

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

Myanmar Urged to Cultivate Signature Foods

A ceremony to open the Tastes of the Golden Land 2026, organized by the Myanmar Restaurant Association under the supervision of the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture, took place at the Yangon Convention Centre in Yangon yesterday morning, attended by Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Nan Ni Ni Aye.

Artistes from the Department of Fine Arts performed a dance presentation accompanied by the song “A Land Full of Diverse Delicacies”.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said that the Tastes of the Golden Land aims to serve Myanmar traditional foods in accordance with international standards, promote



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Nan Ni Ni Aye visits the exhibition booths displayed at the Tastes of the Golden Land 2026 opening ceremony at the Yangon Convention Centre in Yangon yesterday.

greater recognition and popularity of Myanmar traditional foods around the world and attract more international tourists by promoting Myanmar’s traditional cuisine as a tourism resource.

SEE PAGE 3

DMH warns of high waves on Myanmar’s coastline



Fishing vessels are seen on the coastline of Myanmar.

THE monsoon will be strong over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal, leading to atmospheric instability, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) has announced.

Due to this weather condition, thunderstorms are expected to be scattered to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon Region, Bago Region, upper Sagaing Region,

Ayeyawady Region, Taninthayi Region, Kachin State, Kayah State, Kayin State, Chin State, Mon State, Rakhine State and Shan State, and heavy rain in some areas, between 26 July and 2 August.

Occasional squalls will happen along the coastline, and high waves approximately from nine feet to 11 feet are expected, DMH said.

SEE PAGE 2

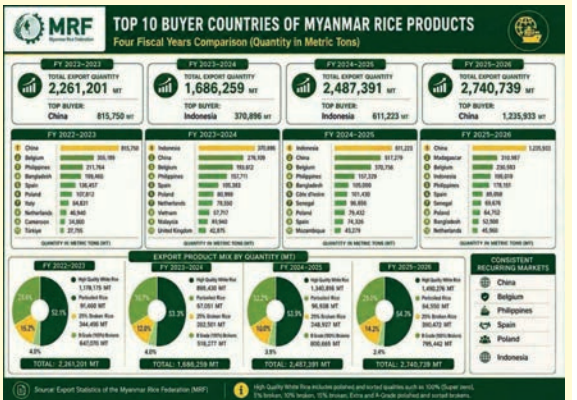
Myanmar sticky rice breaks into China, Asia, and European markets

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) stated that Myanmar’s glutinous rice exports have grown steadily, penetrating Asian and European countries, including China, Belgium, Indonesia, the Netherlands, France, Cyprus, Japan, and India.

Myanmar exported 2,600 tonnes of glutinous rice to China in the first quarter (April to June) in the current financial year 2026-2027, earning US\$1.1 million. China purchased over 1.23 million tonnes of glutinous rice worth \$394 million in the 2025-2026 FY.

MRF made shipments only after completion of quality, weight, and physical and chemical inspections by internationally recognized third-party inspection agencies. For exports to China, inspections are conducted by CCIC. Additionally, all exports are carried out in accordance with buyer-seller contracts, quality certificates, and the state’s pre-shipment and post-shipment inspection procedures.

MRF will continue to work towards producing and exporting premium quality rice. The federation publishes monthly updates on rice export data. MRF also urges online media outlets to conduct fact-checking to verify information with the authorities concerned before publishing. MRF has clarified that reports circulating on social media claiming that China has blacklisted Myanmar glutinous rice are incorrect. — ASH/KK



This table shows comparative indexes of Myanmar’s top 10 rice-buying countries across four financial years.

NATIONAL PAGE 7

Over 350 Myanmar EPS workers sent to ROK in July

ASEAN-OSHNET AWARD
Best Practices Award

Authentic taste of tea, enjoy

SHWE PHE OO

BLACK TEA
TEAMIX
LEMON TEA

Sales Department- Ph-09 30861655, 09 420219436
STARMART NINE MILE Showroom- (9)mile, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph-09 30860180

KHA YAE PIN MART - Mingalardone, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph- 09 671443555
STARMART MANDALAY Wholesale -Corner of 26th and 66th road, Mandalay.Ph-09 661702244
STARMART Nay Pyi Taw Yangon- Mandalay Highway Road, Ywar Gauk Ward, Pyinmanar.Ph- 09 685119077

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President's Office Order 61/2026

11th Waxing of Second Waso 1388 ME
25 July 2026

Appointment and Duty Assignment to Deputy Minister

ACCORDING to Section 234 (a) and (d) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Clause (ix) of Section 16 (b) of the Union Government Law, Dr Thaung Naing has been appointed and assigned duty as Deputy Minister for Construction.

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Myanmar Gazette :

Appointment of Service Organization Head confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Dr Aung Moe Myo Tint, Director-General of the Department of Agricultural Research under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, after the one-year probationary period.

DMH warns of high waves on Myanmar's ...

FROM PAGE 1

The wind speed is from 30 to 35 miles per hour, and onshore and offshore fishing vessels are urged to make preparations, it said.

With rain, sudden strong wind, flash flood and landslide are possible, and residents living in high areas and near rivers as well as domestic flights need to be cautious, it said. — TWA/ZS

Flood Warning

Issued at 8 am MST on 25 July 2026

ACCORDING to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is observed as more than 0.5 feet below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next day.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Hpa-an Township to take precautionary measures and to stay away from the flood-prone areas in time if the water level rises. — DMH

Royal Dhamma Thabin to be held for 3 days in Yangon

THE Royal Dhamma Thabin, featuring three renowned senior Buddhist monks delivering sermons over three days, will be held from 27 to 29 July at the Royal Garden Hotel's Royal Mingala Hall on Pyay Road in Yangon.

On the first night of the grand Dhamma event, Monday, 27 July, a sermon will be delivered by Dr Bhaddanta Nandamala Bhivamsa, Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru, Vice-Chairman of the Shwegyin Nikaya, Maha Nayaka, and Joint



The three senior monks who will deliver sermons at the Royal Dhamma Thabin.

Shwegyin Sangharaja.

Subsequently, on the second night, Tuesday, 28 July, a sermon will be given by the Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Nyanis-

sara, Shwegyin Sangharaja, State Ovadacariya, Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru, Aggamaha Pandita, and Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist

Academies and Sitagu Hospitals.

Following that, at 7 pm on Wednesday, 29 July, a sermon will be delivered by Dr Bhaddanta Chekin-da, Aggamaha Pandita, Maha Dhamma Kathika Bahujanahitadhara, and Rector of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University.

Therefore, all pious individuals on the Dhamma path are cordially invited to attend and listen to the sermons at this Royal Dhamma Thabin. — MT/ZN

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Saturday, 25 July 2026

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the low-pressure area over the Northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining West Bengal Coasts persists. It is likely to become more marked during the next two days. Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Weather has a few clouds over the South Bay of Bengal and is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 26 JULY 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay and lower Sagaing regions, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Magway and upper Sagaing regions and Kachin, Kayah and northern Shan states and widespread in the remaining regions and states, with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and eastern Shan states. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Mandalay, Bago, Magway, lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin, Chin, Mon and Shan

states. In the area along the movement of cumulonimbus clouds, weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur. Therefore, it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of an increase in rain in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26 JULY 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26 JULY 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 26 JULY 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Heavy Rainfall Warning No 25

Issued at 8 am MST on 25 July 2026

ACCORDING to the observations at 6:30 am MST today, due to the strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal and the unstable air condition over the Bay of Bengal and rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states with likelihood of isolated heavy falls from 26 July to 2 August 2026.

Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of the strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal and the unstable air conditions over the Bay of Bengal, such as heavy rainfall with strong wind, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flights. — DMH

NATIONAL

Myanmar Urged to Cultivate ...

FROM PAGE 1

She noted that many countries around the world play an important role in showcasing their traditional cultures, customs, national identities and historical heritage through both tangible and intangible cultural heritages, including arts, literature and traditional dress. Among these, food culture also plays a highly significant role.

Myanmar is a Union of diverse ethnic nationalities. Accordingly, the country possesses diverse cultural

traditions and customs varying from region to region and among different ethnic groups, as well as unique and delicious traditional foods.

The Vice-President stressed that promoting Myanmar's distinctive traditional foods at home and abroad would boost the country's tourism sector.

The Vice-President underscored that current tourism based on food experiences, or in other words, Gastronomy Tourism, has become one of the rapidly

growing sectors of the tourism industry. Therefore, Myanmar also needs to identify, promote and develop its distinctive foods.

She highlighted that Myanmar is making efforts to ensure that renowned traditional foods such as Myanmar tea leaves and Htamane become internationally recognized and eventually receive UNESCO recognition as tangible cultural heritage.

The Vice-President stressed that the development of food tourism not

only contributes to the preservation and promotion of local traditional foods but also directly benefits hotels, restaurants, the agriculture and livestock sectors, as well as MSMEs, improving the socioeconomic life of the people.

Union Minister for Hotels, Tourism and Culture U Maung Myint explained the objectives of hosting the Tastes of the Golden Land 2026.

The Vice-President presented certificates of appreciation to the main

sponsor, the gold sponsor and the silver sponsor for the ceremony, and Union ministers and the regional chief minister gave certificates of honour to supporting partners.

The Vice-President viewed the exhibitions and the participation of contestants in the contest.

The Vice-President presented honorary prizes to the winners while Union Minister U Maung Myint gave certificates of honour to members of the panel of judges.

The event being held is the first of its kind in Myanmar, providing an opportunity for visitors to explore and purchase Myanmar traditional foods presented in an international-standard fine dining style, as well as to view and buy traditional foods from various regions and exchange experiences at a single venue. A total of seven competing teams participated in the competition, establishing 120 exhibition booths to showcase and sell traditional food products. — MNA/TTA

New building of Thanlyin Township Court inaugurated

THE opening ceremony for the new building of Thanlyin Township Court was held yesterday morning at the Thanlyin Township Court in Kyaunggon Seikkyi Village, Thanlyin Township, with Chief Justice of the Union U Tha Htay officially unveiling the office signboard.

The Chief Justice of the Union, the Chief Justice of the Yangon Region High Court, and the Yangon Region Minister for Security and Border



Chief Justice of the Union U Tha Htay presses the electric button to inaugurate the new building of Thanlyin Township Court in Thanlyin, Yangon Region, yesterday.

Affairs officially opened the new court building by cutting the ceremonial ribbon. They unveiled the

commemorative plaque, after which the Chief Justice of the Union and officials sprinkled scented

water on it.

Afterwards, Chief Operation Officer U Kyaw Thet of IGE Land Co Ltd gave a presentation on the new court building and handed over the relevant documents to the Thanlyin Township justice, who expressed his appreciation.

Following the ceremony, the Chief Justice of the Union and officials inspected the interior of the new building and provided the necessary instructions. — MNA/TH

Relief supplies for Chin State rehabilitation arrive in Kalay

RELIEF supplies provided by the Mon State Government for rehabilitation efforts in Chin State arrived in Kalay from Yangon aboard a military aircraft yesterday.

The supplies comprised 132 packages of dried noodles and assorted dry provisions in 145 cartons, and 368 five-litre bottles and 15 two-litre bottles of cooking oil, with a total weight of 7,590 kilogrammes.

Officials from relevant ministries and departments, led by Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo, also accompanied the relief supplies to support rehabilitation efforts in Chin State, according to reports. — MNA/TH



Relief supplies provided by the Mon State government for rehabilitation efforts are loaded onto a military aircraft yesterday.

MRCS, partners expand mobile healthcare services in Inlay region

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), primary healthcare services are being provided in the Inlay region of Shan State (South) through mobile medical clinics operated by the MRCS with support from its partner Red Cross societies.

With support from partner Red Cross societies, the MRCS is providing humanitarian assistance in the Inlay area of Nyaungshwe Township, which was affected by a powerful earthquake.

As part of this humanitarian assistance programme, the MRCS operated mobile medical clinics in Myaungwagyi, Sheywagyi, Zayatgyi, and ThaleOo villages in Nyaungshwe Township from 8 to 18 July. During the period, the clinics provided primary healthcare services to 1,013 people and financial assistance of K500,000 each to two patients requiring hospitalization.

In providing primary healthcare services



This photo features primary healthcare services being provided through mobile medical clinics in several villages across Nyaungshwe Township.

through mobile medical clinics, the MRCS worked in collaboration with local Red Cross volunteers,

staff, and community members, with support from its partner Red Cross societies. — ASH/TH

NATIONAL

Myeik hosts MSME development meeting



This photo shows an MSME Development Meeting in Myeik on 24 July 2026.

AN MSME Development Meeting was held on Friday afternoon in Myeik. Speaking at the meeting, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Zaw Naing Oo said that the regional government has consistently prioritized MSME development. He stressed that, in promoting MSME development, the quality of products is more important than price. He urged entrepreneurs to manufacture products in accordance with quality standards while paying close attention to cleanliness, consumer trust, brand building, packag-

ing quality, and market demand. The MSME entrepreneurs reported on the needs of their respective sectors, including increasing the production of value-added products using locally available raw materials, promoting entrepreneurship, and creating more business opportunities. Regional ministers then provided explanations according to their respective sectors. Myeik District Shrimp Farmers Association, Fishing Entrepreneurs Association, rice entrepreneurs' association and MSME association donated K170 million to the regional chief minister for regional development. — Khine Htoo (IPRD)/KTZH

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister calls for expansion of quality corn production



Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Aye Kyaw observes the display at the annual meeting of the Ayeyawady Region Corn Industry Association.

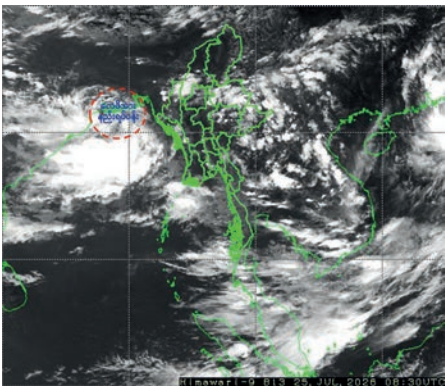
AYEYAWADY Region produces more than 140,000 tonnes of corn annually from over 40,000 acres of cultivated land. Further expansion of high-quality corn production is needed to meet domestic consumption needs and export demand, Chief Minister U Aye Kyaw said. He made the remarks at the first annual meeting of the Ayeyawady Region Corn Industry Association for the 2025-2028 term, held at the Golden Bay Hotel in Chaungtha yesterday morning.

The meeting discussed measures to expand corn cultivation in the region and facilitate the direct export of corn products through Patheingyi Port. After the meeting, the chief minister visited Chaungtha Hospital, where he encouraged patients receiving treatment and met health-care workers and hospital support teams. He later attended the final match of the township, ward, village and station U21 football tournament at Kyauktaing Sports Ground in Patheingyi, where Chaungtha FC competed against Family Six FC. — Region IPRD/KZL

Low-Pressure Area Condition

Issued at 4 pm MST on 25 July 2026

ACCORDING to the observations at 3 pm MST today, the low-pressure area over the Northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining West Bengal Coasts, India, persists. It is likely to become more marked during the next two days. — DMH



Providers can face legal action for internet service failures

INTERNET companies holding telecommunications service licenses will face effective legal action if their services fail upon public complaints, announced U Thet Win Aung, deputy minister for Digital Development and Communications.

The deputy minister made these remarks while responding to an asterisk question raised by U Aye Chan, a Pyithu Hluttaw representative for the Hlinethaya (East) Constituency, during the

29th day of the third regular session of the third Pyithu Hluttaw held on 24 July. The question concerned the auditing and publishing of internet service providers' performance and the actions being taken against companies performing below contractual standards. According to the deputy minister, consumers who experience internet outages should first notify the respective company. If the provider fails to deliver services and the outage persists, users can contact the relevant departments to file a complaint.

Those wishing to file a complaint can contact the Posts and Telecommunications Department (PTD) via email at complaint@ptd.gov.mm, or reach the Consumer Affairs Department's Call Centre at 1535. Furthermore, he stated that out of a total of 2,200 telecommunications-related complaints received by the department between 2017 and up to 20 July 2026, 2,192 cases have been resolved, with the remaining eight cases currently being resolved. — TWA/ZN



An illustrative graphic depicting internet service failure.

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
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NATIONAL

Falam's reconstruction and support activities inspected

DEPUTY Minister for Construction U Myo Myint and officials inspected shops along Bogyoke Road in Falam Township yesterday, calling for measures to ensure the availability of quality goods at affordable prices.

They also visited the temporary general hospital, observed healthcare services and encouraged patients receiving treatment.



Deputy Minister U Myo Myint and officials inspect shops in Falam Township yesterday.

The officials later visited the homes of residents who had returned to their

wards and reviewed the distribution of construction materials, household

goods, relief supplies and food provided by the government. They coordinated the provision of further assistance and encouraged residents to repair homes damaged during the violence.

They also met returnees, reviewed the progress of Citizenship Scrutiny card applications and coordinated further assistance with the relevant authorities. — MNA/KZL

MNHRC inspects youth, women's, girls' centres, police and court lock-ups in Mandalay Region

AN inspection team led by Members of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC), U Than Win, U Ohn Khine, and Dr Tin Htay Ei, conducted a series of inspection visits to various institutions in the Mandalay Region from 23 to 25 July 2026. On 23 July 2026, the inspection team visited the Mandalay Youth Training School, the Women's Vocational Training School, and the Court Lock-ups at both the Aungmyaythazan Township Court and the Chanayethazan Township Court. The inspection visits continued on 24 July 2026 with visits to the Girls' Training School, the Women's Development Centre in Chanayethazan Township, the Patheingyi Youth Training School, and the Police Lock-ups at Myoma Police Station in Patheingyi Township and Pyigyidagun Township. On 25 July 2026, the team concluded its visits by inspecting the Police Station Detention Centres across Aungmyaythazan Township, Chanayethazan Township, and Chanmyathazi Township.

During the inspection



Members of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission visit the Women's Vocational Training School, the Girls' Training School and the Women's Development Centre during their inspection trips in Mandalay.

visits to the youth training schools and development centres, the MNHRC inspection team examined the institutional measures implemented to provide psychosocial rehabilitation and vocational training for children and young persons under care, aiming to alleviate psychological trauma, social stigma, and loss of self-confidence. The team assessed key operational and welfare standards, including issues of whether there were undue delays in pending court cases, the provision of healthcare services, the adequacy of food supply, access to safe drinking water, conditions of dormitory accommodation, and

progress regarding Citizenship Scrutiny Cards (CSCs). Additionally, the team reviewed rehabilitation efforts to nurture young persons through moral development and physical and mental well-being to facilitate successful societal reintegration. The inspection further evaluated whether fundamental human rights were being ensured, specifically the right to education, the right to maintain family contact and visits, the right to freedom of religion or belief, and the right to be free from torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. During the inspection

of the Township Police Lock-ups and Township Court lock-ups, the inspection team interviewed detainees and examined facility conditions. The team inspected the status of detainees during the remand period, whether any torture or ill-treatment occurred while in custody or during investigation, opportunities to meet with family members, arrangements for food and accommodation, the disposal of sewage and overall cleanliness of the facilities, as well as access to meet with family members and defence lawyers during court appearances.

The findings and recommendations gathered by the Commission's inspection team during its visits to the Mandalay Youth Training Centre, Women's Vocational Training School, Girls' Training School, Women's Development Centre, Patheingyi Youth Training Centre, police lock-ups, and township court lock-ups will be sent to the relevant authorities for necessary actions under the Commission's Law. — MNHRC

Certain regions in Shan, Kayah, and Chin regain electricity



Employees from the Ministry of Electricity and Energy repair the electric power facilities at a power sub-station in Lashio.

THE government and the Ministry of Electricity and Energy are making efforts to restore electricity in areas where power infrastructure was damaged by attacks carried out by PDF terrorist groups.

Repair works on substations, transformers, and transmission lines have enabled electricity to be reconnected in Lashio, Nawnghkio, Hsipaw and Kyaukme in Shan State (North) and Loikaw, Loilemlay, Lawpita, and Demawhso in Kayah State, and Falam and Tonzang in Chin State.

Temporary power is being supplied through diesel generators, hydropower plants, and solar systems in some areas until full restoration is completed. The restoration efforts are helping daily life, public services, healthcare, education, and local businesses. — MNA/KTZH

MoE bans mobile phone use during school hours

THE Ministry of Education has announced that students at basic education schools are prohibited from using mobile phones during school hours.

According to the ministry, the restriction is intended to prevent excessive mobile phone use among students and protect young people from the harmful effects of using social media platforms that are inappropriate for their age.

The ministry also said that it has issued guidelines for basic education schools to ensure that students use mobile phones and online platforms safely and effectively as educational tools.

In addition, the Ministry of Education will work with relevant ministries and organizations to conduct awareness programmes for parents, teachers and students, as well as digital safety education initiatives. — ASH/KZL



Students attending classes inside a school campus.

NATIONAL

Weekly
Roundup

19 July

President inspects No 1 Oil Refinery (Thanlyin)

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing inspected the No 1 Oil Refinery (Thanlyin), which will launch the operation of Phase I to produce 500,000 tonnes of fuel annually. **Head of State visits agricultural and livestock zones in Yangon Region**

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, during his inspection trip to agricultural and livestock zones in Yangon Region, gave guidance to officials of relevant zones.

VP visits prominent sites in China

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Nan Ni Ni Aye visited the South-East Tibet Museum and the Yani National Wetland Park in Nyingchi (Linzhi), Xizang Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China.

20 July

President pays tribute to martyrs

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing paid tribute to the martyrs at the ceremony to mark the 79th Anniversary of

Martyrs' Day 2026 at the Martyrs' Mausoleum in Bahan Township, Yangon.

President allows interview with media

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing gave an interview to the media while attending the ceremony to mark the 79th Martyrs' Day (2026).

21 July

VP receives Acting UN Humanitarian Affairs Chief

Vice-President U Nyo Saw received a delegation led by Mr Indrika Ratwatte, Acting UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, in Nay Pyi Taw.

22 July

President meets Yangon and Bago regional governments

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing met cabinet members of Yangon and Bago regions at the Yangon Region government office.

Ordinance validity extended

The President's Office issued Ordinance 3/2026 and Ordinance 4/2026 to extend the validity of the State of Emergency and the Martial Law Order.

23 July

President accepts Credentials of Vietnamese and Kazakh Ambassadors

Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Viet-

nam Mr Nguyen Anh Duc and Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr Margulan Baimukhan presented their Credentials to U Min Aung Hlaing, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

President receives DPRK Ambassador

A delegation led by Yangon-based Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Mr Jong Ho Bom, who had completed his tour of duty, 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.

25 July

Golden lotus robes offered to Maravijaya Buddha Image

A ceremony to offer golden lotus robes to the Maravijaya Buddha Image marked the second cleansing of the whole Maravijaya Buddha Image and the third anniversary of the consecration of the Buddha image, attended by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla.

Union Government offers Waso robes to venerable Sayadaws

The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held a Waso robe-offering ceremony for 2026 at the Aggadhipati Sasana Beikman building in the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory. — GNLM/TTA

Seminar on electrical energy awareness for rice mills, factories held in Yangon

A technical seminar on electrical energy awareness for rice mills and rice-based manufacturing factories was held yesterday afternoon at the Mingala Hall of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Road in Yangon.

The event was organized by the Research and Development Committee of the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) to promote the safe and efficient use of electrical energy in rice mills and rice-based manufacturing industries, encouraging energy conservation, and sharing technical knowledge.

In his opening remarks, MRF President U Ye Min Aung said that the present era is driven by technology, making it essential for the rice



A technical seminar on electrical energy awareness for rice mills and rice-based manufacturing factories is underway at UMFCCI office in Yangon yesterday.

sector to adopt advanced technologies in cultivation, milling, processing, and value-added production. He emphasized that science and technology are now more important than even quality seeds, fertilizers, and organic soil enhancement in ensuring the sector's sustainable development. The Myanmar Rice Federation would continue prioritizing technological advancement and human resource development to prepare the rice industry

for future challenges under its "Future-Ready Rice Sector" initiative.

The seminar featured presentations by electrical engineering experts including U Kyaw Oo (Founder and Engineer of Aethar Solar Engineering), U Nay Myo Win (Business Consultant, Shwe Wah Nadi Agricultural Production Co Ltd), U Zin Myo Set (Managing Director, Zillion Delta Innovation Co Ltd), and U Khant Ye Tun (Managing Director, Golden Myanmar

Agro Land Engineering & Trading Co Ltd).

They discussed key electrical hazards in factories, including electric shock from direct or indirect contact, electrical sparks caused by poor installation or improper handling, dust explosions triggered by electrical sparks, and fire risks resulting from rodents or insects damaging electrical wiring. They also recommended preventive measures such as proper cable tray installation, sealing control and panel boxes against pests, enforcing strict workplace hygiene, conducting regular deep cleaning of machinery, and implementing effective pest control systems to reduce fire hazards.

Also present at the event were rice millers, entrepreneurs and electricians and technicians. — Myo Min Thura/KTZH

Kyain-Seikkyi District's MSY village project activities inspected

UNDER the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, the Department of Rural Development of Kyain-Seikkyi Township, Kayin State, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the implementation progress of the Mya Sein Yaung (Green Emerald Village Project) in Kamawt Village.

U Min Wai Phyo, Head of the Kyain-Seikkyi District Department of Rural Development, along with project staff, met with the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Committee, inspected the implementation of project activities in Kamawt Village, verified whether financial registers and account-

ing forms were systematically maintained, and ensured that all operations aligned with the project manual guidelines before providing necessary instructions and guidance.

In Kamawt Village, the Department has disbursed a total of K62.65 million under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project to 119 members, including 100 individuals in agriculture, 11 in livestock breeding, and eight in trade businesses, according to U Saw Tun Aye, Staff Officer (Technical) of the Kyain-Seikkyi District Department of Rural Development. — Ko Ko Soe (Rural)

NATIONAL

MPIE: Long-term leasing for industrial and agricultural land

MYANMA Pharmaceutical Industrial Enterprise (MPIE) of the Ministry of Industry and MSME Development will lease industrial and agricultural land on a long-term basis for the establishment of agro-based industries.

The MPIE will call tenders for the long-term lease of the Dai-kU Tapioca Powder Factory on 170.48 acres and 3,395.67 acres of farmland, to carry out agro-based industries and businesses that will produce MSG (season-

ing powder). Tender forms are available for purchase starting from 13 July, and the deadline for submitting tenders is at 4:30 pm on 13 August. Tenders can be submitted online via www.industrysme.gov.mm or in person to the Chairperson of the Tender Accepting and Evaluation Committee, MPIE, Office 37 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Individuals can enquire about terms and conditions by dialling 067 3408140 or 067 3408370. — NN/KK

Over 350 Myanmar EPS workers sent to ROK in July



Myanmar EPS workers are seen arriving at Incheon International Airport.

UNDER the management of the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA), a new EPS worker dispatch of over 350 Myanmar nationals was made in July.

POEA has managed the despatch of workers to the Republic of Korea; 119 manufacturing workers arrived at Incheon International Airport on 8 July, 120 on 14 July and 120 on 22 July, said the Myanmar Embassy in the Republic of Korea.

The labour attaché from the embassy in Seoul welcomed them, advised them on what they should

follow and provided necessary assistance. Upon their arrival, Ambassador U Myo Myint Maung greeted workers via a video call.

He urged workers to take care of their health and be aware of workplace safety and to respect existing laws of the two countries. He also told workers to contact the embassy if they have difficulty, said the embassy.

He also thanked officials from the Human Resources Development Service of Korea for providing coordination at the airport. — MT/ZS

Myanmar Targets \$1B Rice Export Windfall

MYANMAR expects to generate over US\$1.179 billion from rice and broken rice exports in the 2026-2027 financial year (from 1 April to 31 March).

Myanmar aims to achieve export targets of 1.8 million tonnes of rice and 1.2 million tonnes of broken rice through sea and border trade routes this FY, totalling three million tonnes.

Myanmar shipped over 529,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice in the first quarter (April-June), bagging \$167 million, according to Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Rice export volume was registered at 169,559 tonnes (\$51 million) in April, 136,262 tonnes (\$42 million) in May and 223,714 tonnes (\$74 million) in June. There is no rice export through border checkpoints so far this FY.



Workers neatly arranging export rice bags at the warehouse.

The Ministry of Commerce is jointly drafting the National Export Strategy (2026-2030) with private and governmental institutions to boost trade, maximize foreign revenue, penetrate more potential foreign markets and support the export promotion sector.

Myanmar's rice export in the financial year 2025-2026 (April-March) exceeded 2.7 million tonnes,

bagging US\$861 million, MRF's data showed. Myanmar generated income of over \$1.129 billion from 2.48 million tonnes of rice and broken rice exports in the financial year 2024-2025 (April-March).

Ministry of Commerce is working together with the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar

Rice Federation, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, Myanmar Industries Association, Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association, Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association to meet monthly export targets and facilitate exports. — NN/KK

Zero companies fail to file AR in June

NO companies were struck off the register in June 2026 for failing to file annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

DICA announced that companies failing to file their annual returns on MyCO have been struck off the register, effective from the directive date, under Section 430(f) of the Myanmar Companies Law.

The DICA stated that 400 companies in April and 200 in May 2026 failed to submit AR.

A total of 7,300 companies in 2025 and 19,000 in 2024 also failed to submit the AR.

The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.



The facade view of the DICA office in Yangon.

All registered companies need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (no later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

Under Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, under Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

According to DICA, thousands of companies have been suspended for failing to file annual return forms on time. Newly in-

corporated firms must submit ARs within two months of registration or face a K100,000 penalty for late filing.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company's status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after shelling out a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the Register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000. If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. — NN/KK

Restore durable peace in the whole Union democratically

THE Government has been accelerating peace talks with ethnic armed organizations with a view to ensuring the long-term sustainability and consolidation of internal peace and building a Union based on democracy and a federal system. Over the past periods, positive outcomes have been achieved while there have also been situations where progress came to a standstill and cases where the process moved backwards.

In a democratic system, all citizens have the opportunity to express, discuss, negotiate, and reconcile their aspirations and wishes together with their elected representatives in order to achieve their goals. In a democratic system, political issues must be resolved through political means. Therefore, invitations have already been extended to come to the political arena and the political

dialogue table for discussions and negotiations.

At present, discussions between the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee and EAOs are being held one after another in Nay Pyi Taw to establish more effective peace processes and explore practical ways to implement the discussion outcomes already reached. While the Government is continuously accelerating the peace process, the ability to discuss, negotiate, and seek solutions to issues concerning ethnic peoples and ethnic areas in respective Hluttaws will serve as significant support and bring positive results towards ensuring a smooth and steady path to peace.

Due to the choice of armed violence as a means of addressing political disagreements that arose in the past, instead of resolving them through political means, some regions of the country still require the restoration of stability and peace to this day. As a consequence, it is regrettable to see that local people have continued to suffer the long-term adverse effects of armed conflicts.

Therefore, efforts must continue to resolve political differences through various forms of peace dialogue until successful outcomes are achieved. Everyone must understand that resolving issues through armed violence only destroys the interests of local communities and the people; in other words, it amounts to damaging the future of the Union. Therefore, the use of armed violence as a means of resolution must be abandoned, and peace must be discussed and built through democratic means.

It is important for non-signatories to the NCA among ethnic armed organizations, as well as ethnic armed organizations that have signed the NCA but have been away from the NCA path for various reasons, to participate in the process and engage in continuous contact, meetings, and discussions. Therefore, their cooperation and joint efforts are essential for achieving everlasting peace in the Union.



Book Title - World-Famous Fairy Tales
Author - Thitsa Ni
Publishing House - Hnit Kala Myar
Publication Date - August 2025 (2nd Edition)
Price - K10,000

World-Famous Fairy Tales

BEFORE talking about this book, it is worth asking: Why should we read fairy tales?

Fairy tales help us better understand the emotions and experiences of others in real life. They nurture empathy and emotional intelligence by allowing readers to share the joy, sorrow, and fears of fictional characters. In doing so, they also help us understand life situations we may never have personally experienced. The lessons found in fairy tales are not delivered as direct moral instruction. Instead, they are conveyed naturally through the story, making them more engaging and memorable. Fairy tales also foster imagination and creativity by encouraging readers to envision impossible things, such as flying carpets, talking animals, and magical powers.

These imaginative elements stimulate creative thinking and can even enhance problem-solving skills.

In addition, fairy tales serve as windows into different cultures and histories. Chinese tales reflect Chinese culture, while Arabian stories embody Islamic traditions. Through these stories, readers can explore diverse cultures around the world without leaving home. Most importantly, fairy tales lay the foundation for a lifelong love of reading in children. Becoming familiar with stories from an early age helps cultivate the habit of learning throughout life. For adults, fairy tales offer a nostalgic journey back to childhood while providing opportunities to reflect on their own lives.

This book, compiled and

Since childhood, having grown up reading children's books, I have always loved children's literature. I admired the children's poems of Rabindranath Tagore, Min Thu Wun, Dr Maung Phyu, and later Tin Moe's The Little Umbrella and Ma Ni.

Writing for children is not easy. A writer must think like a child and write in a way that suits young readers. Great care must be taken not to mislead them or expose them to harmful ideas. Children's literature should both educate and entertain, helping young readers gain knowledge while bringing them happiness.

Because I myself grew up through children's literature and remain deeply attached to it, I intend to continue writing and compiling children's books to the best of my ability."

The collection includes rare and fascinating fairy tales from Germany, China, Scandinavia, Arabia, Russia, Japan, Italy, Canada, and many other countries. Readers will encounter princesses, handsome princes and brides, heroes, and villains in stories filled with adventure and wonder. Although written primarily for children, the book is equally enjoyable for adults.



Book Title - Without Mae Htwe, Just Us
Author - Gadiba Phyu (White Velvet)
Publishing House - The Leaf House
Publication Date - July 2026 (1st Edition)
Price - K13,000

Without Mae Htwe, Just Us

THIS week's pick is a work of fiction, describing a rare and valuable guide to traditional Myanmar children's games, which are on the verge of disappearing. This will offer a glimpse into Myanmar's social fabric. The foreword to this book is titled "Don't Want to Forget Traditional Games."

"Whether at home or in the neighbourhood, we see children with their heads buried in phone screens. Even though we accept this as part of their modern era, most children no longer run, jump, or play actively. They rarely touch grass. Instead of real-world play, children glue themselves to screens and spend their time playing games on their phones. Those simple years of gathering in the neighbourhood without screens represent a cherished chapter of childhood. I remembered those

good old days when we used to gather and play various games that can boost our physical health, stimulate our brain activities and enrich our imagination. I wish to-day's children would spend less time on screens and encourage them to run and play again in the neighbourhood playground," stated in the preface by the publisher, The Leaf House.

The preface also explained that "Let them play. When I recall my own childhood, I can only remember a few games, and I can't clearly recall the exact rules. I hope this book could serve as a record of these traditional children's games that reflect Myanmar rural lifestyle with close-knit community participation. When author Sayama Gadiba Phyu enthusiastically said she would write such a book, the publishing house

took this opportunity to bring this little book into existence."

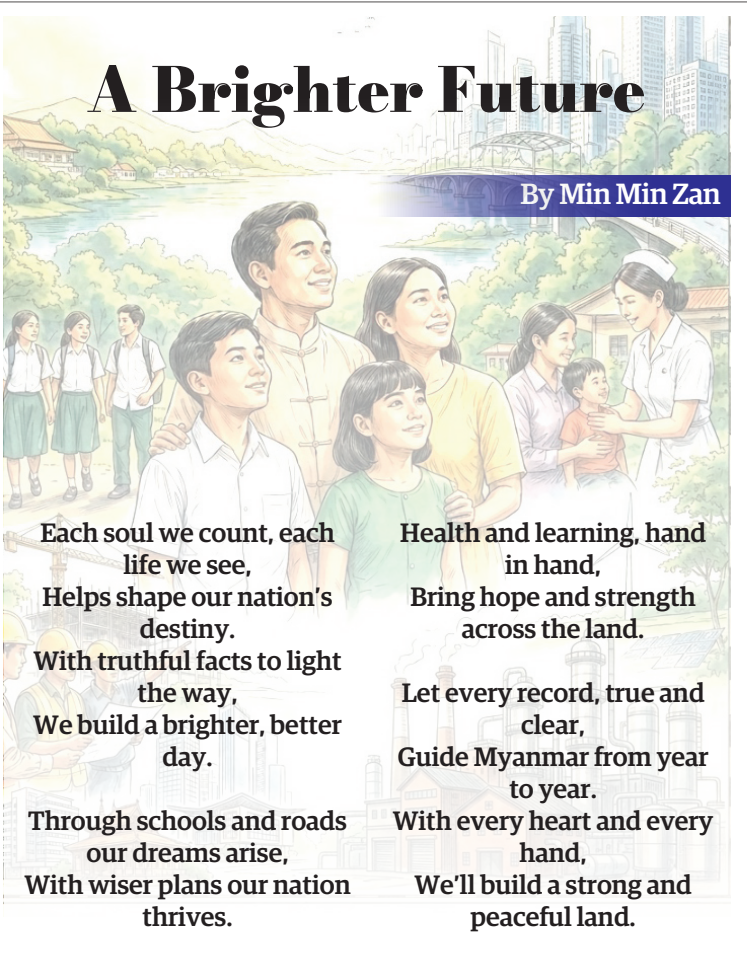
The author weaves a poignant story centred on a seven-year-old boy named Tu Tu. This emotionally moving narrative is painted with artistic flair. In Chapter 2, "Tu Tu would already be under the starflower tree at early dawn. Having to work before sunrise had become his daily routine. He couldn't refuse either; as his father would force him awake and make him go pick the flowers. He couldn't say he was still sleepy. About a year after his younger brother was born, their mother passed away. The little brother was now over three years old. Tu Tu was seven. His little brother could barely speak, and his legs were weak, so he couldn't do the work Tu Tu could. That's why Tu Tu had to work harder. In the year

their mother died, their father told them they would no longer be sent to school. When their father went to work, Tu Tu had to do housework and sell flowers. Every evening, when he returned home, his father was drunk. But Tu Tu still had his little brother to care for. Since their father was always drunk, he couldn't look after the younger one."

This book is not merely a dry listing of classic playground games but a craft of writing with deep character studies over traditional games. The book includes 26 traditional games, along with their rules and how to play them: Banyan Tree Ghost game, Tag game, Shwe Zun Nyo (playing as a hunting falcon), Cockfight (Balance game), Run and Catch game, Round and Round (Mingle game), Statue Tag game, Tin-can telephone game, Banana Leaf House Building, Tug-of-war, Coconut Smashing, Clay Figure Making, Animal Zoo Making, Hopscotch, Lizard Guessing game, Water or Land game, Throwing and Catching game, Marble toss game, Five Stones Game, Playing Red Light Green Light, Crazy Old Woman Ma SaU game (Tease, Run and Catch), Don't Step on the Ground/Don't Step on the Bamboo game, Peekaboo, Hide and Seek, Catch the bird game, Hpan Khon (Jump game played by rural girls).

A Brighter Future

By Min Min Zan



Each soul we count, each life we see,
Helps shape our nation's destiny.

With truthful facts to light the way,
We build a brighter, better day.

Through schools and roads our dreams arise,
With wiser plans our nation thrives.

Health and learning, hand in hand,
Bring hope and strength across the land.

Let every record, true and clear,
Guide Myanmar from year to year.

With every heart and every hand,
We'll build a strong and peaceful land.

Emily Dickinson: Poem 284

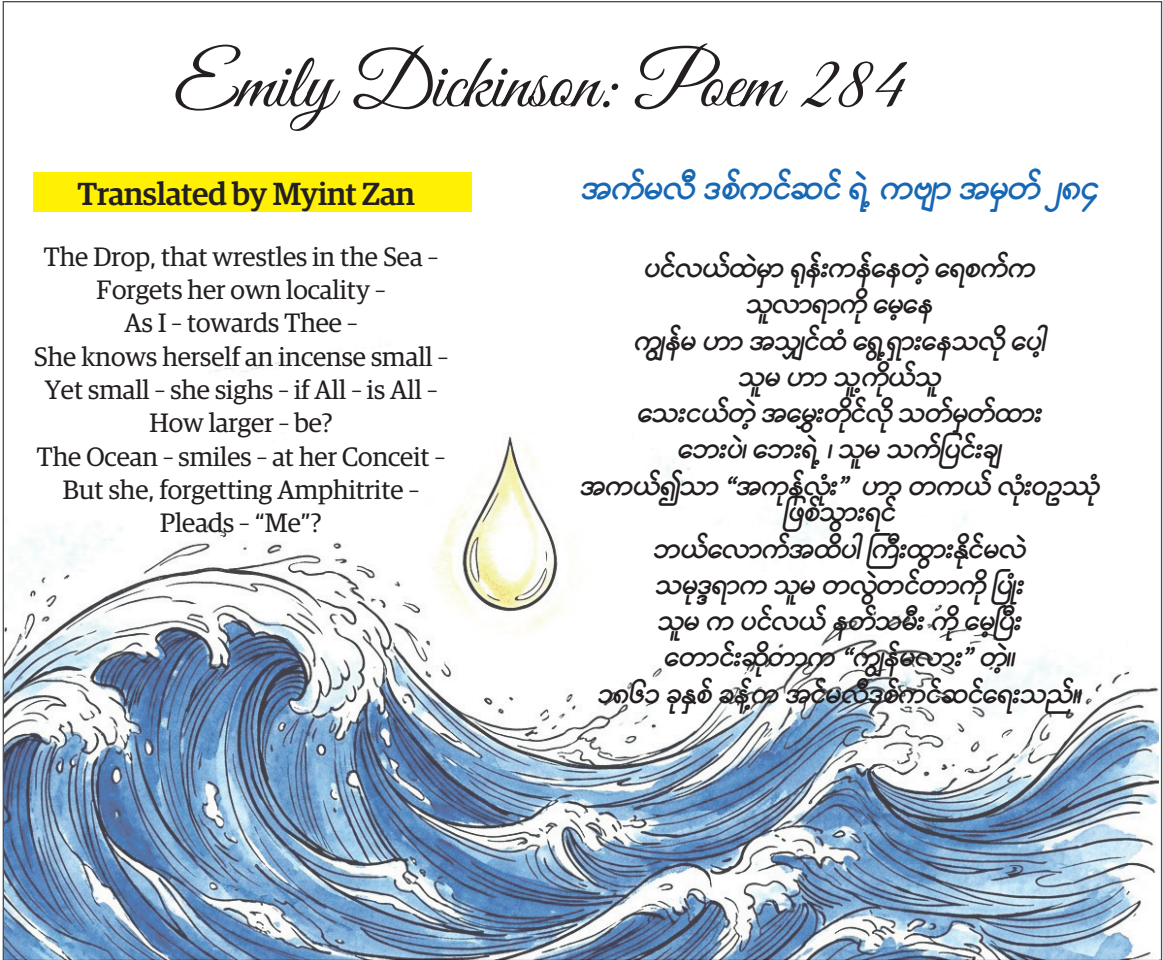
Translated by Myint Zan

အက်မလီ ဒစ်ကင်ဆင် ရဲ့ ကဗျာ အမှတ် ၂၈၄

The Drop, that wrestles in the Sea -
Forgets her own locality -
As I - towards Thee -
She knows herself an incense small -
Yet small - she sighs - if All - is All -
How larger - be?

The Ocean - smiles - at her Conceit -
But she, forgetting Amphitrite -
Pleads - "Me"?

ပင်လယ်ထဲမှာ ရုန်းကန်နေတဲ့ ရေစက်က
သူ့လာရာကို မှေ့နေ
ကျွန်မ ဟာ အသွင်ထဲ ရွှေ့ရှားနေသလို ပေါ့
သူမ ဟာ သူ့ကိုယ်သူ
သေးငယ်တဲ့ အမွှေးတိုင်လို သတိမှတ်ထား
ဘေးပဲ၊ ဘေးရဲ့ ၊ သူမ သက်ပြင်းချ
အကယ်၍သာ "အကုန်လုံး" ဟာ တကယ် လုံးဝသွဲ့သွဲ့
ဖြစ်သွားရင်
ဘယ်လောက်အထိပါ ကြီးထွားနိုင်မလဲ
သမုဒ္ဒရာက သူမ တလွှဲတင်တာကို ပြီး
သူမ က ပင်လယ် နတ်အစီး ကို မေ့ပြီး
တောင်းဆိုတာက "ကျွန်မလေး" ကဲ့၊
ဘဝမီ ခုနစ် ခန့်က အက်မလီဒစ်ကင်ဆင်ရေးသည်။





Lord Mahaw

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

Even though born with medicine being,
The medicine not following,
He had only improved the nation.

မတ်မဟော်

ဆေးနှင့်မွေးလည်း
ဆေးနှင့်မလျော်၊ မတ်မဟော်သည်
ပြည်တော်သာကြောင်းလုပ်ခဲ့သည်။

မင်းသုဝဏ်

NATIONAL

Entertainment

Bothan Gyi's first solo art exhibition held in Yangon

THE Beauty of Lines, the first solo art exhibition by Bothan Gyi (BTG), was held for five days from 18 to 22 July 2026, between 10 am and 5 pm at the Yatha Ganga Art Gallery, located at 127/C, 52nd Street (Middle Block), corner of Anawrahta Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon. "We would like to thank everyone

who came to experience Bothan Gyi's first solo exhibition, which reinterprets Myanmar's cultural heritage, Buddhist spirit, and the beauty of everyday life through the language of contemporary art," an official of the gallery said. The exhibition featured 30 paintings showcasing Bothan Gyi's distinctive works in-

spired by Myanmar culture. In addition, digital catalogues containing detailed information, photographs and videos of the artworks have been uploaded to the Yatha Ganga Art Gallery Facebook page, allowing art enthusiasts from near and far to view and purchase the paintings online. — Htun Htun



Commemorative dinner celebrates veteran theatrical star's Golden Jubilee

A commemorative dinner celebrating Mandalay Thein Zaw's golden jubilee Thabin festival was held at Novotel Max Hotel in Yangon on the evening of 23 July.

Famous Thabin artistes at dinner event of Mandalay Thein Zaw.

The artistes Shwe Man Chan Thar, Nan Win, Moe Win, Aung Zabu, Sithu Tin Tin Mya, writer U Nyein Min and many famous artistes joined the event. Mandalay Thein Zaw, Sithu Tin Tin Mya, Shwe Man Chan Thar, Nan Win, Moe Win and Aung Zabu sang songs actively. — TWA

Shwe Man Thabin to select successor

Myanmar Theatrical dancer Shwe Man U Chan Tha will lead the upcoming "Shwe Man Thabin Heritage – Next Generation Talent Selection" competition, an event expected to become a new milestone in Myanmar's traditional theatrical arts. The competition is being organized to preserve Myanmar's traditional theatrical heritage while discovering and nurturing outstanding young performers.

Further details regarding the competition, including eligibility requirements, application procedures, and the event schedule, will be announced soon. The competition has already generated considerable interest among Thabin enthusiasts and aspiring young performers, as it is seen as a valuable opportunity for the next generation of Myanmar's traditional performing artistes. — TWA



Production firms donate K2M for donation event of MMPO



TAURUS V and Aung Khit Min Film Productions donated K2 million for donation of educational grants, school uniforms and stationery to the children of film industry members on 23 July, according to Academy Kyi Soe Tun, chairman of MMPO.

"Film artistes and production companies have continued contributing to the education support programmes for the children of Myanmar Motion

Pictures Organization members. On 23 July, Taurus V Film Production, represented by Ko Kaung Zan's wife, Ma Wine Shwe Yan Lin, donated K1 million, while Aung Khit Min Film Production, represented by U Si Thu Aung and Dr Khin Thida Yi, donated another K1 million, bringing the total donation to K2 million," said Academy Kyi Soe Tun. The donation event took place at the MMPO on 25 July. — ASH

Philanthropist actor ready for his comeback

ACTOR TUN KO KO, who temporarily suspended his artistic activities due to a leg injury, has announced that he is ready to return to the entertainment industry as his health has significantly improved. "My leg injury forced me to take a break from acting, so I lost touch with my fans for a while. Now that my leg has recovered considerably, I'm ready to return to work and will soon begin filming new movies," he said. His big fans also make wishes for him a full recovery and express their excitement about his upcoming film projects. — TWA



Superstar vocalist makes efforts for her comeback

SINGER Ni Ni Khin Zaw, who has been balancing family responsibilities with her artistic career since becoming a mother, has openly shared that she is gradually rebuilding her energy to create new songs and music videos. "Since my daughter was born, I've really had to gather my strength to shoot music videos. I'm grateful that my fans continue to enjoy and support my work. It has also taken me quite a bit of time and effort to get back into writing songs like before," she said. For her remarks, many fans expressed their encouragement on social media, commenting, "We will always support you as both a wonderful mother and a talented artiste who continues to give her best." — TWA



Rising star holds food donations dedicated to her family

ACTRESS Chue Lay, who is widely admired by fans and is well known for actively participating in charitable and religious activities, recently organized a memorial charity feast dedicated to her family. The donation ceremony was held at 3 pm on 22 July in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. The event was dedicated to the 55th birthday of her father, the seventh birthday of her niece, and the anniversary of her mother's passing. As part of the charitable event, meals consisting of rice, chicken curry, and fried vegetables were provided for 150 people. She also donated rice, cooking oil, and instant noodles as part of the merit-making ceremony. — TWA



WORLD

Vietnam eyes
2 new centrally
governed cities

THE 14th Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee concluded its third meeting on Friday, approving a proposal to establish Quang Ninh and Bac Ninh as two new centrally governed cities in northern Vietnam, the Vietnam News Agency reported.

Bac Ninh's gross regional domestic product (GRDP) expanded 10.56 per cent in the first half of this year, driven by the industrial and construction sectors, while Quang Ninh's GRDP grew 11.11 per cent in the period, supported by manufacturing and processing industries, services, and investment, according to the agency.

Vietnam currently has seven centrally governed cities, namely Hanoi, Hai Phong, Hue, Da Nang, Dong Nai, Ho Chi Minh City and Can Tho. — Xinhua



Quang Ninh is the province that contains and administers much of the Halong Bay area. Panoramic view of Halong Bay. **PHOTO: MARINA LOBATO ON UNSPLASH**

Major NASA site in
Spain hit by wildfire

MASSIVE wildfires in Europe on Friday forced NASA to evacuate one of its three global deep space communications facilities in Spain, impacting the agency's ability to communicate with space probes.

The Madrid Deep Space Communications Complex (MDSCC) is located in Robledo, about 37 miles (65 kilometres) west of central Madrid, a NASA spokesperson told AFP in a statement.

"The wildfire has passed through the MDSCC. Any potential damage will be assessed when it is safe to do so," the US space agency said, adding all personnel were "safely evacuated".

MDSCC is part of the Deep Space Network, one of three sites that allow NASA to communicate with its spacecraft exploring distant parts of the galaxy.

The other two sites are in Canberra, Australia and Goldstone, California, where "the agency has seamlessly transitioned support for mission operations".

"The safety and well being of our personnel is our highest priority and our thoughts are with the families and neighbours who are also experiencing the impact of the wildfires in the surrounding communities," the statement said. — AFP

Omani delegation arrives in
Iran for talks on Hormuz Strait
— Iranian media

Iran and Oman ministers discussed Hormuz shipping security during a Friday phone call.

AN Omani diplomatic delegation arrived in the Iranian capital Tehran on Friday for talks on the administration of the Strait of Hormuz, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported.

The report said the visit is within the framework of the consultations between the two countries to establish appropriate mechanisms for managing maritime traffic in the strategic waterway.

According to IRNA, Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi and his Omani counterpart Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi held a phone call on Friday, exchanging views on regional developments



Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi is an Omani diplomat and politician who has been serving as the foreign minister of Oman since 2020. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

as well as the security of navigation and commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz and the

Gulf.

Both sides highlighted the importance of maintaining shipping safety, and discussed ways and regional co-operation to prevent escalation and ensure peace, stability, and security in the West Asia region, IRNA reported.

The US military has launched multiple waves of strikes against Iran's southern provinces over the past two weeks, claiming the attacks are aimed at "degrading Iran's ability to threaten commercial shipping". Iran has responded with waves of missile and drone attacks targeting US military bases and facilities in the region. — Xinhua

Colombia declares national
disaster over El Nino risks

COLOMBIAN President Gustavo Petro said Friday that his government has declared a national disaster for 12 months in response to risks from the El Nino weather phenomenon.

"We will have a me-

ga-drought affecting much of the national territory between December 2026 and March 2027. It is very likely that a drought of this magnitude has never been seen in Colombia's history," Petro wrote on X. The decree includes

the creation of a fund to respond to emergencies, an action plan to promote water saving, and measures to strengthen food security in the most vulnerable regions.

Petro said the measures were designed for the medium term and urged the incoming government to coordinate them responsibly with short-term actions.

He also called for audits of all assigned works and said emergency resources should be directed to subsidized credit for agriculture and the immediate use of undistributed lands from the national land fund. — Xinhua



This image features the Páramo de Santurbán, a high-altitude moorland ecosystem in the Colombian Andes.

Anthropic bets
on cheaper
AI with new
model

ANTHROPIC on Friday released Claude Opus 5, a new artificial intelligence model the company says approaches the performance of its most powerful system at half the price.

The San Francisco-based startup, a chief rival to OpenAI, said the model tops industry benchmarks for coding and knowledge work while consuming fewer computing resources than earlier versions.

The claim addressed the rising concerns of business customers who have balked at the expense of running advanced AI systems. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Canada opens largest border bridge amid trade dispute with US

Canada marks Gordie Howe Bridge milestone solo amid rising US trade tensions.

THE Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) on Friday highlighted the strategic importance of the newly constructed Gordie Howe International Bridge port of entry, as Canada held a solo ceremony to mark the milestone crossing amid escalating trade tensions with the United States.

Connecting Windsor, Ontario, to Detroit, Michigan, the bridge is Canada's newest, largest, and most technologically advanced land border crossing, according to the CBSA.

It brings the total number of Canadian land border ports of entry to 118, joining the Amba-



A truck drives on the Gordie Howe International Bridge during the opening ceremony in Windsor, Ontario, on 24 July 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

sador Bridge and the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel in serving North America's busiest trade corridor; the agency said in a release published on its website.

The Windsor-Detroit

gateway carries approximately 30 per cent of Canada-US truck trade, moving more than 274 million Canadian dollars (around US\$194 million) in goods daily, said the CBSA.

The new 24/7 high-capacity facility features 24 primary inspection lanes, 12 commercial secondary examination docks, two fully enclosed commercial examination bays, and modern detection tools, according to the agency.

The bridge opening ceremony came against the backdrop of a sharp trade rift between Ottawa and Washington. Canadian officials held a Canada-only celebration on Friday after canceling a planned joint ribbon-cutting ceremony with US representatives.

The bridge will officially open to traffic on 27 July. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

US to resume Mexican cattle imports

THE US Department of Agriculture said Friday it will begin reopening cattle ports along the Mexican border next month, more than a year after a dispute over combating a parasite.

President Donald Trump's administration announced in May 2025 a halt on imports of live cattle, horses and bison over its southern border because of an outbreak of the screwworm fly, whose flesh-eating larvae can kill cattle. Beginning on 24 August, federal officials will open the Douglas, Arizona port of entry to cattle trade and take steps to later reopen New Mexican ports in Santa Teresa and Columbus, according to a government statement. — AFP

Trump threatens EU with big new tariff

US President Donald Trump on Friday threatened the European Union with a substantial tariff and an investigation over the bloc's new fine against US tech giant Google.

On Thursday, the European Commission said it had fined Google 890 million euros (nearly \$1 billion) for violating the EU Digital Markets Act (DMA), accusing the company of promoting its own services in search results and restricting app developers on Google Play.

"Please let this TRUTH serve to represent that we will immediately initiate a 301 Investigation into the practice of 'ROBBING' American Companies and, in turn, the American Taxpayer. — SPUTNIK

US and UK plan London summit to form maritime coalition



France and the United Kingdom have assembled a coalition of countries to help restore maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE United States and the United Kingdom are planning a high-level meeting in London next week to form an international coalition to protect commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz, according to a report by Axios.

Citing European diplomats and sources familiar with the matter, Axios reported that the meeting could gather defence ministers and military leaders

from Western and Middle Eastern nations, including US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth and Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Dan Caine. The itinerary and date are still under discussion and haven't been finalised, it added.

A White House official confirmed the joint initiative, while the British Embassy in Washington declined to comment, Axios reported. — ANI

S Korean chipmakers to supply US tech firms

SOUTH Korean memory chip giants Samsung Electronics and SK hynix will supply US tech companies, including Nvidia, in agreements worth \$950 billion, a presidential adviser said on Saturday.

The announcement was made as President Lee Jae Myung visited San Francisco for talks with the heads of major US technology companies, including OpenAI CEO Sam Altman, Nvidia's Jensen

Huang, Anthropic's Dario Amodei and Broadcom's Hock Tan. The two South Korean chip giants and US tech companies agreed to "pursue cooperation" in the sector, presidential chief of staff for policy Kim Yong-beom told reporters in San Francisco while accompanying Lee.

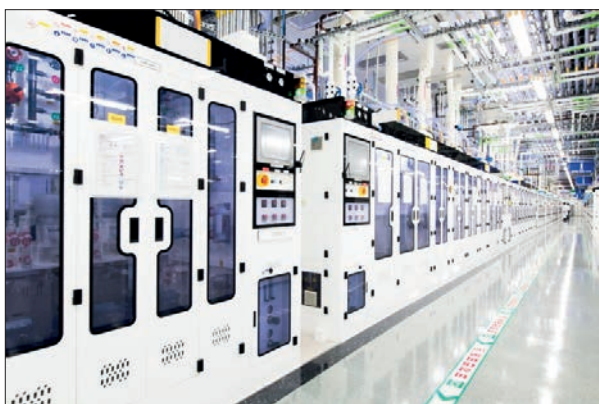
South Korea is home to the world's leading memory chipmakers, Samsung Electronics and SK hynix, whose advanced memory chips are essential to the rapidly evolving artificial intelligence industry and have fuelled optimism about the country's economic outlook.

The announcement

includes SK hynix's planned five-year cooperation agreement to supply \$750 billion worth of memory chips to companies including Nvidia, Kim said.

It also includes a \$200 billion memorandum of understanding between Samsung Electronics and Broadcom covering the supply of advanced memory chips and foundry services for AI chip production over the next five years, he said.

South Korea has pledged to triple spending on AI this year, aiming to join the United States and China as one of the world's top powers in the sector. — AFP



This image shows the interior of a Samsung Electronics semiconductor fabrication plant. **PHOTO: SAMSUNG NEWSROOM**

Norway opposes new US tariff on its imports

NORWAY on Friday strongly opposed a new 12.5 per cent US tariff on its imports, calling Washington’s unilateral measure unjustified.

“We strongly disagree with the United States’ unilateral use of tariffs against Norway and other countries. We also disagree with the justification for this new tariff,” Norwegian Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide said in a statement on Friday.

The United States has announced an additional tariff of 12.5 per cent on goods from Norway and dozens of other economies, replacing the global additional tariff of 10 per cent that expires on Friday, alleging those countries failed to ban goods produced using forced labor.

Norway called the tariff baseless as clear rules are already in place to prevent trade in goods produced using forced labour, said the statement.

The Norwegian government estimated that about 67 per cent of US imports from Norway would be covered by the 12.5 per cent new tariff. Trade unions, employers’ organizations and business associations would be invited to a meeting on the situation as soon as possible, it said. — Xinhua



The Norwegian government estimated that about 67 per cent of US imports from Norway would be covered by the 12.5 per cent new tariff. PHOTO: CGTN/FILE

Paramount, Warner Bros Discovery agree to pause merger amid antitrust lawsuits

PARAMOUNT Skydance and Warner Bros Discovery have agreed to suspend their proposed merger amid two antitrust lawsuits separately filed by state attorneys-general and the Writers Guild of America, according to a court stipulation filed Friday.

The first suit, led by California Attorney-General Rob Bonta and filed by a coalition of 12 state attorneys-general on 13 July, sought to block the acquisition, arguing that the US\$110-billion transaction would hinder competition in wide-release theatrical film distribution, anticipated top-grossing film distribution and basic cable television-channel licensing. The Writers Guild of America West and Writers Guild of America East filed a separate lawsuit on 14 July seeking to permanently block the transaction under federal antitrust law. — Xinhua

Port City Colombo attracts US\$2.19 bln in investment: minister

PORT City Colombo has attracted investment worth US\$2.19 billion, Anil Jayantha Fernando, Sri Lanka’s deputy minister of finance and planning, told parliament on Friday.

Fernando, who also serves as the minister of labour, said the special economic zone, built on reclaimed land adjacent to Colombo, had attracted 176 investment proposals.

Investors have finalized projects worth \$336.67 million, while authorities have approved 54 investor applications so far this year, he said.



Port City Colombo is Sri Lanka’s largest urban development initiative and its first multi-services special economic zone. PHOTO: XINHUA

The development has created 9,871 employment opportunities and currently hosts three duty-free retail outlets. — Xinhua

Laos sets key priorities to strengthen financial sector

LAOS’ Ministry of Finance convened a meeting to review its performance during the first six months of 2026 and outline key priorities for the remainder of the year.

The meeting, held in the Lao capital Vientiane on Friday, was chaired by Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Santiphab Phomvihane, according to the ministry’s report on Saturday.

Participants reviewed reports on the implementation of key tasks across the financial sector. The meeting also received an update on the progress of the ministry’s financial sector modernization program.

The meeting assessed the performance of state administration and the work of the ministry’s departments during the first half of the year. Discussions highlighted progress in improving administrative management, human resource development, and interdepartmental coordination. Efforts were also made to streamline working mechanisms, enhance transparency, and improve the efficiency of public services. The meeting further emphasized strengthening the implementation of laws and regulations, improving document management and administrative procedures, and enhancing monitoring to ensure that departmental plans are implemented consistently across the financial sector. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0099N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0099N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-7-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC FORTUNE VOY.NO. (SB629A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC FORTUNE VOY.NO. (SB629A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-7-2026** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST

JULY 25

Punjab, Pakistan, launched its first drone system for flood warnings

FOR the first time, Pakistan's Punjab province has deployed drones to monitor all rivers, barrages, and headworks to provide early flood warnings. This decision comes in the wake of tragedy: between 19 and 22 July 2026, at least 17 people died in the province due to floods.

Unlike traditional monitoring methods, drones can quickly survey vast stretches of rivers, detect rising water levels, spot breaches in embankments, and transmit real-time video to emergency control centres.

This is not just an experiment but a necessity in the face of the climate crisis, according to Waqas Anjum, Head of AI and Digitalization in Education at ACME. The drones are equipped with high-resolution cameras, GPS, live video transmission systems, and GIS. Combined with weather forecasts, river gauge data, and satellite imagery. — SPUTNIK



Vehicles move on a flooded road after a heavy rain in Karachi, Pakistan, 2 April 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE

JULY 24

Angkor Wat naga balustrade undergoes restoration

THE emergency restoration targets the first southern section of the causeway, which has completely collapsed over time.

“Because this site is one of the most popular locations where visitors photograph the iconic reflection of Angkor Wat over the southern pond, the APSARA National Authority prioritized the conservation of this highly visited area,” said Soy Sophearin, an archaeologist at the ANA's Department of Conservation of Monuments and Preventive Archaeology.

The restoration began in June 2026 and is scheduled for completion by the end of the year. — Xinhua

JULY 23

EU fines Google 890 million euros

THE European Union on Thursday hit Google with fines totaling 890 million euros (\$1 billion), in a move that risks escalating tensions with the United States.

The EU fined the US tech giant 460 million euros for illegally favouring its own services — such as Google Flights and Google Hotels — over rivals in search results.

A second fine of 430 million euros was levied because Google barred app developers from showing consumers offers, free of charge, outside the Google Play store, the European Commission said in a statement. “After this decision, we want to make sure that there is more competition and also other companies are able to innovate,” EU tech chief Henna Virkkunen said. Google still favours its own services. — AFP

JULY 22

China opposes France e-commerce law

CHINA'S Ministry of Commerce on Wednesday expressed grave concerns over France's newly introduced anti-ultra-fast-fashion law, saying that it imposed discriminatory restrictions against Chinese-invested cross-border e-commerce platforms and severely distorted fair competition through legislation.

A spokesperson for the ministry made the remarks when asked to comment on French officials explicitly identifying cross-border e-commerce platforms, including Shein, Temu and AliExpress, as the primary targets of the legislation.

The law, under the pretext of setting so-called environmental and sustainability standards, has in effect introduced exclusionary measures, which are suspected of violating the World Trade Organization's (WTO) principle of non-discrimination, the spokesperson said in a statement. The law has constituted a trade barrier against China and seriously deviated from the principles of fair competition and free trade that France has publicly advocated, the spokesperson said. China urges the French side to abide by WTO rules, immediately correct these discriminatory practices, and provide a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory business environment. — Xinhua

JULY 21

Italy battles third major heatwave of summer

ITALY is grappling with its third major heatwave of the summer, with soaring temperatures triggering nationwide health alerts, fueling wildfires and prompting authorities to step up emergency measures as scientists warn that climate change is intensifying extreme weather.

On Tuesday, the Italian Health Ministry placed 18 major cities, including Rome, Florence, Naples, Palermo and Catania, under its highest-level “red alert” for extreme heat.

The warning indicates conditions that pose health risks not only to vulnerable groups but also to healthy people exposed to prolonged high temperatures. While temperatures are expected to ease in parts of the country later this week, southern regions are forecast to remain under intense heat.

The prolonged hot and dry conditions have sharply increased wildfire risks, particularly in southern Italy.

In Sicily, more than 100 residents were evacuated after a wildfire threatened the town of Santo Stefano Quisquina near Agrigento. — Xinhua

JULY 20

Computer systems sabotage suspect repatriated from Vietnam

A CHIEF SUSPECT in a major case involving the sabotage of computer information systems has been repatriated from Vietnam to China, following a joint cross-border law enforcement operation, China's Ministry of Public Security said on Monday.

The suspect, identified by his surname Pan, is accused of leading criminal activities that used phishing websites to trick users into downloading malware-laced software, allowing criminals to take control of victims' computers, steal personal information and profit illegally.

The case was uncovered by police in east China's Shandong Province in July 2025. Authorities later dismantled multiple criminal gangs linked to the operation through a series of coordinated crackdowns, while Pan fled overseas in August 2025. — Xinhua

JULY 19

Four Indians killed in ship attack

FOUR Indian nationals have been killed and another critically injured following an attack on the vessel MV Golden Leo. The incident occurred on Sunday evening as the ship was departing from the port of Odesa in Ukraine.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed the tragic death toll in an official statement. The ministry noted that the vessel had a total of 17 crew members on board at the time of the incident, including five Indian nationals.

At the time of the incident, there were 17 crew members on board, including five Indian nationals. As per information available, four Indian nationals have tragically lost their lives, while one is hospitalized in a critical condition.” — ANI

SPORTS

YU stages
Varsity Esports
Championship 2026

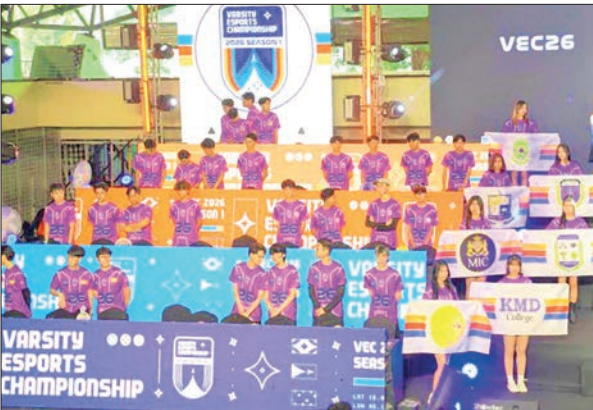


Photo shows players of The Varsity Esports Championship 2026. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

THE Varsity Esports Championship 2026, jointly organized by the Myanmar Electronic Sports Federation and PUBG Mobile, kicked off at the Recreation Centre of the University of Yangon yesterday morning.

Rector of the university Dr Thaung Htaik and Vice-President of the federation U Kyaw Htet Lin opened the championship.

Students and youth enjoyed the competitions of players in the four-player event and Mobile Legends event. Three teams each will advance to the finals of the two events, and first, second and third prizes will be given to the winning teams.

"We are proud that the University of Yangon has been allowed to host the VEC26 competition. As a university, our doors are always open to supporting Myanmar's sports sector. I am also delighted that this competition has brought together not only students from universities in Yangon but also young students from universities across different regions, allowing them to gather and meet in one place," said Rector Dr Thaung Htaik.

The final matches will take place on



26 July. The victorious teams representing universities will have chances to join the trials to select the players who will compete in the national and international competitions.

"Today, university students have the opportunity to compete in esports not online, but in front of a live audience. This marks a significant milestone and a source of pride for Myanmar's esports community. We are truly delighted that a tournament featuring one of the world's leading esports titles can be organized at the University of Yangon," said Vice-President of MESF U Kyaw Htet Lin.

Esports helps students and young people develop discipline, teamwork, strategic and analytical thinking, physical and mental fitness, as well as leadership qualities. It can also create opportunities for future careers and professional development. — Thitsa (MNA)/TTA

Myanmar lose 1-2 to Malaysia in
ASEAN Championship opener

MYANMAR'S national team suffered a 1-2 defeat to Malaysia in their opening Group B match of the ASEAN Championship Hyundai Cup 2026 at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Malaysia capitalized on their chances to claim all three points, while Myanmar were left empty-handed despite a spirited performance in front of the home crowd. The match was attended by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, regional ministers, Asian Football Confedera-



Players from Myanmar and Malaysia are seen in the Group B match of the ASEAN Championship Hyundai Cup 2026 at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

tion Senior Vice-President and Myanmar Football Federation President U Zaw Zaw, guests, football officials and thousands of supporters.

Myanmar are in Group B alongside Malaysia, the Philippines, Laos and Thailand. They will next face the Philippines on 28 July, Laos on

4 August and Thailand on 8 August as they continue their ASEAN Championship Hyundai Cup 2026 campaign. — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KZL

Atletico complete Lee signing from PSG

SOUTH Korea international Kang-In Lee has joined Atletico Madrid from European champions Paris Saint-Germain, the Spanish club announced Saturday.

"Atletico de Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain have reached an agreement for the transfer of Kang-In Lee, who has signed for our club until 30 June 2031," said the Spanish club.

"A talented left-footed midfielder, the 25-year-old can operate in the attacking midfield role or from either wing, and stands out for his vision, exquisite ball control and ability to pass and shoot," said his new club. The clubs did not reveal the fee, but a source close to the negotiations told AFP that it was around 40 million euros (\$45.5 million), excluding bonuses. — AFP



Lee Kang-In has joined Atletico Madrid from Paris Saint-Germain. PHOTO: AFP /FILE

Fury stops Wach in Thailand to close in
on Joshua fight

TYSON Fury edged closer to a blockbuster heavyweight clash with Anthony Joshua after defeating Poland's Mariusz Wach by technical knock-out on Friday, but said he was "not convinced" his fellow Briton would face him.

Fury, 37, outclassed Wach in front of 1,500 spectators in the Thai resort city of Pattaya in a bout that was not broadcast live on television. Former two-time world heavyweight



Tyson Fury (L) stopped Poland's Mariusz Wach in a bout held in front of just 1,500 fans in Thailand. PHOTO: AFP

champion Fury chipped away relentlessly at the

46-year-old until he was pulled out by his corner in

the seventh round. It was Fury's second win in as many contests this year as he returns from a 16-month lay-off.

Attentions now turn to fellow two-time heavyweight champion Joshua's bout on Saturday in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, against Albania's Kristian Prenga.

Should the 36-year-old triumph, as he is expected to, it will set up a long-awaited clash with his compatriot Fury. — AFP

Six ancient Comoros medinas join UNESCO's heritage list

UNESCO added six ancient Comoros medinas to its World Heritage List.

UNESCO on Saturday added six centuries-old medinas in the Comoros — once historic sultanates along Indian Ocean trading routes — to its World Heritage List, raising hopes for their preservation.

The ancient cities of palaces, mosques, public squares and narrow

streets, some dating back to the 12th century, are still occupied today, even though many structures are in serious disrepair.

“This listing is not a finish line but a starting point,” said Comoros culture minister Said Mohamed Ali Said, part of a government delegation

that travelled to UNESCO's meeting in Busan, South Korea, for the announcement.

It was a moment of “immense national pride”, he told AFP.

The medinas are the first sites from the Comoros archipelago to join the UNESCO list, which counts



A general view of the Royal Palace in the Medina of Iconi. PHOTO: AFP

more than 1,200 properties around the world considered to have “outstanding universal value” worth protection. They “are not just historical sites for us: they are living towns, where people still pray, trade, and celebrate life's great moments exactly as our ancestors did”, the minister said. — AFP

New York's noisy food carts go electric in clean air trial

The July pilot uses electric-bicycle batteries for food carts.

WALK around New York and you'll likely hear the chugging of petrol generators powering the city's tens of thousands of food carts. But not William Arevalo's. His truck, selling hot dogs, empanadas and fried shrimp, runs on rechargeable batteries as part of a city pilot aimed at cutting harmful noise and air pollution by harnessing electric energy.

Arevalo is one of 10 street vendors testing whether they can ditch petrol generators to reduce noise, planet-warming emissions and health risks posed by exhaust fumes. The vast majority of the city's 20,500 licensed food carts rely on generators to power stoves, freezers and ventilators; shifting all of them to electric power would be the same as taking around 30,000 cars off the road annually, according to the city council. — AFP



A person purchases a hot dog from an electric battery powered food cart. PHOTO: AFP

Dubai offers discounts to residents bringing in tourists

Summers are usually a low season for tourists in UAE.

DUBAI will offer more than \$800 worth of discounts and deals to residents who bring friends and family to visit, the emirate's media office said on Wednesday, as months of war have battered its tourism sector.

“The Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism launches ‘A Dubai Invite’, inviting residents to become ambassadors of the city by welcoming their loved ones to Dubai,” the Dubai media office said in a post on X, adding that the programme would run until the end of October.



A picture taken on 14 May 2015 shows a view of Dubai's Burj al-Arab hotel seen from the Mina al-Salam beach hotel and touristic resort in Jumeirah. PHOTO: AFP

Summers are usually a low season for tourists in the United Arab Emirates, a mostly desert country where temperatures can reach 50C.

The Dubai government website says res-

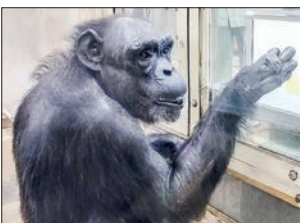
idents wishing to invite friends and family to visit from 20 July to 31 October can “receive benefits worth over AED 3,000 (\$816), including hotel stays, dining experiences, attraction tickets and more”.

Residents can nominate people they wish to invite on the website to enjoy the benefits.

With 19.5 million yearly tourists, Dubai is among the region's top destinations and was long seen as a playground for the world's rich and famous. — AFP

Japanese institute opens memorial site for famed chimpanzee Ai

ABOUT six months after the death of Ai — a female chimpanzee celebrated as a “genius” for her ability to understand numbers and identify colors — researchers at Kyoto University are honoring her legacy through a memorial website that continues to



Chimpanzee Ai died at forty-nine after decades of cognitive research. PHOTO: KYODO

Kyoto University opened a memorial site honoring chimpanzee Ai.

attract visitors.

The Institute for the Evolutionary Origins of Human Behavior at Kyoto University opened the tribute site in February after receiving a flood of condolence messages following Ai's death in January at the age of 49. — Kyodo