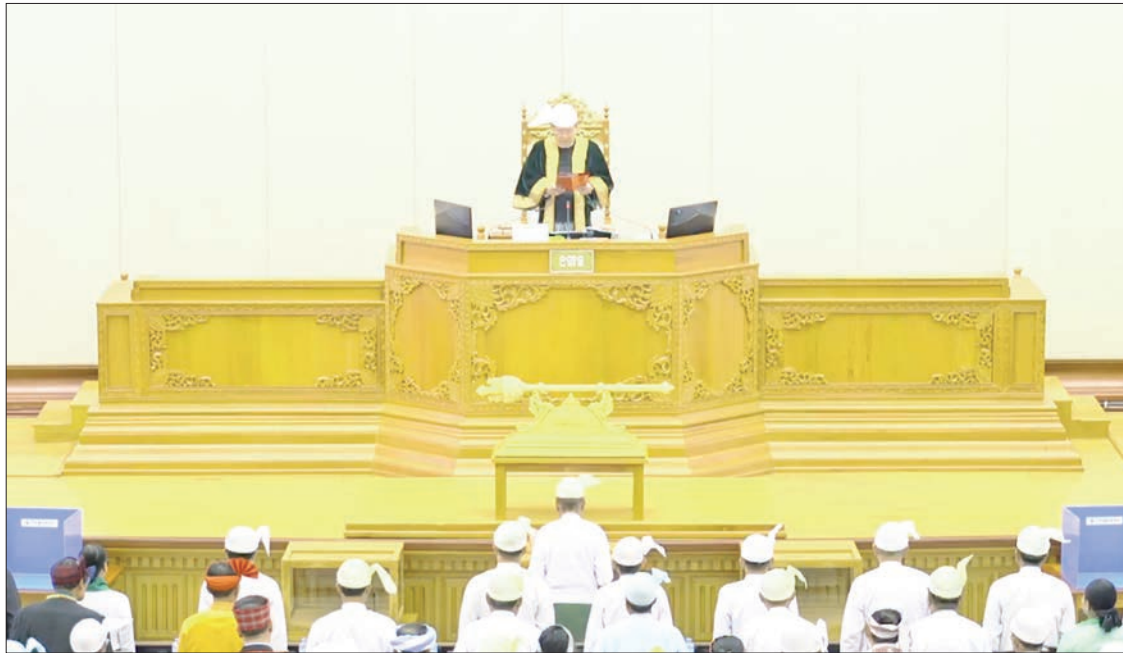
## 1<sup>st</sup> day of 2<sup>nd</sup> regular session of 3<sup>rd</sup> Amyotha Hluttaw commences

THE first-day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw was held at the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

One representative of Amyotha Hluttaw took affirmations in front of U Aung Lin Dwe, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw and signed the form of affirmations.

Since 208 out of 209 representatives from the Amyotha Hluttaw who are entitled to attend the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw were present, it is announced that the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw is quorate and the meeting has officially commenced.

In his speech, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw stated that during the Second Regular Session, Hluttaw representatives would carry out activities such as raising questions, submitting and debating motions, and scrutinizing draft laws in accordance with the Constitution, the Amyotha Hluttaw Law, and Rules. These activities must be undertaken with the aim of benefiting the nation and its people, and the representatives should be fully aware of and comply with the rules, regulations, restrictions, and procedures of the Hluttaw meetings.



The first-day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw is in progress yesterday.

The government, which emerged from the first regular session of the Third Hluttaw, is trying hard for the development of the country, the promotion of the socioeconomic status of the people and also national reconciliation. In doing so, the Hluttaw representatives should also integrate with the voices and desires of the people. If so, the development activities carried out by the executive pillar will be more effective and faster.

He continued that the needed Hluttaw committees will be formed to study specific mat-

ters of the Amyotha Hluttaw. These committees must perform their duties within their assigned responsibilities and powers, strictly follow relevant laws and regulations when coordinating with organizations, and always work for the interests of the State and the public.

He added that a discussion will be held to approve a bill during this second regular meeting. That bill is an anti-online scam bill that was submitted by the Ministry of Home Affairs to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw via the Union government, and the

Amyotha Hluttaw will start discussing.

He finally urged the representatives to carry out their legislative duties in line with the voices and desires of the people to ensure national development, improve socioeconomic conditions, and promote national reconciliation.

He submitted and recorded the congratulatory messages sent by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, President of the Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Mr Mongkol Surasajja, President

of the Senate of Thailand, Mr Hiromichi Watanabe, a member of the House of Representatives and Vice-Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Parliamentary Friendship League, Mr Fumio Usui, Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Cultural Promotion Association and Mr Naohiko Takaku, director of the association.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced that the International Relations Committee was formed with 15 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives exercising the authority conferred under the 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Law section 27 and 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Rules 106 and 107 on 24 April 2026 during the suspension of the Hluttaw. Then, approval was sought for the name lists of 15-members of committee with the Committee Chair U Chit Swe, Ayeyawady Region Amyotha Hluttaw Representative No 10, whereas the secretary was U Aung Min Nang, Chin State Amyotha Hluttaw Representative No 9, including their duties, authorities, rights and terms, and Amyotha Hluttaw approved.

The first day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw was adjourned, and the second day will be on 3 June. — MNA/KTZH

## Pyithu Hluttaw resumes first-day ...

### FROM PAGE 5

At present, electricity is being supplied on a rotational basis for 1.5 hours at night, divided into four groups covering five wards in Manaung and four villages. A plan is underway to replace batteries with new ones in the 2026-27 financial year to operate the station at full capacity. Upon completion, Manaung will be electrified as usual.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw

Naing Win made clarifications over the questions raised by Dr Myo Tun from the Lashio Constituency. He said that due to the current local conditions in Shan State (North), an assessment was made regarding whether fuel transport is smooth and whether fuel is being diverted to unauthorized organizations. On 1 February 2026, as an initial arrangement, six fuel bowsers were used to deliver over 36,000

litres of 92 RON petrol and over 36,000 litres of premium diesel from Yangon Thilawa to Lashio, Tangyan, and Mongyai — two bowsers per town — along the route Yangon-Taunggyi-Hopong-Loilem-Kehsi-Mongyai-Tangyan-Lashio. The fuel reached the respective towns on 9 February 2026.

The transport process along the route required sequential approvals at multiple stages.

Under the current situation, fuel transport is still not smooth or efficient. Therefore, the Myanmar Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Association has temporarily suspended fuel purchase permits (POs). POs will be resumed once transport conditions in Shan State (North) improve and fuel delivery routes become smooth and stable.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker submitted a proposal to the Hluttaw, stating that the International Relations Committee will be formed with 15 members,

with Dr Pwint San from the Yaksawk Constituency as Chair and U Yaw Aye Hla from the Nanyun Constituency as Secretary. The Deputy Speaker explained the responsibilities, authority, rights and terms of the International Relations Committee. The Hluttaw approved the formation of the International Relations Committee, its responsibilities, authority, rights and term.

The Pyithu Hluttaw will continue its second-day meeting of the second regular session at 10 am on 3 June. — MNA/TTA

# NATIONAL

## Myanmar ramps up anti-online scam, gambling measures

ONLINE scams and online gambling activities have been operating in border areas of Myanmar where ethnic armed organizations are active, including northern Shan State areas such as Namkham, Muse, Laukkai, Chinshwehaw, Pangsang, Mongla, and Tachilek along the Myanmar-China border, and the areas along the Myanmar-Thailand border in Kayin State such as Shwe Kokko, Myawady, Maehtawthalay, Minletpan, and Payathonzu. These activities are considered a national security threat and affect the population, with their consequences being severely felt by many countries.

The government also accelerates the suppression of online scams and online gambling as a national duty, and is working with domestic stakeholders as well as neighbouring countries to ensure that such activities cannot be established within Myanmar anymore.

Most of the seizures are found in Shan and Kayin States. Between 5 October 2023 and 28 May 2026, a total of 72,619 undocumented foreign nationals involved in online scams, casino

operations, unlicensed massage businesses, illegal prostitution, and other unlawful activities were identified and arrested in border areas of Myanmar. In line with humanitarian considerations and bilateral relations, they were not prosecuted under domestic law but were repatriated to their respective countries in accordance with legal procedures.

A total of 56,918 illegal foreign nationals involved in telecom fraud in Shan State were repatriated through various border gates and checkpoints, including the Moneh Bridge, Yanlon Kyaing Gate, BP-58, BP-125, Nantpha Haw Gate, Mang Wein Gate, Pang Wine Town, Ronghel Gate, Taloh Gate, BP-240, Mae Sai Gate, Tachilek Bridge No 1 and No 2, and ports in Laos such as Mong Maw and Wam Pong.

Similarly, the combined task force investigated the illegal foreigners in Myawady of Kayin State starting 30 January 2025, and as of 26 May 2026, they detained 14,685 undocumented foreign nationals, and 13,521 illegal ones were repatriated to their respective countries.

Moreover, the illegal for-

eign nationals, including Myanmar nationals involved in online scams and online gambling, were investigated and taken action in accordance with the law. Between 1 January and 31 December 2023, authorities detained and took action against 49 Myanmar males and 63 Myanmar females and seven male foreigners from 15 cases of Yangon Region and Shan State, whereas between 1 January and 31 December 2024, 431 Myanmar males, 327 Myanmar females and 761 male foreigners from 66 cases of Mandalay Region, Yangon Region and Shan State.

Between 1 January and 31 December 2025, the offenders included 232 Myanmar males, 180 Myanmar females, 370 male foreigners and 20 female foreigners from 41 cases of Mandalay Region, Yangon Region, Mon State and Shan State.

Between 1 January and 28 May 2026, there were 214 Myanmar males, 244 Myanmar females, 447 male foreigners and 62 female foreigners from 23 cases of Mandalay Region, Yangon Region, Kayin State and Shan State.

Therefore, from 1 January 2023 to 28 May 2026, authorities arrested and took action against 1,740 Myanmar nationals, 926 males and 814 females, from 145 cases, and 1,693 foreigners, 1,585 males and 108 females.

Similarly, the online scam hubs are being demolished in Shan and Kayin States. There are 1,090 illegal buildings — 308 buildings in Shan State and 782 buildings in Kayin State. These buildings were demolished from 5 February 2025 to 28 May 2026, and 962 buildings have been demolished so far. The remaining 128 buildings in Kayin State will also be destroyed.

A total of 308 online scam bubbles in 16 townships of Shan State were destroyed between 5 February 2025 and 28 May 2026.

Similarly, 634 illegal buildings in the KK Park area of Myawady township of Kayin State were demolished from 23 October 2025 to 8 January 2026 in three phases using explosives and machinery.

In phase 1, 147 buildings were destroyed between 23 October and 19 November 2025; in phase 2, it included 62 buildings between 1 and 8 January 2026;

and in phase 3, 425 buildings were destroyed between 17 November 2025 and 6 January 2026.

Moreover, there were 77 illegal buildings operating online gambling in Shwe Kokko in Myawady township, and 27 buildings were destroyed so far as of 2 June 2026; the remaining 50 buildings will also be demolished.

The authorities also destroyed 3,310 computers and monitors, 21,870 mobile phones, 102 Starlink devices, casino equipment and 22 routers seized near Shwe Kokko Myaing village and 82 computers and 92 mobile phones seized in 69 KTV compound beside Myawady-Maehtawthalay road in Ward 3 in Myawady starting 18 November 2025.

The online fraud and gambling activities are being addressed under the Cyber Security Law, and related crimes such as human trafficking, smuggling, forced labour, and money laundering are also being effectively prosecuted. A draft law on anti-online scams was released on 14 May 2026 for public awareness and suggestions. — MNA/KTZH

## Standing Committees, Government Urged to Overhaul ...

### FROM PAGE 4

addressing issues concerning Hluttaw privileges, and reviewing the assurances and commitments made by the Union Government.

He added that the standing committees have to cooperate with the government through bilateral checks and balances in order to smoothly operate the State mechanism and serve the interests of the people.

The Speaker underlined that the works carried out by standing committees reflect the Hluttaw's efforts to fulfil

the aspirations and expectations of the people and translate them into tangible actions for the public benefit. It also helps promote the transparency and accountability of the Government. Therefore, those committees should give due consideration to their recommendations, exercise their mandates effectively, and carry out their responsibilities with the public interest as their foremost priority.

He noted that the future of the nation depends on collective decisions and the sense of

responsibility of the committees. Hence, the success of the committees will enhance the dignity of the entire Hluttaw and strengthen the trust of the people.

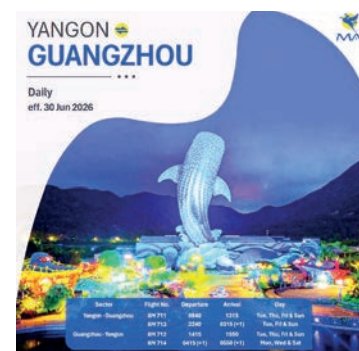
Chairs and secretaries of the Hluttaw Rights Committee, the Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, and the Government Guarantees, Pledges, and Undertakings Vetting Committee reported on the formation of relevant committees, the work process of committees and further plans. — MNA/TTA

## MAI Launches Daily Direct Flights to Guangzhou Starting 30 June

MYANMAR Airways International (MAI) has announced that it will begin operating daily direct flights to Guangzhou, one of China's leading commercial and leisure destinations, starting from 30 June.

At present, MAI operates four direct flights per week on the Yangon-Guangzhou route. The airline stated that the additional services are being introduced to provide greater convenience for travellers.

Guangzhou, a major economic hub in southern China and a historic port city, is renowned for its blend of modern innovation, rich cultural heritage and natural attractions. The city is also well known for hosting the Canton Fair and for offering a wide range of sightseeing and leisure opportunities, making it



This image displays an advert announcing MAI's direct Yangon-Guangzhou flight service.

a popular destination for both business travellers and tourists.

Visitors to Guangzhou can also enjoy a variety of attractions at the world-famous Chimelong Resort, where thrilling amusement rides, close encounters with wildlife and entertaining live performances can all be experienced in one location. — ASH/KZL

# OPINION

## Promote mutual interests between Myanmar and India as new chapter

INDIA is one of Myanmar's major trading partners. It is Myanmar's fourth-largest export destination and its sixth-largest import source. At present, India has 39 investment projects in Myanmar, with a total investment of US\$782.385 million, making it the 11th-largest investor in the country.

The shared religious and historical ties, along with mutual respect and trust, constitute a strong foundation for the cultural and economic cooperation between the two countries. Furthermore, diplomatic relations between the two countries have already crossed the diamond jubilee milestone and are now in their 78th year.

Investors from India are engaged in Myanmar's industrial, oil and natural gas, transport and communications, services, agriculture, livestock, and fisheries sectors. India is a global leader in pharmaceutical manufacturing and supplies around 60 per cent of Myanmar's pharmaceutical needs through imports. MSME enterprises are a driving force of Myanmar's economy, and Myanmar also highly recognizes India's vocational skills and technological advancements.

Therefore, mutually beneficial progress can be achieved through the establishment of industrial clusters, technology transfer, and the opening of vocational training schools. Myanmar has designated certain types of investment activities as strategically important for the country, including information and communication technology services, pharmaceutical manufacturing, and energy-related infrastructure. It is also prioritizing and inviting investment in sectors such as agriculture and livestock-based production, agro-based manufacturing industries, renewable energy production, and education and healthcare services.

In addition, in line with the needs of the State, special support and priority services will be provided to partner business entrepreneurs who come to operate in sectors such as fertilizer, cement and steel production; electric vehicle manufacturing to promote the development of public transport; agricultural and livestock product processing; pharmaceutical and medical equipment production; and edible oil production.

Myanmar serves as a kind of land bridge connecting India's economic growth prospects with ASEAN and China. Both countries must work together to achieve a long-term "win-win" outcome that benefits both sides. By effectively combining India's advanced technology and capital with Myanmar's rich natural resources, strategic location, central positioning, and young labour force, efforts should be made to encourage investment in value-added production and service sectors within Myanmar.

Myanmar serves as a kind of land bridge connecting India's economic growth prospects with ASEAN and China. Both countries must work together to achieve a long-term "win-win" outcome that benefits both sides. By effectively combining India's advanced technology and capital with Myanmar's rich natural resources, strategic location, central positioning, and young labour force, efforts should be made to encourage investment in value-added production and service sectors within Myanmar.

It is believed that India and Myanmar will jointly open a new chapter in economic cooperation between the two countries, which will significantly contribute to Myanmar's future development. It will also further strengthen friendship and mutual trust between the two nations and help build a peaceful and prosperous future for the peoples of both countries.

THROUGHOUT the history of Myanmar literature, poetry has always occupied a significant place. During our school years, we became familiar with basic poems at the primary level, and later, as high school students, we studied selected works from renowned poets. From that time on, many of us began to appreciate the beauty and essence of poetry.

Poetry serves as a medium through which our emotions, movements of the heart, and thoughts can be transferred to the minds of others. It allows the feelings experienced by the poet to be felt almost equally by the reader. Yet, transforming one's own emotions into something others can vividly experience is not an easy task. It requires a powerful instrument — one that can help another person see what we see and feel what we feel. That instrument is poetic ornamentation. These poetic elements — sound patterns, rhyme, rhythm, structure, and layers of meaning — help make poetry more expressive, graceful, and resonant. They act as the tools that enhance a poem's aesthetic value and emotional impact.

Poetic ornamentation refers to the art of arranging ordinary words — words we use daily — in a melodic, refined, and harmonious manner, much like music. Composed without grammatical flaws and enriched with qualities such as clarity, elegance, and expressive strength, these works are known as *gāthā* in Pali and *Magadha*, and *lankā* classical poems in Myanmar literature. Such poetic techniques are not limited to Myanmar; they are found in literary traditions across the world.

In essence, poetry is the craft of arranging language with musical beauty, depth, and emotional resonance — an art form that young people should read, appreciate, and cherish.

### The Origins of Poetic Rhythm in Human Expression

Humans have long been captivated by the gentle, melodic sounds of nature. Just as children imitate the meows of kittens or the barks of puppies, early humans also mimicked the natural sounds around them. They first learned to imitate the cries of nearby animals, especially the songs of young birds, practicing until they could echo each call in different tones. Birdsong, in particular, was the easiest for humans to reproduce.

As the earth dried and exposed land surfaces, the sound of waves striking the shore, the rustling of leaves and twigs in the wind, the soft bubbling of streams and lakes, the buzzing of insects, and the sharp calls of wild birds all became part of the world's natural music. Each of these sounds formed a true symphony of nature.

After long days spent hunting for meat or searching for fish, early humans returned exhausted. In the evenings, they gathered together, taking turns imitating the sounds of birds, rain, wind, and trees swaying — using nature's rhythms as a form of entertainment. Some would also recount the day's events or share knowledge they had gained. When tell-

# The Rhythm of Potential: Poetic Strength in the Next Generation

ing these stories, they often blended natural rhythms into their speech, choosing expressive, musical words instead of plain language.

Gradually, this practice evolved into a habit. As they sat in circles, clapping hands, tapping feet, or beating makeshift drums, the storyteller's speech naturally became rhythmic and melodic. Ordinary speech began to mix with musical tones, arranged in pleasant and harmonious patterns. This was the early seed of poetic ornamentation.

At this stage, it existed only as spoken poetry. Even before the invention of written scripts, humans had already created rhythmic verses to express their inner feelings and experiences.

Thus, when written language eventually emerged, it was only natural that poetic ornamentation found its way onto the page, developing into the written poetry we recognize today.

### The Art and Discipline of Poetry

Poetry cannot be considered complete merely by arranging a few rhyming words. True poetic composition requires the adornment of literary devices such as sound ornamentation and meaning-based ornamentation. In every literary tradition, there exist established rules governing rhyme schemes, tonal patterns, and the use of figurative language. Only when a poem is carefully structured in accordance with these principles can it truly be regarded as poetry.

A poet must skillfully employ these tools and techniques. Only then can the emotions and aesthetic experience felt by the writer be fully conveyed to the reader. When used correctly, these elements allow the reader to experience the poem in its fullness, just as the poet intended.

In composing poetry, attention must be paid not only to rhyme but also to sound. Long and short syllables, as well as heavy and light tones, must be arranged in harmony to achieve balance and beauty. Just as poets carefully select rhyming words, they must also choose sounds with equal precision.

### The Power and Appeal of Poetic Ornamentation

Poetic passages possess a remarkable strength: they can energize the human spirit like the beating of ceremonial drums, or soften the heart with gentle, tender emotion. These effects arise from the poet's imagination itself. A poem does not need to be long or elaborate to qualify as poetic ornamentation; even the shortest lines can become true poetry when

crafted with skill and aesthetic quality.

Poetic ornamentation is a literary form rich in flavor. It has the ability to draw the human mind toward whatever direction the poet intends, attracting the reader with a unique charm. Therefore, it is essential for us to understand and appreciate the different kinds of literary beauty that poetry can offer. Pleasantness is naturally appealing to human taste, and thus, people are drawn to poetry that is gracefully arranged and harmoniously composed.

### It is for this reason that Padesaraja once expressed:

*“Stories, epic poems, lyrical verses, songs gentle and serene— all should be read, recited, practiced, played and performed to enrich our lives.”*

His words remind us that poetic literature — whether narrative, lyrical, or musical — has long been cherished as a source of delight, inspiration, and emotional nourishment.

### Understanding and Experiencing the Essence of Poetry

Across all languages and literary traditions, there are ways to understand and appreciate the essence of poetry. Just as sweetness, sourness, and bitterness are perceived by the tongue, and visual beauty is perceived by the eye, the beauty of poetry is perceived through the ear.

In the same way that one must train the ear to understand music and appreciate its harmony, one must also train the ear to fully grasp the essence of poetry. This is why sound ornamentation plays such an important role in poetic composition. Simply reading poetry silently in the mind does not bring out its full richness. True appreciation arises when one listens to poetry being recited aloud or reads it aloud oneself, allowing its rhythm and sound to be fully experienced.

It is often said that poetry resides more in the mind than in words. Imagination forms the core of poetry, while language and expression serve merely as tools to give that imagination shape and form. For this reason, although languages may differ, poetic imagination remains fundamentally universal.

In Myanmar literary tradition, many poetic devices — such as similes and aesthetic qualities — have been derived from classical *Magadha* sources. Similarly, in Western

literature, poetic techniques and figurative expressions can be traced back to Greek and Roman traditions. When we study and compare different literary forms, we can clearly see the shared nature of poetic imagination across cultures.

### The Shared Spirit of Poetry Across Cultures

Although the languages spoken around the world differ greatly, the poetic imagination found within them is strikingly similar. When we examine Western poetic traditions, we can clearly see the influence of the ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome, often regarded as the cradle of Western culture.

In Greek literature, the great epic *Odyssey* recounts ancient battles and adventures, and thus represents what is known as an epic poem. This monumental work has been translated into nearly every major language of Europe and is honored as a literary heritage of humankind.

In the East, the classical Sanskrit epic *Ramayana* is also a major example of epic poetry.

Like the *Odyssey*, it tells of heroic deeds, moral struggles, and grand adventures. Both of these epics remain widely celebrated across the world to this day.

Despite emerging from different lands and cultures, these great works demonstrate that the spirit of poetry — the imagination, the storytelling, the emotional depth — transcends boundaries.

Human creativity, no matter the language, appears to share a common poetic essence.

### Forms and Expressions of Poetic Ornamentation

A poem becomes true poetic ornamentation only when the words and sounds used by the poet successfully express the emotions felt within the poet's heart. The forms of poetic ornamentation vary widely according to the literary traditions of each language. In Myanmar literature, too, poetic ornamentation takes on many distinct forms. Myanmar poetic literature classifies poetic ornamentation into two major categories: *lankā* (classical poetic forms) and *songs*.

### Myth, Nature, and Poetic Traditions Across Cultures

When poets describe the seasons, the forests, mountains, rivers, and the natural world, they often create imagery as if supernatural beings themselves had shaped them. Just as Myanmar poetry personifies rain spirits and

wind spirits, ancient cultures also used divine figures to explain natural phenomena.

In Greece, for example, people believed that the blooming of spring flowers was linked to the joyful return of Persephone from the realm of Hades. Her reunion with her mother, the earth goddess, was said to bring life and color back to the world. Thus, the blossoming of flowers became a poetic symbol of renewal and happiness.

Similarly, in Eastern traditions, the clash between the forces of *Athura* and *Thikyar* was used to explain the coming of rain — another example of nature expressed through mythic storytelling.

Myanmar literature contains numerous traditional “groups”, such as seasonal verses, forest poems, mountain poems, and gendered forms like “mother verse” and “youth verse”. Other cultures also developed similar categories. The ancient Greeks called such classifications *lyrics*, referring to poems meant to be accompanied by the lyre.

In Western literature, a poetic form similar to the Myanmar *taitt-pan* structure is known as the sonnet. A sonnet consists of fourteen lines arranged with carefully constructed rhyme, rhythm, and metre. In Myanmar *taitt-pan*, too, poets compose according to a strict arrangement of 18 lines, balancing rhyme and syllable structure with precision.

Thus, while different literary traditions around the world use a wide range of poetic names, categories, and structures, they ultimately share a single purpose. Regardless of the form or the rules, poetry everywhere is crafted to be graceful, pleasing, and emotionally resonant — an art shaped by the skill and imagination of poets across cultures.

### Poetry as “Decorated Words”: The View of Poet Min Thu Wun

The renowned poet Min Thu Wun once described poetry as:

“Poetry is a collection of words artistically arranged and skillfully crafted into beautiful verbal images.”

This definition reflects his belief that poetry is not merely language, but the creative shaping of words into expressive and meaningful forms.

“Rose Flower” — A Poem by Min Thu Wun

From the paddy fields I return, She says she wants *khaye* buds, So I go and pick them

By Maung Maung Myint Thein (RIT)

for her.

This morning,  
When I saw the elegant girl,  
Her hair adorned with roses  
Made her shine with grace and pride.

In this poem, Min Thu Wun vividly expresses the emotions of a young man who silently and deeply loves a girl. His feelings of admiration, affection, and restrained love are portrayed clearly and gracefully through simple yet expressive imagery.

The poem beautifully captures the tenderness of one-sided love, highlighting the inner emotions of a young man and his heartfelt admiration for the girl he loves.

“Padauk Flower” — A Poem by Zawgyi

Do not pluck it yet, dear,  
Let it bloom in golden yellow,  
For the heart that wishes to dance  
Amid the garlands of flowers.

As the year ends and Thingyan arrives, Strength is nurtured with wisdom and effort, And only in the right season

Does the Padauk flower reveal its rare beauty.

This poem, “Padauk Flower,” was composed by the national poet Zawgyi. It was first published in the 1928 University Annual Magazine under the pen name “Kyaung Chit”. The poem gained widespread attention due to its innovative style, vivid imagination, and refreshing creative expression. It was so influential that modern Burmese literary style is often considered to have been shaped significantly by this very poem.

### A Historical Overview of Burmese Poetry and Its Educational Role

In the academic year 2018-2019, an examination of the Grade 10 selected Burmese poetry curriculum reveals that its primary aim is to help students understand the meaning of poetry, its purpose, and the use of literary ornamentation. Each poem is introduced with background information about the poet, the nature of the poem, and its structure, serving as a guiding framework for readers. These brief introductions are designed to help students engage with poetry in a clear and accessible way from an early stage of their education. This approach reflects the fact that young learners are introduced to and become familiar with poetry while still in school.

TO BE CONTINUED

# NATIONAL

## Frontline troops warmly welcomed home



Triumphant Tatmadaw troops are pictured being warmly welcomed back in Hlegu Township yesterday.

TROOPS returning from security duties and military assignments in the Kyaukphyu area of Rakhine State were warmly welcomed at the Ye Mon cantonment area in Hlegu Township on Tuesday morning.

The welcoming ceremony was attended by Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen

Tin Min Latt, along with responsible personnel, officers and other ranks, family members, departmental officials, artistes, members of the Myanmar Police Force, war veterans, teachers, students and residents.

Participants greeted the returning troops with sprigs of Eugenia, victory garlands and

traditional musical performances, in recognition of their service in support of national security and regional peace across various states and regions of Myanmar.

The commander later presented honorary cash awards to the returning troops. — MNA/KZL

## YR AG calls for high-quality audits and stronger institutional capacity

A ceremony to clarify the directives issued at the Coordination Meeting 1/2026 between the Union Auditor-General and region and state auditors-general was held yesterday morning at Mya Pan Aing Hall in the Yangon Region Auditor-General's Office, Ahlon Township, Yangon.

At the ceremony, Yangon Region Auditor-General Daw Khin Mar Cho said that regional audit offices are conducting inspections and preparing reports in accordance with the Union Auditor-General Law to strengthen public financial management. She added that audit offices should not focus solely on financial matters but should also assess whether the activities of departments and organizations genuinely benefit the public, while ensuring compliance with laws, rules, regulations and procedures.



A clarification ceremony for the directives of the coordination meeting 1/2026 between the Union Auditor-General and state and region auditors-general is underway yesterday. **PHOTO: KANU**

She urged officials to continue striving to build institutions capable of providing constructive recommendations.

She explained the importance of conducting audits in accordance with international auditing standards, enhancing staff capacity and ethical standards, maintaining professional judgement and rigorous review processes, and producing

high-quality audit reports.

The ceremony also included presentations of the Best Workplace Performance Award, Best Knowledge Sharing Award, Magazine Contributor Award and Outstanding Management Award. The awards were conferred by the Office of the Union Auditor-General to mark its 89<sup>th</sup> anniversary. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KZL

## Child-Friendly Spaces open for IDP camp children in Sittway

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) has announced that child-friendly spaces (CFSs) were opened during May 2026 for children from households living in the camps of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Sittway Township, Rakhine State.

The child-friendly spaces have been established with the aim of providing psychosocial support for children living in the camps and helping them gain greater knowledge of health and well-being. MRCS has been implementing the programme with assistance and support from the

Danish Red Cross and the Faroe Islands Red Cross.

Organizations such as the Myanmar Red Cross Society and UNICEF have been operating a limited number of child-friendly spaces in different parts of Myanmar for children affected by conflicts and natural disasters. It is also reported that a child-friendly space was opened on 16 April this year at the Shwe Hintha Monastery in Sagaing Township for children who had experienced psychological distress caused by the earthquake and other hardships. — ASH/MKKS



This photo features children enjoying activities at a child-friendly space together with several Red Cross members.

## Ywangan reviews Mya Sein Yaung Village Project to boost efficiency

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Danu Self-Administered Zone, Shan State (South), held a township-level multi-stakeholder review meeting on the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project at its meeting hall yesterday. The meeting was aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and success of project implementation and facilitating the exchange of experiences gained during project activities.

Ywangan Township Management and Administration Committee Chairman U Thein Hsaing first delivered the opening remarks. Township Staff Of-

ficer U Thein Myat Htike then explained the objectives of the review meeting and the topics to be discussed.

Members of project implementation committees from 65 villages implementing the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project and the Village Revolving Fund Project exchanged views on the strengths, weaknesses and challenges encountered during the 2025-2026 financial year. Members of the township-level project implementation committee coordinated and provided necessary assistance on issues raised during the discussions. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

# NATIONAL

## Authorities continue crushing online scam hubs in Shwe Kokko, KK Park

AUTHORITIES have continued dismantling illegal buildings used for online fraud and illegal gambling activities in Shwe Kokko, according to official reports.

The government stated that joint departmental teams are carrying out clearance operations in the Shwe Kokko and KK Park areas to prevent the continued use of illegal structures for online scam operations. Equipment used in such activities has also been systematically destroyed, while the illegal buildings are being completely demolished.

During the latest phase of the operation, three three-storey residential buildings used for online scam activities were de-

molished using heavy machinery. The structures were among 50 buildings identified for removal, including 57 to be demolished using machinery and 20 to be destroyed by controlled explosions.

Officials confirmed that three buildings have been demolished to date. The remaining 50 structures will be dismantled in subsequent phases.

Authorities also stated that efforts to combat online scam networks are being undertaken as a national responsibility, in cooperation with neighbouring countries and international partners, to prevent such activities from re-establishing themselves in Myanmar. — MNA/MKKS



An aerial and drone view of the ongoing demolition of the scam-related facilities in Shwe Kokko, Myawady.

## Free consumer goods production training course opens

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Yamethin District, Mandalay Region, opened a free vocational training course on consumer goods production in Thinpangon Village on 1 June. The training is aimed at creating employment opportunities for rural residents and producing skilled workers.

The training is being attended by 20 trainees from Thinpangon Village and Segyi Village in Yamethin Township. Skilled instructors will systematically provide training on the production of consumer goods, including multi-purpose soap, dishwashing soap, bathing soap and facial soap, from 1 June to 5 June. The course is designed



Training course on consumer goods production opens on 1 June 2026.

to equip participants with the skills required to establish their own businesses.

Outstanding trainees who genuinely intend to start their own businesses will reportedly

be eligible to receive loans from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project funds implemented by the department. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

## Online scammers and related items seized in Shan State (East)

THE Myanmar Government has been intensifying its crackdown on online scams and illegal gambling, treating the issue as a national priority. It is working in cooperation and coordination with neighbouring countries and domestic security forces to firmly suppress such illegal activities and prevent them from taking root in Myanmar.

Acting on information provided by vigilant residents that online scam and gambling activities were being conducted at a house belonging to Sao Nwet (aka) Sao Nwet Lin in Wonglon village near Tachilek in eastern Shan State, security forces car-

rying out area security operations and anti-online scam and gambling operations conducted coordinated searches and investigations in the specified area this morning, exposing suspects and related evidence.

During the operation, authorities arrested 31 Myanmar nationals (19 males and 12 females) involved in online fraud and gambling activities inside the house in Wong Lon village. They also seized 58 desktop computers, 60 system units, 60 mobile phones, 20 tables and 54 chairs used in connection with the illegal activities. — MNA/MKKS



Detained offenders are seen alongside confiscated scam-related materials.

## Public Notice: Myanmar CI Centres in Thailand Closed Today

CENTRES of the certificate of identity (C of I), which are established across Thailand, will be closed on 3 June, which is Thailand's national holiday, the celebration of Thailand queen's birthday, said the Labour Attaché Office.

The Labour Attaché Office made this announcement for

Myanmar migrant workers on 2 June.

Temporary closure will be made on the national holiday, and all services of C of I centres will be resumed on 4 June regularly, it said.

C of I books have been issued at Samut Sakhon, Samut Prakan, Surat Thani, Chiang

Mai and Chonburi, in order to help Myanmar migrant workers to live officially in Thailand under legal protection. And migrant workers can easily apply for C of I at 7-Eleven stores by paying 2670 baht and just selecting the preferred C of I centre name and date, it said. — MT/ZS

# NATIONAL

## MPA: 55 container vessels scheduled to dock at Yangon Port this month

A total of 55 container vessels are scheduled to enter the Yangon Port in June 2026, the Myanmar Port Authority announced.

Eleven container vessels run by M/S Cosco Shipping Line, nine by M/S SITC Shipping Line, six by M/S ONE Line, and five by M/S Maersk A/S Line, four each by M/S MSC Line, M/S CMA CGM Line and M/S Samudra Shipping Line, three each by M/S RCLL Line, M/S Evergreen ASIA Line and M/S Ti2 Container Line, two by M/S Land And Sea and one by M/S BLPL Shipping Line are scheduled to dock at the Yangon Port in June.

Myanmar Port Authority has arranged maritime trade

channels to handle increasing imports to meet domestic demand, to bolster exports, and to improve port capacity for significant arrivals of ships. Myanmar Port Authority notified that it will inform exporters and importers of ship arrival schedules promptly upon an extended schedule. Yangon Port handled 57 container vessels in May, 53 in April, 59 in March, 60 each in February and 63 in January 2026. After the new navigation channel (Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yangon River was found, the draft extension work was accelerated. After that, the port can now handle larger ships. The container vessel MV



A bird's-eye view of a container yard with containers from shipping lines at Yangon Port along the Yangon River.

SITC Zhaoming (185.99-metre LOA, 35.25-metre Beam, 29,232 GRT and 2,698 TEUs) of Hong

Kong-based SITC Shipping Line docked at Asia World Port Terminal for the first time on 22

June, which is the largest ship that AWPT Port handled. — NN/KK

### MGMA members invited to participate in Asia Fashion (Thailand) Show 2026

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) invited its member companies and factories to join Asia Fashion (Thailand) Show 2026, which is scheduled to be held on 9-11 July 2026 at Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Centre (BITEC). This Asia Fashion Exhibition focuses on building a professional B2B fashion industry chain, including upstream and

downstream industries such as bags, luggage, garment & shoes, leather surface accessories and beauty and personal care. It will act as a great platform to explore the latest market trends, engage in collaborative discussions and business exchanges in the fashion and apparel industry, connecting designers, manufacturers and buyers and driving market growth and global collaboration.

Those who wish to participate in the Buyer Delegation Programme will be provided with a two-night stay accommodation. They must cover their flight ticket and other costs themselves. Two representatives from each member factory are entitled to join the show, and registration must be done by 5 June.

Interested individuals can enquire for further details to contact Ma Khin Thanda Aung (Event & PR Officer) at 09 758451158. — NN/KK

### Resilient, sustainable modern warehouses set to boost storage capacity

A highly resilient, eco-friendly modern warehouse of the Myanmar Agricultural and General Development Public Company Limited (MAGDPL) was inaugurated on 31 May, maximizing storage capacity and decreasing carbon footprints and operating costs.

MAGDPL obtained a long-term lease for Plot No 29 at Thilawa Port, Kyauktan Township, Thanlyin, under the Myanmar Port Authority operated under the Ministry of Transport, and the company constructed a modern warehouse to handle green produce and general goods, with a permit from the Myanmar Investment Commission. The warehouse is 550 feet long, 150 feet wide, and 34 feet high, with a total floor area of 82,500 square feet. Construction began with a groundbreaking ceremony on 4 April, 2025. All construction works, including the warehouse, brick perimeter wall, access bridge, perimeter road, parking, and landscaping, reached 100 per cent completion on 7 March 2026, according to its

announcement via the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) on 6 May 2026.

The warehouse was built by Bagan Royal Star Engineering Co Ltd, using high-quality pre-engineered steel structures from PEB Steel Co Ltd and designed with climate-resilient and eco-friendly specifications. It features deep pile foundations, securing against Zone 3 seismic activity and severe cyclonic conditions with wind resistance up to 160 km/h, air bubble and thermal insulation, and optimizing solar energy integration in warehousing and supporting green and clean energy in line with ESG goals.

That modern warehouse is capable of systematically storing pulses, maize, and sesame seeds intended for export. During the opening ceremony, Union Minister for Transport and for Digital Development and Communications U Mya Tun Oo encouraged investors to accelerate ongoing and planned construction processes in Thilawa Port. — NN/KK

### Free masonry training course opens in Mongton



Trainees are seen at the masonry training course in Shan State (East).

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Mongton Township, Shan State (East), held the opening ceremony of a free masonry training course under the livelihood support programme for the 2026-2027 financial year at the department's meeting hall on 1 June.

A total of 20 trainees from Lwekhamlon Village, Santhida Village, Naungyasaing Village, Aungchantha Village, Pankyine Village, Hwaypahlaing Village, Ayethaya Village and Pansali Village are attending the liveli-

hood-support masonry training course.

During the training, lessons related to masonry techniques, knowledge and skills will be taught free of charge for 15 days through both theoretical and practical methods by one skilled instructor.

Outstanding trainees who genuinely intend to establish their own businesses will reportedly be eligible to receive loans from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project funds implemented by the department. — Karan (Rural)

# Oil falls, stocks rise as traders bet on Mideast progress

OIL prices retreated and stock markets largely gained Tuesday as investors assessed the chances of a Middle East peace agreement, with tech shares enjoying another strong showing thanks to AI enthusiasm.

Crude futures had soared about seven per cent Monday after an Iranian state news agency

announced Tehran had suspended its negotiations with Washington.

But concerns eased after US President Donald Trump said Iran talks were moving rapidly and that Israel and Hezbollah had agreed to stop fighting.

“There is no concrete progress in Middle East negotiations... but investors appear broadly optimistic

that a longer-term resolution will be reached,” said Susannah Streeter, chief investment strategist at Wealth Club.

An end to the war would likely boost the global economy, which has been battered by surging energy costs that risk a renewed spike for global interest rates. Official data Tuesday showed that eurozone



A customer buys groceries at a market in Rome, Italy, on 31 March 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

inflation rose in May, reinforcing the likelihood of borrowing costs climbing in the single currency area, analysts said. Consumer price rises accelerated to 3.2 per cent last month, Eurostat said, up from 3.0 per cent in April. — AFP

## Global chip market projected to surge 89.9% to record \$1.51 tln in 2026

THE global semiconductor market is expected to surge 89.9 per cent in 2026 from a year earlier to a record \$1.51 trillion, driven by huge investments from companies worldwide amid rapidly expanding demand for artificial intelligence, an industry organization forecast showed Tuesday.

The World Semiconductor Trade Statistics,

an organization formed by major chip manufacturers, sharply revised its outlook from the previous estimate made in December of a 26.3 per cent increase to \$975.46 billion. The projected growth rate would also mark a record high.

The strong forecast reflects expectations that the expansion of data centres will continue at a pace

exceeding earlier assumptions, the organization said.

By product, memory chips used for data storage are expected to surge about 3.5-fold to \$803.94 billion. Kioxia Holdings Corp, which produces such chips in Japan, projects its net profit for the April-June period will increase more than 47-fold from a year earlier. — Kyodo

### Notice for Change of Registration Trade Name

Notice is hereby given that official registration trade name has been changed for the following pesticides manufactured by Hebei Veyong Bio-chemical Co., Ltd, China and distributed by Heyoza Co., Ltd. It invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

No	Trade Name		Active Ingredient	Registration	
	Old	New		Type	No.
1	ALB-Dino	Diano	Dinotefuran 20% SG	Provisional	P2022-5518

Heyoza Co., Ltd. Phone: 09894539598

### Notice for Change of Registration Trade Name

Notice is hereby given that official registration trade name has been changed for the following pesticides manufactured by Hailir Pesticides and Chemicals Group Co., Ltd, China and distributed by Heyoza Co., Ltd. It invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

No	Trade Name		Active Ingredient	Registration	
	Old	New		Type	No.
1	ALB-Ema Indo	Htoo Kae	Emamectin Benzoate 5% + Indoxacarb 10% SC	Provisional	P2024-5852

Heyoza Co., Ltd. Phone: 09894539598

### Myanma Port Authority

#### Open Tender Invitation for three Tugs

- The following three Tugs, at the present controlled by the Myanma Port Authority will be auctioned through an open tender system;
  - Tug Cathay – 3 (Mild Steel Hull)**
    - (1) IMO Number - 9447500
    - (2) Register Tonnage - 153 MT
    - (3) LOA - 21.96 M
    - (4) Breadth - 7.32 M
    - (5) Draft - 3.20M
  - Tug Cathay – 7 (Mild Steel Hull)**
    - (1) IMO Number - 9489132
    - (2) Register Tonnage - 144 MT
    - (3) LOA - 21.96 M
    - (4) Breadth - 7.32 M
    - (5) Draft - 3.20M
  - Tug Cathay – 21 (Mild Steel Hull)**
    - (1) IMO Number - 9311933
    - (2) Register Tonnage - 122 MT
    - (3) LOA - 21.81 M
    - (4) Breadth - 7.00 M
    - (5) Draft - 2.90 M
- The tender process will be taken place in accord with Paragraphs 23/24 of Directive No.(1/2017). Issued by the president office.
- The interested companies (both local and international) are invited to enter this tender. The vessels can be checked in Pathein (Bassein) port limit area, Ayeyarwady Region.
- The tender application forms can be purchased and submitted in accordance with the following date, time and place; (Remark: International companies need to submit an endorsement by the Myanmar embassy in the respective country.)
  - Address (to purchase) : Store Department, Botataung township
  - Date & Time (to purchase): 4-6-2026 to 23-6-2026 (formal day &time)
  - Address (to submit) : Myanmar Port Authority (Tender Room)
  - Date & Time (to submit) : 25-6-2026 (1300)
- Since the vessels will be auctioned due to the Port Act 1908, section -11 and Myanma Port Authority Law 2015 section 66(b), Myanma Port Authority has right to cancel either partially or as a whole of this tender at any time, if it is needed to do so for some applicable reasons.
- For detailed information, please contact the following contact points:
  - Marine Department - 018246380, 018387117 (ex) 211
  - Store Department - 018610230

Myanma Port Authority  
Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee

# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD/AD

### UN warns world to prepare for El Nino extreme weather

THERE is an 80-per-cent chance of the warming El Nino phenomenon developing between June and August, increasing the risk of extreme weather events, the World Meteorological Organization said Tuesday.

“Fuelled by unusually warm ocean waters in the tropical Pacific, El Nino conditions are developing and are set to influence global temperature and rainfall patterns,” the United Nations’ WMO weather and climate agency said. Forecasts from the WMO global network “indicate a pronounced shift towards El Nino conditions, with

probabilities reaching 80 per cent for June-August”, the Geneva-based organization said.

El Nino is a natural climate phenomenon that warms surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, bringing worldwide changes in winds, pressure and rainfall patterns.

It typically takes place every two to seven years and lasts around nine to 12 months.

Conditions oscillate between El Nino and its opposite La Nina, with neutral conditions in between.



Head of climate prediction services at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Wilfran Moufouma-Okia points on graphs displayed on computer screens at the WMO headquarters in Geneva, on 1 June 2026. PHOTO: AFP

The likelihood of El Nino developing by November is “near or above 90 per cent”, and most forecast models suggest it

will be “at least moderate — and possibly strong”, the WMO said in its quarterly El Nino/La Nina update. — AFP

### Typhoon Jangmi passes near Japan’s Kyushu after battering Okinawa

TYPHOON Jangmi on Tuesday passed near the southern part of Kyushu, the main island in southwestern Japan, and is approaching the Pacific side of western and eastern Japan, the weather agency said, after battering Okinawa the previous day.

The Japan Meteorological Agency has issued level 4 flood danger warnings, the second highest, for rivers in Nichinan, Miyazaki Prefecture in the Kyushu region, urging all residents in dangerous areas to evacuate.

Miyazaki and Kagoshima prefectures observed torrential rainfall, with Miyazaki city observ-

ing over 300 millimetres of precipitation in a 24-hour period.

The agency also warned people in southern Kyushu, Shikoku, Kinki and Tokai regions covering southwestern, western and central parts of the country that there are risks of landslides and flooding in low-lying areas due to potential linear rainbands.

At least 16 people sustained injuries in the southern island prefecture of Okinawa, including a man who was knocked unconscious after being electrocuted while working on restoring a power line, according to local authorities. — Kyodo

#### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (175N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (175N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-6-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

#### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (620W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (620W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-6-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S MAERSK A/S**



Photo taken on 2 June 2026 shows a toppled tree, highlighting impact of typhoon Jangmi in Naha, Okinawa Prefecture, southern Japan. PHOTO: KYODO

#### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (848N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (848N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-6-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD**

#### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2610S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2610S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-6-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD**

**Mandalay Region Government  
Mandalay City Development Committee**

**Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) regarding the former Mandalay City Hotel and adjacent buildings**

1. Mandalay City Development Committee hereby invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from interested investors to operate appropriate business activities on a 1.327-acre plot of land located between 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Streets, and between 82<sup>nd</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup> Streets, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay. The site includes the former Mandalay City Hotel (a 4-story Reinforced Concrete building) and its adjacent structures.
2. Interested entrepreneurs may purchase the EOI application form at the rate of 500,000 MMK per set from the Cleansing Department, Mandalay City Development Committee, during office hours, with the deadline for purchase being June 26, 2026.
3. The completed EOI proposal along with required supporting documents must be submitted back to the Cleansing Department, Mandalay City Development Committee, no later than July 2, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

For detailed information, inquiries can be made during office hours via the following phone numbers: 09-680362121, 09-444016609, and 09-790644858.

**Mandalay City Development Committee**

# SPORTS

## Japan squad depart for pre-World Cup camp in Mexico

JAPAN departed for their pre-World Cup camp in Mexico on Tuesday, with Daichi Kamada joining his teammates to complete Hajime Moriyasu's 26-man squad.

The Samurai Blue will train in Monterrey to acclimate to the heat before moving to their base camp in Nashville, Tennessee, days before the start of the tournament co-hosted by Canada, Mexico and the United States.

"We will do our best so that the people of Japan can celebrate seeing us win the World Cup," Moriyasu said at a departure ceremony at Narita airport

near Tokyo.

Japan begin their campaign against the Netherlands in Group F on 14 June at Dallas Stadium before playing Tunisia on 20 June in Monterrey.

They will return to Dallas Stadium for their third game against Sweden on 25 June.

Midfielder Kamada did not take part in Japan's World Cup send-off match on Sunday in Tokyo, a 1-0 win for the hosts over Iceland, after he helped Crystal Palace clinch the Conference League title on Wednesday with a 1-0 win over Rayo Vallecano in the final. — Kyodo



Japan manager Hajime Moriyasu (foreground) and the national football squad arrive at Narita airport before departing for their pre-World Cup camp in Mexico on 2 June 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

## 'In the zone' Andreeva romps into French Open semis



Mirra Andreeva celebrates her victory at the end of her women's quarterfinal singles match against Romania's Sorana Cirstea on day 10 of the French Open tennis tournament on Court Philippe-Chatrier at the Roland-Garros Complex in Paris on 2 June 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

MIRRA Andreeva outclassed Sorana Cirstea 6-0, 6-3 to book her spot in the semifinals of the French Open on Tuesday, a year on from her painful defeat at the same stage when the frustrated teenager blasted a ball into the Parisian crowd.

The Russian eighth seed needed just under an hour on Court Philippe Chatrier to reach the last four at Roland Garros for the second time in three years.

Andreeva, 19, reached the last eight in 2025 before falling in

straight sets to French sensation Lois Boisson.

When rain started falling over the French capital on Tuesday morning and Andreeva realized the match would take place under a closed roof, she said she started immediately having flashbacks to her bad-tempered loss from 12 months ago.

"I was actually joking a little bit this morning, because it was raining, and I knew that we would play with a closed roof. I was just saying that I have little

bit of flashbacks to last year," she said.

"I was just trying to have flashbacks only about the weather and only about the court with closed roof, not about how I played."

However, she need not have worried as she flew out of the traps to race through the first set in a mere 24 minutes.

"I honestly didn't expect that (winning the first set to love)... Let's start with me having an amazing warm-up before the match on the court," she said.

"I felt like I didn't miss one ball during the warm-up, so I kind of got a little bit nervous after that, because usually when you have an amazing warm-up, you don't play the same way during the match.

"But, I don't know, I just found myself being very, very focused, very aggressive, going for my shots all the time. I don't know what happened, but I was just, like, in the zone, I guess."

Two years on from her only previous semi-final run at a major, the former world number five said she was "super happy" to be back in the last four at Roland Garros. — AFP

## Riquelme names Raul as sporting director if elected Real Madrid president

THE presidential election at Real Madrid took another turn Tuesday after challenger Enrique Riquelme announced former club great Raul Gonzalez would become director of sport if he wins Sunday's vote.

Raul, 48, is regarded as one of Real Madrid's greatest players after scoring 323 goals in 741 appearances for the club.

He also coached reserve side Real Madrid Castilla before leaving in the summer of 2025 after being overlooked for the first-team job, which went to Xabi Alonso.

"If I win the election, Raul Gonzalez Blanco will be Real Madrid's director of sport," Riquelme said in an interview with Spanish radio station Cadena COPE early Tuesday.

Current president Florentino Perez, who is seeking another term in Sunday's election, has not appointed a sporting director since returning to power in 2009. — Xinhua

## Liverpool legend Dalglish reveals cancer treatment

LIVERPOOL and Scotland great Kenny Dalglish has revealed he is undergoing treatment for cancer.

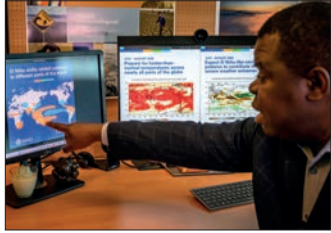
Dalglish, who is one of Liverpool's greatest players and also managed the club in two spells, issued a statement about his diagnosis on Tuesday.

The 75-year-old former forward said he had mistakenly posted about his health on social media before later confirming the treatment.

"As my inadvertent social media post has indicated, I am currently undergoing treatment for cancer," Dalglish said.

"Unlike my mobile phone use, the treatment is going well.

"Ideally this would have remained private because that's the way it should be, but my useless technology skills have forced my hand. — AFP



## US in talks to expand nuclear weapons deployments in Europe: FT

THE United States is discussing whether to deploy nuclear weapons in more NATO states, the Financial Times reported on Tuesday.

US officials have signalled openness to additional deployments beyond six countries that currently host nuclear-capable bombers, the report said, citing three people briefed on the discussions.

NATO's nuclear sharing programme involves six allies – Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Türkiye and the United Kingdom – that are approved to host US dual-capable aircraft and “forward-deployed” nuclear bombs, according to the report.

The report said that the move may allow more allies to host dual-capable aircraft, which can carry out nuclear strike missions, while countries on NATO's eastern flank, including Poland and some Baltic states, have expressed interest in hosting bases to house the aircraft. – Xinhua

## India, US close to signing first phase of trade deal: minister

INDIA and the United States are “about 99 per cent” done with the first tranche of a trade deal, the commerce minister said, as a US delegation began talks in New Delhi on Tuesday.

The delegation, led by Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia Brendan Lynch, is holding three days of talks with Indian trade officials, as the two sides seek to close negotiations.

“About 99 per cent of the issues have been settled,” Indian commerce minister Piyush Goyal told reporters in Delhi late Monday. – AFP

# UN warns of ‘unprecedented’ gaps in global food aid amid funding cuts



Residents receive aid from World Food Programme (WFP) at Al-Omada neighbourhood of Omdurman, the twin city of Khartoum on 11 March 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE United Nations warned Tuesday that dramatic funding cuts for aid, at a time of multiple crises, have created unparalleled gaps, leaving tens of millions going hungry.

The UN's World Food Programme said it was facing a 75-per-cent shortfall in its funding, with dire and deadly consequences.

“The gaps are unprecedented,” Rania Dagash-Kamara, WFP's assistant executive director for partnerships and innovation, told reporters in Geneva.

“Country by country, we are making brutal choices about who to reach.”

While there has been much focus on US cuts, Dagash-Kamara stressed that Washington remained WFP's top donor.

The biggest shock to the system, she said, had been “the collective European pullback and cuts”.

“The cuts that we are seeing from the Europeans are I think where the largest gap for us is at the moment,” she said. “That we would like to see redressed.”

### Multiple famines looming

The WFP official stressed that cuts were being made to “life-saving work”

at a time when multiple famines were looming.

“Malnutrition clinics are closing,” she said, warning that the world was conducting “a real-time experiment” by deciding to “pull out the support and let's find out afterwards who is going to stay alive”.

Dagash-Kamara described a mother in Afghanistan who had walked four hours to a clinic with her children, only to be turned away.

“She is malnourished, her children are malnourished and we could not help her,” she said. — AFP



Yechezkel Leiter (far L), Israeli Ambassador to the US, and Nada Hamadeh (far R), Lebanese Ambassador to the US, attend a meeting hosted by the United States at the State Department in Washington, DC, on 2 June 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Israel-Lebanon talks begin in Washington

THE ambassadors of Israel and Lebanon began a new round of direct talks in Washington on Tuesday after US President Donald Trump said he had received commitments from both sides to de-escalate.

The fourth meeting between representatives of the two countries, which do not have diplomatic relations, is taking place at the State Department and is scheduled to last two days.

Participants include Israel's ambassador to

the United States Yechezkel Leiter and Lebanese envoy Nada Hamadeh Moawad, as well as Daniel Holler, a senior advisor to Secretary of State Marco Rubio. None of the officials made any statements. The talks come as Hezbollah and Israel continue to exchange fire, despite Trump announcing an agreement Monday to halt attacks. Israel on Tuesday said it would continue targeting Hezbollah's bastions in Beirut's suburbs if the Iran-backed group continues to attack northern Israeli towns. — AFP