

Security Screenings Must Not Burden the Public



President U Min Aung Hlaing addresses the Union government meeting at the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

As a democratically elected administration tasked with safeguarding the public interest and advancing national progress, the government must discharge its duties through seamless coordination and robust institutional cooperation.

PRESIDENT of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing delivered an address at the Union government meeting at the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the President underlined that plans are underway to implement the areas of Toungoo, Nay Pyi Taw, Yamethin, and Meiktila

as special model development regions. He noted that just as efforts are being made to develop agriculture and livestock activities, MSME manufacturing enterprises should also be developed to become one of the country's main economic drivers. Given the country's situation, the economy must be promoted by focusing on MSMEs.

SEE PAGE 4

Salient points from the speech delivered by the President at the Union government meeting

1. Addressing the difficulties in accordance with the issued laws and procedures should not be unnecessary burdens for the people.
2. Production from livestock zones is expected to decrease the prices of meat and fish to a reasonable level.
3. It is necessary to ensure that teaching staff and students can carry out teaching and learning safely and securely.
4. All ministries are urged to give due emphasis to carrying out research activities.

Yuan Acceptance Sparks Investment Boom for Chinese Firms in Myanmar

CHINESE Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia has said that Chinese entrepreneurs now find it easier and more convenient to invest in Myanmar, as the Chinese yuan has been officially recognized as a legal currency for direct investment in the country.

The ambassador made the remarks during a ceremony on sharing experiences in building a Myanmar-China community with a shared future, held in Yangon on 6 June.

She also noted that China has granted tariff exemptions on all Myanmar products that

previously faced 100 per cent tariff rates. In addition, China has expanded market access for Myanmar's agricultural, livestock and fishery products.

In terms of economic cooperation between the two countries, China is Myanmar's

SEE PAGE 11

Fuel Prices Set to Ease by 11 June

FUEL oil reference prices decreased this week, ending 11 June 2026, with K4,345 for Octane 92 and K4,385 for Octane 95, K4,220 for diesel and K5,115 for premium diesel, showing a decrease of over K205 to K435 per litre.

The price index set by

Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), the pricing basis for many refined products in Southeast Asia, influences the domestic fuel prices, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

SEE PAGE 10

OPINION

Emphasize efforts to ensure green societies

PAGE 8

NATIONAL

PAGE 2



Bagan Museum Features Exhibit on Buddha's Pārileyya Forest Retreat

NATIONAL

PAGE 3



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker seeks stronger ties with Bangladeshi Parliament

NATIONAL

PAGE 11



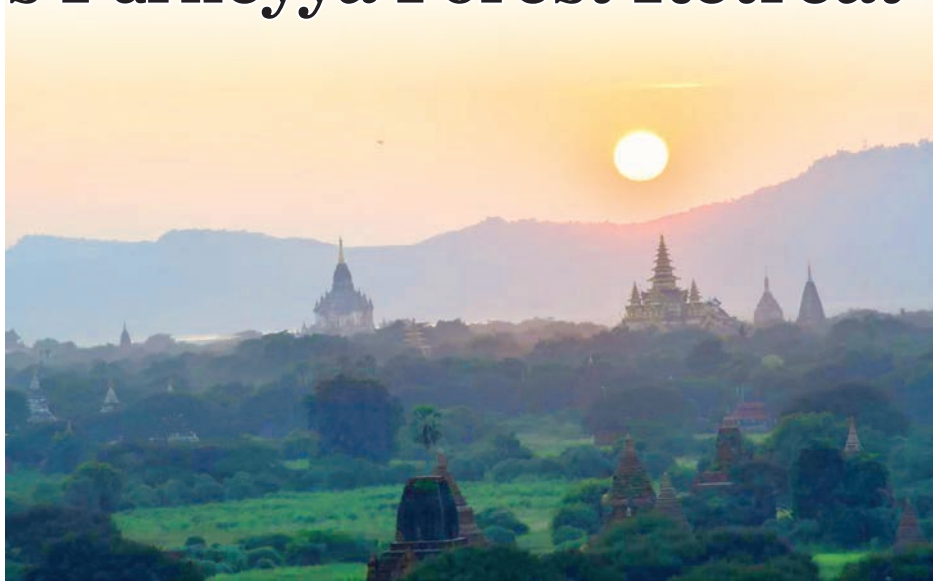
Yangon River Flash Flood Warnings Issued as Mitigation Measures Begin

NATIONAL

Bagan Museum Features Exhibit on Buddha's Pārileyya Forest Retreat

THE pilgrims travelling to the Bagan Ancient Cultural Zone in Nyaung-U Township, Mandalay Region, can study and pay homage to the Buddha image depicting the scene of the Buddha residing in the Pārileyya Forest, which is displayed in the main exhibition hall, according to the officials of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch).

The Buddha image in



Images capture the historic artefacts and exhibits on display at the National Museum (Bagan) alongside the scenic, temple-dotted landscape of the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone (top).

the Pārileyya Forest scene measures 116 centimetres in height, 66.1 centimetres in width and 29.5 centimetres in thickness, and was recovered from Myinkaba Gupyaung Temple. The Buddha image is depicted

seated with legs folded, with the soles of the feet resting on a lotus flower pedestal. Both hands are shown holding an alms bowl, while on each side, a monk is portrayed paying homage. At the feet of

the Buddha, an elephant is shown kneeling, while two monkeys are depicted offering honey cakes as alms.

There are 3,837 pagodas, temples and religious buildings in the

Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone, and visitors can observe not only the main exhibition hall but also other things displayed inside the museum. — Dipa Lin/KTZH

Guide training focuses on professional responsibilities and code of conduct

DOMESTIC tour guide training course, which is basically designed on responsibilities and ethics of a tour guide, has been planned to open in July, said the Domestic Pilgrimage and Tour Operator Association (DPTOA).

As the tourism industry has recovered, the role of disciplined and qualified tour guides has become important, so DPTOA has planned to organize the tour guide course for those who wish to have self-development and improve their work performance.

The course includes domestic and international tourism, cultural

and pilgrimage tourism, ecotourism and community-based tourism (CBT) and guide ethics and responsibilities.

The training course will be based at the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture training centre, Yathar Condo, beginning from 9 am to noon on 6 July, and the duration is three weeks. For more details about the training course, enquiries can be made to the DPTOA office located at the corner of Merchant Road and Sandaku Road, and through the following numbers: 09 267620551, 09 777459075, and 09 5155654. — MT/ZS



This image displays an advert for the tour guide training course.

Gold Market Rate as of 9 June 2025

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

Preliminary coord meeting held for 2025 National Literary Awards selection

THE subject-specific subcommittee coordination meeting (preliminary stage) for the selection and awarding of the 2025 National Literary Awards from among books published in 2025 was held on 8 June at the meeting hall of the Sarpay Beikman Office on Merchant Road in Yangon.

During the meeting, committee members of the respective subject selection and screening dis-

cussed in detail the progress of the preliminary screening and selection process for books submitted under the designated categories of the 2025 National Literary Awards.

The State annually presents the National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement and the National Literary Awards in recognition of outstanding achievements, lifelong dedication, and significant contributions

to Myanmar literature.

The 2024 National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement was conferred on literary scholar Dr Daw Po (Ma Lay Po), writer U Than Nyunt (Zin Min-Thamein Htaw), writer Daw Tin Yi (Tin Yi Ma-NyaungU), writer U Ko Ko (Ko-Tekkatho), and literary scholar Dr Khin Than Oo (Ma Moe Myay).

The National Literary Award Selection



This photo features the subject-specific subcommittee coordination meeting (preliminary stage) for the selection and awarding of the 2025 National Literary Awards from among books published in 2025.

Committee comprises 20 members, including literary scholars, intellectuals, subject-matter experts, and experienced professionals from the printing and publishing industry. The selection process is conducted systematically in three stages—preliminary screening, shortlisting, and final approval—according to the respective subject categories. — TWA/TH

NATIONAL

Push for National Water Law Intensifies

Stakeholders must explore freshwater resources to commercialize water-related products



President U Min Aung Hlaing speaks at the meeting of the National Water Resources Committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

AS the likelihood of an El Niño event occurring this year is high, extreme heat and drought conditions may occur from mid-2026 to mid-2027. Therefore, preparations must be made in advance from now on to

prevent and mitigate these impacts, said President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, who chairs the National Water Resources Committee, at the meeting hall of the President's Office yesterday afternoon.

The President unveiled that plans are being developed and implemented to ensure the effective utilization of water resources and to address water scarcity during the summer season, as well as reduced river water

levels caused by climate change. Efforts are also being made to draft and enact a National Water Law.

He noted that plans are being drawn up and implemented to ensure the efficient use of water

resources and to address river water shortages caused by dry-season water scarcity and climate change. Efforts are also underway to draft and enact a National Water Law.

The President explained that more than 800 million acre-feet of freshwater flows annually through the four major rivers flowing across Myanmar, as well as other rivers and streams, large nat-

ural lakes, and wetlands. Therefore, it is necessary to explore opportunities for constructing low dams, generating hydropower, supplying drinking water in urban and rural areas, providing irrigation water for agriculture, and commercially producing water-related products in order to conserve and make effective use of freshwater resources.

SEE PAGE 4

Key points from the guidance provided by the President at the National Water Resources Committee meeting

1. It is necessary to attract investments in the hydro-power sector of renewable energy.
2. Expansion of sown acreage is not important, but it is necessary to grow crops in the sown acreage to thrive.
3. It is necessary to conserve Indawgyi and Inlay Lakes as a national duty because these are global and local heritage sites.
4. School-age children must be educated to understand the value of water and the impacts of water pollution from undisciplined disposal activities.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker seeks stronger ties with Bangladeshi Parliament

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi received Dr Md Monwar Hossain, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar, yesterday at the Pyithu Hluttaw Guest Hall in the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Speaker noted that, following the election, the three major pillars of governance have emerged and that the Hluttaw is actively carrying out its legislative responsibilities to support national development, improve the socioeconomic well-being of the people, and enact laws suited to contemporary needs, adding that the Anti-Online Scam Bill is cur-



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi receives Bangladeshi Ambassador Dr Md Monwar Hossain yesterday.

rently under discussion in the Hluttaw and expressing his hope that the Ambassador would help promote communication and cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries.

The Bangladeshi ambassador enquired

about the formation of Myanmar's Hluttaws and election-related matters, explained the current structure of the Bangladeshi Parliament, and raised questions concerning immigration-related issues.

Also present at the meeting were Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn, officials from the Office of the Pyithu Hluttaw, and officials from the Embassy of Bangladesh to Myanmar. — MNA/TH

118 MW Thaton gas power plant set to resume operations in Aug

PREPARATIONS are underway to resume operations at the Thaton natural gas power plant in Kyapan Village, Thaton Township, Mon State, in August.

The Thaton power plant is equipped with one steam turbine and two gas turbines. According to reports, maintenance work on the steam turbine has already been completed.

Regarding the gas turbines, the first turbine is currently undergoing repairs in China. Plans are in place to finalize these repairs and restart the plant in August. Simultaneously, work is ongoing on the second unit, which is scheduled to be reinstalled by December.

Once fully operational, the plant will have the capacity to generate up to 118.9 megawatts of electricity. The power generated in Mon State will be transmitted to the national grid, from which it will then be redistributed to the state according to its allocated quota. — TWA/ZN

NATIONAL

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FROM PAGE 1

He gave guidelines that the basic education and industrial, agricultural, and livestock high schools opened in each district are being operated with the aim of producing the human resources needed for agricultural and livestock activities. Therefore, students must be encouraged to pursue their studies.

He explained that a total of 6,769,942 students, including those attending monastic education schools, have enrolled, while over 100,000 students are still absent from school. Efforts should be made to reopen schools that have

been temporarily closed due to various reasons and to increase school attendance rates.

Regarding security, he highlighted that since schools are currently open and teaching is underway, it is necessary to ensure that teaching staff and students are able to carry out teaching and learning safely and securely.

The President emphasized that livestock zones are being developed. Production from livestock zones is expected to decrease the prices of meat and fish to a reasonable level.

Union ministers reported on measures in respective sectors.

In concluding remarks, the President said that public relations must be maintained effectively and that staff should work in unity and fairness under proper hierarchical administration and supervision. Addressing the difficulties in accordance with the issued laws and procedures should not be an unnecessary burden for the people.

Regarding education-related activities, he stressed that, including industry and handicrafts, agriculture and livestock, and manufacturing, it is necessary to continuously review and conduct research on areas that can be practically applied. All

ministries are urged to give due emphasis to carrying out research activities.

He underlined that security inspections and monitoring are being carried out in the respective regions and states. In conducting such measures, they should be limited strictly to security-related checks and must not create any burden for the public.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-Presidents U Nyo Saw and Nan Ni Ni Aye, Union ministers and the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, together with region and state chief ministers through videoconferencing. — MNA/TTA

Push for National Water Law ...

FROM PAGE 3

He underscored that more than 100,000 megawatts of hydropower can be generated from rivers and creeks in Myanmar. Currently, some 3,500 megawatts are generated, accounting for only 3.5 per cent. Hence, it is necessary to attract investments in the hydropower sector of renewable energy.

In the agriculture sector, the President highlighted that some 15 million acres of farmland are placed under paddy in the monsoon across the nation, but about 2.71 million acres of paddy are planted in summer. Expansion of sown acreage is not important, but it is necessary to grow crops in the sown acreage to thrive.

He stressed the need to formulate the year-wise plans to supply water in villages of Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions where residents face scarcity of drinking water and agricultural water in summer.

He underlined that as the likelihood of an El Niño event occurring this year is high, extreme heat and drought conditions may occur from mid-2026 to mid-2027. Therefore, preparations must be made in advance from now on to prevent and mitigate these impacts.

The President urged ministries, regions, states and organizations to consider the possible impacts of natural disasters in the construction of infrastructure and residential buildings.

Committee Vice-Chairman and Union Minister for Transport U Mya Tun Oo, and the secretary reported on the formation of the committee, its objectives

and responsibilities, implementation of the plans, supply of water and plans.

Union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, region and state chief ministers and mayors discussed the water-related work processes, development of water sources, international cooperation in water sources, water quality tests, river water pumping process, and supply of drinking and agricultural water.

In response, the President stressed the need to educate school-age children to understand the value of water and the impacts of water pollution from undisciplined disposal activities. It is necessary to conserve the Indawgyi and Inlay lakes as a national duty because these are global and local heritage sites.

The Vice-Chairman reported on the systematic use of water sources and the prevention of natural disasters.

The President remarked that, as there are also problems that can arise due to weather conditions, it is necessary to implement activities in accordance with the appropriate time periods. It is necessary to make preparations for situations that may arise in accordance with the country's climatic conditions.

Also present at the meeting were senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, City Development Committee Chairs from Yangon and Mandalay regions and officials together with region and state chief ministers through videoconferencing. — MNA/TTA

Defence Services C-in-C General Ye Win Oo receives Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army

COMMANDER - IN-CHIEF of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo received Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army Maj-Gen Vanhthong Boudtavong at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they frankly discussed the further promotion of friendly relations and cooperation between Myanmar and Laos and the two armed forces, the improvement of diplomatic and military relations between the two countries, and the close cooperation in regional development.

Their discussions covered the exchange of goodwill visits, cultural troupes, sports teams and trainees between the two armed forces, the promotion of securi-



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo and Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army Maj-Gen Vanhthong Boudtavong meet in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

ty, peace and stability in border regions including the Mekong river security, the gratitude to Laos for its humanitarian aid and rescue teams sent to Myanmar in the occurrence of the Mandalay earthquake on 28 March 2025, the five principles of peaceful coexistence exercised by Myanmar with neighbouring countries, and upholding Our Three

Main National Courses by the Tatmadaw under the leadership of the government.

They exchanged commemorative gifts and had documentary photos taken together with the attendees.

Also present at the meeting were Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win and senior Tatmadaw officers from

the Office of the Commander-in-Chief. The Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army was accompanied by Deputy Director Col Mixay Phengsavath of the International Relations Department of the Lao People's Army, Lao military attaché to Myanmar Col Viphaxay Chanthamath and officials. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves tax exemption for diesel HSD (500 ppm)

THE second regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the second day at the meeting hall of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, attended by 558 out of 560 Hluttaw representatives.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker submitted the congratulatory messages sent by international organizations and consuls from Japan, Vietnam, Iceland, Brazil, Sittagoung of Bangladesh and Canada and the Secretary-General of BIMSTEC to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and put them on record.

The Speaker presented the appointment of ministers, advocates-general, auditors-general, chairmen of the leading bodies of self-administered zones



The second day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is underway yesterday, presided over by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.



and division, ethnic ministers, high court judges and mayors of regions and states sent by the President and recorded them.

Hluttaw representatives from the Wuntho, Ngazun, Taungdwingyi, and Ayeyawady Region constituencies participated in discussions to support the announcement of the Ordinance 1/2026 to declare the state of emer-

gency and the Ordinance 2/2026 to issue the military administration.

The Speaker sought the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. As there was no objection, the Hluttaw approved the motion.

Hluttaw representatives from the Wuntho and Taungdwingyi constituencies discussed the tax exemption for diesel HSD (500 ppm).

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Han Win Aung responded to the discussions of the Hluttaw representatives, saying that the Government is regularly assessing the situation of conflicts in the Middle East, global fuel price conditions, domestic diesel price levels, the prices of basic food items and commodities, as well as the response measures

taken by other countries in the region, monthly. If necessary, it will submit proposals to the Union Government and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to seek further exemption from the Specific Goods Tax and Commercial Tax on diesel HSD (500 ppm).

Therefore, in accordance with Section 37 of the Union Tax Law 2026, approval of the Pyidaungsu

Hluttaw is requested to grant an exemption from the Specific Goods Tax and Commercial Tax on diesel fuel HSD (500 ppm) for the period from 1 April to 30 April 2026.

The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced that, regarding the matter of granting exemption from the Specific Goods Tax and Commercial Tax applicable to diesel HSD (500 ppm), which was submitted by the President, a vote was conducted using the electronic voting system. The result was 10 votes against, seven abstentions, and 497 votes in favour. As the number of votes in favour was greater, the Hluttaw approved the proposal.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will continue the third-day meeting on 16 June. — MNA/TTA



The Bangladeshi ambassador calls on Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe yesterday.

MoFA Union Minister receives Bangladeshi Ambassador

U Tin Maung Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received Dr Md Monwar Hossain, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 9 June 2026.

They discussed matters relating to enhancing cooperation in mutually beneficial areas as well as cooperation in the repatriation process for

displaced persons from Rakhine State based on good neighbourliness and genuine goodwill. Moreover, the Myanmar side updated the current verification status on the list provided by Bangladesh and discussed cooperation on the repatriation of displaced persons who have been verified as former residents in Rakhine State. — MNA

India to support digital preservation of Myanmar's historic film archives

INDIA will assist in the long-term preservation of Myanmar's historic films and newsreel archives through the use of modern digital technologies, according to reports.

Representatives of Prasad Group, one of the world's leading film restoration companies based in India, met officials from the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw on 9 June to discuss advanced preservation and restoration techniques.

The meeting was attended by officials from the Information and Public Relations Department



Indian representatives from Prasad Group hold talks with officials from the Ministry of Information.

and a delegation led by Prasad Group Chief Executive Officer Dr Prasad Rao Pasam.

Discussions focused on improving the storage and preservation systems for Myanmar's film and newsreel collections housed in the Film Promotion Division's

archive, preventing the deterioration of valuable classic films, and restoring them using the latest digital technologies. Both sides also explored plans for long-term cooperation in film preservation.

Founded in 1956 by renowned Indian film director L V Prasad, Pras-

ad Corporation Limited is one of India's oldest and largest film industry enterprises. Formerly known worldwide for its film processing and laboratory services under the Prasad Labs brand, the company now provides digital film restoration services using advanced 4K, 8K and 12K technologies.

The planned technical cooperation is expected to help preserve Myanmar's invaluable classic films and historical records in digital formats, ensuring their long-term survival for future generations. — MNA/KZL

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

NSPNC holds informal meeting with NCA-S EAOs

THE National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee, chaired by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, invited ethnic armed groups to discuss Announcement 1/2026 on 21 April 2026 to engage in peace talks in order to implement peace processes for national development and stability through free and open-ended discussions.

Meanwhile, the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and NCA-S EAOs organized an informal meeting at the M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

It was attended by Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, chairman of NSPNC, Lt-Gen Min Naing, secretary and committee members, Sao Sai Ngin, secretary 1 of RCSS, Saw Kyaw Nyunt, secretary 1 of KNU/KNLA Peace Council, Nai Aung Ma Ngae, executive committee member of NMSP, Kyar Yar Kok, general secretary of LDU, Saw Sein Win, adjutant-general of DKBA, Saw Mya Thandar, general secretary of ALP and U Myo Win and Nan Yin Yin Soe, negotiators of NCA-S EAOs.

During the meeting, NSPNC chair Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said that the National



The National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee and Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-Signatories Ethnic Armed Organizations meet informally in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee issued Announcement 1/2026 on 21 April 2026, inviting Ethnic Armed Organizations to participate in peace talks in order to implement peace processes. He added that both informal and formal discussions will continue, and that efforts are underway to submit 43 constitutional amendment points to the Hluttaw. He also urged the NCA-S EAOs' negotiation team attending the meeting to engage in open discussions regarding the peace process.

Sao Sai Ngin, secretary 1 of RCSS, who is also Head of NCA-S EAOs negotiation team, welcomed the peace invitation issued by the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee, and the individual written invitations extended by the negotia-

tion committee to leaders of Ethnic Armed Organizations. He discussed the objectives of the NCA-S EAOs regarding the peace process, including reviving the peace process in line with current circumstances, ensuring participation of organizations that should be involved in the peace process, and building sustainable and lasting peace. He also expressed hope that the current discussions would yield positive outcomes.

NSPNC secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing explained the peace processes to be undertaken by the committee, while the NCA-S EAOs negotiation team presented proposals and views regarding the implementation of the peace process.

Based on the proposals presented by the NCA-S EAOs negotiation team, attendees discussed

matters including easing tensions in implementing the peace process, establishing step-by-step peace policies, processes and mechanisms, achieving an unconditional ceasefire and implementing ceasefire processes among relevant stakeholders, encouraging stakeholders to resolve political disagreements through political means, implementing trust-building measures, formulating and continuously implementing an inclusive peace process based on the essence of the NCA, carrying out regional development projects so that local people in conflict-affected areas can enjoy the benefits of peace, securing international assistance for the peace process, and selecting suitable venues, either domestic or international, for meetings involving all stakeholders.

The representatives of the NCA-S EAOs negotiation team also raised questions regarding the 100-day timeframe set by the new government for the peace invitation and the government's peace policies and processes. Officials from the negotiation committee responded and clarified them.

The second day's discussion will be on 10 June. — MNA/KTZH

Reconstruction Fast-Tracked in Falam, Tiddim and Tonzang

UNDER the directives of the Head of State to expedite rehabilitation work in Falam, Tiddim and Tonzang townships in Chin State, which have been fully retaken by the Tatmadaw, the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee, chaired by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Than Soe and comprising officials from relevant sectors, conducted field visits to the affected areas and carried out rehabilitation activities.

To ensure that residents, government staff and their family members returning to Falam, Tedim and Tonzang townships do not face food shortages, the National Disaster Management Committee initially provided 10 tonnes of cooking oil, 50 tonnes of rice, cement, roofing sheets and other materials required for rehabilitation work.

Military aircraft have been transporting roofing materials and other supplies to support the reconstruction effort. Yesterday, military aircraft transported 10 tonnes of CI sheets, 5.5 tonnes of cement, 123 visses of nails and one package of rubber washers from Mandalay to Kalay. Distribution to the respective townships is ongoing, and additional supplies are being provided according to local requirements. According to a press release issued by the National Disaster Management Committee, assistance delivered from the National Disaster Management Fund between 24 May and 9 June 2026 included K3 billion in financial support, 10 tonnes of edible oil, 50 tonnes of rice, 600 households and personal-use items, 20 tonnes of cement, 20 tonnes of CI sheets, 246 visses of Iron nails and related materials. — MNA/MKKS



Supplies for rehabilitation are seen being unloaded from a Tatmadaw aircraft.

PyinOoLwin's RBF project implementation inspected

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development inspected the implementation of the Rural Business Fund (RBF) Project in Naunghlaing Village in PyinOoLwin Township yesterday.

Head U Set Naing Tun of the PyinOoLwin District Department of Rural Development and

officials met members of the village project committee and inspected the implementation of project activities. They also examined whether financial records had been systematically maintained and whether project activities were being carried out in accordance with guidelines set out in the project manual, and provided necessary instructions.



The Rural Business Fund (RBF) Project in Naunghlaing Village has been under implementation since the 2025-2026 financial year. Under the project, K30 million has been

Officials oversee the implementation of the Rural Business Fund Project in Naunghlaing Village in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region.

disbursed to 20 members of four livelihood groups engaged in small-scale agricultural activities, namely Pyaewa Group, Piti Group, Shwin Pyone Group and Chan Thar Group. RBF loans are intended to provide necessary capital for farmers, livestock breeders, producers and small, medium and micro enterprises in the village. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

NATIONAL

Tatmadaw regains control of strategic Sagaing village

TATMADAW has reportedly regained control of Ngalontin Village in ChaungU Township, Sagaing Region, following a multi-day offensive against PDF terrorists who had been using the village as a base.

According to reports, the village, located along the ChaungU-Yesagy road south of ChaungU, had been used as a staging area for attacks and other insurgent activities targeting the Monywa-Sagaing and ChaungU-Yesagy transport routes.

Authorities said the insurgents had occupied residential buildings, religious



Images capture Tatmadaw troops celebrating after reclaiming Ngalontin Village in ChaungU Township, Sagaing Region.

structures and schools, where they constructed defensive bunkers and established positions. They were also accused of dis-

rupting transport routes, extorting vehicles and obstructing the movement of goods and passengers. Tatmadaw launched



a counter-terrorism campaign on 5 June, advancing from ChaungU and conducting operations in several locations. They

recaptured Hmancho village on 6 June, followed by Gugyi Monastery and Sinmyae village on 8 June, before retaking Ngalontin

Village and surrounding areas on 9 June.

During the fighting, security forces reportedly recovered two bodies, four weapons, one improvised fixed-wing drone and related equipment. Insurgents were said to have withdrawn after sustaining casualties.

Authorities stated that further activities, including the removal of explosives and the rehabilitation of damaged areas, are planned in cooperation with residents, while security measures in the area have been strengthened. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar Deportations: 19 Foreign Cyber Scam Suspects Repatriated

A total of 19 foreign nationals linked to online scams, illegal online gambling and other criminal activities in the Myawady-Shwe Kokko area of Kayin State were transferred to their respective countries via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II.

The group comprised 12 citizens from Taiwan Province of China, five Indonesians and two Pakistanis. Authorities said the individuals had entered Myanmar illegally through border routes after transiting through Thailand and other neighbouring countries, before becoming involved in unlawful activities.

Officials from the Myawady District Administration and Management Committee coordinated the transfer process, ensuring the accuracy of records and compliance with legal procedures.

Representatives from the immigration authorities of Myanmar and Thailand, officials from the Indonesian and Pakistani embassies to Thailand, and representa-



Officials oversee the deportation of undocumented foreign nationals.

tives of the Economic and Cultural Office of Taiwan Province of China in Myanmar attended the hand-over ceremony. Relevant documents were formally handed over to officials from the respective countries.

Authorities stated that from 30 January 2025 to 9 June 2026, a total of 14,703 foreign nationals who had entered Myawady Township illegally were detained and investigated. Of these, 13,540 have already been repatriated to their home countries via Thailand in accordance with legal procedures.

Of the remaining

1,163 foreign nationals, 662 have been prosecuted under immigration and narcotics-related laws. The other 501 individuals are ready for repatriation and are being properly accommodated pending transfer to their respective countries.

Authorities said they will continue cooperating with neighbouring countries, regional partners and international organizations to combat online scam networks, identify those involved in such activities and facilitate the repatriation of trafficking victims and other foreign nationals in distress. — MNA/KZL

Yamethin's rural production road project inspected

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development inspected the ongoing construction of a rural production road and related work in Padigon Village of Yamethin Township yesterday. The project is being implemented to help local farmers transport agricultural products from their farmlands to markets at lower costs.

The head of the Yamethin Township Department of Rural Development and engineering staff inspected the construction progress of the road measuring 2.652 furlongs in length, 12 feet in width and nine inches in thickness. She met members of the village road im-

plementation committee and stressed the importance of completing the work within the prescribed period and coordinated necessary assistance in response to the needs presented by villagers.

The project is being implemented by the engineering staff of the Township Department of Rural Development

with a Union fund allocation of K26.86 million under the 2026-2027 financial year. Construction began in the second week of May this year and has now reached about 70 per cent completion. Upon completion, the road will benefit 260 households and 1,157 residents in the village. — Sein Lwin (Rural)



Officials inspect the ongoing construction of a rural production road and related work in Yamethin Township.

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OPINION

Emphasize efforts to ensure green societies

EVERY country needs to strengthen coordination and accelerate collaborative implementation of the sector-specific actions outlined in Myanmar's Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Master Plan, which are being carried out to address the challenges posed by climate change, enhance climate resilience, and promote low-carbon development.

Countries around the world, including Myanmar, face natural disasters every year, resulting in significant socioeconomic losses. According to the 2026 Climate Risk Index published by certain international climate monitoring organizations, Myanmar is among the ten countries most severely affected by climate change.

The primary causes of climate change are the expansion of the energy and industrial sectors, increased use of fossil fuels, deforestation and land-use change, population growth accompanied by the expansion of agricultural and livestock farming activities,

Climate change is an environmental issue faced worldwide, and it can only be addressed through cooperation between the international community and regional countries. For this purpose, Myanmar has become a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its related protocols, including the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, and is actively participating in climate change mitigation efforts in collaboration with the international community.

controlled, by the end of this century, global temperatures could increase by approximately 2.1° to 3.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

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Priority must be given to promoting the development of renewable energy, planting and conserving forests and trees, developing climate-resilient agricultural systems, building energy-efficient urban and industrial sectors, and increasing the production and use of zero-emission electric vehicles. As such, efforts must be made to ensure the development of green economic activities across various sectors that help reduce carbon emissions, mitigate climate change, and support environmental conservation.

HEALTH literacy has become an essential component of modern healthcare systems and public health development. It refers to an individual's ability to access, understand, evaluate, and use health information to make informed decisions regarding health promotion, disease prevention, and treatment. In an increasingly complex healthcare environment, health literacy plays a crucial role in determining health outcomes, reducing health disparities, and supporting sustainable healthcare development. As health systems continue to evolve with advancements in technology, medicine, and health policies, the importance of health literacy becomes even more significant. A population with high levels of health literacy can actively participate in healthcare decisions, improve self-management of diseases, and contribute to the overall effectiveness and efficiency of health services.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines Health Literacy as "representing the personal knowledge and competencies that accumulate through daily activities, social interactions and across generations. Personal knowledge and competencies are mediated by the organizational structures and availability of resources that enable people to access, understand, appraise, and use information and services in ways that promote and maintain good health and well-being for themselves and

The Importance of Health Literacy in Healthcare Development Perspective

those around them."

Understanding Health Literacy

Health literacy encompasses more than the ability to read medical information. It includes cognitive, social, and communication skills that enable individuals to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions. It involves understanding prescription instructions, interpreting medical advice, navigating healthcare systems, evaluating health-related information from various sources, and engaging effectively with health professionals.

Health literacy can be categorized into three levels. Functional health literacy refers to basic reading and writing skills needed to understand health information. Interactive health literacy involves more advanced skills that enable individuals to actively participate in healthcare interactions. Critical health literacy includes the ability to critically analyze information and use it to exert greater control over health-related decisions and circumstances.

The new definitions:

- Emphasize people's ability to use health information rather than just understand it
- Focus on the ability to make "well-informed" decisions rather than "appropriate" ones
- Acknowledge that organizations have a responsibility to address health literacy
- Incorporate a public health perspective

From a public health perspective, the organizational definition acknowledges that health literacy is connected to health equity. Health equity is the attainment of the highest level of health for all people. We will achieve health equity when everyone has the opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

Why is it important to improve health literacy?

Health literacy requires inclusive and equitable access to quality education and lifelong learning. Health literacy is shaped by a wide range of societal factors and is, therefore, not the sole responsibility of individuals to develop and maintain. All information providers, including government,

civil society and health services, should enable access to trustworthy information in a form that is understandable and actionable for all people. These social resources for health literacy include regulation of the information environment and media (oral, print, broadcast and digital) in which people obtain access to and use health information. By improving people's access to understandable and trustworthy health information and their capacity to use it effectively, health literacy is critical to both empowering people to make decisions about personal health and enabling their engagement in collective health promotion action to address the determinants of health.

Improving health literacy

Strategies and interventions are recommended that increase both organizational and personal health literacy.

- Organizational health literacy can be promoted by improving training and organizational processes, including strengthening communication, informed decision-making, and access to culturally and linguistically appropriate

health information and services.

- Professional health literacy is an essential part of an organization's responsiveness towards patients' health literacy and communication needs. It can be addressed through regular training of healthcare and education professionals.
- Personal health literacy may be strengthened by accurate, timely and appropriate health and science information as well as by the implementation of a health-promoting educational curriculum from an early age at home, in kindergartens, at schools through university level and as part of adult education.
- Assessing health literacy in populations and communities can guide policy development and intervention design to strengthen health literacy development in timely and relevant ways depending on needs.

Health Literacy and Individual Health Outcomes

One of the most important contributions of health literacy is its direct impact on individu-

al health outcomes. Individuals with adequate health literacy are more likely to understand medical instructions, follow treatment plans, and engage in preventive health behaviours. They are better equipped to manage chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and asthma because they can comprehend medication regimens, monitor symptoms, and recognize warning signs that require medical attention. Conversely, low health literacy is associated with poor health outcomes, increased hospitalization rates, medication errors, and higher mortality risks. Patients who struggle to understand health information may fail to adhere to treatment recommendations, miss appointments, or misuse medications. As a result, health literacy serves as a critical determinant of health and well-being.

Health Literacy in Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Health literacy plays a fundamental role in disease prevention and health promotion. Individuals who understand health information are more likely to adopt healthy lifestyles, including balanced nutrition, regular physical

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

activity, smoking cessation, and responsible alcohol consumption. They are also more likely to participate in preventive health services such as vaccinations, health screenings, and regular medical checkups. During public health emergencies, health literacy becomes particularly important. For example, during infectious disease outbreaks, individuals with higher health literacy can better understand public health guidelines, evaluate the reliability of information sources, and take appropriate preventive measures. This helps reduce disease transmission and supports community health resilience.

Health promotion programmes are more effective when they incorporate strategies that enhance health literacy. Educational campaigns, community outreach activities, and school-based health education initiatives can empower individuals with the knowledge and skills needed to maintain and improve their health.

Health Literacy and Healthcare System Efficiency

From a healthcare development perspective, health liter-

acy contributes significantly to the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare systems. Patients with adequate health literacy are more likely to use health services appropriately, reducing unnecessary emergency department visits and avoidable hospital admissions. They are better able to navigate health systems, understand referral processes, and communicate effectively with healthcare providers. Improved health literacy can also lead to better resource utilization. When patients understand their conditions and treatment plans, they require fewer repeat consultations and experience fewer complications. This reduces the financial burden on healthcare institutions and allows resources to be allocated more effectively. Furthermore, health literacy supports patient-centred care, a model that emphasizes collaboration between patients and health professionals. Informed patients can participate actively in decision-making processes, leading to more personalized and satisfactory healthcare experiences.

Health Literacy and Health Equity

Health literacy is closely linked to health equity. Vulnerable populations, including individuals with low educational attainment, older adults, rural communities, and socioeconomically disadvantaged groups, often experience lower levels of health literacy.

SEE PAGE 14

How to Effectively and Efficiently Use Books for English

ENGLISH learners often use books for learning English for the possible reason that they cost less than most expect. Certainly, books will be inexhaustible sources for English language learners, particularly future writers. However, language learners must be able to use books in English effectively and efficiently. Only if so can English learners make good use of books in that their long journey to learning English will take a shorter time than frequently expected. In the

following, an effective and efficient use of English will be described one by one.

1) Read dual-language books: These books usually have the same story written in two languages, that is to say, a native language on one page and English on the other; but some have both languages on the same page in turn, which means translating the native language after English. It can be said that this study is based on the translation method in language teaching. Nevertheless, some language learners

would not like to use translation, preferring the direct method in language study. Their potential reason for this is that the two languages never have the same meaning or connotation. Strange to say, some language learners are too dependent on translation while studying a foreign language. Thus, only the direct method will make learners know real English, they strongly believe. Nonetheless, translations may be the best medicine for language learners at the beginner level.

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

2) Read our favourite childhood book in English: What was our favourite book as a child? We should find a copy of it in English! We know the story already, or it will be easier to understand. As shown above, bilingual reading is studying a foreign language alongside one's native language. On the other hand, this bilingual reading is just studying a native language in a foreign language.

Being a favourite helps learners improve their attention towards a target language, as well as the whole story of a book, which will have already been understood in context. Even though different languages may have diverse pleasures in reading – whether deep or shallow, a bilingual learning method will surely contribute to the linguistic field of study.

3) Read new children's and

young adult books: Young learners' books mostly use simpler language, are fun to read, and there are hundreds to choose from! As Dr Htin Aung once stated, simple English is the best. Hence, for whom on earth is simple English best? Those people will be language starters or beginner learners. Simple words or expressions are always found in books for young children since such usages enable the children to have a proper understanding of English. Not only that, simple usages are neither tricky nor difficult for children, and these usages generally lead to the main theme of a book only with a few words but more meaning. After all, the simplicity of a language is not the great barrier to language study, also being the enjoyment of little language

learners.

4) Read comic books or manga: Really, comic books may, metaphorically, look like photographic writing, which is a means of writing in photographic signs. Many of these books commonly include only pictures. Despite this, captions, illustrations and comic stories, monologues or dialogues are involved in the comics most of the time. Whatever is said, sometimes reading a foreign language can feel hard because there are just too many new words. Comic books and manga have fewer words per page, and there are lots of styles to choose from, where the term 'styles' encompasses the distinct visual approaches and narrative tones used to tell a story. In actual fact, as manga have more pictures than words, they will certainly be

okay for language learners who easily get bored with learning English.

5) Make notes: If language learners are using a book to learn English, they have to buy a cheap copy they can write in and make notes as they read. Taking notes is also a way of making use of books for English. This way of studying will be more effective and more efficient for note takers rather than audio-visual and active learners of English. Coloured papers, highlighters and colourful pens can be used in note-taking. And potentially difficult usages, expressions, or even sentences to memorize by heart should be written down in clusters or chunks in notes. Above all, notes are seen to be the life of learning English in most cases.

NATIONAL

3 additional illicit buildings demolished in Shwe Kokko crackdown

AUTHORITIES have demolished three further illegal three-storey residential buildings in the Shwe Kokko area of Myawady Township, Kayin State, as part of ongoing efforts to dismantle infrastructure linked to online scams and illegal gambling activities.

Joint departmental teams are carrying out the systematic demolition of unlawful structures and the destruction of equipment used in online fraud operations based in the Shwe Kokko and KK Park



An aerial drone view of the demolition update following the three more scam-related structures destroyed.

areas.

Officials identified a total of 77 buildings used for illegal activities. Of these, 57 are scheduled for demolition using heavy machinery, while 20 will be destroyed through controlled blasting, depending on their structure and location.

The three buildings demolished on Tuesday were among the 57 designated for mechanical demolition. With the latest action, authorities have completed the demolition

of 48 illegal buildings.

A further 29 structures remain to be removed, and officials said demolition work will continue until all identified illegal buildings have been cleared.

Authorities stated that efforts to combat online scams and illegal gambling are being treated as a national priority, with cooperation between domestic agencies and neighbouring countries to prevent such operations from re-establishing bases in Myanmar. — MNA/KZL

Pathein disburses K39.3M under Mya Sein Yaung Village Project



The disbursement ceremony of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project funds is underway in Pathein Township, Ayeyawady Region.

THE Department of Cooperatives and Rural Development held a ceremony to disburse re-

volving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Polaung Village, Pathein Township yesterday. Implemented under the project's eleventh round, the initiative aims to create employment opportunities and increase family incomes for rural people.

Staff Officer Daw Khin Thida Myint of the Pathein Township Department of Rural Development explained the project's objectives and rules. The project officer clarified interest rates,

loan periods and regulations before handing over the total revolving fund of K39.3 million to the village project committee.

Under the supervision of the Township DRD Staff Officer, the committee members disbursed the K39.3 million revolving fund at low interest rates directly into the hands of 75 project members who will engage in agriculture, livestock breeding, trading and livelihood businesses in Polaung Village. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

FDA to launch mid-June food sampling for risk assessment

SAMPLE collection for food products will start in mid-June for risk assessment, said the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Department under the Ministry of Health.

In accordance with Directive 6/2025, the FDA has issued approvals for local food manufacturers which apply for setting up new businesses or extending their current business

licences. The food sampling procedure will be followed after the approval is issued. Through e-submission for local food manufacturers launched on 23 January 2026, the food sampling will be carried out in accordance with the risk-based inspection and certificate system SOP for local food manufacturing, starting from 15 June, the FDA said. — MT/ZS



Food and Drug Administration (FDA) carrying out a field survey for food sampling.

Fuel Prices Set to Ease by 11 June

FROM PAGE 1

The committee is governing the market to ensure a stable price and secure supply. Furthermore, the Central Bank of Myanmar has been injecting foreign currencies into the fuel oil sector to help cut the price. Under the guidance of the Supervisory Committee, the Petroleum Products Regulatory Department has been issuing daily reference wholesale prices to ensure price stability for energy consumers.

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

As per the statement, 90 per cent of

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

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

NATIONAL

Yangon River Flash Flood Warnings Issued as Mitigation Measures Begin

THE Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department (Yangon) stated that preparations are underway to protect residents from the effects of continuous monsoon rainfall and potential flash floods in the Yangon River region.

Located near the mouth of the Yangon River and the Panhlaing River, a tributary of the Ayeyawady River, Yangon has a population of over seven million. Continuous rainfall in the city has caused flooding in some townships, particularly during the waxing, full moon and waning days of the upcoming Taboung period, which falls on 13, 14 and 15 June.

Preparations are underway to protect townships, villages and dams along rivers, creeks and streams from the effects



Officials preparing for the protection from potential flash floods in the Yangon River area. PHOTO: IWUMD YANGON

of flash floods and flooding in the Yangon River.

“Due to frequent monsoon rains and storms, we have installed flood barriers in the region and taken the necessary precautions to prevent dams from overflowing. We have also alerted people living near the dams. The rainfall has only just begun, so there is no cause for concern. In particular, we have deployed staff to the dams

and are working to reduce the risk of overflow, as well as preparing emergency supplies. In the event of an emergency, we will cooperate with local authorities and communities to ensure safety and protection. We urge the public to pay attention to weather conditions and to follow official warnings,” said Deputy Director U Nyan Soe of the Yangon Region Irrigation and Water Utilization Manage-

ment Department.

The Aphauk (Taiky), Pandaing/Daungtyi embankment (Htantabin), Chaung Nyi Ako (Htantabin) and Mokkyun (Kungyangun) embankments in Yangon Region are connected to the Panhlaing River, which flows into the Ayeyawady River. The pandaing/Daungtyi dams have been breached, and the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems has warned that if heavy rainfall in Yangon coincides with peak high tides, rivers flowing from upper Myanmar through the Panhlaing and Yangon rivers may swell further. This could place dams and nearby wards and villages at risk, and residents have been urged to remain vigilant. — Thitsa (MNA)/MKKS

Surging demand drives up property prices and rents across Dagon Myothit

REAL estate prices in Yangon are rising, and land purchases are increasing in the four Dagon Myothit townships, according to U Phyo Myint of Phyo Myint Moh Real Estate Agency in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Region.

In Dagon Myothit (North) Township, a plot of land measuring 20 by 60 feet is priced at approximately K450 million to K1.2 billion, while a 40-by-60-foot plot costs around K780 million to K1.35 billion.

Apartment prices also vary depending on location, floor level and room type, ranging from K27 million to K200 million. The prices of luxury condominiums range from K350 million to K4 billion.

In the rental market, rates vary according to the township, location, tenancy agreement and deposit requirements. Monthly rents generally range from K150,000 to K1.8 million.

“Property prices are rising, and rents are increasing as well. Although

rents are high, the number of tenants is also growing. In the Dagon Myothit townships, demand for rental accommodation is strong, and there are virtually no vacant units available.

The rental market is also very active in the city centre and surrounding townships. Rental prices remain relatively reasonable. In the new townships, rents for flats start at around K500,000 per month. Detached houses are rarely available for rent, and rents for such properties generally start at K600,000 per month and increase depending on the type and condition of the house.

Many people are returning to Yangon and need accommodation when they arrive. They often have to pay substantial deposits when renting a property. Land purchases are also increasing across the four Dagon Myothit townships,” said U Phyo Myint. — ASH/MKKS

Masonry training programme conducted in Mongton



Trainees are seen in a practical training session in Mongton Township, eastern Shan State.

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Mongton Township, Mongton District, Shan State (East), inspected the ongoing vocational masonry training

programme being conducted to support rural livelihoods and create employment opportunities for local people yesterday.

District Head of the Mongton District Department of Rural Develop-

ment Daw Kyawt Kyawt Khine, Township Head U Min Oo and project staff observed the training sessions. They inspected the systematic teaching of masonry techniques, knowledge and practical skills, as well as practical exercises carried out with training materials and equipment.

Daw Kyawt Kyawt Khine urged trainees to diligently learn the skills being taught so they could contribute to the emergence of skilled workers in the region. She mentioned that outstanding trainees who genuinely intend to establish their own businesses after completing the course would be given priority

access to loans under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project being implemented by the department, and that necessary assistance would be provided in response to issues raised by the trainees.

The vocational masonry training programme for the 2026-2027 financial year is being attended by 20 trainees from Loikhamlon, San Thidar, Naung Yar Seng, Aung Chan Thar, Pan Kyine, Hway Par Hlaing, Aye Thaya and Pan Salee villages. A skilled instructor is providing free training through both theoretical and practical methods over a period of 15 days. — Karan (Rural)

Yuan Acceptance Sparks Investment Boom for Chinese Firms in Myanmar

FROM PAGE 1

principal trading partner and the second-largest source of foreign investment in the country. Chinese businesses are investing in Myanmar's manufacturing sector and are also involved in the construction of railways, ports and industrial zones.

The Chinese yuan remains a strong currency

in the global financial market and has been included in the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Special Drawing Rights (SDR) currency basket.

The Myanmar Investment Commission announced in March this year that it would accept the registered capital of Chinese investors in yuan for investment projects in Myanmar. — ASH/KNN

NATIONAL BUSINESS

Yangon Housing Crisis: Surging Rents Overburden Tenants

SIGNIFICANTLY surging rents pose a financial burden on tenants in the Yangon real estate market, according to realtors.

“Real estate brokers are facing difficulties in finding apartments and houses amidst the rising prices. Property owners demand higher prices, putting a heavy burden on tenants,” Ko Aung Than, real estate agent from Sangyoung Township, told the GNLN.

Yangon’s real estate market witnessed growth before the full moon of Waso month last year. Furthermore, internal migration to Yangon makes the property market highly competitive.

Moreover, Myanmar people tend to avoid relocating during the Waso month according to some traditional beliefs. Consequently, they prepared to move before the month of Waso, prompting the market to boom.

“The rent for an apartment (13x55 feet) increased from K400,000 to K650,000 this year. Landlords demand six-month deposits. Some even ask for six-month or one-year payment for power and water supply,” Ma Wah Wah, a realtor from South Okkalapa Township, told the GNLN.

Additionally, landlords also enforce occupancy limits and reject a group of young renters.

“Some unscrupulous realtors and landlords also make a profit from some migrants, exploiting the lack of market knowledge. Some migrants are not accustomed to the market in the Yangon Region and are pushed to fulfil landlords’ demands. Law enforcement on levying tax on rental income might help reduce the housing prices,” U Win Swe, a market observer, expressed his opinion.

Apartment rental prices in Sangyoung, Kamayut, Hline, Thakayta, Thingangyun, South Okkalapa, North Okkalapa and Shwepaukkan townships rose to K450,000-K600,000. The rents range between



High-storey buildings in Yangon.

K300,000 and K500,000 in Dagon Myothit (North), Dagon Myothit (South) and Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) townships.

In addition to the rental market, the property sales market also surged.

“An Apartment (13x55 feet) cost K150 million to K200 million last year. The

prices have been hiked to K160 million to K300 million, depending on the floors, this year. The land prices (30 by 55 feet) with good condition of house cost up to ten digits or more in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, realtor Wah Wah said. With the housing prices skyrocketing,

some landlords engage in land-for-property exchanges. “We sell our land for the property exchange but have to give up half of our land to them. Some developers do not even offer a good deal for the exchange,” said U Moe, a landlord who has contracted with a developer. — TWA/KK

Seasonal mangosteens and rambutans market booms as sales surge



Mangosteen and rambutan are organized for sale.

SEASONAL fruits – mangosteen and rambutan – have enjoyed good prices this year, and consumer demand has also been high, according to fruit sellers.

Mangosteen and rambutan have been available on a large scale in the market, and the fruits have been favourable among consumers, said a fruit seller.

“All ages, from children to adults, like seasonal fruits. Both mangosteen and rambutan are being sold well. And prices are

good too this year. Some buy 40-50 fruits to eat, and some buy them to give as presents,” he said.

The price of mangosteen ranges from K400 to K1,000 per piece, depending on size; likewise, the price of rambutan ranges from K500 to K700 per piece, depending on size.

More and more seasonal fruits have been available in the market in monsoon, among them, the demand for mangosteen and rambutan has risen in particular. — MT/ZS

CBM injects US\$3.7M into forex market

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$3.6 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$51,210 to CMP companies on 8 June, along with over a \$380 valued non-trade transaction.

CBM sold \$3 million, purchased from CMP companies, to LNG-importing companies on 5 June.

CBM pumped over \$2.9 million to edible oil-importing companies, over \$109,300 to CMP companies and \$3 million to LNG companies on 4 June, along with

\$1,650 worth of non-trade transactions.

CBM has been injecting US dollar to the edible oil importing companies, with over \$2.89 million on 3 June, \$1.79 million on 2 June and over \$646,800 on 1 June, respectively.

Moreover, CBM sold \$3,003 to CMP companies on 3 June after making \$48,250 valued non-trade transaction. CBM also sold over 26,400 on 2 June and over \$46,000 to CMP companies on 1 June, along with \$33,255 worth of non-trade transactions.

CBM pumped over

\$51 million and 1.2 million baht into the foreign exchange market in May.

CBM injected over \$35 million, 34 million baht and over three million yuan in the foreign exchange market in February and over \$43 million, 65 million baht and over four million yuan in January 2026. CBM has injected foreign currencies into the foreign exchange market and the edible oil and fuel oil import sector, with a view to curbing the instability in the foreign exchange market and

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

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 9 June 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	India rupee
Exchange rates	3,666.00~3,669.00	557.90~558.70	125.50~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	12,949,047.06	2,722,429.10	22,416,701.78	
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, auto parts, fertilizers, and packaging materials. The CMP sector revenue contributed US\$2.61 million to the edible oil sector. — MNA

China's foreign trade expands 16.9% in May

CHINA'S foreign trade in yuan-denominated terms grew 16.9 per cent year on year in May, data from the General Administration of Customs showed on Tuesday.

The total value of

goods imports and exports reached 4.45 trillion yuan (about US\$653 billion) last month, remaining above 4 trillion yuan for three consecutive months, the data showed. Exports rose 13.8 per cent from

the same period last year, while imports increased 21.5 per cent. In the first five months of the year, total foreign trade amounted to 20.68 trillion yuan, up 15.3 per cent year on year. — Xinhua



An aerial drone photo taken on 9 June 2026 shows a view of Yangzhou Port in Yangzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Notice for Change of Trade Name

We, Shanghai E-Tong Chemical Co., Ltd. would like to change the Trade Name of the Following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from E-T Kyee Htwarr to အီး-တီ ကျီး-ဆစ် (E-T G-Cid), Yonta Sate Pyaw to အီး-တီ ပေါင်းကင်းရှင်း (E-T Pawn Kin Shin), Yonta-Kha Yu 70 WP to အီး-တီ ရွှေခရု (E-T Shwe Kha Yuu). If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration No.
1	E-T Kyee Htwarr	အီး-တီ ကျီး-ဆစ် (E-T G-Cid)	Gibberellic acid 10% ST	Provisional	P2025-6862
2	Yonta Sate Pyaw	အီး-တီ ပေါင်းကင်းရှင်း (E-T Pawn Kin Shin)	Oxadiazon 26% EC	Provisional	P2022-5542
3	Yonta-Kha Yu 70 WP	အီး-တီ ရွှေခရု (E-T Shwe Kha Yuu)	Niclosamide 70% WP	Provisional	P2026-6995

Address: SEINN LAE THWIN CO.,LTD. No. (525), First Floor, Corner of Merchant Street & 38th Street, Ward No.(6), Kyauktada T/S, Yangon. Tel 09-455188188

Oil prices drop, stocks rise on Mideast hopes

STOCK markets mostly rallied Tuesday as investors returned to the AI trade, while easing Middle East tensions weighed on oil prices and the dollar.

Bargain buying saw Seoul's Kospi stocks index rebound strongly after big losses Monday that had been sparked by prospects of a hike to US interest rates and fears over tech firms' soaring valuations. European indices

largely climbed in afternoon deals, though London dropped slightly partly owing to a decline in the share price of British drugs giant GSK, which announced a \$10.6-billion takeover of US cancer specialist Nuvalent.

Frankfurt and Paris stock markets gained as official data showed industrial production in Europe's biggest economy Germany rose slightly in April alongside its exports. — AFP

Notice for Change of Distributor

We, Agrodan Chemical Co.,Ltd would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from Amazing Seasons Co.,Ltd to Agro Foremost Co.,Ltd., If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from here to next (2) weeks.

Sr.	The Old Distributor	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration No.	The New Distributor
1	Amazing Seasons Co., Ltd	Special Plus	Azoxystrobin 20% + Difenoconazole 12.5% SC	Provisional	P2025-6866	Agro Foremost Co.,Ltd.

Address: Agro Foremost CO., LTD. House No. (24), Thiri Mingalar Street, City Golf Housing, Insein Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel 09-894089998

MYANMA Port Authority "NOTICE of High Tide"

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.01 feet to 20.04 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of June 16th to June 17th, 2026 . Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, Anhui Byter Agriculture Technology Co.,Ltd, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd to Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Niflo One	Fluroxypyr-meptyl 8% + Mesotrione 10% + Nicosulfuron 4% OD	Provisional	P2022-5103

Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd. Tel: 09-250406611

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, Anhui Byter Agriculture Technology Co.,Ltd, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd to Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Keywa Gly 41% SL	Glyphosate 41% SL	Full	F2022-3517

Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd. Tel: 09-250406611

ARTICLE/ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

World's nuclear-armed states spent record total on arsenals in 2025: report



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres speaks during the 11th Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 27 April 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE world's nine nuclear-armed countries spent 19 per cent more on nuclear weapons in 2025 than the previous year, totaling a record \$118.8 billion, with the United States, China and Britain leading the pack, according to a new report released Tuesday.

The International Campaign to Abolish Nu-

clear Weapons excoriates the countries in its latest annual report, saying their spending decisions show a "willingness to research, develop, finance and build tools to exterminate humanity" instead of saving it.

Of the nine countries, the United States was by far the biggest spender, with its \$69.2 billion for

the year exceeding the amount spent by the others combined, according to the group, also known as ICAN. China spent the second-highest amount at \$13.5 billion, with Britain next at \$12.6 billion. They were followed by Russia, France, India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea, whose \$656 million was the lowest figure among the group. All nine countries recorded an increase since the previous year, ranging from a high of 22 per cent for the United States to a low of two per cent for Israel.

The nuclear weapons systems currently planned by the countries will remain operational through 2100, according to the report, titled "Pre-meditated: Nuclear Weapons Spending in 2025." As

an illustration of the scale of funding dedicated to nuclear arsenals, the experts who compiled the report argue that the amount collectively spent on such weapons over the past three years would have been enough to eradicate world hunger.

They also note that the countries spent in 2025 alone an amount equivalent to 32 years of the regular annual budget of the United Nations, which constantly faces funding shortages.

The report also calls for nuclear weapons funding to be used instead for more investment in energy transition, especially at a time of fuel insecurity, such as by helping to increase the number of people living in solar-powered homes. — Kyodo

UN report calls for urgent global collaboration to protect marine ecosystems

A UN report warned Monday that the ocean is under intensifying stress, and called for urgent global collaboration to protect marine ecosystems. Launched on World Oceans Day, which is observed annually on 8 June, the third World Ocean Assessment found that the ocean continues to be under severe and accelerating anthropogenic pressure, driven by climate change, pollution and increased human activities.

These pressures are often cumulative, combining to cause widespread biodiversity loss, undermining the ecosystems that support fisheries, coastal protection and human health.

"The third World Ocean Assessment, launched today, documents a deepening crisis driven by climate change, overfishing, biodiversity

loss and marine pollution," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a message for the launch of the report. "We cannot keep treating the ocean as limitless. We must build a new relationship with the ocean: Grounded in science. Framed by international law. And built on shared responsibility — across nations, sectors, and generations — to advance the Sustainable Development Goals," said Guterres.

The third World Ocean Assessment identified the main human drivers of change to the ocean: human population growth and demographic changes; economic activity; technological advances; changing governance structures and social, economic and geopolitical instability; climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. — Xinhua

The Importance of Health Literacy in Healthcare ...

FROM PAGE 9

These populations are at greater risk of poor health outcomes and limited access to quality healthcare. Improving health literacy can help reduce health disparities by ensuring that all individuals have the knowledge and skills necessary to access and benefit from health services. Healthcare organizations can promote equity by providing clear communication, culturally appropriate educational materials, and accessible health information in multiple languages and formats.

Digital Health Literacy in Modern Healthcare

The rapid growth of digital technologies has

transformed the way health information is accessed and delivered. Patients increasingly rely on online resources, mobile health applications, telemedicine services, and electronic health records. Consequently, digital health literacy has emerged as a critical component of overall health literacy. Digital health literacy refers to the ability to seek, understand, evaluate, and apply health information obtained through digital platforms. Individuals with strong digital health literacy skills can identify credible information sources, protect their personal health data, and effectively utilize digital health tools. As health care systems continue to embrace digital transformation, efforts

to improve digital health literacy become essential. Training programmes, user-friendly technologies, and accessible digital platforms can help bridge the digital divide and ensure that technological advancements benefit all members of society.

Strategies for Improving Health Literacy

Enhancing health literacy requires a collaborative approach involving governments, healthcare providers, educational institutions, and communities. The following strategies can be implemented to improve health literacy:

- **Health Education Programmes:** Integrating health education into school curricula and community pro-

grammes can build foundational health literacy skills from an early age.

- **Clear Communication:** Health professionals should use plain language, visual aids, and teach-back methods to ensure patient understanding.
- **Accessible Health Information:** Health materials should be culturally sensitive, linguistically appropriate, and easy to understand.
- **Community Engagement:** Community-based initiatives can address local health needs and promote health literacy among diverse populations.
- **Digital Literacy Training:** Providing training

on digital health tools and online information evaluation can strengthen digital health literacy.

- **Policy Support:** Governments can develop policies that prioritize health literacy as a key component of national health strategies and health system development.

In addition, health literacy is a fundamental element of healthcare development and an essential determinant of individual and population health. It empowers individuals to make informed health decisions, supports disease prevention and health promotion, enhances healthcare system efficiency and contributes to health equity. In the context of

rapidly evolving healthcare environments and digital transformation, strengthening health literacy has become more important than ever. By investing in health literacy initiatives, governments, healthcare organizations, and communities can improve health outcomes, reduce health disparities, and build a more resilient and sustainable healthcare system. Ultimately, health literacy serves as a cornerstone of effective healthcare development and a vital pathway towards achieving better health for all.

References,
<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets>
<https://www.cdc.gov/health-literacy>

SPORTS

Myanmar fighters seek winning return at ONE Friday Fights 158



Matchups featuring Kyaw Swa Win and Tun Min Aung for ONE Friday Fights 158.

MYANMAR traditional Lethwei fighters Kyaw Swa Win and Tun Min Aung will look to return to winning ways when they compete at ONE Friday Fights 158 on 12 June.

The event presents an important challenge for both Myanmar fighters. Kyaw Swa Win will face Thai opponent Slatan, while Tun Min Aung will take on New Zealand fighter Titus Proctor in separate three-round bouts, with each round lasting three minutes.

Kyaw Swa Win has fought twice under the ONE Championship banner, recording one win

and one defeat. He enters the contest aiming to bounce back after losing on points to renowned Thai fighter Samingdam in March.

Tun Min Aung has made six appearances in ONE Championship, compiling a record of two wins and four losses. Having suffered defeats in his last two outings, he will be determined to end that run and return to winning form.

His opponent, Titus Proctor, has fought only once in ONE Championship but made an impressive debut by securing a knockout victory over his opponent. — TWA/KZL

Austrian goalkeeper makes World Cup history as tallest player ever in the competition

AUSTRIA is set to establish a new World Cup record for having the tallest player ever to play in the 96-year history of the tournament.

Austrian goalkeeper Florian Wiegele, who plays his club football for Viktoria Plzen in the Czech first division, stands at an impressive two metres and five centimetres in height, which is six feet and nine and a half inches tall.

That means that although he is not exactly head and shoulders above Dutch goalkeeper Andries Noppert (2.03

metres), who was at the Qatar World Cup and the previous tallest player in a World Cup squad, he is still taller, while other tall footballers, such as England's Peter Crouch at 2.01 metres and Sweden's Zlatan Ibrahimovic, 1.95 metres, are basically in his shadow.

Wiegele, whose only international appearance was against Ghana in a March friendly game, is the third-choice goalkeeper in the Austrian squad behind Alexander Schlager and Patrick Pentz. — Xinhua

Japan Mint begins producing commemorative silver coins for Asian Games

THE Japan Mint has begun producing commemorative silver coins to celebrate the Asian Games and Asian Para Games to be held in Nagoya later this year, etched with designs of athletes and mascots.

The two types of pure silver coins are engraved with athletes competing at the Paloma Mizuho Stadium in Aichi Prefecture on one side, and the mascot characters Honohon and Uzumin, representing the games and para games, respectively, on the other side.

"The colours are beau-

tiful. It will be a piece of legacy for passing memories of the games into the future," Aichi Governor Hideaki Omura, who also serves as chairman of the games committee, said at a ceremony on Monday.

The coins, which have a diameter of 40 millimetres and weigh 31.1 grammes, are available for 34,800 yen (\$220) each and are limited to one per person. Applications to purchase them will be accepted via mail or online through 23 June, according to the Japan Mint. — Kyodo



Photo taken in Osaka on 8 June 2026 shows the commemorative coins for the 20th Asian Games and 5th Asian Para Games featuring mascots Honohon (far L) and Uzumin (far R). PHOTO: KYODO

Climate change increases heat risks in 97 of 104 World Cup matches

CLIMATE change has increased the likelihood of heat that could impair player performance and slow match tempo for 97 of 104 matches at the upcoming World Cup, a nonprofit climate research and communications group said earlier this month.

Climate Central examined the odds of temperatures exceeding 28 C, a threshold linked to declines in player performance, such as decreased sprint frequency and slower recovery times. It said that the heat will threaten the safety of athletes and fans, as well as impact the quality of the game at the 11 June-19 July football event hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

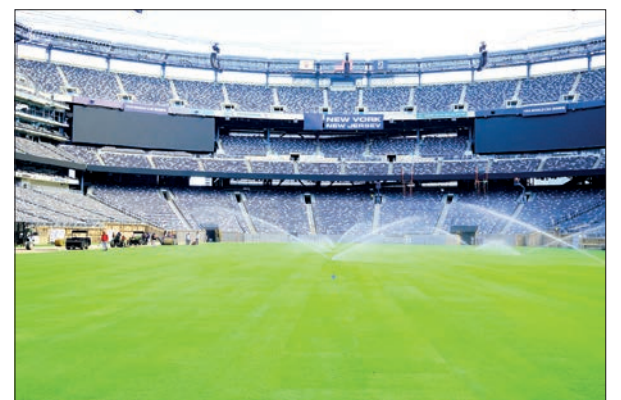
The analysis compared current climate conditions influenced by human-caused climate change with a counterfactual world without

climate change to determine how global warming alters the likelihood of performance-impairing heat during a match.

Japan's national team is likely to experience heat-related issues during the group stage. There is an estimated 95 per cent chance of this occurring during the Sunday match against the Netherlands in Dallas, Texas; a 79 per cent chance during the 20 June match against Tunisia in Monterrey, Mexico; and a 98 per cent chance during the 25 June match against Sweden in Dallas.

The figures in all three cases are higher than they would be in a scenario without climate change.

According to the analysis, among all World Cup matches, climate change most boosted the odds of performance-impairing heat for the 26 June match in



Workers water the newly installed pitch at New York New Jersey Stadium (temporarily renamed from MetLife stadium) ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, in East Rutherford, New Jersey on 7 May 2026. PHOTO: AFP

Guadalajara, Mexico, between Uruguay and Spain -- increasing the odds by 37 percentage points to 70 per cent.

"Playing in temperatures above 28 C changes the game — affecting tactics, tempo and overall quality," said Mike Tipton, a professor at the University of Portsmouth and a member of the Climate Central analysis team. "We see reduced intensity, less sprinting and potentially fewer chances being

created." Morten Thorsby, a player on the Norwegian national team, said, "This analysis makes clear that rising temperatures are not only a serious health risk for players and fans, but they are also starting to affect the quality of the game itself."

"When heat impacts sprinting, recovery and overall intensity, it changes the way football is played — and not for the better," he added. — Kyodo



India's Modi to attend G7 summit

INDIAN Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend next week's G7 Summit in France, as well as a technology conference in Paris, New Delhi's foreign ministry said Tuesday.

Modi's attendance is part of a two-nation trip to France and Slovakia, starting Saturday in Nice, where he will meet with French President Emmanuel Macron.

He then heads to Slovakia on Sunday, where he will meet with Prime Minister Robert Fico, the first visit by an Indian premier since

its independence in 1993.

Modi then returns to France to attend the G7 summit in the Alpine lakeside resort of Evian on 16-17 June.

The Group of Seven countries are Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

US President Donald Trump has confirmed his attendance, and India's foreign ministry said Modi is expected to meet with "several world leaders" on the sidelines, without giving further details. — AFP

Rival Palestinian factions discuss Gaza disarmament

MEMBERS of Palestinian factions including Hamas agreed in principle for Gaza's armed groups to hand over parts of their arsenals to a yet-to-be-created, ad hoc Palestinian entity during talks in Cairo, Palestinian sources told AFP on Tuesday. Such a proposal has almost no chance of being accepted by Israel, which demands a complete demilitarization of the Gaza Strip, starting with Palestin-

ian Islamist movement Hamas. Several of those who attended the Cairo talks that began on Saturday expressed hope the proposal would break a months-long deadlock on negotiations over Gaza's future.

The talks are being attended by most major factions, including Hamas and its ally Islamic Jihad, but not the Fatah party that dominates the Palestinian Authority. — AFP

Chinese medical experts, IFRC discuss Ebola response in DR Congo

A Chinese medical expert team on Tuesday met with representatives of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), to discuss the Ebola epidemic situation, prevention and control needs, and potential areas of cooperation.

Lu Ming, head of the Chinese team, expressed the willingness to strengthen cooperation with Congolese health authorities, medical institutions, disease control agencies, and international partners, including the IFRC.

He said that the team would work to identify the real needs on the ground as soon as possible in terms of prevention, control, and case management, and provide support in analyzing the development of the epidemic, treating cases, laboratory testing, and prevention and control training, in a bid to rein in the epidemic at an early date. Sonia Maraisse, IFRC opera-



Members of a Chinese anti-epidemic medical expert team arrive in Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 2 June 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

tions manager in Kinshasa, thanked the Chinese government for sending the medical expert team, saying that the IFRC is ready to strengthen communication and coordination with the Chinese side.

The IFRC welcomed the support that the Chinese expert team could provide in epidemic prevention training, especial-

ly targeted training and support at the grassroots community level, to help improve community-level capacity for detection, prevention, and response, Maraisse noted.

The five-member Chinese expert team arrived in Kinshasa on 2 June for a three-month mission in the DRC to support the fight against the Ebola ep-

idemic. The World Health Organization declared on 17 May that the Ebola epidemic constituted a public health emergency of international concern. On 1 June, China's National Health Commission announced the dispatch of a high-level medical team to support the DRC in its fight against Ebola. — Xinhua



Türkiye's Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change Murat Kurum (C) speaks next to United Nations Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell (L) and COP30 President Andre Correa do Lago (R) during a new conference in Istanbul on 12 February 2026, ahead of United Nations's COP31 climate conference in November. PHOTO: AFP

COP31 hosts unveil 'electrification' priority for climate talks

COP31 hosts Türkiye urged countries Tuesday to join a voluntary push to make electricity account for 35 per cent of global energy demand by 2035 as it outlined its priorities for the UN climate talks.

The November summit in Antalya is taking shape as the Middle East conflict roils global energy markets, exposing fossil

fuel importers to price spikes and supply shortages.

The electrification target unveiled in Bonn was "a flagship initiative" of COP31 that could respond to this crisis and help insulate economies from fossil fuel price shocks, the Turkish conference organizers said in a statement.

Thousands of climate negotiators are in Bonn this week and next to draft agreements and lay the groundwork for the final decisions taken by political leaders at the summit due to start 9 November.

Türkiye said raising the global share of energy demand met by electricity from roughly 20 per cent to 35 per cent by 2035

would speed up the shift from fossil fuels to renewable power.

"By electrifying daily life, from transport to buildings and industry, we can protect families and businesses from volatile energy markets," incoming COP31 president Murat Kurum said in a statement. — AFP