

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## Myanmar, Indonesia Vow to Sustain Long-Standing Amity



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing receives Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Sugiono at the Presidential Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

Myanmar and Indonesia pledge to expand bilateral diplomacy, friendship, and strategic cooperation.

**A** DELEGATION led by Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Mr Sugiono paid a courtesy call on President of

the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, at the Presidential Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. At the meeting, they

frankly exchanged views on the situation to provide necessary aid for Myanmar to become a successful and peaceful nation, and the efforts of Myan-

mar to enhance existing friendly ties with ASEAN. They openly discussed the long-standing friendly nations and close partners **SEE PAGE 3**

## Beekeeping Boosts Oil Crop Yields

**SEEKING** to boost rural incomes, the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers and Oil Millers Association is promoting integrated bee-

keeping in oilseed fields to create mutual economic benefits for farmers and beekeepers alike. Beekeeping significantly

contributes to oil crop cultivation and domestic oil production. This integrated model will help cross-pollinated

plants see a significant increase in crop yield with the help of bees, improving the yield. **SEE PAGE 4**

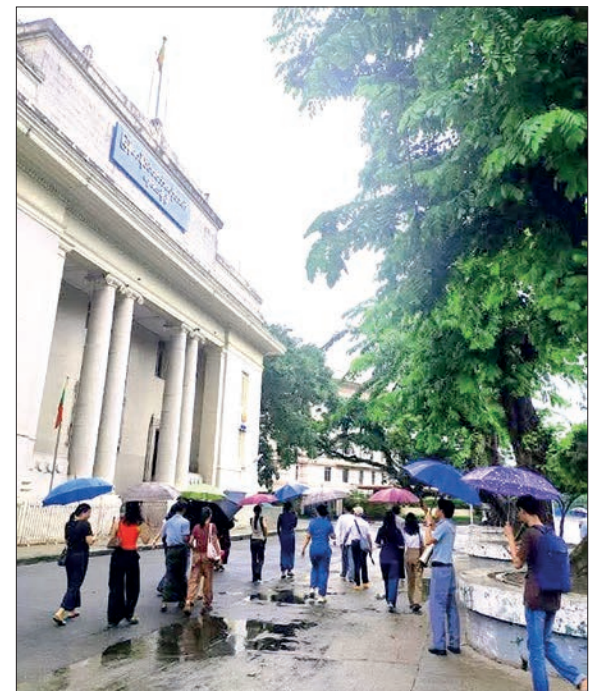
## Yangon Heritage Walking Tours launched to kickstart tourism boom

**TO** spark a tourism resurgence, the Union of Myanmar Travel Association (UMTA) has officially debuted the Yangon Heritage Walking Tour Experience.

The initiative is a core project of the Yangon Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Working Group 2026, a body dedicated to historic preservation and eco-tourism led by Daw Chaw Chaw Kyae Mone, chair of UMTA HRD.

Trainees from the tourism digital marketing course, which is being run under the management of the UMTA HRD Committee, joined the walking tour to historical sites in Yangon and the surrounding area.

Led by a guide U Sithu Tun Soe Oo, 22 trainees started their walking tour from Maha Bandoola Park at 1 pm on 6 June and visited the Western District Court, the Myanma Economic Bank Branch 2, the Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank, the Inland Water Transport, the Pension Department, new Union Supreme Court, the Settlement and Land Records Department, the Myanma Economic Bank Branch 3, former Myawady Bank, former US Embassy, the Independence Monument at the Maha Bandoola Park, former Ministry of Hotels and Tourism office, Sule Pagoda, the City Hall, Ayeyawady Bank head office, the High Court of Yangon Region, **SEE PAGE 2**



Trainees of the Yangon Heritage Walking Tour Experience.

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Vice-President U Nyo Saw arrives back from Russia

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Hluttaw representatives raise questions at Pyithu Hluttaw's fourth-day session

### NATIONAL PAGE 11



MFF calls for strategic aquaculture plan to boost exports

# NATIONAL

## Lao goodwill delegation arrives in Yangon to strengthen bilateral naval ties

A goodwill delegation led by Maj-Gen Vanthong Bouttavong, Deputy Head of the Chief of Staff Department of the Lao People's Army, arrived in Yangon yesterday evening for an official visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Senior officers of the Tatmadaw (Navy), the Lao Military Attaché to Myanmar, and other officials welcomed the delegation at Yangon International Airport.



The Lao goodwill delegation is seen being welcomed upon their arrival at Yangon International Airport.

During their five-day stay, which runs until 12 June, the delegation will tour famous landmarks in Myanmar and take part in goodwill activities aimed at strengthening cooperation between the two navies. — MNA/MKKS

## Yangon Heritage Walking Tours launched to kickstart tourism boom

**FROM PAGE 1**  
immanuel Baptist Church, the Central Telegraph Office, the Internal Revenue Department, the Lokanat Building, the Rural Development Bank, the Sarpay Beikman, the

Gandhi Hall, Armenian Apostolic Church of Saint John the Baptist, the Central Post Office, the British Embassy, the Strand Hotel, the Myanmar Airways and the Myanma Port Authority.

The walking tour also covered an expedition to the upper floor of the Secretariat. UMTA said it will continue organizing the walking tour for the development of the tourism industry. — MT/ZS

## Plants, bats removed from ancient edifices in Bagan World Heritage Site

PLANTS and bats are being removed from ancient buildings in the Bagan World Heritage Site using chemicals, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museums (Bagan Branch), Conservation Department.

The bamboo trees growing on ancient buildings in the Bagan World Heritage Site. The roots of the banyan tree and other plants have caused cracks in the ancient buildings, allowing rainwater to enter, and birds such as pigeons and bats that roost inside the pagoda can damage the wall paintings.

Such rainwater infiltration and bird droppings have also damaged the plasterwork and wall paintings inside the ancient pagoda.

To prevent and ensure its long-term sustainability, a team of staff and experts from the Department of Archaeological Research and National Museum (Bagan Branch)'s, Maintenance



Chemical removal of plants from ancient buildings and bats inside the pagoda in the World Heritage Site.

Department, Laboratory Department, and other departments have been working to remove No 1662 (Gupisatgyi) pagoda.

The systematic removal of trees with chemical pesticides and the chemical removal of bats inside the ancient building No 1668 (Shwehteesaung) pagoda are being carried out in collaboration with the ASI team. — ASH/MKKS

## Film stars rally to donate school stipends and stationery for members' children

AN event to donate education stipends, stationery and school uniforms to the children of Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO) members will be held in July at the MMPO head office, and film artistes are contributing donations for the event, according to U Aye Kyu Lay, Vice-Chairman of the organization.

"Film artistes and production companies are donating towards the programme to provide education stipends, stationery and school uniforms for the children of MMPO members. On 2 June, Ko Nay Lin Oo and Ma Win



Donations made for education stipends, stationery and school uniforms to the children of MMPO members in the previous year.

Thapyay Tun from the Hmaw Film Production family donated K1 million. On 6 June, actress

Hla Myo Thinzar Nwe's family donated K500,000, actor Nyi Nanda's family K300,000, actor Ah Lin

Yaung K1.1 million, and actor Nyi Htut Khaung K300,000" said U Aye Kyu Lay. — ASH/KNN

## 2026 China Film Festival offers free screenings of acclaimed movies

THE Chinese Embassy in Yangon will hold a ceremony to open the 2026 China Film Festival at JCineplex, Ottarathiri Mall, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday evening, aiming to promote closer friendship, cultural exchange and people-to-people exchanges between Myanmar and China.

From 9 to 11 June, interesting films will be screened for free at 4:30 pm, with two films per day.

The programme will screen the films The Battle of the Gods and The Dreamcatcher on 9 June, The Truth of the Blood and The Life of the Wind on 10 June and The Royal Lychee of Chang'an and Her Life Story on 11 June. — MNA/MKKS

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# NATIONAL

## China-Myanmar Bloc Pledges Shared Future

Film creation successfully initiates cultural cooperation and deepens the bilateral "Pauk-Phaw" friendship.

**M**YANMAR consistently and firmly upholds the "One China Policy" as a fundamental principle in the field of international relations, said President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the opening of the 2026 China Film Week to mark the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Myanmar at the J Cineplex of the Ottara-thiri Departmental Store in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the President reaffirmed that to further strengthen the bilateral partnership and contribute to regional peace and stability, Myanmar will continue to adhere to the "One China Policy" and will work closely with China to deepen cooperation across various sectors for the common interests of the peoples of both countries.

He continued that following the major earthquake in Mandalay, China, as a close friend, China provided Myanmar with emergency humanitarian assistance valued at 1.1 billion yuan to support recovery and rehabilitation efforts. As this was the first foreign assistance received during a time



President U Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla sign the commemorative register at yesterday's event.

of greatest difficulty, China's timely support has greatly strengthened both the Government and the people affected by the disaster.

The People's Republic of China has been continuously providing assistance to Myanmar in key social development sectors such as education, health, social affairs, and rural development, among others.

On the occasion of the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries,

the President stated that continued efforts will be made to promote sustainable mutual interests for the peoples of both nations, regional peace and stable development, the building of a Myanmar-China community with a shared future, and the acceleration of development momentum.

Film artistic creation helps initiate cultural cooperation successfully and further cements the "Pauk-Phaw" friendship between the two countries.

In terms of bilateral cooperation in the film sector, the President unveiled that with the assistance of the Embassy of China to Myanmar, classic

Myanmar heritage films, including the old Myanmar film "Nga Ba", have been successfully preserved for long-term use. These films have been

converted from film format into Digital Cinema Package (DCP) format using digital technology, which has already been received.

Television drama series from both countries are also being translated into each other's languages and broadcast reciprocally.

The Chinese films and television drama series are expected that the shared emotional experiences of audiences in both countries will foster genuine bonds, mutual understanding, and closer friendship.

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia said that although Myanmar and China have different social systems, Myanmar was the first country to recognize New China. China has also consistently supported Myanmar's national peace, reconciliation, and stability.

**SEE PAGE 4**

### Key points from the speech delivered by the President at the 2026 Chinese Film Week

1. Chinese films and television drama series shared emotional experiences of audiences in both countries, genuine bonds, mutual understanding, and closer friendship.
2. Film artistic creation helps initiate cultural cooperation successfully and further cement the "Pauk-Phaw" friendship between the two countries.
3. Myanmar will continue to adhere to the "One China Policy" while working closely with China to deepen cooperation across various sectors for the common interests of the peoples of both countries.

## Myanmar, Indonesia Vow to Sustain Long-Standing Amity

**FROM PAGE 1**  
between Myanmar and Indonesia since the time of their independence struggles, the current challenges and difficulties faced

by Myanmar and its full confidence, and the effort to build a more developed and peaceful country.

They also emphasized the requirements

for each country to adopt a democratic system suited to its own characteristics and culture, based on its national identity and traditions. Moreover,

they talked about the situation for Myanmar and Indonesia to promote and expand diplomatic relations, friendship, and cooperation between the two countries.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for For-

eign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe, Vice-Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Work Committee Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and officials. The Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs was accompanied by Director-General Mr Santo Darmosumarto of the Asia, Pacific and Africa Department of the Min-

istry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, officials, and responsible officials from the Indonesian Embassy to Myanmar.

After the meeting, the President and the Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister had documentary photos taken together with the attendees. — MNA/TTA

# NATIONAL

## China-Myanmar Bloc Pledges Shared Future

### FROM PAGE 3

The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, jointly proposed by China and Myanmar, have become a fundamental norm governing international relations.

Extensive cooperation and exchanges have been carried out in the film sector between the two countries, playing an active role in enhancing mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of the two nations.

At the ceremony, the President and his wife, and the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar put on their commemorative signatures.

The President responded to the questions raised by reporter Ms Zhang Xiaoning from China Media Group (CMG). The full text of the answers of the President is as follows:

In connection with the Global Civilization Initiative adopted by President Xi Jinping, film festivals of this kind are held in Myanmar. This helps to foster closer familiarity between the Myanmar people and

China's culture, arts, and aesthetic traditions. Furthermore, film encompasses the full range of filmmaking techniques as well as acting skills. By watching films produced in China, one can better appreciate Chinese cinematic craftsmanship and acting performances. This, in turn, can help further enhance cooperation between Myanmar and China in the fields of film and the fine arts. It can also significantly contribute to strengthening the "Pauk-Phaw" (fraternal) friendship between the two countries.

The BRI is a globally supportive initiative. Within it, there is a China-Myanmar Economic Corridor, which is also a component that emerged from the BRI. These frameworks provide significant support when implemented through cooperation, and there are already tangible benefits being experienced.

In addition, it greatly contributes to the previously mentioned "Pauk-Phaw" (fraternal) relations. Furthermore, there are many areas of



President U Min Aung Hlaing responds to queries from the China Media Group correspondent.

collaboration in trade and investment, science and technology, tourism, and various other fields — there is still a great deal to be done. These are areas that will bring significant benefits to our country.

Therefore, we would

also like to express our desire to further expand cooperation in all these sectors. As I mentioned earlier, although diplomatic relations span 76 years, the relations between the two countries actually date back hundreds and

even thousands of years. That is why this relationship is referred to as the "Pauk-Phaw" (fraternal) relationship.

In 2011, the relationship was upgraded to a Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

Later, following President Xi Jinping's 2020 visit, an agreement was reached to further build a "community with a shared future, sharing weal and woe".

President U Min Aung Hlaing, his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, and attendees at the ceremony saluted the flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and then enjoyed a video clip on the 2026 Chinese Film Week and a film 'Lighting Up the Stars'.

After the ceremony, the President cordially greeted the Chinese Ambassador and attendees.

Also present at the ceremony were Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Khin Yi and his wife, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe and his wife, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo and his wife, Union ministers and their wives, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and deputy ministers in addition to media personnel and officials. — MNA/TTA

## President's Office Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

UNION Minister for the Ministry of the President's Office U Tin Aung San received Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, at the Ministry's hall yesterday afternoon.

They exchanged views on cooperation in the development of the electricity sector between Myanmar and China, issues related to the continuation of ongoing projects, and economic, trade and investment



The Chinese ambassador calls on Union Minister U Tin Aung San yesterday.

issues.

The meeting was attended by officials from the Ministry of the President's Office, the Min-

istry of Electricity and Energy, and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar. — MNA/MKKS

## Beekeeping Boosts Oil Crop Yields

### FROM PAGE 1

Placing beehives near crop fields can improve the quality of the crops. Moreover, bees are essential insects for a green environment and forests, as most flowering plants worldwide depend on bee pollination. Pollination by bees increases crop yields, ensuring food security. Oil crops such as sunflower and sesame especially require cross-pollination. As bees move from flower to flower to collect nectar, pollen transfer significantly boosts

seed yields. Successfully pollinated seeds tend to be heavier and have a higher oil content.

Beekeeping in oil crop fields creates a win-win situation for both farmers and beekeepers. If farmers engage in beekeeping themselves, they can make more income by producing and selling high-value products such as honey, beeswax, and other bee by-products.

Beekeepers benefit from natural nectar from oil crop fields, allowing them to produce

high-quality honey. With global demand for natural organic products gradually rising, organic honey exports from Myanmar see a promising opportunity, having high potential for export promotion. Furthermore, the expansion of beekeeping businesses supports the development of local Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in rural and township areas, creating new job opportunities and increasing household incomes for locals. — NN/KK

# NATIONAL

## Vice-President U Nyo Saw arrives back from Russia

THE delegation led by Vice-President U Nyo Saw, who attended the 29<sup>th</sup> Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) 2026 held in Saint Petersburg in the Russian Federation, left Saint Petersburg for Yangon by air on the evening of 7 June.

The Vice-President

and party were seen off at Pulkovo International Airport in Saint Petersburg by Myanmar Consul-General U Aung Pe Thet, and officials from the Committee for External Relations of Saint Petersburg and the Fund RC-Investments.

The Vice-Presi-

dent-led delegation arrived back in Yangon on the evening of 8 June. They were welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by the commander of the Yangon Command, regional ministers, and officials of the Russian Embassy to Myanmar. — MNA/TTA



Vice-President U Nyo Saw is pictured being welcomed back after attending the 29<sup>th</sup> SPIEF 2026 in Saint Petersburg, the Russian Federation.

## Foreign Ministers of Myanmar and Indonesia hold bilateral meeting



Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe and Indonesian Foreign Minister Mr Sugiono meet yesterday.

AT the invitation of the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Tin Maung Swe, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Mr Sugiono and spouse, accompanied by an Indonesian delegation, paid an official visit to Nay Pyi Taw on 8 June 2026.

The Union Minister received and held a bilateral meeting with the delegation led by the Indonesian Foreign Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the afternoon of the same day.

During the meeting, the two Foreign Ministers cordially discussed mat-

ters pertaining to strengthening the longstanding friendship between the two countries, enhancing cooperation to open a new chapter in bilateral relations, including diplomatic ties, cooperation in regional and international fora, including ASEAN. They also exchanged views on promoting collaboration in the areas of mutual benefit.

The Union Minister for Foreign Affairs expressed sincere thanks to Indonesia for its constructive appreciation of Myanmar's peace process and political developments. He stated that cooperation between the two Foreign Ministries

would be further elevated. He emphasized that Myanmar, as a responsible member of ASEAN, is actively engaged with ASEAN and will continue its efforts through a Myanmar-owned and Myanmar-led process aligned with the country's prevailing circumstances. He also conveyed gratitude to Indonesia and other ASEAN Member States for their support for Myanmar's positive developments. He requested that Indonesia provide training courses for human resource development in Myanmar.

The Indonesian Foreign Minister affirmed that Indonesia is committed to enhancing its existing relations with Myanmar. He fully acknowledged Myanmar's efforts towards peace, national reconciliation, and democratic transition following the emergence of a new government through elections. He further recognized Myanmar's implementation of the ASEAN Five-Point statement through a Myanmar-led

and Myanmar-owned process. Noting that Myanmar has been an integral part of the ASEAN family, he expressed Indonesia's desire to see Myanmar's continued participation in ASEAN activities. The Indonesian Foreign Minister added that Indonesia understands the unique challenges faced by a multi-ethnic society in Myanmar and wishes to support Myanmar's peace process. He also expressed a keen interest in enhancing cooperation in the economic, education, health, people-to-people exchange, and humanitarian assistance.

The Indonesian delegation led by the Foreign Minister and spouse arrived in Nay Pyi Taw by a special flight on the afternoon of 8 June 2026 and was welcomed by U Naing Min Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the director-general and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The delegation departed for Indonesia on the evening of the same day. — MNA

## President's Office Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

UNION Minister U Khin Maung Yi received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia at the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

They discussed ways to strengthen the existing diplomatic relations and friendship

between Myanmar and China and to enhance bilateral cultural and trade relations further.

The meeting was attended by the director-general of the President's Office and officials from the Chinese Embassy. — MNA/MKKS



Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia calls on Union Minister U Khin Maung Yi.

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# NATIONAL

## Hluttaw representatives raise questions at Pyithu Hluttaw's fourth-day session

THE Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the fourth day, yesterday, at its convention hall in Nay Pyi Taw, attended by 349 out of 351 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, accounting for 99.43 per cent.

Deputy Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Kyaw Htin responded to the question raised by U Hla Swe of the Pobbathiri Constituency. He said that among ASEAN countries, four have enacted dedicated PPP (Public-Private Partnership) laws, while seven countries, including Myanmar, are implementing PPP projects through guidelines, regulations, decrees, acts, and PPP manuals. Therefore, even without enacting a separate PPP law, PPP initiatives are being effectively and robustly implemented through other available mechanisms and frameworks.

Government departments and organizations can implement Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects in accordance

with the directives that have been issued, as well as the relevant laws, rules, regulations, and procedures.

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Aye Kyaw replied to the question of U Sai Sam of the Mongyang Constituency, saying that to enable the distribution of electricity to Mongyang through the national power grid, the construction of a 22-mile 66 kV transmission line between Monghkat and Mongyang, along with one 66/11 kV, 5 MVA substation, is planned. The ground survey for the transmission line route is scheduled to commence in the 2027-2028 financial year, and implementation of the project will continue from the 2028-2029 financial year onward, subject to the approval and allocation of Union budget funds.

He also answered the questions raised by U Kyaw Nyein Aung of the Tachilek Constituency. He said that according to the electricity distribution and sales agreement, the Tachilek Electrification



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

Committee sets electricity tariff rates in consultation with consumers and submits them to the relevant local authorities for approval before collecting charges. However, there is no agreed-upon fixed tariff between the Tachilek Electrification Committee and the electricity distribution entity specifying the selling price per unit of electricity or the price per electricity meter box.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Min Thu replied to the questions raised by U Thein Tun Oo of the Amarapura Constituency, stating that

as more than one year has passed since the Mandalay earthquake, the previously collected and supported data will be reviewed and reconciled. The records collected in accordance with the established criteria will be verified by the respective Region and State Governments, and additional lists will be submitted to the National Disaster Management Committee for possible further assistance and support.

Concerning the questions raised by U Win Myint of the Twantay Constitution, the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs

said that designated grazing lands in Nay Pyi Taw, regions, and states for cattle and livestock must be preserved without reduction. However, if it becomes necessary for the implementation of State projects or public interest purposes, the conversion or de-gazettement of grazing land shall be carried out in accordance with the existing laws and regulations. Upon review and submission by the respective Nay Pyi Taw, Region, or State Governments, if the Office of the President grants in principle approval, the Ministry of Home

Affairs proceeds with further implementation in accordance with established procedures.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi sought the approval for the formation of the Health and Sports Committee, its responsibilities, power, rights and terms from the Pyithu Hluttaw. So, the Pyithu Hluttaw approved the formation of the 15-member committee with Dr Myo Tun of the Lashio Constituency as Chair and Dr Nay Lin of the Hmawby Constituency as Secretary.

The Speaker also submitted the proposal to the Pyithu Hluttaw to establish the Border Region, Ethnic Affairs and Peace Committee and its responsibilities, powers, rights and terms.

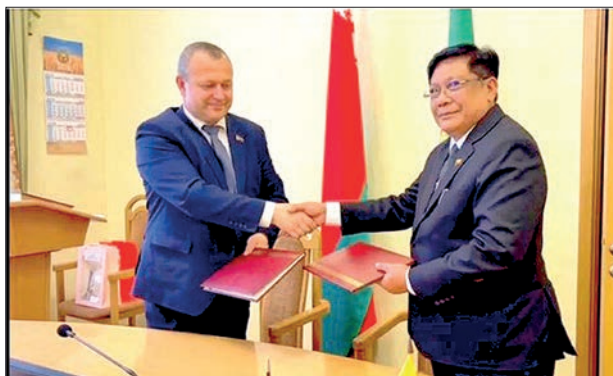
The Speaker presented a proposal to form the 15-member committee with U Soe Tint Naing of the Magway Constituency as Chair and U Ye Htut Aung of the Minhla Constituency as Secretary.

The Pyithu Hluttaw will hold its fifth-day meeting on 10 June. — MNA/TTA

## Myanmar, Belarus tighten farming and academic bonds as visit ends

A Myanmar delegation led by Dr Ye Tint Htun, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, returned to Yangon on 8 June following a five-day official visit to Belarus to promote trade and technological cooperation.

During bilateral meetings with Belarusian agricultural and small industry officials, the two nations agreed to expand trade and explore investments. Key focus areas included exporting Myanmar frozen shrimp, Arabica coffee, cotton, and



Deputy Minister Dr Ye Tint Htun(R) is pictured during his official visit to Belarus.

tropical fruits, while importing Belarusian meat and dairy products. The sides also discussed joint agro-industrial ventures in

oilseed processing, textile production, sugar manufacturing, and agricultural machinery.

To study advanced

manufacturing processes, the delegation attended the 36<sup>th</sup> International Specialized Exhibition and toured state-run facilities, including potato, sugar, canola, and textile factories. The visit concluded with meetings with officials from four major academic institutions, including the Belarusian State Agricultural Academy, to establish scientific partnerships and launch a student exchange programme between the two nations' agricultural universities. — MNA/MKKS

## Thaton medical experts launch field examination in Kyaikto

A specialist team from Thaton District Hospital will carry out a field examination on providing free healthcare services in Kyaikto Township on 14 June, according to the Kyaikto Township Public Health Department.

Based at the high school in Kinmonchaung village, specialists will provide free medical services. Therefore, it will bring an incredible health opportunity to the villages included in the Kinmonchaung Vil-

lage-tract.

In the team, a dental specialist, a surgeon, an obstetrics and gynaecology specialist, a paediatrician, a radiologist, and a physician are included.

The public is eligible to obtain access to the free medical service, starting from 8 am. To ensure faster and more effective medication, it is necessary to bring old medical records, prescriptions and drugs that the patient is currently taking. — MT/ZS

# NATIONAL

## Second regular session of Third Amyotha Hluttaw enters day 3



The third-day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw is underway yesterday.

THE second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the third day at its convention hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

First, Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein replied to the questions raised by U Aung Chit Lwin from the Sagaing Region Constituency 2, saying that the students from Khamti, Leshi, Lahe and Nanyun townships of upper Sagaing Region who passed the 2026 matriculation examination will be allowed to attend Homalin Degree College for learning higher education.

She also answered the questions raised by U Sein Shwe Min from the Magway Region Constituency 4. She said that the Nay Pyi Taw Council and relevant regional government will supervise the tender invitation, assignment and contract process for the construction of school buildings at Hsingaung Basic Education High School, Ywatha BEPS, and Kontha BEHS Branch in Minbu Township in the 2026-27 financial year.

Hluttaw representatives discussed matters related to the Anti-Online Scam Bill on needs to amend the precise

usage of text, formation of the anti-online scam committee with chairmen of the leading bodies of the self-administered zones and division, the ways of sending complaints about online scams, management of banking accounts for offenders, rewards for informants, wishes to add more texts in Chapter XI and XII, definition for International Gateway Services (IGW) and responsibilities of IGW licence holders, and necessary participation of Hluttaw representatives at the regional committees to combat online scams.

Moreover, Hluttaw

representatives emphasized the amendment for texts in Chapter I and Chapter XIII, more texts to insert online gambling into the bill, and appropriate penalties for offenders.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe announced that the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee decided to hear the discussions of the Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

U Aung Chit Lwin from the Sagaing Region Constituency 2 of the Amyotha Hluttaw tabled a motion, urging the Union government to fulfil the requirements of teachers from basic education schools. U Thein Hlaing from the Sagaing Region Constituency 7 of the Amyotha Hluttaw seconded the motion.

The Amyotha Hluttaw approved that the motion would be discussed. So, the Speaker announced that the Hluttaw representatives wishing to participate in discussions can list the Director-General of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office.

The Amyotha Hluttaw will continue on 11 June. — MNA/TTA

## Kalaw transfers K60M VDP fund to four villages

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development held a ceremony to transfer Village Development Project (VDP) funds to four villages that will implement development projects yesterday in Myinka Village, Kalaw Township.

Head of the Kalaw District Department of Rural Development U Aung Zaw Lin and Shan State Hluttaw Representative U Khun Tun Nge first delivered remarks.

Head of the Kalaw Township Department of Rural Development U Ko Ko Naing then explained the objectives of transferring the Village Development Project (VDP) fund and procedures to be carried out.

The District DRD Head, the State Hluttaw Representative and departmental officials handed over K15 million per village, totalling K60 million, to committee members from the four villages. Village-tract administrators and chairpersons of the village development committees received the funds on behalf of their respective villages.

Each of the four villages will use the K15 million VDP fund together with public contributions to implement selected development works. Villagers themselves will carry out the projects with technical assistance and close supervision from DRD staff. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)



The disbursement ceremony of Village Development Project funds is underway yesterday in Kalaw Township, southern Shan State.

## Chipwenge Hydropower Plant overhauls 3 key turbines

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE), routine maintenance is currently being performed on a rotational basis for the three turbines at the Chipwenge Hydropower Plant to ensure continuous electricity supply to the public in Kachin State and full operations during the rainy season.

The power plant is a run-of-river type facil-

ity, generating electricity based on flowing river water rather than utilizing a reservoir dam. It is equipped with three turbines, each with a capacity of 33 megawatts, for a total installed capacity of 99 megawatts.

Although the electricity generated was previously connected to the national grid via the Waingmaw substation, the connection has been

severed since 9 July, 2025, due to issues with the 230 kV Ohntaw-Shwebo-Naba transmission line and local security conditions. However, the plant remains a vital facility for regional development and it is currently supplying power via an island system to Myitkyina, Mogaung, and Mohnyin in Kachin State.

To maximize power generation when water

inflow improves during the rainy season, maintenance was completed on turbine 1 from 22 March to 14 May. It is still ongoing on turbine 3 from 15 May to 13 June, and will continue on turbine 2 from 14 June to 13 July.

The Chipwenge Hydropower Plant is built on the Chipwe Creek, approximately 6 miles southwest of Chipwe, Kachin State. — TWA/ZN

### 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

# OPINION

# ARTICLE SCIENCE

## Initiate a safe and sound life for citizens under social protection

**T**HE government formed the National Committee on Social Protection on 23 April 2026 to prioritize the implementation of social protection programmes based on the needs of different age groups such as children, youth in vulnerable situations, and the elderly.

The National Committee will prioritize efforts to more effectively implement the action plans under Myanmar's National Social Protection Strategic Plan, as well as the expanded social protection activities currently being carried out across the country. The Strategic

Plan provides a framework for governments to reduce poverty, vulnerability, and economic shocks across a person's life cycle. It typically targets vulnerable populations, including pregnant women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, by providing cash transfers, healthcare access, and livelihood opportunities. The plan prioritizes eight key programmes, including Maternal and Child Cash Transfers, social pensions for the elderly, and disability allowances.

As part of efforts to provide social protection for mothers and children, the Department of Social Welfare has rolled out targeted cash assistance across all states and regions. Eligible mothers receive monthly financial support as well as health education. Moreover, it is necessary to ensure the establishment of a strong care and support system based on the needs of all groups and sectors, including women, persons with disabilities, the poor, and others in vulnerable situations.

The National Committee will effectively implement the already formulated Social Protection Strategic Plan. It is necessary to conduct an assessment of the social protection activities currently being implemented in the country and to establish methods through which various departments can jointly carry out their implementation. Furthermore, the National Committee will coordinate with the United Nations, international and local non-governmental organizations, and civil society organizations in order to seek and mobilize the necessary technical assistance and resources.

It is necessary to ensure access for all citizens to necessities such as healthcare, education, income security, and employment security; to promote the rights of workers and farmers through the establishment of various insurance systems, including a comprehensive universal health insurance system and an agricultural insurance system; and to carry out rehabilitation activities for those affected by any kind of disaster or adverse event.

In carrying out social protection initiatives, emphasis must be placed on effective monitoring and evaluation of the progress of project implementation. All stakeholders must make concerted efforts to provide social protection for all citizens and ensure good results from the implementation of strategic plans to promote safe and secure lives for the people.

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# When A Genuine Trust Meets Human Nature

By Min Min Zan



**I**T is perhaps a natural part of life that, as people grow older, they begin searching for someone to rely on. Long before reaching the age of sixty, Ko Kyaw Kha often thought deeply about the future. He frequently imagined a time when he might become too weak to take care of himself, when even carrying his own body might become difficult. Whenever those thoughts came to his mind, he felt that he should at least have a young girl, as his own daughter, beside him – someone who could support him in his old age.

Before continuing this story, a little background about Ko Kyaw Kha should be explained. He is an elderly man who has long been separated from his wife and has no children of his own. At one point, he even seriously considered adopting a girl from an orphanage through legal procedures, simply because he wanted someone who could one day become his helping hand and emotional support.

Fortunately, life took a different turn.

Ko Kyaw Kha's niece, the daughter of his younger sister, had already passed her matriculation exam, but she could not

continue her university education for various reasons. Around that same time, she accompanied him to Yangon to help him with some medical matters at a specialist clinic. When they returned to his town, Ko Kyaw Kha asked her to stay and live with him permanently. She was already familiar with his house because she had often come and stayed before, sometimes going back and forth between his home and her mother's.

From the very beginning, her presence brought great comfort and stability into his life. His household became organized, and even his health-related difficulties felt easier to manage. He was genuinely happy. She was thoughtful, caring, and understanding. Gradually, she took responsibility for cooking, washing, and many household matters. Later, she even began helping with his tuition business, which was his main source of income.

Ko Kyaw Kha still remembers clearly that she came to stay with him at the end of May in 2016. Today, it is only two days before the end of May 2026. That means nearly ten years have passed.

Towards the end of 2018, as

soon as she completed her final year examination at the University of Distance Education, Ko Kyaw Kha officially appointed her as a teacher in his tuition classes. Since she had a natural ability to teach in a way students could easily understand and accept, she quickly became successful. Ko Kyaw Kha himself is an English teacher, so he assigned her to teach English as well. He handled the Reading and Writing sections, while she taught Speaking and Listening. Together, they made remarkable progress, and the tuition business grew significantly.

Then, in 2023, Ko Kyaw Kha began training her to become an English writer. Since he himself had spent many years writing as a regular columnist for English newspapers, he knew exactly how to guide and nurture her talent. Fortunately, she was hardworking and intelligent. Before long, her articles began appearing in English newspapers. Seeing his efforts bear fruit gave him immense satisfaction and encouragement.

Ko Kyaw Kha trusted her deeply. He believed she listened to him, respected him, and understood his heart. His trust and

dependence on her had become complete – almost one hundred per cent. At that very moment, however, something unexpected happened.

In January 2025, she suddenly became seriously ill with a severe stomach-related disease. During the treatment process, her health deteriorated badly. Her weight dropped from 118 pounds to below 100 pounds. She lost her appetite completely and suffered terribly from the side effects of strong medications. At one point, she looked close to death.

Even after she slowly recovered physically, her mental condition became unstable. They eventually had to consult psychiatrists because of the emotional and psychological difficulties she experienced. After many months, she gradually regained her strength. She could eat properly again, her weight increased, and since she was still only in her thirties, her recovery became faster with time.

And that was where the story Ko Kyaw Kha truly wants to tell began.

Somehow, without his knowledge, she fell in love with a man. He was not even from their town. Perhaps they met online. Ko Kyaw Kha does not know exactly how it happened. But once that relationship started, everything changed. She spent endless hours talking to him on the phone – day and night. If Ko Kyaw Kha happened to be in front of the house, she would go to the back to continue talking. If she still did not feel free enough, she would go downstairs. Whenever she had free time, she immediately called him. Sometimes she even talked to him while cooking. Ko Kyaw Kha gradually realized that she was finding emotional pleasure and excitement in talking on the phone with another man who was, in fact, a stranger to him.

Watching all this disturbed Ko Kyaw Kha deeply.

He began thinking to himself: "I have trusted this young woman for nearly ten years. Only a few

months remain before completing a full decade together, and now she has suddenly changed like this. Ko Kyaw Kha could not help thinking that the young woman had been pretending remarkably well for more than nine and a half years. Only now, he felt, was her true nature finally revealing herself."

The truth is, Ko Kyaw Kha had already emotionally decided that the final chapter of his life would rest in her hands. He trusted her that much. He depended on her that much. But now, seeing her searching for emotional happiness, affection, and attachment in another man, he suddenly found it difficult to continue trusting her in the same way.

What Ko Kyaw Kha wants to say here is this:

Whether related by blood or not, no matter how carefully we build trust in someone over many years, there may come a day when we finally see that person's true nature and true priorities. When that moment came, Ko Kyaw Kha could not help asking himself whether he had been too naïve all along.

Perhaps no human being can ever become someone we can rely on completely.

After spending years nurturing her, protecting her, and helping her become successful, Ko Kyaw Kha eventually realized something very simple about human nature: once people become strong enough to stand on their own, they naturally begin seeking emotional attachment and support outside the nest that raised them.

What surprises him most is not her behaviour, but the fact that he failed to understand this truth earlier in life.

And because of this realization, Ko Kyaw Kha now understands that he must once again redesign the final chapter of his life, instead of following the plan he once believed in so completely.

## The Hidden Danger Behind Cigarettes, Vapes, and E-Cigarettes

By Lumaw Oo

**I**N recent years, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, and pods have become increasingly popular, especially among young people. Attractive flavours, colourful designs, and social media trends make these products appear modern and harmless. However, behind their appearance lies a serious danger to public health and society.

Traditional cigarettes are already known to cause diseases such as lung cancer, heart disease, stroke, and breathing problems. Despite years of health campaigns, many people continue smoking because nicotine is highly addictive. Today, vaping devices and e-cigarettes are creating a new generation of addiction among teenagers and young adults.

Many people believe vaping is safer than smoking. While some vaping products may contain fewer harmful substances than traditional cigarettes, they are still dangerous. Most vapes and pods contain nicotine, which can affect brain development, concentration, and mental health in young people. Addiction at an early age may also increase the risk of future substance abuse.

Another major concern is the misuse of vaping devices for illegal substances. Some individuals secretly mix drugs or dangerous chemicals into vape liquids. Because vapes produce less smell than cigarettes, their use can be difficult for parents, teachers, or authorities to detect. This hidden use may lead to poisoning, severe lung damage, addiction, and other serious health problems.

In addition, illegal or low-quality vape products sold without proper regulation may contain unsafe chemicals and untested ingredients. Several countries have reported cases of lung injuries and health emergencies linked to fake or unsafe vaping products.

Myanmar has also recently strengthened action against vaping products. Authorities announced a nationwide ban on importing, selling, distributing, storing, and using e-cigarettes and related devices due to concerns about health risks and youth addiction. This shows the growing seriousness of the issue.

Families, schools, and communities should work together to educate young people about the dangers of smoking and vaping. Public awareness campaigns, stronger regulations, and open communication between parents and children are important steps in preventing addiction. Encouraging healthy activities such as sports, reading, music, and community involvement can also help teenagers stay away from harmful habits.

Protecting public health is everyone's responsibility. By spreading awareness and making informed choices, society can help build a healthier future free from nicotine addiction and substance abuse.

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Protecting public health is everyone's responsibility. By spreading awareness and making informed choices, society can help build a healthier future free from nicotine addiction and substance abuse.

## As climate shifts, malaria gains ground in southern Africa

**I**N a remote South African village, Paulina Mhlongo sits in the yard as health workers in green protective gear move briskly through her home, soaking the walls with anti-mosquito insecticide.

Her teenage grandson fell critically ill last year from malaria, the disease that kills more than a quarter of a million people annually and is surging in southern Africa as the climate shifts.

Before this spraying, the family's "only defence" against malaria-carrying mosquitoes was a rattling fan, said Mhlongo, a 63-year-old retiree.

Her village of Calcutta is in Mpumalanga, one of three provinces in South Africa's malaria belt experiencing changing rain patterns and rising tem-



Medical technologist and laboratory manager at the National Health Laboratory Service Rirhandzu Mashale points at a malaria-positive blood sample projected from a microscope at Tintswalo Hospital in Bushbuckridge on 26 May 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

peratures that favour mosquito breeding.

Heavy rains leave pools for eggs, while warmer tempera-

tures speed up mosquito development and shorten the malaria parasite's incubation period.

Source: AFP

# NATIONAL

## 5 AA members, SAF fighter reintegrated into society in Sittway

A total of six men – five from the AA and one from the Student Armed Force (SAF) – have returned to the legal fold under the government’s peace initiative.

The returnees, hailing from various townships in Rakhine State and Sagaing Region, were officially welcomed back at a ceremony held yesterday morning at the Hall of the Sittway Station.

The event was attended by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Naing Oo, Commander of the Western Command



A reception and cash assistance ceremony for returnees is in progress yesterday at the Western Command Headquarters.

Brig-Gen Kyaw Zaw, and other regional officials. During the ceremony, the Chief Minister and the Commander delivered opening remarks,

presented cash rewards and relief supplies to the young men, and had them sign formal pledges before systematically handing them over to

their parents and guardians. A representative of the returnees also expressed gratitude to the authorities.

The government continues to encourage remaining members of armed resistance groups who wish to return to the legal fold to contact the nearest military bases or police stations. The authorities have reaffirmed that all returnees will receive necessary assistance, alongside cash rewards for any surrendered weapons and ammunition. — MNA/MKKS

## 40 armed group members rejoin society in Shan State



A reception and cash assistance ceremony for returnees is underway yesterday at the Eastern Command Headquarters.

FORTY members of various armed groups, including PDF, PNLO, DPLA, and KNDF, who accepted the peace initiatives of the State and Tatmadaw, returned to the legal framework yesterday, surrendering weapons and ammunition.

The 40 returnees comprise seven from the Pa-O National Liberation Organization (PNLO), seven from the Pekhon PDF, two from the Moebye PDF, 12 from DPLA, seven from KNDF, one from the PDF (southern Shan), and four from the Kyaukse PDF. They brought four M-16 rifles, one M-22 rifle, and one handmade launcher, totalling five firearms and one launcher, along with three magazines and 161 rounds of various ammunition along with them.

Officials welcomed the returnees at a handover ceremony held yesterday morning at the Thanlwin Hall of the Eastern Command, formally reuniting them with their parents and guardians. The ceremony was attended by Shan State Chief Minister U Sai Htein Soe, Commander of the Eastern Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Naing Oo, state ministers, departmental officials, the returnees, and their families.

During the ceremony, the chief minister delivered the opening remarks, after which the Commander explained the

relevant legal provisions. The chief minister and the Commander then provided cash rewards and humanitarian assistance to the returnees.

The Shan State government awarded K5 million for each of the five firearms (totalling K25 million), K200,000 for the handmade launcher, K300,000 for handmade mines, and K8 million for the 40 individuals at a rate of K200,000 each, bringing the total cash disbursement to K33.5 million.

Returnees signed formal pledges before being systematically handed back to their parents and guardians. A representative of the returnees then expressed gratitude to the authorities, after which the chief minister and the commander warmly greeted the attendees.

Authorities stated that the welcoming, assistance, and systematic handover process will continue, noting that more individuals have expressed a desire to return to the legal fold. Those wishing to return are encouraged to contact their nearest district or township administrative bodies, military camps, or police stations as soon as possible. Officials reaffirmed that all returnees will be warmly welcomed, provided with necessary support, and offered cash rewards for any surrendered weapons and ammunition. — MNA/MKKS

## 45 illicit scam-related buildings demolished in Shwe Kokko



Images reveal the update before and after the demolition of scam-related structures.

AUTHORITIES are continuing to dismantle illegal buildings used for online fraud and illicit gambling in Shwe Kokko, according to official reports.

Combined departmental teams are con-

ducting security operations in the Shwe Kokko and KK Park areas to prevent these structures from being used in online scams. Equipment seized from these sites is being systematically destroyed,

and the illegal buildings are being fully demolished.

During the latest phase of the operation, heavy machinery was used to flatten three three-storey residential buildings connected to online scam operations. These structures are part of a targeted list of 77 illegal buildings identified for removal, including 57 slated for mechanical demolition and 20 slated for destruction using controlled explosives.

Officials confirmed

that a total of 45 buildings have been demolished, with the remaining 32 illegal structures scheduled to be dismantled in the coming stages.

Authorities reiterated that the crackdown on online scam networks is being treated as a national responsibility. Myanmar is collaborating with neighbouring countries and international partners to permanently prevent these criminal syndicates from re-establishing themselves in the country. — MNA/MKKS

## Training on organic fertilizer and EM solution production conducted

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development opened a free livelihood-support training course on the production of organic fertilizer and EM solution yesterday at Namhlaing Modern Model Village in Myataung Township. The course aims to create employment opportunities for

rural residents and help increase family incomes.

State Hluttaw Representatives U Nay Lin Soe and U Myo Htike delivered opening remarks, emphasizing that such training programmes are organized to promote sustainable socioeconomic development and encourage environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

Head of the Mogaung

Township Department of Rural Development Daw Khin May Win explained the objectives of the training programme. Head of the Township Department of Agriculture U Kyaw Soe Aung then discussed the subjects to be taught during the course.

State Hluttaw representatives and departmental officials presented training materials and teaching aids to the

trainees attending the programme.

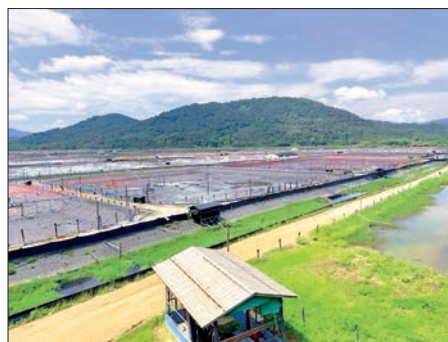
A total of 20 trainees from Namhlaing Modern Model Village are attending the training course. Experienced instructors will provide free theoretical and practical lessons on organic fertilizer production, EM solution preparation, grafting techniques and modern cultivation methods from 8 to 10 June. — Karan (Rural)

# NATIONAL

## MFF calls for strategic aquaculture plan to boost exports

THE Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) has emphasized the urgent need for a strategic, long-term aquaculture plan to transform the country's fish and shrimp farming sectors into major drivers of economic growth. As a vital component of the national economy, a developed fisheries sector would substantially boost GDP, strengthen food security, and secure crucial foreign exchange earnings.

Highlighting the critical gap holding the local industry back, Dr Toe Nanda Tin, Senior Vice-President of the MFF, said, "A strategy provides a systematic roadmap for long-term success, which our aqua-



Panoramic views of sprawling aquaculture farms in Myanmar. PHOTO: KANU

culture industry currently lacks. Vietnam's economy has grown exponentially over the last few decades purely because of strategic planning. Without a clear strategy, local farmers will continue to breed fish using traditional methods based on guesswork, stalling sectoral growth. When farmers experience un-

predictable cycles of profit and unrecoverable loss, it damages the entire industry over the long term. "To move forward, major commercial players must collaborate, invest in livestock and farming, and enlist the help of academic experts to develop an industry strategy. A sound strategy enforces a systematic approach, en-

suring our farming sector no longer lags." The stark contrast between traditional and strategic farming is evident in production yields. In Myanmar, a typical one-acre freshwater pond with a depth of six feet accommodates roughly 10,000 fish fries. In contrast, Vietnam utilizes intensive farming techniques,

raising to 150,000 fries in a highly efficient half-acre pond dug 20 feet deep. This technological gap is directly reflected in trade figures: Myanmar earns just over US\$70 million annually from seafood exports, whereas Vietnam generates over US\$1.1 billion. MFF also noted that establishing a robust

domestic supply of feed, utilizing raw materials from local soybean and rice production, is essential to reduce reliance on expensive imported feed. Furthermore, as global climate change inevitably depletes wild ocean fish stocks, a systematic shift towards advanced freshwater and saltwater farming will ensure reliable domestic consumption and steady exports. With vast freshwater rivers and extensive coastlines, effectively managing Myanmar's aquatic resources through structured strategic planning could rapidly increase foreign exchange earnings within the next decade. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/MKKS

## Aunglan holds consumer goods production training graduation ceremony



The concluding ceremony of a consumer goods production training course in Aunglan Township, Magway Region.

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development held the graduation ceremony of a consumer goods production training course in Maukhon Village, Aunglan Township, yesterday. The training aimed to create job opportunities and produce skilled workers among

rural residents. District Head of the Aunglan District Department of Rural Development U Win Naing explained the benefits of conducting the consumer goods production training course and discussed how rural residents could apply the skills in practice to increase family incomes.

Officials then presented prizes to outstanding trainees who had completed the course. Training completion certificates were also awarded, and a trainee received the certificates on behalf of all participants. A total of 20 female trainees from Maukhon Village and Panmata Village attended the course. Consumer goods production techniques were taught systematically through both theoretical and practical lessons over five days from 3 to 7 June. Outstanding trainees who intend to establish their own businesses will also be considered for loans from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project fund being implemented by the department. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

## Mongyaung's basic sewing training inspected

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development conducted a field inspection of a basic sewing training course being held in Hawngkyant Village in Mongyaung Township yesterday. The course aims to support rural women in their livelihoods and create employment opportunities. During the inspection, District Head U Sai Soe Soe and project staff observed trainers providing both theoretical and practical lessons to trainees at the village hall. They also inspected practical training activities using teaching aids and sewing equipment. U Sai Soe Soe met the trainees and encouraged them to study ba-

sic sewing techniques diligently to become skilled workers in the region and increase their family incomes. He also urged them to apply the knowledge gained from the course to establish their own small businesses after completing the training and coordinated necessary assistance in response

to issues raised by the trainees. A total of 20 female trainees from Hawngkyant Village are attending the programme. Experienced instructors are providing systematic theoretical and practical training free of charge over a period of 45 days. — Sein Lwin (Rural)



This image shows trainees in the basic sewing training session.

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

# NATIONAL BUSINESS

## Yangon's Thirimingala Market sees durian surge as prices plunge

AS the durian season begins, enthusiasts are snapping up the fragrant fruit, driving a sales boom at Yangon's Thirimingala Market in Hline Township.

While durian is cultivated across Myanmar – primarily in Mon State, Kayin State, and the Taninthayi Region, with newer plantations in Yangon and Bago – Thai imports remain the premium choice. Consumers generally favour Thai, Mawlamyine, and Toungoo varieties. Thai duri-ans are prized for their thick, creamy flesh and small seeds, commanding the highest prices, whereas Mawlamyine and Toungoo varieties offer a sweeter taste but larger seeds.

Despite strong demand, prices have actually dropped compared to last year, making the fruit more accessible.

“At the start of last season, Thai duri-ans reached K80,000 per kilogramme, but this year they are down to K60,000,” explained U Maung Tun, a vendor at Thirimingala



Vendors arrange duri-ans for sale. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

Market. “Similarly, Myanmar duri-ans have dipped from K30,000 last year to around K25,000. Smaller Myeik and Mawlamyine duri-ans are currently retailing between K8,000 and K20,000. Because prices are lower, sales have been excellent, and we are supplying both Yangon and other regions.”

The fruit, which derives its name from Duri (the Malay word for thorn), is native to the rainforests of South-

East Asia and holds a long-standing place in local culture.

Production in the Yangon Region is also expanding. Following a commercial trial of 800 trees planted in 2000, the first 200 trees began bearing fruit this year, proving the crop's local viability. According to the Yangon Durian Group, the region now boasts over 6,000 acres of durian orchards across Hlegu, Hmawby, Kawhmu, and Twantay townships, with further

expansions planned for Taikkyi Township this rainy season.

Beyond its distinct taste, durian is highly nutritious – rich in calories, vitamin C, fibre, protein, and essential minerals that provide an instant energy boost. However, because it is traditionally viewed as a “heating” food that can cause bodily discomfort if eaten in excess, locals recommend pairing it with mangosteen, a traditional cooling remedy. — Thitsa (MNA)/MKKS

## Environmental Edu Tech to offer environmental management online programme

THE Environmental Edu Tech, a non-governmental organization, will conduct the Environmental Management Online Learning Programme from 15 July to 15 September, with a view to developing an understanding of both the natural and the human environment, reducing environmental impacts, and managing biodiversity systematically.

The programme will cover nine topics which have been designed Natural Ecosystems and Human Activities (managing forests and managing biodiversity); Agriculture and the environment (managing soil erosion, sustainable farming and agriculture); Water and its management (availability of drinking water, managing pollution of fresh water and water resources); Ocean and Fisheries (management of aquaculture, harvesting of marine species, overfishing in the offshore); Energy and the environment (non-renewable and renewable energy resources); The atmosphere and human

activities (air pollution and its causes, and managing atmospheric air pollution); Managing natural hazards (managing the impacts of natural hazards; earthquakes and volcanoes, tropical cyclones, flooding, drought); Human population (managing human population size and density and environmental impact); and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Upon completion of the Online Learning Programme, trainees will receive certificates. Those who passed the matriculation exam or those holding a bachelor's degree can join the course.

It offers flexibility for self-paced learning and allows them to engage in it on their own schedule through the Asynchronous Learning System. The course fee is K22,200, and payment can be made through mobile wallets. Interested individuals can register through <http://tiny.cc/es-apply> and enquire details through <https://m.me/esonline.mm>. — NN/KK

## Shwe Wah Nadi Rice Mill honoured with National Environmental Excellence Award

SHWE Wah Nadi Rice Mill has been awarded the National Level Environmentally-Decent Factory/Workplace Award, according to the announcement of the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

The announcement revealed that Shwe Wah Nadi Agriculture Production Co Ltd. (Shwe Wah Nadi High-Grade Rice Mill in Nyaungdon Township, Ayeyawady Region) is led and invested by the Vice

President of the MRF and Chairman of the Myanmar Rice Millers Association. It was an honour to receive the National Level Environmentally-Decent Factory/Workplace Award from the government on World Environment Day, on 5 June 2026.

MRF stated that the federation formulates the Private Rice Sector Industrial Development Plan 2025-2035, prioritizing the promotion of sustainable rice

mills and sustainable rice value chain development in line with state policies. The rice mills play a pivotal role in contributing to environmental and social conservation.

It is the first-ever mill that receives a state-level environmental award, meeting international standards for exports and making it a source of pride for the entire Myanmar rice milling industry. — NN/KK

## Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 8 June 2026

|                                      | US\$              | Chinese yuan | Thai baht     | India rupee |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Exchange rates                       | 3,653.00~3,669.00 | 557.00       | 125.30~125.70 | 43.60       |
| Trading amount in the market         | 10,439,765.11     | 379,664.16   | 28,400,699.53 |             |
| The amount sold by CBM to the market |                   |              |               |             |

The foreign currency amount traded in the foreign exchange market was for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical raw materials, industrial raw materials, consumer goods, construction materials, and packaging materials. From the CMP sector revenue, US\$3.65 million was sold to the edible oil sector; US\$0.05 million to the CMP sector, and US\$384.24 to the non-trade sector. — MNA

## Gold Market Rate as of 8 June 2026

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K7,050,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

# Nikkei falls over 4% as selling of tech issues continues

TOKYO stocks plunged on Monday, with the Nikkei stock index shedding more than four per cent at one point, as investors sought to lock in gains from recent sharp rises in heavyweight technology shares.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ended down 2,563.52 points, or 3.85 per cent, from Friday

at 64,024.60. The broader Topix index finished 96.71 points, or 2.45 per cent, lower at 3,852.38.

On the top-tier Prime Market, the main decliners were nonferrous metal, electric appliance and glass and ceramics product issues.

The US dollar traded narrowly in the lower 160 yen range in Tokyo, sup-

ported by speculation of a rate hike by the Federal Reserve, while wariness over potential currency intervention by the Japanese authorities kept its upside limited.

At 5 pm, the dollar fetched 160.22-23 yen compared with 160.28-38 yen in New York and 159.94-96 yen in Tokyo at 5 pm Friday. — Kyodo



A financial data monitor at a foreign exchange trading company in Tokyo shows the 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ending over 2,500 points lower on 8 June 2026. PHOTO: KYODO

# German factory orders drop as Iran war casts shadow

GERMAN factory orders fell faster than expected in April, official data showed

Monday, with little hope for a revival as the Iran war weighs on the economy.



Containers of Danish shipping company Maersk and other logistic companies are stacked at a transshipment station in Ludwigshafen, western Germany, on 20 April 2026. PHOTO: AFP

New orders, a key indicator of future business activity, dropped 3.8 per cent from a month earlier, according to preliminary figures from statistics agency Destatis. A decline had been expected after a strong rise in March, when companies rushed to stock up amid supply chain problems caused by the Middle East conflict.

But the pullback was still bigger than the three-per-cent drop forecast by analysts surveyed by the financial data firm

FactSet.

“There have been increasing signs that rising prices for energy and raw materials, together with significantly heightened geopolitical uncertainty, are resulting in weaker demand,” the economy ministry said in a statement. “Against the backdrop of higher costs and uncertainty, as well as growing supply chain bottlenecks, industrial activity is likely to remain subdued in the coming months,” it warned. — AFP

# Vietnam’s industrial output posts fastest five-month growth in 4 years

VIETNAM’S industrial production recorded its strongest growth for the January-May period in the past four years, the Vietnam News Agency reported Monday, citing the National Statistics Office.

The index of industrial production rose 9.1 per cent year on year during the five-month span, said the report. The manufacturing and processing sector, the main engine of industrial growth, rose 9.5

per cent and contributed 7.4 percentage points to the overall increase. Mining rebounded 5.5 per cent, and electricity production and distribution grew 7.6 per cent. Several major industries posted double-digit gains, including metal production, motor vehicle manufacturing and chemical products, with motorcycle output surging 36 per cent and automobile production jumping 26.7 per cent. — Xinhua

# Thai industrial sector sees mixed outlook amid tech growth

THAILAND’S industrial sector is navigating a widening divide between fast-growing technology-linked industries and traditional manufacturers facing mounting cost pressures, the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) warned on Monday.

FTI Chairwoman Pimjai Leeissaranukul said the second quarter of 2026 is expected to see a mixed outlook with leg-

acy industries squeezed by high energy costs, raw material shortages, and intense foreign competition, even as emerging industries gain momentum.

In a statement, Pimjai identified electrical and electronics, air conditioning, food and beverages, and rubber products as industries benefiting from sustained global demand, while domestic consumption is

supporting cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and palm oil producers.

She noted that government-backed sectors, including electric vehicles, industrial machinery and automation, biotechnology, renewable energy, and digital infrastructure, particularly data centres, were singled out as long-term growth engines. — Xinhua

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# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD



This handout photo taken and released on 8 June 2026 by The Vatican Media shows Pope Leo XIV during a meeting with the bishops of Spain at the office of the Episcopal conference in Madrid on 8 June 2026. **PHOTO: SIMONE RISOLUTI / VATICAN MEDIA / AFP**

## Pope denounces 'scourge' of abuse before meeting victims

POPE Leo XIV on Monday denounced the "scourge" of sexual violence by Catholic clergy and called for a "culture of care" in the Church ahead of an expected private meeting with victims in Spain.

"Faced with this scourge, the ecclesial community is called to respond with listening, truth, justice, reparation

and an ever more determined commitment to prevention and a culture of care," the pope told a gathering of Spanish bishops.

"Every wounded person must be able to find sincere listening, welcome, protection and real paths to healing," he said.

Spanish media said the pope would speak later

on Monday with victims at the Vatican embassy in Madrid, formally known as the apostolic nunciature.

Ahead of the meeting, representatives of some victim groups complained that they were being excluded.

"We are disappointed that the pope, instead of listening to a sufficiently large and solid

representation of victims, prefers to leave us out," Juan Cuatrecasas, spokesman for the association Infancia Robada (Stolen Childhood), told AFP. "We are going to keep pushing until the end, insisting that the Pope has to see us, has to hear us, we have a voice," he said, speaking outside the nunciature. — AFP

## Major quake off Philippines kills at least 31, dozen still missing

A 7.8-magnitude earthquake in the southern Philippines on Monday killed at least 31 people, according to provincial authorities, after toppling buildings and sparking tsunami warnings across the region. National disaster authorities said at least a dozen people were still missing, while 134 had sustained injuries.

Philippine authorities urged people in affected coastal regions to move to higher ground after the offshore quake

hit south of General Santos, a city of about 720,000,

where at least nine were killed. A series of power-



Responders conduct a rescue operation at a collapsed building after a 7.8 magnitude earthquake in General Santos City on 8 June 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

ful aftershocks rocked the area from about two hours after the first quake, according to the United States Geological Survey, with the largest measuring 6.5 magnitude.

In General Santos, an AFP journalist watched Monday afternoon as rescue workers dug through the rubble of a popular grocery store chain in a desperate bid to reach the bodies of two employees buried beneath. — AFP

## Indonesia to optimize free nutritious meals programme for efficiency

INDONESIA will shift the focus of its Free Nutritious Meals programme to maximize budget efficiency and enhance food quality, newly inaugurated National Nutrition Agency (BGN) head Nanik S Deyang said Monday. "Our immediate priority is budget efficiency to avoid straining the state budget, while maintaining our established nutritional targets for beneficiaries," Nanik said following her inauguration.

To achieve this, the BGN will temporarily halt

the construction of new meal-service kitchens to evaluate and map out the ideal capacity required for each region, ensuring supply matches local demand, Nanik said.

Additionally, the agency said it plans to review and refocus its beneficiary list to guarantee that aid is directed precisely to children and vulnerable groups in urgent need of nutritional intervention, while simultaneously tightening quality control on existing kitchens. — Xinhua

## 3 parked aircraft damaged at Delhi airport amid strong winds

STRONG winds amid rains and inclement weather damaged three narrow-body aircraft belonging to the private airline "Air India", confirmed an official source on Monday.

The incident happened at the at Terminal 2 of Delhi International Airport, where the aircraft were parked on Sunday.

Videos viral on social media showed ground equipment moving on

wheels at a fast speed amid strong winds at the airport, even as ground staff ran to stop them. The ground equipment struck the three aircraft, thus damaging them. An online media report by NDTV quoted an official as saying that of the three impacted aircraft, two would be back in the operations soon, while the third would take a little longer to be fixed. — Xinhua

## Heavy swells force evacuations, ferry cancellations in New Zealand capital

AUTHORITIES on Monday ordered evacuations in parts of Wellington, New Zealand's capital, and cancelled Cook Strait ferries on Monday as swells of up to 10.5 metres were forecast.

A state of emergency was declared for Wellington's southern and eastern areas, with Civil Defence issuing a mandatory evac-

uation order for waterfront properties in Owhiro Bay, Island Bay, Houghton Bay and Breaker Bay from 9 am local time on Tuesday.

"We recommend that residents of waterfront properties in these suburbs stay somewhere else tonight," Wellington City Council said in a statement. — Xinhua

# SPORTS

## Spain boss De la Fuente confident injured trio will be fit for World Cup debut

SPAIN coach Luis de la Fuente remains confident that injured trio of Lamine Yamal, Nico Williams and Victor Munoz will be fit in time to start his side's FIFA World Cup campaign.

De la Fuente was speaking to the press ahead of his side's friendly

against Peru in the Mexican city of Puebla, which is the final chance to make adjustments ahead of his side's World Cup opener against Cabo Verde in Atlanta on 15 June.

De la Fuente left Williams, Munoz and Yamal at Spain's base in Chattanooga to continue their

return to fitness, but insisted they were "meeting their recovery deadlines".

"They were scheduled to do more specific work these next few days and if they continue progressing this way, I think they'll be available [against Cabo Verde]," he said. Yamal and Williams have hamstring problems, while Munoz has a calf strain.

"Each one had their own process. Lamine's injury was different, as was its duration. But the most important thing is that, within the expected timeframe, he's currently fit to be included in the squad," De la Fuente insisted. — Xinhua



Right-winger Lamine Yamal of Team Spain arrives ahead of the World Cup at Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport on 5 June 2026 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. **PHOTO: CORAL SCOLLES-COBURN/GETTY IMAGES/AFP**

## Myanmar to participate in Singapore Junior Golf Championship 2026



A Myanmar junior golf player is seen at the Yangon International Airport before departing for Singapore.

MYANMAR junior golf team will participate in the Singapore Junior Golf Championship 2026, according to the Myanmar

Golf Federation (MGF).

A Myanmar junior golf player and a team leader left Yangon on 8 June to compete in the event,

which will be held from 9 to 12 June at Keppel Club in Singapore.

MGF has been sending golf players to international tournaments in order to help them acquire international experience. Team leader U Nay Win Soe and player Htoo Myat Aung will compete in matches categorized by age groups.

Myanmar's young golf players: Satt Naing Aung, Naing Oo Cho, Cho Thar Aung and Nan Seng Ong Ngin will also compete in the Junior World Championship 2026, which will take place in Indonesia from 9 to 12 June. — MT/ZS

## Traditional Myanmar Lethwei Coach Training Course (Basic) opens

THE opening ceremony of the Traditional Myanmar Lethwei Coach Training Course (Basic) 1/2026, organized by the Ministry of Sports and the Traditional Myanmar Lethwei Federation was held at 9 am yesterday at the Theinbyu Traditional Myanmar Lethwei Competition Hall, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon.

Vice-President U Win Zin Oo of the Traditional Myanmar Lethwei Federation first delivered

an opening speech, and the participating coach trainees introduced themselves, respectively.

Myanmar Traditional Lethwei Executive U Wunna clarified the coaching ethics and experiences.

A total of 30 traditional Myanmar Lethwei coaches from clubs in Yangon, Mandalay and Bago Regions reportedly attended the coaching course, and the training will last for five days. — Bala/MKKS



The basic training course for traditional Myanmar Lethwei coaches is underway yesterday.

## Zverev says first Grand Slam title gives him 'freedom'

ALEXANDER Zverev said he hopes winning his first Grand Slam crown at the French Open will unblock the path to more major titles after years of near-misses and heart-break on the biggest stage.

Zverev broke his major drought at the fourth time of asking by beating Flavio Cobolli 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-1 in the Roland Garros final on Sunday.

After painful past defeats in the title-matches at the 2020 US Open, Roland Garros in 2024 and last year's Australian Open, Zverev was consid-



Germany's Alexander Zverev poses with "La Coupe des Mousquetaires" trophy after winning the French Open tennis tournament men's singles final match against Italy's Flavio Cobolli on day 15 of the French Open tennis tournament on Court Philippe-Chatrier at the Roland-Garros Complex in Paris on 7 June 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

ered by many to be the best player never to have won a Grand Slam.

The 29-year-old joked

it was "fine" if people now consider him "the worst player to win a Grand Slam" but that he "could

not care less".

"Now no matter what happens, I will always be a Grand Slam champion, and nobody can take that away from me," Zverev added. "To be honest, I'm a little bit drunk already, so I just repeat myself a little bit more than I'm used to. I'm just happy to be sitting next to this trophy."

The Tokyo Olympics gold medallist said having the Coupe des Mousquetaires in his possession would make his future attempts at winning more of tennis' biggest titles less burdensome, mentally. — AFP

## Perez re-elected Real Madrid president

FLORENTINO Perez was re-elected as Real Madrid president for the next four years after defeating his rival Enrique Riquelme in a vote held Sunday.

The result was declared in the early hours of Monday after over 1,000 votes were challenged due

to alleged irregularities in the postal voting.

Perez, 79, returns for another four-year term to lead the club with 21,741 votes (65 per cent) while Riquelme, a businessman from Alicante, won 11,814 votes (35 per cent).

Perez called the elec-

tion on 12 May at a press conference, which came just before the end of Real Madrid's second season without winning a major trophy.

Sunday is the first time Perez has had a rival at an election to be Real Madrid president since

he returned to the club in 2009.

However, Riquelme was relatively unknown by the majority of club members and had little time to put together his proposals for head coach and his desired signings. — Xinhua



# China starts mega waterway project on world's third-longest river

CHINA on Monday began construction of a mega waterway project, including what is expected to become the world's largest inland ship lock, in response to the rising shipping demand along the Yangtze, the world's third-longest river.

Chinese Vice-Premier Ding Xuexiang, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, kicked off the construction of the Three Gorges new waterway project at a commencement ceremony in Yichang, central China's



This photo taken on 8 June 2026 shows the construction site in an early-phase excavation zone of the Three Gorges new waterway project in Yichang, central China's Hubei Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Hubei Province.

The 77.2-billion-yuan (about US\$11.3 billion) project will add a five-tier, dual-track ship lock north of the existing lock at the Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest water conservancy project, and upgrade navigation facilities at a smaller downstream dam.

Once completed, it will almost double the annual throughput capacity at the Three Gorges to 336 million tonnes.

The project is expected to set world records for inland ship lock construction in navigable vessel dimensions, chamber

size and earthwork excavation, said Niu Xinqiang, an academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

The design emphasizes ecological protection by including dedicated fish passages and using construction methods that minimize impacts on fish and other aquatic species, Niu said. It is the first major project to break ground during China's 15<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030), a critical stage in the country's efforts to advance toward its goal of basically realizing socialist modernization by 2035. — Xinhua

## WHO chief praises Uganda's Ebola effort

THE head of the World Health Organization visited Uganda on Monday and praised its efforts to limit the spread of an Ebola outbreak from neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo.

The WHO has declared an international health emergency over the outbreak which has caused 515 confirmed infections in the DRC, including 91 deaths, since it was announced on 15 May

in northeastern DRC.

Uganda has recorded 19 cases and two deaths. All but five have been Congolese nationals who crossed the border.

"The success rate in managing Ebola in Uganda has been good," said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus during a visit to the Mulago National Referral Hospital in the capital, Kampala.

"Because of the ex-

perience gained in managing public health emergencies, there is a case fatality rate of less than one per cent," he said, adding that the WHO had supported the training of 148 health workers for the Ebola response. He singled out the decision by the government to cancel annual Martyrs Day celebrations on 3 June that normally attract huge crowds from across the region. — AFP

## Iran has abandoned neither battlefield nor negotiating table: president

IRANIAN President Masoud Pezeshkian on Monday underscored Tehran's commitment to both defence and diplomacy, saying his country has abandoned neither the battlefield nor the negotiating table.

Pezeshkian made the remarks in a social media post following Iran's announcement of ceasing operations against Israel after the two countries traded airstrikes in the first major escalation since a ceasefire was reached in April.

"Our priority is national security and the people's peace. We defend the nation's rights with power and will not retreat in the face of any threat," Pezeshkian said, noting that "diplomacy and defence are two wings of national power".

Iran's Islamic Rev-

olution Guard Corps (IRGC) said Sunday that its aerospace forces launched ballistic missiles at the Ramat David Air Base in northern Israel in response to Israel's "widespread crimes" in southern Lebanon, including the killing and displacement of civilians.

The IRGC continued its attacks on Monday by

targeting the Nevatim and Tel Nof air bases in Israel, and launched retaliatory strikes on certain industries in Haifa.

In response, the Israeli military carried out airstrikes on several targets in Iran, including a petrochemical company in the southwestern province of Khuzestan. — Xinhua



Workers clean the debris following Israeli airstrikes that hit the previous day, near the archaeological site of the Roman hippodrome in the southern Lebanese city of Tyre on 8 June 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

## IAEA chief urges stop to attack facility with nuclear material

THE head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Sunday condemned a drone strike in the Chernobyl exclusion zone, warning that such attacks are "playing with fire" and must never occur.

The IAEA said on

social media platform X that it had received information from Ukraine regarding a drone attack on Sunday morning targeting the Central Spent Fuel Storage Facility located within the Chernobyl exclusion zone. According to IAEA experts on site,

radiation levels at the facility remained within normal limits.

An IAEA inspection team assessed the impact of the strike and reported significant structural damage to part of the fuel reception building. — Xinhua