

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar HE U Min Aung Hlaing to make State Visit to China



At the invitation of President of the People's Republic of China His Excellency Mr Xi Jinping, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar His Excellency U Min Aung Hlaing will pay a State Visit to the People's Republic of China in the near future.

During the visit, the President of Myanmar will meet with the President of China and hold bilateral talks, meet with the Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China. Furthermore, the President will attend the Economic Conference, and the itinerary includes visits to high-technology industries. Additionally, the President will receive provincial leaders and representatives from economic organizations. During the visit, the President will engage in cordial and open exchange of views to the further consolidation of the existing Pauk-Phaw relations and implementation of mutually beneficial cooperation in economic, security, and other areas between the two governments and peoples.

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

## Laos Voices Support for Elected Myanmar Government

Myanmar and Laos agreed to enhance cooperation in the political, economic, education, health, cultural and trade sectors for the mutual benefit of both countries.

A delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Thongsavan Phomvihane paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they frankly discussed the necessities for ASEAN countries and regional countries not to disregard the wishes of the people who voted in support of the government and will of the Hluttaw representatives, the pledge of the government to initiate the peace restoration in Myanmar within five years, and this visit of the Lao delegation to further

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## 5<sup>th</sup> Yangon International Gems and Jewellery Fair 2026 set for Aug

ORGANIZED by the Yangon Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association, the fifth Yangon International Gems and Jewellery Fair 2026 is scheduled for August to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the association.

The organizing committees have been formed. An information, inviting and welcoming committee was formed on 9 June at the meeting hall of the

association to successfully hold the event, issue an exhibition news release, designate the public spokesperson for the exhibition, send invitations to international gem traders, prepare the guest list for the opening ceremony and discuss financial matters. The committee meeting was adjourned after allocating responsibilities by sector. — NN/KK

## Myanmar Coffee Plantations Expand by 10%

WITH coffee crops becoming lucrative, growers tend to expand cultivation acres to maximize their profit, driving the coffee plantation acres up by 10 per cent, according to the Myanmar Coffee Association.

Coffee fetches more than US\$5,000 per tonne depending on quality. The number of acres in Hopong Township in southern Shan State has significantly grown. Myanmar's Arabica coffee is primarily exported to China and Thailand, and also sent to European countries, the US, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

"The number of coffee growers has grown. High coffee prices are the primary driver for the



This image features coffee trees full of blossoms.

growers. The total coffee acreage is estimated at 40,000 across the country. The number of Robusta coffee acres is lower than that of Arabica. Myanmar's coffee is exported to European countries, the US, Japan and South Korea by sea. Arabica is highly in demand. Myanmar's coffee export is estimated at 500-

1,000 tonnes through maritime trade, while border checkpoints see over 2,000 tonnes of coffee export. The prices vary by quality. Coffee bean price fetches US\$5,000-6,000 per tonne," said an official of the association. The harvest time is from December to March of the following year. — ASH/KK

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Dekkhinathiri's Mya Sein Yang income-generating activities inspected

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Mongton reviews Mya Sein Yang Village Project activities

# NATIONAL

## Lao Deputy PM & Foreign Affairs Minister departs Nay Pyi Taw



AT the invitation of the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Tin Maung Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR Mr Thongsavan Phomvihane and Spouse, accompanied by the Lao delegation, who paid an official visit to Myanmar from 11 to 13 June 2026, departed Nay Pyi Taw on the afternoon of 12 June 2026, and were seen off by U Ko Ko Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

The Lao delegation is seen off before departing Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



A view of the senior Sayadaws who will be receiving religious titles for 2026.

## Religious titles 2027 applications for monks, nuns, and laypersons in Thailand open

THE Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok announced on 12 June that eligible missionary monks, nuns, and laypersons residing in Thailand may apply for religious titles to be conferred by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for 2027.

The Government of Myanmar annually confers these titles upon senior Sayadaws involved in Ganthadhura and Vipassanadhura, as well as those engaged in Pariyatti and Patipatti. Titles are also awarded to individuals and donors involved in missionary work at home and abroad.

Including Abhidhaja

Aggamaha Saddhammajotika and Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja for monks, among others, many religious titles are available for applications.

Eligible individuals in Thailand may apply by submitting the required application forms, photographs, and their religious or personal biographies. Applications must be sent to the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok no later than 20 July. For further enquiries or to obtain application forms, applicants may contact the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok via email at [myanmarembassybkk@gmail.com](mailto:myanmarembassybkk@gmail.com). — MT/ZN

## MPC hosts “The Life of a Journalist” educational talk

THE Media Development Committee of the Myanmar Press Council (MPC) organized an educational talk titled “The Life of a Journalist” yesterday at the training hall of the MPC office on Merchant Road in Botahtaung Township, Yangon Region.

At the event, Chairman of the Myanmar Press Council Dr Tin Tun Oo delivered the opening remarks, and MPC Joint Secretary 1 U Sein Toe

read the biographies of the guest speakers.

During the talk, foreign correspondent Dr Zaw Than and U Myat Soe (Myat Soe - Hline), leader of the MPC’s Media Ethics and Journalist Protection Committee, shared educational insights regarding the profession.

The event was attended by MPC Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo, Vice Chairmen, Secretary U Hla Htut Oo, and council



An educational talk on “The Life of a Journalist” held at the Myanmar Press Council training hall.

members, alongside officials from the Myanmar Journalists Association and various press outlets, trainees, and invitees. — ASH/KZL

## Applications available for Asahi Shimbun Scholarship Apr intake

THE Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA) Education Centre said applications for the Asahi Shimbun Scholarship 2027 April intake have been opened.

Requirements are: passers of JLPT N4 and above, aged between 18 and 25 years in April 2026, passers of Grade 12 in new academic system or passers of the first year and above university education in the old academic system,

unmarried, having no tattoo, being in good health, PV/PE passport holder or under passport application or received QR code for passport renewal, and a (Ka) motorcycle licence.

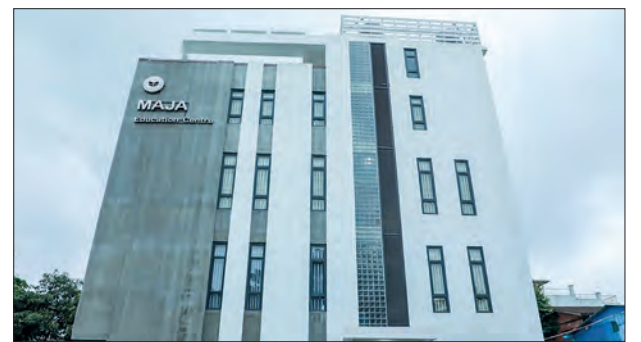
Those who meet the requirements are eligible to apply.

However, those who have already applied for a school visa or other visas to Japan and have had their COE (certificate of eligibility) rejected are not eligible.

Selected candidates will have to pay a processing fee of K2.5 million to MAJA Education Centre if they pass the interview, and the processing fee covers a Japanese language course, traffic rules, a newspaper delivery training course and a daily conversation class with Japanese language instructors. And \$1,000 or 150,000 yen shall be paid to the Shimbun when the COE is approved. Air ticket fee will be in-

cluded by the Shimbun, plus financial support for a two-year school fee. Accommodation will be arranged by the respective branch, and 10,000 yen will be deducted from salary for the accommodation fee.

The scholarship includes a monthly wage of 150,000 yen and above, including income tax deduction, with four days off per month and a 10-day leave for the first semester that can be entitled after six



MAJA Education Centre.

months pass. There is an 11-day leave for the second semester, which can be entitled after 18 months pass.

The application period is from 12 June to 5 July, and submissions can be made to <https://forms.gle/zrBePAsXU9cQhUWF9>.

For more details, enquiries can be made by dialling 09 770987222 from Monday to Friday or the MAJA Education Centre, 440 (B), 14<sup>th</sup> Zayya Street, Quarter 10, near Thitsa Road, South Okkalapa Township. — MT/ZS

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

## Laos Voices Support for Elected Myanmar Government

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strengthen friendly relations between the two countries, the invitation extended by the Lao President to the Myanmar President to pay a State visit to Laos, and the support of Laos for the elected government of Myanmar.

Moreover, they cordially exchanged views on the promotion of cooperation in political, economic, education, health, culture and trade sectors between the two countries, the trade promotion between the two countries

through the Myanmar-Lao Friendship Bridge, the enhancement of friendly ties and cooperation between the peoples from two countries, bilateral cooperation in multiple sectors to boost relations with regional countries and ASEAN countries, implementation of the ASEAN Five-Point Statement by Myanmar, and efforts to overcome challenges between Myanmar and Laos.

After the meeting, the President and the Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of For-

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

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe and officials. The Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs was accompanied by Lao Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Bounphieng Chanthavong and delegation members. — MNA/TTA



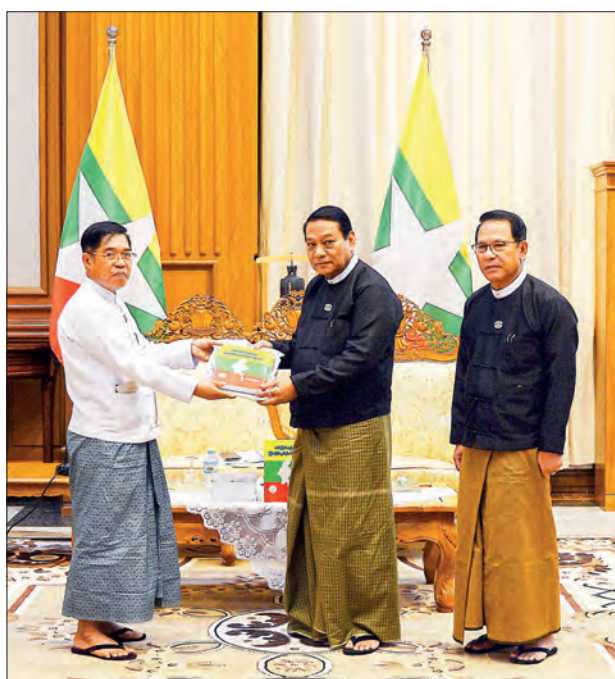
President U Min Aung Hlaing offers a commemorative gift to Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Thongsavan Phomvihane during the latter's courtesy call on the former.

## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives book donation for MPs, staff

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi received a donation of 450 copies of books yesterday afternoon at the Pyithu Hluttaw Guest Hall, contributed by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Thet Naing Oo for the study and reading reference of parliamentarians and staff.

The donated book, titled *The Only Map to Myanmar's Way Out*, was written under the pen name Thet Naing Oo (Kyi Kar) and won the 2022 National Literature Award for political genre. The Speaker accepted the books, expressed his gratitude, and presented a certificate of honour in return.

The book donation ceremony saw Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi and Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn are pictured at yesterday's donation event.

U Maung Maung Ohn and Hluttaw Office. — MNA/KZL

## Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and Lao PDR hold bilateral talks

AT the invitation of Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Tin Maung Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) Mr Thongsavan Phomvihane and Spouse, accompanied by a Lao delegation, paid an Official Visit to Myanmar from 11 to 13 June 2026.

The Union Minister received and held bilateral talks with the delegation led by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 12 June 2026.

The Union Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR discussed ways to further strengthen the longstanding friendship and enhance cooperation between Myanmar and Lao PDR. Their discussions focused on promot-

ing closer cooperation between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the resumption of existing bilateral cooperation mechanisms, strengthening cooperation in ensuring border security and combatting transnational crimes, including online

views on expanding cooperation in areas of mutual benefit, including education, energy, trade, labour, sports, and other sectors that contribute to the socioeconomic development of both countries.

Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe noted



Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe greets Lao Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Thongsavan Phomvihane.

scamming, enhancing parliamentary cooperation between the two countries, and promoting government-to-government, parliament-to-parliament, as well as people-to-people exchanges. They also exchanged

that the visit took place at a time when new Governments had recently assumed office in both Myanmar and Lao PDR. He expressed his sincere wishes for the success of Lao PDR's efforts to

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### Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

# NATIONAL

## Pyithu Hluttaw holds Q&A session

THE Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the seventh day yesterday, attended by 348 out of 351 Hluttaw representatives.

At the question-and-answer session, Union Minister for Commerce U Tun Ohn responded to the questions raised by U Ko Ko Thin from the Kamayut Constituency. He stated that 46 groups of Essential Goods required for the public, as well as 34 groups of Essential Supplies related to basic services such as healthcare, education, and transportation, are exempted from commercial tax.

He also stated that basic household medicines are exempted from taxation. Except for these, other medicines are subject to a customs duty rate of 1.5 per cent. In order to reduce medicine prices, 454 types



The seventh-day meeting of the second regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw is in progress yesterday, presided over by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi.

of pharmaceutical raw materials have already been granted exemption from commercial tax.

Furthermore, coordination is being carried out with relevant ministries to include an additional 365 types of pharmaceutical raw materials used by

factories under the state-owned Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industrial Enterprise, so that they may also be granted exemption from commercial tax.

Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing replied to the questions

raised by Nang Than Than Hmwe from the Mongkai Constituency. He said that to help temporarily displaced persons meet their basic living needs, arrangements are being made to create local employment opportunities according to their respec-

tive skills. In addition, the State has provided financial assistance at a rate of K20,000 per person per month from January to December 2025, totalling K11.59 billion. If displaced persons apply for Citizenship Scrutiny Cards in their current place of residence, their household population records stored in the e-ID server, the accuracy of their CSC numbers, and their personal information are first cross-checked and verified. If all information is found to be correct, the CSCs are issued accordingly.

He also responded to the questions raised by U Win Myint from the Twantay Constituency. He stated that after the amendments to the Myanmar Citizenship Law have been enacted, revisions will continue to be made

to the procedures related to citizenship, associate citizenship, and naturalized citizenship, including fees and fines.

Moreover, the Union minister answered the questions submitted by U Nay Lin Aung from the North Okkalapa Constituency, stating that documents and records issued by the State must not be handed over to unrelated persons for personal gain, nor should they be used or possessed by such persons. It is also prohibited to misuse them dishonestly by pawning or pledging them, and unrelated persons are not allowed to illegally confiscate them. Anyone who violates these rules will be prosecuted, and legal action will be taken against them in accordance with existing laws.

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## NSPNC and SSPP meet to discuss peace process

THE meeting between the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and the Shan State Progress Party (SSPP) was held yesterday morning at the Shwe San Eain Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, Chairman of the NSPNC Lt-Gen Yar Pyae stated that the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee, Working Committee, and Negotiation Committee were reconstituted on 11 April 2026 to effectively and successfully implement the national solidarity and peacemaking process under the newly elected government that emerges following the multiparty democratic general election.

He also said that invitations had been extended to hold discussions without any preconditions, that a



The National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee and the Shan State Progress Party meet yesterday.

peace process framework based on the "NCA Plus" model was being planned, that a mechanism should be established and implemented to monitor and prevent online scam-related activities, that he wished to maintain continuous contact to strengthen cooperation in the government's ongoing initiatives, and that the SSPP delegation was urged to openly discuss their plans and approaches regarding the peace process.

Following that, SSPP Vice-Chairman 2 Sao Khun Seng stated that peace is essential, that they have consistently advocated a political solution to political problems, that priority would be given to discussing practical and achievable matters, and that trust would be built by learning from past experiences.

Afterwards, the attendees engaged in discussions on the emergence of a Union based on

democracy and a federal system that guarantees equality and self-determination; on drawing lessons from past events that undermined trust and ensuring that such incidents do not recur; on cooperating with the government in combating online scams and narcotics; on assisting in regional development; on continuing bilateral cooperation to prevent armed clashes that could undermine peace; and on actively participating in the process of building a Union based on democracy and a federal system.

Subsequently, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Nang explained issues related to regional development raised by the SSPP, the outcomes of previous bilateral meetings with the SSPP, as well as the situation on the ground and military-related matters.

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## Pindaya disburses Mya Sein Yaung Village Project fund



The disbursement ceremony of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project fund is underway in Pindaya Township yesterday.

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Htoepone Village, Shwepuhtoetaung Village-tract in Pindaya Township, Shan State, yesterday.

Head of the Danu Self-Administered Zone Department of Rural Development Daw Aye Aye Thein explained the project's objectives, the purpose of disbursing revolving funds and its benefits. Pindaya Township Head U Aung Kyaw and the project officer then clarified interest rates, loan periods and regulations before handing over the K60 million revolving fund to the village project committee.

Under the supervision of the DRD officials and project staff, the committee members disbursed the K60 million revolving fund at low interest rates directly to 50 project members who will engage in agriculture in Htoepone Village, marking the project's tenth round of fund disbursement. — Sein Lwin (Rural)

# NATIONAL

## Amyotha Hluttaw continues Q&A session, approves Anti-Online Scam Bill with amendments

THE Amyotha Hluttaw continued its session for the fifth day yesterday, with the attendance of 209 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

At the question- and-answer session, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Bo Bo Kyaw replied to the questions raised by U Htein Lin from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 5. The deputy minister said that the ministry will dredge three drains at Section 4 of Bitut Island, repair four sluice gates and construct the 11 miles long embankment at Section 5 between Yway and

Pyamalok rivers with the Union budget this financial year. The appropriate fund will be demanded to repair 13 sluice gates at section 3 of Bitut Island in the 2027-28 financial year. Moreover, silted creeks and drains will be dredged at the embankments against seawater in relevant financial years, depending on the allocated funds.

Moreover, the deputy minister replied that there is no plan to construct the seven-mile gravel road for seasonal use from Labutta and Sagyin village to the northern embankment of Labutta. However, he added that the second berm



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

can be constructed beside the embankment for local use as part of developing the region.

The deputy minister also answered the ques-

tions submitted by U Khin Maung Win from the Mandalay Region Constituency 1, saying that to restore the original water storage area of Sunye Lake in Singaing

Township through silt and sand dredging, the scale of the required work is very large, and the funding requirement is also very high. Therefore, under

the current conditions, it is not yet suitable to carry out dredging work at Sunye Lake.

He also clarified that to ensure a more effective water supply for 14 major crops in agricultural areas within Myittha, Kyaukse and Singaing townships, the remaining necessary sections of irrigation canals will be maintained through silt and sand dredging, as well as the repair and construction of water supply structures. These works will be carried out annually using allocated maintenance and repair funds.

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## China, Myanmar to deepen cooperation in culture, tourism and education



This photo features an exclusive interview between the President's Office News and Information Bureau and Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia.

THE Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, Ms Ma Jia stated that China and Myanmar will further strengthen cooperation in areas such as the preservation of intangible cultural heritage, cultural and tourism exchanges, and education.

Ambassador Ms Ma Jia made these remarks during an exclusive interview with President's Office News and Information Bureau of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Ambassador Ms Ma Jia stated that, to promote cultural cooperation between Myanmar and China, more Chinese artiste troupes will be encouraged to visit and perform in Myanmar, while Myanmar artistes are also welcome to travel to China for exchange programmes. She added that she hopes these cultural exchanges will provide opportunities to enhance mutual understanding and further strengthen the friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

In addition, the two countries will further co-produce more documentaries and special programmes. — ASH/TH

## Dekkhinathiri's Mya Sein Yaung income-generating activities inspected

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development inspected the implementation of income-generating activities being carried out with revolving funds from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project at Gwaytaukyoe Village in Guhnalon Saesu Village-tract in Dekkhinathiri Township yesterday.

Head of the Dekkhinathiri Township Department of Rural Develop-

ment Daw Lae Lae Wah and project staff observed the ongoing agricultural, livestock breeding and livelihood activities being undertaken in the village.

She also met members of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project committee to check whether monthly financial records had been properly completed, urged villagers to further expand family-based businesses, and systematically manage the funds to prevent losses.



Officials oversee the Mya Sein Yaung income-generating activities in Dekkhinathiri Township yesterday.

The Mya Sein Yaung Village Project was implemented in the village during the current financial year, enabling 66 village members to successfully operate family income-generating activities. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

## NSPNC and SSPP meet to discuss...

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In the afternoon, the attending delegates discussed and coordinated efforts to resolve political issues strictly through political means rather than armed conflict; achieve self-determination based on equality; amicably settle any disputes that may arise

between the two militaries through meetings and negotiations; ensure that online scams and drug-related activities do not occur in the region; cooperate to promote regional stability and development to build sustainable and lasting peace; maintain and consolidate the peace achievements

already attained; and review and monitor existing bilateral agreements and the ceasefire status. They also discussed the formation of a multi-organization committee capable of promptly addressing issues related to narcotics, online gambling, online scams, and territorial encroachments.

Following that, SSPP Vice-Chairman 2 Sao Khun Seng delivered a vote of thanks, after which NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae delivered the closing remarks, and commemorative gifts were exchanged before the meeting was successfully concluded. — MNA/TH

# NATIONAL

## Defence Services C-in-C inspects No 2 Tatmadaw Youth Education School, War Veteran Housing

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo, accompanied by senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of the Nay Pyi Taw Command and officials, inspected the No 2 Tatmadaw Youth Education School and the war veteran housing (Nay Pyi Taw) in Pobbathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday afternoon.

At the No 2 Tatmadaw Youth Education School, officials reported to the General on facts about the



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo is pictured during his inspection of the No 2 Tatmadaw Youth Education School.

school, school buildings, hostels and mess halls, subjects to be taught, curriculum, appointment of teachers, and uniforms, clothes and equipment for students.

In response, the General instructed officials to systematically teach students to become new generation youth with high morale, on whom the State and Tatmadaw

can rely, nurture them to become talented ones in sports, teach students under the curriculum adopted by the Ministry of Education, achieve a high pass rate, and attend to the needs.

The General viewed the Grade 10, 11 and 12 students learning education at the school for the 2026-27 academic year and gave words of encouragement. He presented cash awards to the school and teachers.

The General also inspected the school buildings, hostels for students and the mess hall in the

school compound and fulfilled the needs.

On arrival at the war veteran housing (Nay Pyi Taw), the General heard reports on the further construction tasks, settlement of war veterans at the housing, and supply of electricity and water by officials.

In response, the General stressed that arrangements should be made to ensure that families of war veterans living in housing complexes are able to live comfortably, including meeting their needs for accommodation, food, and

transport. Since war veterans are individuals who have faithfully carried out national duties and also form an important component of Tatmadaw, their welfare matters should be handled with due care. In addition, he instructed officials to beautify the housing and dredge the drains.

The General viewed around buildings in the housing compound, and a display of furniture and kitchen utensils produced by the Tatmadaw families for the settlement of Tatmadaw members in the apartments. — MNA/TTA

## 10<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-Thai Navy-to-Navy Talks held in Yangon

A Thai delegation led by Rear-Admiral Chaksawat Saiwong, Director of the Office of Policy and Planning under the Naval Operations Department of the Royal Thai Navy, arrived in Yangon by air on the morning of 9 June to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-Thai Navy-to-Navy Talks. The delegation met with Tatmadaw (Navy) representatives on the morning of 10 June at the Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Headquarters.

During the meeting, both sides discussed bilateral naval matters, joint training opportunities, in-



The 10<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-Thai Navy-to-Navy Talks are underway.

formation sharing, coordinated maritime patrolling along the shared borders, and future itineraries for exchange visits of naval vessels.

The signing ceremony for the meeting agreements took place on the

morning of 11 June at the Thiri Maha Zeya Kyaw Htin Hall of the Naval Training Command Headquarters in Thanlyin Garrison, followed by an exchange of commemorative emblems.

While visiting the Na-

val Training Command Headquarters, the Royal Thai Navy delegation observed the ongoing training collaborations between the Tatmadaw (Navy) and the Royal Thai Navy. They also toured the naval training simulator demonstrations and signed the visitors' logbook.

The Royal Thai Navy delegation departed Yangon by air yesterday morning and was seen off at Yangon International Airport by senior officers from the Tatmadaw (Navy) and the Thai Naval Attaché to Myanmar. — MNA/KZL

## Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and Lao PDR ...

### FROM PAGE 3

graduate from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) status. He also conveyed appreciation for the visit, which reflected support for the positive developments taking place in Myanmar. Recalling that Myanmar and Lao PDR joined ASEAN simultaneously, he expressed gratitude for Lao PDR's constructive support for Myanmar within ASEAN and reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to continuing cooperation with Lao PDR in regional and international fora.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and his Spouse hosted a luncheon in honour of the visiting Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and his Spouse, together with the members of the delegation, at the Parkroyal border trade and noted that people-to-people exchanges and interac-

tions would be further enhanced through the friendship associations of the two countries. He also emphasized that matters related to ASEAN should be addressed in a spirit of family and ASEAN solidarity. Furthermore, he reaffirmed Lao PDR's commitment to continuing cooperation with Myanmar at the bilateral level as well as within ASEAN, the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS), the Cambodia-Lao PDR-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) framework, and other regional cooperation mechanisms.

The Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and his Spouse hosted a luncheon in honour of the visiting Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and his Spouse, together with the members of the delegation, at the Parkroyal border trade and noted that people-to-people exchanges and interac-

## Frontline Tatmadaw members receive warm welcome home

A ceremony to warmly welcome back the triumphant frontline Tatmadaw troops who courageously served duties in Taungtha region and its vicinities was held at the local battalion in Monghkat in Shan State (East), yesterday.

Officials from the Triangle Region Command,

departmental officials of Monghkat district, police members, Myanmar War Veterans Organization members, militia and ethnic people welcomed back returning soldiers with heartfelt enthusiasm.

They also welcomed home victorious Tatmadaw members with sprigs



Victorious Tatmadaw troops are seen being welcomed back at the Triangle Region Command Headquarters.

of Eugenia and presented the cash prizes to the returnees. The event in-

cluded traditional dance and music performances. — MNA/KTZH

# NATIONAL

## 23 PDFs rejoin society, surrendering with arms

THE government is extending an invitation to those involved in various armed groups, including the PDF, to return to the legal fold. Those who do so are being provided with necessary assistance and support.



The reception and provision of assistance ceremony for returnees is underway yesterday at the Southern Command Headquarters.

A total of 23 PDF terrorists – 16 males and seven females – entered the legal fold with arms and ammunition yesterday.

These 23 individuals from Shwedaung, Yedashe, Okpo, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, Taungup, Tamway, Nyaunglebin, Thaegon, Nattalin, Taikkyi, Pathein, Zalun, DaikU, Myinmu,

Natmauk, Padaung and Zegon were welcomed at the Aye Chan Phyto Hall of the Southern Command Headquarters with the attendance of Commander Maj-Gen Soe Kyaw Htet and other relevant officials.

At the event, they

handed over one MA-1, one MA-2, two M-16s, four M-4s, one homemade grenade, one mine, 20 5.56mm bullets, seven magazines, 120 M4 bullets and 17 M16 bullets to the commander.

The commander and officials presented K40 mil-

lion for eight rifles, K300,000 for one grenade, K300,000 for one mine, and K300,000 each to 23 returnees. The returnees signed pledges and were handed back to their parents or guardians.

There are still individuals who wish to return to the legal fold. Those who intend to do so are encouraged to promptly contact and report to the nearest Tatmadaw bases or police stations. They will be welcomed and accepted, provided with the necessary assistance and support, and cash rewards for any arms and ammunition. — MNA/KTZH

## Scam hubs dismantled, with 2 three-storey buildings destroyed

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

The government said combined departmental teams are carrying out

demolition work in the Shwe Kokko and KK Park areas to prevent the continued use of illegal structures for online scam activities. Equipment used in such activities has also been systematically destroyed, and the illegal buildings are

being fully demolished.

On the most recent day of operations, two three-storey residential buildings used for online scam activities were demolished using heavy machinery. The structures were part of a list of 77 buildings

identified for removal, including 57 to be demolished using machinery and 20 to be destroyed using explosives.

Officials confirmed that a total of 58 buildings have been demolished so far. The remaining 19 illegal structures will continue to be dismantled in subsequent stages. — MNA/MKKS

## Mongton reviews Mya Sein Yaung Village Project activities

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development conducted a field inspection of income-generating activities being carried out with revolving funds from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Haungli Village, in Mongton Township of Shan State yesterday.

Mongton Township Department of Rural Development Head U Min Oo and officials observed the agricultural and trading businesses being undertaken with the project's revolving funds.

He also met members of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project committee to check whether monthly financial records had been properly and accurately completed, urged villagers to further expand small-scale family businesses, and systematically manage the funds to prevent losses.

The Mya Sein Yaung Village Project was first implemented in the village in the 2014-2015 financial year. At present, 32 project members are successfully operating family income-generating activities with a total revolving fund allocation of K46.9 million. Of the total amount, K45.4 million has been provided to 31 members engaged in agriculture, while K1.5 million has been issued to one member for trading. — Karan (Rural)



This image shows one of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project activities in Mongton.

## Pyithu Hluttaw holds ...

FROM PAGE 4

Deputy Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development U Thaik Soe replied to questions presented by Dr Htay Win from the Ingapu Constituency, saying that within the 13 miles and five furlongs long Nyaungkyo-Mezaligon road, more than five miles of road under the Department of Rural Development will be upgraded into a gravel road. In addition, the Yakkansin wooden bridge located on this road will be reconstructed as a reinforced concrete bridge. These works will be proposed for inclusion in the 2027-2028 FY plan.

He also responded to

the question raised by U Tin Htwe from the Okpo Constituency, saying that the entrance road to Taukyantkwin Village from the Yangon-Pyay Road is a Class A facility. It will be upgraded with laterite in the 2027-2028 FY plan, depending on the allocation of Union or Regional government funds.

The deputy minister answered the question presented by U Tin Myint from the Dala Constituency. He stated that for the upcoming financial years, rural roads in 23 village-tracts of Dala Township will be upgraded based on field inspections and the availability of funds, prioritizing them

according to their benefit rate and planned priority order.

He responded to the question raised by U Aung Myo Than from the Kawhmu Constituency. He replied that in the 2027-2028 FY, the entrance bridge to Poppa Village in Kawhmu Township will be proposed for prioritization based on its benefit rate, using funds from the Union or Regional government.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Myo Myint replied to questions raised by Sai Kyaw Hla from the Kunhing Constituency, stating that construction of the nine-mile road from Saikhaung to Kengkham villages in Kunhing

Township will be carried out with state funds in the relevant financial years.

He also responded to the question of U Kyaw Thura from the Letpadan Constituency that the ministry does not have any plan to build a bridge linking Tharawaw and Hinhada townships.

Concerning the question of Daw Zargyi Lwin from the Moenyo Constituency, he said that the construction of an Ayeyawady bridge across Letpanhnapi of Moenyo Township and Ngapiseik Kyauksayitgon in Myanaung Township should not be undertaken at this time.

In replying to the questions of U Hla Swe from the Pobbathiri Constituency, the deputy minister said that regarding

the construction of the Tatkon bypass road, the Department of Highways will conduct a feasibility study of the project, and based on the outcome, if implementation is considered viable, both short-term and long-term plans will be prepared and carried out accordingly.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi informed the Hluttaw about formation of the Minerals, Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee chaired by Pyinmana Constituency Representative U Khin Maung Htay, the Citizens' Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee chaired by Pobbathiri Constituency Representative U Hla Swe, the Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries

and Rural Development Committee chaired by Kyaiklat Constituency Representative Dr Aung Gyi, the Construction, Industry, Electricity and Energy Committee chaired by Kani Constituency Representative U Nyan Tun, the Hotels, Tourism and Culture Committee chaired by Mongton Constituency Representative U Htin Aung Shein, the Banks and Monetary Development Committee chaired by Hline Constituency Representative U Maung Maung Tint, and the Planning and Finance Development Committee chaired by Yamethin Constituency Representative U Nyunt Hsaung.

The Pyithu Hluttaw will continue its session on 15 June. — MNA/TTA

## OPINION

### Actively participate in monsoon tree-growing ceremonies

THE conservation of the natural environment and the fight against climate change through the planting and preservation of forests and trees are of utmost importance. So, the government is making efforts to reduce deforestation and to increase forest cover so that it reaches 50 per cent of the country's total land area.

Forest reserves and protected public forests have been established, covering 26.11 per cent of the national territory, and 62 natural conservation areas have been designated for biodiversity conservation, accounting for 6.59 per cent of the country's total land area.

In order to adapt to changing climate conditions, it is necessary to monitor and study climate-related information, upgrade early warning systems to reduce losses and damages caused by natural disasters, and encourage the adoption of good climate adaptation practices starting from individuals and involving all departments and organizations. Only then will it be possible to achieve a climate-resilient society with reduced carbon emissions.

From 2016 to 2025, more than 269.8 million trees of various species were planted in Myanmar, which is roughly equivalent to about one million acres of forest. Although timber is used for various purposes due to human needs, if every tree planted is properly nurtured so that it survives and grows, it would be possible to fully prevent forest loss. In the 2026 monsoon season, monsoon tree planting activities are planned in the Union Territory of Nay Pyi Taw, as well as in regions, states, districts, and townships, with cultivation of 54,180 saplings in total.

In addition, special greening activities are being carried out in cooperation with relevant departments in 13 districts in the tropical regions, along railway lines, along both sides of ASEAN highways, and in areas around the Bagan ancient cultural heritage zone and Inlay Lake. Similarly, in coastal areas, 1,715 acres of mangrove plantations were established in 2025, with more than two million trees planted, and long-term plans have been developed up to 2030 to establish mangrove plantations annually.

In order to adapt to changing climate conditions, it is necessary to monitor and study climate-related information, upgrade early warning systems to reduce losses and damages caused by natural disasters, and encourage the adoption of good climate adaptation practices starting from individuals and involving all departments and organizations. Only then will it be possible to achieve a climate-resilient society with reduced carbon emissions.

From 2021 to 2025, more than 160,000 acres of plantations, including State-owned plantations, commercial plantations, industrial raw-material plantations, watershed plantations, mangrove plantations, and village fuelwood plantations, were established nationwide, with over 122 million trees planted in total. In 2026, it is also planned to plant over 21 million saplings across 30,000 acres nationwide, including State Forest plantations.

THE recent official visit of Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing to India has created renewed interest in strengthening economic cooperation between the two neighbouring countries. As countries connected by geography, history, and culture, Myanmar and India have significant potential to expand bilateral trade, investment, and business partnerships. The visit provides an opportunity to further deepen economic engagement and explore new areas of cooperation that can contribute to sustainable growth and prosperity for both nations.

India is one of Myanmar's important trading partners. Bilateral trade has continued despite global economic uncertainties, demonstrating the resilience of economic relations between the two countries. According to United Nations COMTRADE data, Myanmar's exports to India reached approximately US\$1.28 billion in 2024, while imports from India amounted to about US\$359 million. Major exports from Myanmar include agricultural products, particularly beans, pulses, and other agricultural commodities, while imports from India consist mainly of pharmaceuticals, machinery, vehicles, electrical equipment, and industrial inputs. These trade patterns highlight the

complementary nature of the two economies and the opportunities for further expansion. Recent years have also seen efforts to facilitate trade through the use of local currency settlement mechanisms. The operationalization of the Rupee-Kyat Trade Settlement Mechanism represents an important step toward reducing transaction costs, simplifying payment procedures, and supporting businesses engaged in bilateral trade. Such initiatives can help small and medium-sized enterprises participate more actively in cross-border commerce and strengthen economic connectivity between the two countries. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) remains an important driver of economic development for Myanmar. FDI contributes not only capital but also technology transfer, managerial expertise, employment creation, and integration into regional value chains.

#### 1. Introduction

Every rainy season from June through October, Myanmar faces a predictable but deadly epidemic: Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF). Stagnant monsoon rainwater fills pots, tyres, and drains — creating breeding grounds for *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes that transmit the dengue virus to thousands, predominantly children under 15. The WHO Dengue Factsheet (August 2025) reports a historic high of over 14.6 million cases and more than 12,000 deaths globally in 2024 alone. From January to July 2025, over four million new cases from 97 countries have already been reported to WHO. In Myanmar, 2023 recorded 21,430 cases and 68 deaths — the highest in five years, driven by a DENV-1 surge. Unlike simple dengue fever, DHF involves dangerous plasma leakage from blood vessels, internal bleeding, and, in its most severe form, Dengue Shock Syndrome — a sudden collapse in blood pressure that can kill within hours. Yet with early recognition and proper care, the vast majority of DHF deaths are preventable.

#### 2. Global Burden and Risk Factors

WHO 2025 reports dengue cases rose from 505,430 in 2000 to 14.6 million in 2024 — a nearly 30-fold increase. An estimated 5.6 billion people are now at risk across more than 100 endemic countries. In 2024, dengue even reached European countries, including France, Italy, and Spain. A modelling study estimates 390 million infections per year, with 96 million manifesting clinically — meaning the true burden far exceeds official figures. Climate change accelerates *Aedes* breeding cycles; rapid unplanned urbanization creates ideal conditions through dense housing, poor drainage, and open water storage; and fragile health systems with limited surveillance allow cases to

## Myanmar-India Economic Relations: New Opportunities for Trade and Investment

By Dr Kyaw Linn Htun – Public Administration

complementary nature of the two economies and the opportunities for further expansion.

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Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) remains an important driver of economic development for Myanmar. FDI contributes not only capital but also technology transfer, managerial expertise, employment creation, and integration into regional value chains.

According to the ASEAN Investment Report 2024, ASEAN continues to be one of the most attractive destinations for international investment, with strong investor interest in manufacturing, infra-



structure, logistics, digital services, and renewable energy sectors. For Myanmar, attracting quality FDI is essential for industrial upgrading and long-term economic growth.

India possesses considerable strengths in sectors that are relevant to Myanmar's development needs. These include pharmaceuticals, information technology, agriculture, food processing, logistics, renewable energy, financial services, and manufacturing. Greater Indian investment in

these sectors could support Myanmar's economic diversification while creating mutually beneficial business opportunities. At the same time, Myanmar offers significant potential through its strategic location between South Asia and South-East Asia, abundant natural resources, agricultural capacity, and young workforce.

Infrastructure connectivity is another area with strong economic implications. Projects aimed at improving transportation and logistics links between Myanmar and India can facilitate trade flows, reduce business costs, and promote regional economic integration. Improved connectivity can help businesses access larger markets, strengthen supply chains, and encourage investment in border regions and industrial activities.

Global investment conditions remain challenging. According to the World Investment Report 2025, worldwide FDI flows declined by 11 per cent in 2024 amid economic uncertainty and changing in-

ternational investment patterns. Nevertheless, South-East Asia continued to attract strong investment inflows, with ASEAN recording a new record level of FDI. This demonstrates that the region remains an important destination for international investors and highlights the importance of maintaining an attractive investment environment.

Looking ahead, the recent visit provides a timely opportunity to strengthen economic cooperation between Myanmar and India. Increased trade, greater investment flows, enhanced business partnerships, and improved connectivity can generate benefits for both countries. As neighbouring economies with complementary strengths, Myanmar and India can work together to support sustainable development, create employment opportunities, and promote regional prosperity.

The future success of Myanmar-India economic relations will depend on continued efforts to facilitate trade, improve the

investment climate, strengthen infrastructure connectivity, and encourage private-sector cooperation. If these opportunities are effectively utilized, the recent high-level engagement may serve as a positive foundation for expanding economic relations and unlocking new opportunities for businesses and investors in both countries.

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## Monsoon Season, Maximum Danger: The Dengue Threat Across Myanmar and Beyond

What Every Family Must Know to Stay Safe This Rainy Season

By Dr Aung Tun

escalate undetected.

#### Key Risk Factors

- Prior DENV infection — re-infection with a different serotype triggers severe DHF via antibody-dependent enhancement (ADE)
- Children aged 5-14 carry the highest severity risk; secondary infections are most dangerous
- Rapid urbanization, poor drainage, and open water storage practices
- Climate change: rising temperatures shorten the mosquito incubation period to 8-12 days
- Fragile health systems with limited laboratory capacity and delayed diagnosis

#### 3. Myanmar's DHF Burden: 2018-2023

Myanmar's outbreaks concentrate in Yangon, Mandalay, Bago,

Sagaing, and Ayeyawady regions. True case numbers likely exceed official figures due to underreporting in rural and conflict-affected areas. All four dengue serotypes co-circulate, meaning secondary infections — carrying the greatest DHF risk — occur regularly.

Year	Cases	Deaths	CFR (%)	Predominant Serotype
2018	15,642	57	0.36%	DENV-2
2019	18,974	63	0.33%	DENV-1, 2
2020	12,306	44	0.36%	DENV-2
2021	9,841	38	0.39%	DENV-2
2022	16,205	52	0.32%	DENV-1, 3
2023	21,430	68	0.32%	DENV-1

Source: Myanmar DoPH Surveillance Reports 2018-2023. CFR = Case Fatality Rate. The 2020-2021 decline reflects COVID-19-era underreporting. The 2023 DENV-1 surge is the highest in five years. Myanmar's case fatality rate remains 2-3 times higher than

Thailand's (0.1-0.3 per cent) or Vietnam's (0.02-0.1 per cent), reflecting delayed hospital presentation and rural healthcare access gaps rather than any difference in disease biology. Children under 15 account for over 60 per cent of all recorded cases. As WHO Myanmar notes, peak transmission occurs in July and August — yet today, some states and regions report dengue cases year-round, underscoring the need for sustained vigilance beyond the traditional monsoon window.

#### 4. Recognizing DHF: Three Critical Phases

Per WHO 2025, symptoms typically begin 4-10 days after infection and last 2-7 days. DHF progresses through three distinct stages — and missing the critical phase transition between Stage 2 and Stage 3 is the most common cause of preventable death in both children and adults.

#### Febrile Phase (Day 1-3)

- High fever 40°C, severe headache, retro-orbital pain, muscle and joint pain
- Nausea, vomiting, swollen glands, rash, and petechiae (pinpoint skin bleeding) may appear

#### Critical Phase (Day 4-6) — The Most Dangerous Window

- Fever breaks suddenly — this is NOT recovery; plasma leakage from vessels peaks at this moment
- Platelet count drops sharply; hematocrit rises — dangerous leakage is underway

TO BE CONTINUED

# NATIONAL

## 4 more foreigners detained in telecom fraud crackdown

THE government is continuing its investigation into online gambling and telecom fraud, systematically tracking down and deporting foreign nationals operating illegally in border areas in accordance with the law.

In the latest crackdown, authorities detained four Chinese nationals who had entered the country illegally via transit through neighboring countries, including Thailand, to work at scam syndicates around Myawady, Kayin State. Investigations are underway to facilitate their deportation.

From 30 January 2025 to 12 June 2026, a total of



Immigration procedures are underway for the repatriation of undocumented immigrants.

14,707 foreign nationals who entered Myawady Township illegally were detained. Following screening, 13,540 of them have been systematically deported and transferred back to their respective countries via Thailand.

Among the remaining 1,167 foreign nationals to be repatriated, 662 have been penalized under Sections 3 (1)/13 (1) of the Myanmar Immigration (Provisional Provisions) Act and the Narcotic

ic Substances Law. The remaining 505 foreign nationals are currently well-sheltered and ready to be transferred back to their home countries.

The State is actively cooperating with neighbouring, regional, and international organizations to identify, arrest, and strictly prosecute those involved in online scam centres and the foreign kingpins behind them. Effective coordination is also underway to ensure the swift repatriation of foreign nationals who have fallen victim to human trafficking or are in distress due to various circumstances. — MNA/KZL

## Amyotha Hluttaw continues Q&A ...

### FROM PAGE 5

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe submitted proposals to the Hluttaw for the formation of the Health and Sports Committee, chaired by Dr Nang Lin from the Kayah State Constituency 9 and the Border Region, Ethnic Affairs and Peace Committee, chaired by Dr U Manam Tu Ja from the Kachin State Constituency 12.

Chair of the Bill Committee Daw Nwe Nwe Oo from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 2 read out the findings of the committee and the remarks for the Anti-Online Scam Bill. Secretary of the committee U Zin Min Htet from the Bago Region Constituency 7, sought the approval from the Hluttaw for the proposals to amend some expressions of the bill. The Hluttaw approved the submission of the committee.

The Speaker stated that Sections 1 to 63 of the bill, as well as the title of the bill, should be considered part of the bill. When the opinion of the Hluttaw was sought, the Hluttaw agreed; therefore, it was announced that Sections 1 to 63 and the title of the bill are part of the bill.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Nyunt Win Swe stated that detailed discussions had been held on the Anti-Online Scam Bill with officials from relevant ministries, members of the Bill Committee, and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives who had made recommendations. He said that, in order to further strengthen the central committee, one Vice Chairperson and two members had been added; one member had been added to the regional committees; and two members had been added to the Anti-Online Scam Centre. In addition, new members had been assigned, and certain wording had been revised and replaced. He further noted that since the Bill Committee had already provided clarifications and explanations, he respectfully submitted the motion requesting the Amyotha Hluttaw to approve the Anti-Online Scam Bill.

U Myo Min Naung from the Kayin State Constituency 5 seconded the motion. The Hluttaw approved the bill with the amendments. The Amyotha Hluttaw will continue its session on 15 June. — MNA/TTA

## Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 12 June 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	India rupee
Exchange rates	3,653.00 ~3,669.00	557.00~558.70	125.30~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	12,666,743.82	5,098,600.00	3,209,773.83	
The amount sold by CBM to the market				

The foreign currency amount traded in the foreign exchange market was for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical raw materials, industrial raw materials, consumer goods, construction materials, fertilizers, animal feed, wheat and asphalt. The CMP sector revenue contributed US\$1.62 million to the edible oil sector; US\$8,617.00 to the CMP sector; and US\$2,624.10 to the non-trade sector. — MNA

## Kunhing's completed rural water supply project inspected

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development inspected the completed rural water supply project in Lokehkaik Village, Kunhing Township, Shan State, yesterday.

Kunhing Township Department of Rural Development Head U Aung Kyaw Hein and engineering staff inspected the completion of the water pipeline installation extending one mile and one furlong from the water



Inspection of the rural water supply project is in progress yesterday in Kunhing Township, southern Shan State.

The township head also met members of the village water supply committee to

discuss measures for the long-term sustainability of the system and the conservation of water sources.

The spring water supply project was implemented with a K35 million allocation from the 2026-2027 State budget. Jointly executed by township DRD engineers and local villagers since the first week of May, the project is now fully completed, benefitting 325 households and 2,165 residents in the village. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

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# INTERVIEW/NATIONAL

## Warning Issued for Isolated Rainfall and High Tides

By Thitsa (MNA)

AS the world transitioned from the 20<sup>th</sup> century into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, researchers stated that two gifts were handed to the people who live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. These two gifts are “climate change” and “poverty”. Today, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the world is facing both of these challenges, with some African countries already experiencing them directly, while natural disasters continue to affect countries around the world every year. These two phenomena are directly linked to global climate change. Among the abnormal weather events caused by climate change, heavy rainfall, tsunamis, and exceptionally high tides have resulted in losses of lives, property, and social well-being, while also slowing national development.

In Myanmar, television channels and state-owned newspapers have been continuously raising public awareness to help prevent damage and losses caused by natural disasters. At the beginning of the current rainy season, continuous rainfall has been occurring due to the strengthening of the monsoon. When heavy rainfall coincides with periods of exceptionally high tides, water cannot flow properly into rivers and streams, potentially causing flooding in towns and villages located near rivers and



Director Dr May Khin Chaw.



A meteorologist monitors and records rainfall at three-hour intervals.



Office Compound and tower. PHOTOS: ZWE MARN



A meteorologist monitors daily temperatures.

creeks. To help the public prepare and take preventive measures against such natural disasters, an interview was conducted with the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology in Kaba Aye, Yangon.

**Dr May Khin Chaw (Director, Department of Meteorology and Hydrology)**

At the beginning of the rainy season, the southwest monsoon covered the whole of Myanmar starting from 4 June. Since this is the early monsoon period, the monsoon winds tend to strengthen. At present, strong monsoon conditions over the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea are caus-

ing widespread rainfall. On 11 June, rainfall measurements recorded 39 millimetres in Kayan Township of Yangon Region, 35 millimetres in Thanlyin, five millimetres in Kaba Aye, and 34 millimetres in Hmawby. When looking at the Bay of Bengal, the monsoon is currently very strong. Due to the strong monsoon conditions along Myanmar’s coastal and offshore waters, strong winds and rough seas are expected, with waves occasionally reaching between nine and 11 feet.

We estimate that Yangon Region will continue to receive heavy rainfall until 17 June. Rainfall in Yangon

may reach between three and nearly four inches per day. Around three inches of rain may fall on 12 June, while rainfall on 13, 14 and 15 June can approach four inches, with isolated heavy rainfall. In the delta region and along the coastal areas around Yangon, waves may rise to more than nine feet and close to 10 feet until

14 June. Thunderstorms caused by cumulonimbus may also bring strong winds and lightning hazards.

High tides in the sea usually reach their peak one or two days after the full moon or new moon. Therefore, caution is needed if heavy rainfall occurs during such periods. Following the new moon day on 14 June, the highest tides are expected between 15 and 17 June. The Myanmar Port Authority has also issued warnings about possible high tides. If heavy rainfall occurs during this period, water flowing from rivers and creeks towards the sea

may be obstructed by the tides, increasing the risk of flooding in low-lying areas and along riverbanks. Strong monsoon winds may also cause large waves in coastal regions. Therefore, people should follow weather reports and tide warnings issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology and the Myanmar Port Authority, while making necessary preparations in advance.

Residents in Yangon should also ensure that rivers, creeks, and drainage canals remain free from blockages by disposing of waste systematically. The public needs to comply with established regulations. This will help reduce flooding incidents. Proper management of waterways to maintain smooth water flow can lessen flooding risks.

El Niño is a phenomenon that occurs in the central Pacific Ocean. It is monitored by measuring temperatures in the Niño 3.4 region of the Pacific Ocean. Just yesterday, a second El Niño case was issued. At present, El Niño conditions remain weak, but they may strengthen toward the end of the year. El Niño develops along the Pacific coast of South America. Warm ocean currents replace the normal cold currents on the sea surface, warming the ocean surface and alter-

ing atmospheric circulation patterns. As a result, areas that would normally receive rain may experience drought, while some regions receive excessive rainfall, along with extreme heat and dry conditions, and such conditions are called an El Niño event. Although El Niño conditions have started developing, their impacts have not yet reached Myanmar. However, they are expected to affect the country by the end of the year. This could lead to warmer in cold season and more intense heat during the hot season. Once El Niño develops, Myanmar may experience reduced and irregular rainfall, extreme heat, drought, and shortages of irrigation and drinking water. Currently, Myanmar has not yet been significantly affected by El Niño.

As the warnings for high tides have been announced during this period, isolated heavy rain and waves reaching up to nine feet are possible. Therefore, the public should take precautions regarding transport, travel, and living conditions. Preventive measures should also be taken to avoid overflow in creeks and drainage canals. People are advised to pay serious attention to weather forecasts and make the necessary preparations in advance. — KTZH

## Low-pressure system poses disaster management challenge

THE low-pressure cell that is possible to form between 14 and 18 June will be a challenge for disaster management in northwest Myanmar and the Rakhine Coast, said U Win Naing, a meteorologist.

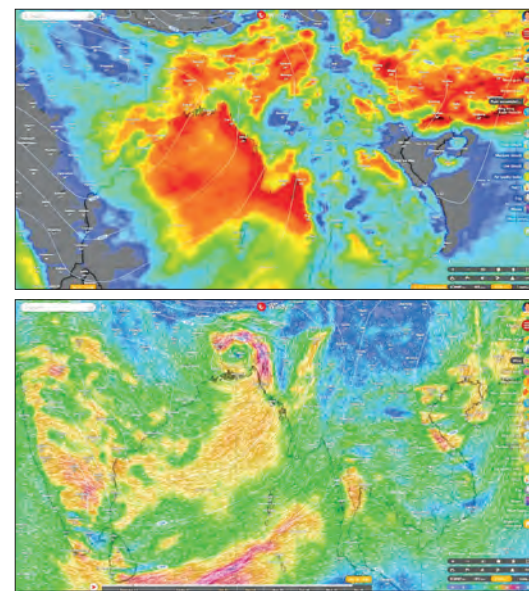
Under the windy (Icon model, 850 hPa [hectopascal] and rain accumulation) maps and due to the formation of an LPA cell over the north of the Bay of Bengal, the strong monsoon wind will directly enter the Rakhine Coast and lower Myanmar (Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi regions) over the period, leading to heavy rain with high waves, he said.

The formation of LPA cells will be stronger on 16-17 June and approach the inland on 18 June. Despite the centre of the LPA cell moving outside Myanmar, there is a possibility of successive heavy rains in upper Sagaing, Chin and the

coastal areas, which are included in the right-quadrant.

In the Rakhine Coast and Chin State, between 15 and 17 June, the wind speed will be 40 miles per hour with a half inch of rainfall. On 17 and 18 June, due to the moving of LPA into the inland, stream creek floods are possible in upper Sagaing and Kachin, and due to the strong monsoon flow, torrential rain is possible in the Delta, including Yangon and Ayeyawady, with urban inundation and flooding in river/stream and paddy fields in the Delta if it coincides with the rise of tide.

Especially, rescue and emergency management teams in northern Rakhine and Chin will need to spread awareness of flash floods and landslides among the public and quickly prepare for evacuation rehearsals. — MT/ZS



Weather forecast maps.

# ECONOMY WORLD

## Crisil: EVs to absorb Rs24,000 crore automaker capex

*Electric cars grow beyond niche market due to better economics.*



An electric car parked next to an EV charging station in Mysuru. PHOTO: ISTOCK

MORE than Rs24,000 crore of the Rs60,000 crore capital expenditure planned by passenger vehicle makers over this fiscal and next is expected to be directed towards electric vehicle expansion, signalling that automakers are increasingly preparing for a structural shift in India's car market, according to a Crisil Ratings report released on Thursday.

The report said electric four-wheeler (E4W) adoption is gathering pace despite challenges around charging infrastructure

and near-term profitability, with manufacturers stepping up investments in portfolio expansion, supply-chain localisation and EV production capacity.

"Of the overall capex outlay of ~Rs 60,000 crore expected over this fiscal and next, over 40 per cent is estimated to be for portfolio expansion, supply chain localisation, and scaling EV production," Anand Kulkarni, Director, Crisil Ratings, said in the report.

The ratings agency said the investment push

comes as electric passenger vehicles move beyond being a niche segment and gain traction on the back of improving ownership economics, wider product choices and technological advancements.

According to the report, average monthly E4W volumes rose around 40 per cent to about 26,000 units during the three months ended May 2026, while penetration increased to 6.1 per cent from the fiscal 2026 average of 4.6 per cent. — ANI

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Saudi Arabia announces resumption of Lebanese imports

SAUDI Arabia announced the resumption of Lebanese exports to the kingdom, following a phone call between Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah Al Saud and Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam on Wednesday, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

The decision was ordered by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in response to a request by Lebanese President Joseph Aoun and Salam, according to the agency.

It acknowledges recent steps by the Lebanese government to rebuild state institutions and progress made by relevant teams over the past year, as well as Lebanon's cooperation in meeting required commitments, the report added. During the phone call, the Saudi top diplomat reaffirmed his country's support for Lebanon's stability, territorial sovereignty, and the well-being of its people, expressing confidence that Lebanon would continue to prevent its territory from being used as a platform to harm neighbouring countries. — Xinhua

#### British business leader sees deeper Beijing-London cooperation

A leading British business representative on Wednesday expressed confidence in deeper cooperation between Beijing and London, citing strong complementarities in finance, technology, healthcare and innovation.

Peter Burnett, chief executive of the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC), made the remarks at a Beijing investment promotion event in London, where he described the two cities as "natural partners" for future growth and cooperation. Burnett said Beijing has evolved into one of China's leading centres for research and innovation, with strengths in advanced technology, healthcare, the digital economy, green development and modern financial services. — Xinhua

## Trump vows to take Iran oil terminals

US President Donald Trump vowed fresh strikes on Iran Thursday and promised to take the country's key oil infrastructure, in what would be a major escalation in the war with the Islamic republic.

"The United States

will be hitting Iran... VERY HARD TONIGHT," Trump wrote on his Truth Social network.

"At some point in the not too distant future, we will be taking Kharg Island, and other oil infrastructure points, and assume total control of their

Oil and Gas Markets, much like we have with Venezuela," he added.

Trump gave no details of how the United States would seize Iran's oil terminals, but any such operation would almost certainly require the involvement of US

ground troops. He talked about a possible seizure of Kharg Island earlier in the US-Israeli war in Iran, which began on 28 February. Kharg Island is at the heart of Iran's oil export industry, a lynchpin of the country's battered economy. — AFP

## Venezuela issues natural gas permit to Britain's Shell

VENEZUELA on Thursday granted British oil giant Shell a license to explore and export natural gas, as it joins the ranks of multinational companies rushing to tap the country's vast oil and gas reserves.

Interim President Delcy Rodriguez opened the sector to foreign investment in January, pushing a reform law through Venezuela's legislature under pressure from Washington following its capture of former president Nicolas Maduro in a US military operation.

Rodriguez said Shell will develop the Loran

field, which had been abandoned for 23 years, and comprises seven natural gas deposits, six of them straddling the maritime border with Trinidad and Tobago.

She said the project

would allow Venezuela "to take a very important step forward in its gas development and also as a gas exporter".

Venezuela is thought to have the largest oil reserves in the world and is

also rich in natural gas.

Shell representatives earlier Thursday also visited the facilities of the Muscar Operational Complex, a gas processing and distribution center in Monagas state in the country's northeast, according to state-owned oil company PDVSA.

In 2023, Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago signed an agreement with Shell for the production and export of gas from another field, Dragon, which holds 120 billion cubic metres of gas and had operated intermittently during the oil embargo imposed on Venezuela by the United States in 2019. — AFP



The photo shows an oil rig weight indicator system, a critical piece of industrial instrumentation used on oil and natural gas drilling platforms. PHOTO: PIXABAY

# Vietnam's auto sales jump 20% in 5 months of 2026

VIETNAM'S auto sales in the first five months of this year, a year-on-year increase of 20 per cent, the Vietnam News Agency re-



Vehicles run on a street in Hanoi, Vietnam, 12 June 2026. PHOTO: TRAN KIEN/XINHUA

ported Friday, citing the Vietnam Automobile Manufacturers' Association.

Passenger vehicles remained the dominant segment with over 103,800 units sold, up 13 per cent, while commercial vehicle sales rose 32 per cent to 50,270 units, according to the report. Particularly, hybrid sales during the five months surged 80 per cent year on year to 8,518 vehicles, emerging as one of the strongest growth drivers in the country's vehicle electrification trend.

— Xinhua

# DHL accelerates new energy transition amid geopolitical, policy challenges

LOGISTICS giant DHL Group is expanding its presence in the new energy sector, positioning the transition away from fossil fuels as both a strategic imperative and a major commercial opportunity, company executives said on Thursday.

Speaking at the DHL New Energy Conference, Group CEO Tobias Meyer said renewable energy has moved from a niche market to the dominant growth segment in global energy investment. "The energy transition is highly relevant to our own business, and it represents a significant growth opportunity," he said.

Meyer noted that investment in renewable energy has increasingly outpaced spending on fossil fuels over the

past five years. Roughly two-thirds of all capital expenditure in energy generation and transmission is directed toward renewable energy projects.

Industry data appears to support DHL's assessment. According to Campbell Keir, president of the Energy Industries Council, a London-based trade association, the organization is currently tracking around 17,000 energy projects worldwide with a combined potential investment value of approximately US\$17 trillion. Of those projects, about 43 per cent are in established renewable energy sectors, including offshore wind, onshore wind, solar power, and hydropower. — Xinhua



Speaking at the DHL New Energy Conference, Group CEO Tobias Meyer said renewable energy has moved from a niche market to the dominant growth segment in global energy investment. PHOTO: DHL/FILE

# Russia's foreign trade surplus shrinks 3.36%

RUSSIA'S foreign trade surplus shrank by 3.36 per cent in the first four months of 2026 year on year to US\$43.1 billion, local media reported on Friday.

According to data released by the Federal Customs Service of Russia, foreign trade turnover in the period amounted to \$227.7 billion, up 4.83 per cent from a year earlier.

Russia increased exports to Asian countries by 8.6 per cent to \$108 billion, and imports from

these countries rose by 7.3 per cent to \$61.9 billion.

At the same time, Russian exports to European countries fell by 11 per cent to \$18 billion, while imports grew by 6.8 per cent to \$23.8 billion.

Mineral products accounted for the largest share of exports at \$70.5 billion. Metals and metal products came second at \$26.9 billion, and agricultural products took third place at \$14.7 billion. — Xinhua

# Libya signs unified oil field deal to boost production

LIBYA'S National Oil Corporation (NOC) announced on Wednesday the signing of a unified operating agreement for the I/R oil field in the Murzuq Basin in southwestern Libya, aimed at enhancing coordination among partners and improving operational efficiency.

The agreement was signed by the NOC and its concession partners, including Libya's Akakus Oil Operations Company, France's TotalEnergies,

Spain's Repsol, Norway's Equinor, and Austria's OMV, the NOC said in a statement.

According to the NOC, the agreement will unify operational and administrative procedures related to field management, optimize resource utilization, and support production sustainability. The NOC previously announced new oil discoveries in the Murzuq Basin, located about 950 kilometres south of the capital Tripoli. — Xinhua

# Japan, Thailand agree to promote cooperation on regional supply chains

JAPAN and Thailand's foreign ministers agreed Friday to promote cooperation on strengthening regional energy and resource supply chains, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said, amid economic uncertainty from the conflict in the Middle East.

In their meeting in To-

kyo, Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi told Thai Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow he intends to expand bilateral cooperation in areas including security, science and technology as they mark 140 years of diplomatic relations next year, the foreign ministry said. — Kyodo

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2609N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2609N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-6-2026 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3609S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3609S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-6-2026 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

# GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

## Largest cargo port in Hainan FTP opens new container route to India

*The new Yangpu-India route is expected to provide a faster outbound channel for Hainan products, which includes rapeseed oil and chemical goods, to reach the Indian market.*

A new container shipping route linking Hainan's Yangpu Port with India officially commenced operation on Tuesday, adding a second South Asia service for the deep water facility, local maritime authorities said. Yangpu Port is the largest cargo port in the Hainan Free Trade Port (Hainan FTP). The route connects Yangpu with Haiphong in Vietnam, Singapore and Mundra

in India, linking the core ports in south China, the Beibu Gulf and South Asia, according to the Yangpu maritime bureau.

The new Yangpu-India route is expected to provide a faster outbound channel for Hainan products, which includes rapeseed oil and chemical goods, to reach the Indian market. Cargo from other Chinese ports can also be transhipped through Yangpu to South Asian destinations, the bureau said. The route adds to Yangpu's role as a hub in the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor, a key logistics network connecting China's western regions to global markets. — Xinhua



An aerial drone photo shows a vessel carrying 179,000 tonnes of petrochemical raw materials berthing at Yangpu Port in Danzhou, south China's Hainan Province, 18 December 2025. **PHOTO: GUO CHENG/XINHUA/FILE**

## Trump cancels Iran strikes, touts imminent deal

US President Donald Trump withdrew his threat of further strikes against Iran on Thursday and said a deal with Tehran to end the war could be signed in coming days.

Trump's announcement fuelled a stock market rally and tanked oil prices, although Iran's position remained unclear, with foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei saying Tehran "had not reached a final conclusion on the agreement".

Claiming that talks with Iran had been "brought to the highest level of Iranian leadership and approved", Trump said he had "cancelled the scheduled strikes and bombings against Iran this evening".

"Time and place of the signing to be announced shortly," he promised. He said the finer points of the arrangement had been approved by the United States and its allies in the region, including Israel, with which Washington jointly launched the war in February. The Tasnim news agency noted that Trump had announced a deal was imminent 38 times in the previous two months. "Until Iran announces the matter of a potential understanding, any news from Trump on this subject should be regarded the same as his previous messaging," it warned. — AFP

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Iranians hold national flags as people gather in Tehran's Revolution Square after the United States and Iran agreed to a two-week ceasefire on 8 April. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

## Sweden withdraws controversial proposal to jail 13-year-olds

SWEDEN'S right-wing government withdrew Thursday a heavily contested proposal to lower the age at which children can be sentenced to prison from 15 to 13, citing a lack of support in parliament.

But Justice Minister Gunnar Strommer said the government would present a revised proposal within weeks, lowering the age to 14. He said he expected parliament to approve the measure by

August.

The minority government, backed by the far-right Sweden Democrats, has made the fight against crime a top priority since coming to power in 2022.

"Things are a bit

uncertain in parliament, and that is why we have decided to act responsibly in this situation by making the decision this morning to withdraw this bill," Strommer told reporters. — AFP



PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

## OpenAI, Anthropic warn of AI dangers —with an eye on Wall Street

OPENAI and Anthropic, two AI companies heading for stock market debuts along with Elon Musk's SpaceX, are sharpening their warnings about the risks of AI — even as they race to outpace each other with ever more powerful technology.

Critics say it amounts to "fear-mongering", or a calculated move to win over investors.

Both San Francisco companies — makers of ChatGPT and Claude — are focused on the same scenario: so-called recursive self-improvement, a stage where AI systems

could essentially design and train the next generation of AI with little human involvement.

Anthropic called that scenario plausible but uncertain last week. OpenAI went further Monday, predicting it would arrive by March 2028. — AFP

# SPORTS

## GYCT becomes official co-sponsor of Ayeyawady FC Women

AYEYAWADY FC Women, a football club representing the Ayeyawady Region in the Myanmar Women's League, announced on 11 June that it has signed an official co-sponsorship agreement with Golden Yangon City Transport (GYCT) for its upcoming matches.

The club stated that partnering with a well-structured, community-focused organization like GYCT will significantly boost its upcoming competitive campaigns and long-term development plans.



This image displays a GYCT bus representing the transit company that has signed on as the official co-sponsor of Ayeyawady FC Women.

GYCT, the club's new official co-sponsor, is a major contributor to Yangon's urban development. It currently operates 491 buses across 13 routes within the Yangon Region, covering 685 bus stops and safely transporting nearly 150,000 commuters daily.

"On behalf of the club's management, players, and staff, we extend our deepest gratitude to GYCT for their full trust and support. Through this partnership, we look forward to achieving great success together," Ayeyawady FC Women announced in a statement. — TWA/KZL

## FIFA "Football for Schools" launched across Myanmar



Young students are seen during the launch of the FIFA "Football for Schools" programme.

PHOTO: MFF

THE FIFA Football for Schools Programme officially launched yesterday across Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, and Shan State to promote youth football development.

During the ceremonies, Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw

Sein, Yangon Region Minister U Bo Htay, and Bago Region Chief Minister U Myo Swe Win delivered opening remarks in their respective jurisdictions. Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) President U Zaw Zaw, alongside MFF vice-presidents, officially handed over FIFA-donated

Adidas size-4 footballs to regional school and education officials.

The events concluded with practical on-field football drills for students, led by physical education teachers who recently completed the MFF "D" Certificate Coaching Course. — Nyi Myat Thawta/KZL

## South Korea defeat Czechs to make strong World Cup start

SOUTH Korea got their World Cup campaign off to a winning start by beating the Czech Republic 2-1 Thursday after finally converting some of the many chances they created.

Until the 80<sup>th</sup>-minute mark it seemed that the Czechs would punish the Koreans' wastefulness, but substitute Oh Hyeon-gyu scored the decisive goal in a Guadalajara stadium that was far from full.

Son Heung-min's Koreans had dominated the first half but were unable to find the net.

The former Tottenham star blasted one effort over the bar before making a driving run to his left and evading two Czech defenders only to shoot wide.

An entertaining second half began with the Czechs scoring against the run of play as Ladislav Krejci rose at the front post to power a header past Korean goalkeeper Kim Seung-gyu.

Hwang In-beom finally made the Korean pressure pay with a clever equalizer as he faked a shot and then caressed the ball over Czech keeper Matek Kovar on 67 minutes. — AFP

## Shakira and protests as World Cup kicks off in Mexico

SHAKIRA had the spectators out of their seats at the World Cup opening ceremony Thursday, but outside the Estadio Azteca fans and protesters clashed with police.

A crush to get into an overcrowded fan zone in the centre of Mexico City and protests near the stadium made for a chaotic day that contrasted with the festive atmosphere inside the Azteca.

The venerable and now renovated stadium in the Mexican capital was a fitting venue for the tournament curtainraiser between co-hosts Mexico and South Africa, having staged the World Cup finals

in 1970 and 1986.

Colombian pop superstar Shakira, who herself is a veteran of past World Cups, lit up the stadium by partnering with Nigerian Burna Boy to perform "Dai Dai", the official song of the tournament, bringing roars from the 80,000-strong crowd.

Dancers twirled around a giant model of the World Cup trophy while fireworks streaked across the pitch as the noise levels ramped up.

"It's already a party in Mexico," Ingrid Orozco, a 40-year-old supporter, told AFP.

"It's amazing," said Gustavo Ramirez, 19. — AFP



Artistes perform during the opening ceremony ahead of the 2026 World Cup Group A football match between Mexico and South Africa at the Mexico City Stadium in Mexico City on 11 June 2026. PHOTO: ALFREDO ESTRELLA / AFP

## Basic Lethwei Coaching Course Batch 1/2026 concludes



A certificate presentation ceremony is in progress yesterday.

THE graduation ceremony for the Traditional Myanma Lethwei Coaching Course (Basic) Batch 1/2026, organized by the Traditional Myanma Lethwei Federation under the Ministry of Sports, was held yesterday evening at the Theinbyu Lethwei Stadium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon.

Traditional Myanma Lethwei Federation President Dr Tin Aung Lwin delivered the closing remarks. Following the

address, the president and executive committee members presented completion certificates to each trainee and gave honorary gifts to the course instructors.

The five-day training course covered both theoretical and practical lessons. It was attended by 30 trainees, including Lethwei athletes and coaches from various clubs across Yangon, Mandalay, and Bago regions. — Bala/KZL



## Vietnam's army sets up unmanned vehicle department

THE General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army (VPA) on Thursday announced the decision to establish the Unmanned Vehicle Department, the Voice of Vietnam reported Friday.

The establishment is regarded as a new development in the modernization of the VPA, according to the report.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence Phan Van Giang said the move is in line with the development

trends of world military science and contributes to optimizing the combat strength of the VPA, enhancing response capacity in all situations, the report said.

Director of the department Nguyen Van Truong said that the department will strengthen training, technological innovation and inter-agency coordination to enhance the military's preparedness and effectively respond to all high-tech warfare situations. — Xinhua

## Thai Princess Bajrakitiyabha passes away



A person holding a photo of Thai Princess Bajrakitiyabha mourns after the announcement of her death at King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand, 12 June 2026. PHOTO: RACHEN SAGEAMSAK/XINHUA

THAI Princess Bajrakitiyabha, the eldest daughter of Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn, passed away on Thursday at age 47 after more than three years of hospitalization, the Bureau of the Royal Household announced on Friday.

In a statement, the bureau said the princess passed away at 7:48 pm local time at King Chulalong-

korn Memorial Hospital in Bangkok, where she had been receiving treatment since December 2022.

Princess Bajrakitiyabha lost consciousness on 14 December 2022, after suffering a sudden heart problem while training her dogs.

The king has ordered the bureau to arrange a funeral with the highest royal honours. — Xinhua

## Triumph of Life: Iran opens West Asia's largest cancer centre

*Patients no longer have to wait so long for their treatment.*

THE Iran Cancer Centre in Tehran has been launched even as the US and Israel kept raining bombs and missiles upon the Islamic republic.

Despite the hardships caused by Western aggression and sanctions, Iranian doctors battle one of the worst diseases in the world using cutting-edge tech, advanced surgery and radiotherapy.

"Our oncology institute is the leading cancer centre in Iran since 1961," declares surgical oncologist Dr Ramesh Omranipour, who describes his colleagues as trailblazers in cancer surgery.

Patients no longer have to wait so long for their treatment, notes Dr Rostami, head of the



More operating rooms have been prepared, as well as a radiotherapy centre. One floor, the 13<sup>th</sup>, is set to accommodate foreign patients. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

Imam Khomeini Hospital Complex.

"More operating rooms have been prepared, as well as a radiotherapy center. One floor, the 13<sup>th</sup>, is set to accommodate foreign patients," he says, adding that there have been requests from

several Middle Eastern countries.

Iranian patients are being treated "practically for free" thanks to their medical insurances, Dr Ali Kazemian, chief of the oncology department at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences, says.

"For those who cannot afford even these privileged prices, there is a charity programme: many receive treatment for free, and upon discharge they can even be provided money for a trip home," Dr Kazemian explains. — SPUTNIK

## Weather pattern El Nino is here and could reach historic intensity

THE phenomenon El Nino has arrived, the US weather agency said Thursday, and scientists expect the pattern synonymous with droughts, floods and soaring temperatures will intensify into the end of the year, potentially to historic strength.

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

Scientists fear it will exacerbate the heat of a planet already warming from burning fossil fuels,

while amping up weather extremes.

"El Nino is here, and it could be one for the history books," said meteorologist Haley Thiem in an explainer video from the US National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration. In its latest advisory, scientists at NOAA said there is a 63 per cent chance "of a very strong El Nino during November-January that would rank among the largest

El Nino events in the historical record going back to 1950". Every El Nino is different, but major events often follow familiar patterns. This includes drought across parts of the Amazon, Indonesia and Australia, disrupted monsoons in India, and shifting rainfall throughout the tropics.

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

El Nino tends to peak late in the year but heat in the oceans releases more slowly into the atmosphere, pushing up global temperatures the following year. — AFP



Because El Niño peaks late in the year and ocean heat releases slowly into the atmosphere, the negative impacts on global temperatures and crop cycles will spill over and intensify into the following year. PHOTO: AFP/FILE