

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Ethiopia to Share Peace Process Experience

Myanmar systematically deports foreign nationals who enter the country illegally to their respective countries.



Ethiopian Ambassador Mr Daba Debele Hunde pays a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

AD E L E G A - TION led by Tokyo-based Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Myanmar Mr Daba Debele Hunde, 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 yesterday morning.

They cordially discussed that Myanmar has successfully held a free and fair multiparty

democratic general election, and the government elected by the people is firmly moving forward on the path of democracy while carrying out its responsibilities for the State. Likewise, in Ethiopia, an election was successfully held in May,

and the new government has assumed its responsibilities in governing the country. They also frankly exchanged views on further enhancement of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Ethiopia, **SEE PAGE 3**

The President to Address Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Government's 100-Day Progress

AS the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has delivered a message of invitation to the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Min Aung Hlaing, to offer an address at the 12th-day programme of the second regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to be held on 31 July 2026, the President will attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session and provide an address emphasizing the report on 100-day progress of the government.

It is hereby announced that the address to be delivered by the President on the 100-day progress of the Government will be broadcast live from 10 am on 31 July at the second regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, through MRTV-HD, MRTV-News, MRTV-Parliament, MRTV-Farmers' and MWD-HD, MWD-Variety television channels, as well as Myanmar Radio and Thazin FM. – Presidential Press and Information Bureau

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NATIONAL **PAGE 3**

West Yangon University marks Silver Jubilee celebration

Myanmar Showcases Culture at Hong Kong Book Fair



The Myanmar Consulate-General's booth at the World of Art & Culture pavilion of the Hong Kong Book Fair.

MYANMAR participated in the World of Art & Culture pavilion at the 36th Hong Kong Book Fair, held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 15 to 21 July, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The fair was organized by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. At the opening ceremony, the Council's Chairman, Professor Frederick Ma, delivered the welcome address, while Acting Chief Secretary for Administration of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, Mr Cheuk Wing-hing, delivered the opening remarks. **SEE PAGE 4**

YU Diamond Jubilee Hall set to reopen in 2026

THE Ministry of Education is preparing to reopen the Yangon University Diamond Jubilee Hall in Kamayut Township, Yangon Region.

The hall was closed on 1 October 2019 for renovation work ahead of the 100th anniversary of Yangon University, which fell on 1 December 2020.

Although the renovation work has been completed, public events at the hall were restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Preparations are now underway to reopen the hall in 2026. **SEE PAGE 3**



This image shows the Yangon University Diamond Jubilee Hall.

NATIONAL

Indian Embassy offers Waso robes

TO commemorate the Second Full Moon Day of Waso (Dhammacakka Day), a sacred day for the Buddha’s first sermon, the Embassy of India in Yangon held a Waso robe-offering ceremony at the India Centre on Merchant Road, Yangon, at 4 pm on 29 July.

At the ceremony, officials from the Indian Embassy offered Waso robes and other offertories to venerable monks led by the Mawkyun Sayadaw, Bhaddanta Silakkhandhabhivamsa (Golden Jubilee Tipiṭakadhara Dhamma-bhaṇḍāgārika, Tipitaka



This photo captures the Waso robe-offering ceremony held by the Indian Embassy in Yangon in commemoration of the Dhammacakka Day.

Pāli Pāragū). The ceremony was attended by the Ambassadors and diplomatic mission members from Nepal and Sri Lanka,

the Chairman of the All-Myanmar Hindu Central Council, heads and officials from the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, Sitagu International Buddhist Academy, and the Rakhine Literature and Culture Association, as well as members of the Board of Trustees of the Sule Pagoda and Botahtaung Pagoda.

Following this, an exhibition on historical Buddhist sites in India was opened and viewed by officials and attendees. — MT/ZN

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Daw Tin Tin Htoo, Managing Director of the No 2 Heavy Industrial Enterprise under the Ministry of Industry and MSME Development, on the expiry of the one-year probationary period.

EARTHQUAKE

(Issued at 8 am MST on 30 July 2026)

A slight earthquake of magnitude 3.5(M) with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 15 miles east of Kalewa), latitude 23.22°N, longitude 94.54°E, with a depth of 70 kilometres, about 63 miles west of the Kanbalu Seismological Observatory was recorded at 8 hours 51 minutes 38 seconds MST on 30 July 2026. — DMH

Weather

Heavy Rainfall Warning No 30

Issued at 8 pm MST on 30 July 2026

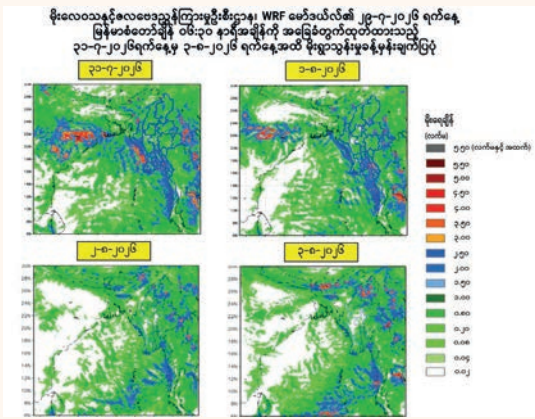
Depression Condition

According to the observations at 6:30 pm MST today, due to the strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal and due to the convective clouds, 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 today morning to 3 August 2026.

Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 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 Depression area over the West Bengal Coast near west Haldia, India, and such as the 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



Notice: Applications for New Electricity Meters Available via Website

THE Ministry of Electricity and Energy has announced that, from 15 August 2026, members of the public who require a new electricity meter will be able to apply directly via its website.

Applicants seeking an electricity supply but who do not yet have a meter may apply for new residential, commercial or industrial electricity meters, which are provided by the Government on a rental basis. The on-line application system is intended to speed up the process, eliminate the involvement of intermediaries or unauthorized personnel, and reduce both the time and cost involved for applicants.

To ensure consumers receive a reliable and high-quality electricity supply, the Government continuously maintains and upgrades electricity infrastructure, from power generation to distribution, in line with technological advancements. Applicants will therefore be required to pay only the prescribed official fees necessary to support these services.

All payments must be made online to the designated official account. No additional or unofficial charges will be required beyond the prescribed fees.

Accordingly, members of the public wishing to obtain a new electricity meter may submit their applications through the Ministry’s website at www.moee.gov.mm. Applications that meet the Ministry’s requirements will be processed, and meter installation will be carried out as soon as possible.

Ministry of Electricity and Energy

Notice on Issuance of New QR Code for Vehicle Owners Who Faced Fraud

- Vehicle owners whose registration numbers have been fraudulently used by others to purchase fuel must apply for the issuance of a new fuel purchase QR Code at the relevant region or state Inspection Offices of the Petroleum Products Regulatory Department together with the following documents: -
 - The original recommendation letter issued by the relevant Road Transport Administration Department confirming the authenticity of the Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate,
 - Coloured Copy of Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate
 - Coloured Copy of Citizenship Scrutiny Card
 - Address of vehicle owner (township, region/state), phone number
 - Evidence showing that fuel was purchased at other petrol stations using the applicant’s vehicle number (such as the date, time, and name of the fuel station).
- Upon submission of the above documents, the relevant Region or State Inspection Office of the Petroleum Products Regulatory Department will verify the application and issue a new QR Code.
- After the new QR Code has been issued, the barcode printed on the Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate or any QR Code previously issued by a fuel station for that vehicle will no longer be valid for fuel purchases, and fuel may only be purchased using the newly issued QR Code.
- Vehicle owners are responsible for safeguarding the newly issued QR Code and ensuring that it is not lost or damaged.

Ministry of Electricity and Energy

NATIONAL

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Ethiopia to Share Peace Process Experience

FROM PAGE 1

plans to promote exchange of goodwill visits between senior officers of both countries, exchange of experiences on the peace process between the two nations to cease internal conflicts, sending peace negotiation bodies to con-

duct observation of the process, and promotion of inter-parliamentary relations and bilateral relations.

Their discussions focused on the disruption of stability and peace in border areas causing obstacles to the country's image, nation-building

efforts, and the implementation of national development activities, the need to address border problems in the best ways, and systematic deportation of foreign nationals who illegally enter the country through border regions to the relevant countries.

They also underscored the importance of promoting cooperation in multiple sectors, including agriculture, trade and tourism, to strengthen people-to-people exchanges and further enhance the longstanding friendship and cooperation between the two

countries.

The President of Myanmar and the Ethiopian Ambassador exchanged gifts and had documentary photos taken together with the attendees.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe and of-

ficials. The Tokyo-based Ethiopian Ambassador was accompanied by his spouse Mrs Worknesh Biru, a member of the House of Peoples' Representatives and former State Minister of Culture and Sports, and embassy officials. — MNA/TTA

West Yangon University marks Silver Jubilee celebration

EDUCATION sector development plays a key role in enhancing the quality, human resource development and national development undertaking, said Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye at the 25th Anniversary (Silver Jubilee) of the West Yangon University under the Ministry of Education on its campus in Yangon yesterday morning.

The Vice-President unveiled the stone plaque to mark the silver jubilee celebration of the university and visited the booths exhibited for the celebration.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye said that the University's academic and material development achievements during the 25-year period have been the result of the support and assistance provided by the Head of State and officials, combined with the united efforts and dedication of all faculty members, students, and staff.

She noted that education sector development plays a key role in enhancing the quality of young people, developing human resources, and advancing national development.

With regard to turn-



Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye views around the exhibits on display at yesterday's Silver Jubilee of the West Yangon University.

ing out the outstanding students, the Vice-President stressed that a country's development is built upon the strength of healthy, capable, and outstanding young professionals and intellectuals. Therefore, she urged all educational institutions from basic education schools to universities to make every effort to nurture and produce a new generation of well-rounded, talented, and capable young people for the future.

Moreover, the Vice-President stressed that all faculty members, staff, and students need to work together to make

Yangon West University an institution that not only upholds its vision of fostering good moral character, creativity, academic excellence, and intellectual insight, but also provides education and training that promotes research and the development of technologies and software beneficial to the people across various sectors.

The Vice-President and dignitaries watched a video clip on the silver jubilee celebration of the university.

Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein presented a commemorative gift to

the Vice-President.

The ceremony was also attended by Union ministers, the Yangon Region advocate-general, deputy minister and regional ministers.

The West Yangon University located in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region has produced 24,585 bachelor's degree graduates, 1,001 honours degree graduates, and 881 post-graduate degree graduates from 2004-05 to 2024-25 academic years. Moreover, the university has turned out two well-rounded students in 2025-26 academic year. — MNA/TTA

DIPLOMACY

MoFA Union Minister receives ICRC Resident Representative

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe received Mr Arnaud de Baecque, Resident Representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on matters related to ICRC's activities and the provision of humanitarian assistance in Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA



The ICRC Resident Representative calls on Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe.

YU Diamond Jubilee Hall set to reopen ...

FROM PAGE 1

The Yangon University Diamond Jubilee Hall was built to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Yangon University on 1 December 1995. Located in Kamayut Township, Yangon Region, the hall was constructed by the

State Law and Order Restoration Council for K63 million, as a memorial to the Diamond Jubilee. The Yangon University Diamond Jubilee celebrations were held for a week beginning on 1 December 1995. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

MPU established to strengthen parliamentary cooperation and promote democratic development: Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker

THE Myanmar Parliamentary Union (MPU) convened its 1/2026 meeting yesterday at the Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw, focusing on enhancing parliamentary procedures, improving legislative coordination between Union and regional Hluttaws, and fostering a balanced system of governance.

In his opening address, MPU Chairman Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe stated that the 18-member MPU was formally constituted following Hluttaw approval during the second regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 26 June 2026. He highlighted that the union's primary goal is to standardize operational procedures, facilitate legal collaboration across all Hluttaw tiers, expand engagement with international



The Myanmar Parliamentary Union (MPU) convenes its first meeting yesterday, presided over by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

al parliamentary bodies, and advance democratic development in Myanmar.

Addressing the country's system of governance, U Aung Lin Dwe noted that Myanmar operates under a hybrid model combining presidential and Hluttaw features — a presidential framework at the Union level and a Hluttaw structure in regions and states.

He stressed the importance of maintaining both horizontal separation of powers among legislative, executive, and judicial branches and vertical division of power across government levels, urging all branches to work through constructive coordination rather than friction.

The Chairman emphasized that while asking

Hluttaw questions is an important procedure, the core function of Hluttaw is lawmaking. He urged region and state Hluttaws to review existing laws under Schedule 2 to identify necessary amendments, repeal outdated regulations causing public hardship, and draft new legislation that supports public welfare and smooth executive

administration. Relevant Hluttaw committees will systematically study ministry-specific laws to prepare priority actions for upcoming sessions.

To ensure seamless coordination, U Aung Lin Dwe proposed several key operational measures. He urged region and state Hluttaws to align their annual meeting schedules with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to establish synchronized calendars. He also stressed that ongoing efforts to unify and update regional Hluttaw rules and procedures must be finalized to create standardized regulations. Furthermore, he emphasized staff capacity building, advising speakers to focus on core legislative duties while delegating administrative tasks to Hluttaw office heads, alongside providing continuous training for

support personnel.

During the session, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Jeng Phang Naw Taung and Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn, along with regional speakers, discussed plans to enhance parliamentary performance, improve MP capacity, and build public trust.

In his closing remarks, U Aung Lin Dwe reminded participants that Section 12 of the Constitution explicitly grants legislative power to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Region or State Hluttaws. He called on all Hluttaw representatives to uphold high standards of integrity and discipline, maintaining a constructive system of checks and balances that prioritizes the interests of the nation and its citizens. — MNA/TH

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Ethiopia to boost immigration cooperation, combat transnational crime

UNION Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing received Tokyo-based Ethiopian Ambassador Mr Daba Debele Hunde, who is preparing to leave Japan after completing his duties, at the Union Minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to the entry and exit of Ethiopian nationals



The Ethiopian ambassador calls on Union Minister U Myint Kyaing yesterday.

visiting Myanmar under various visas and residence permits, the detection and

legal action taken against foreigners, including Ethiopian nationals, who have

entered Myanmar illegally, and the deportation of Ethiopian nationals involved in online scams for the sake of the friendship between the two countries. They also discussed Myanmar's cooperation with neighbouring countries in combating online financial fraud and human trafficking, as well as continued cooperation between Myanmar and Ethiopia on immigration matters. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar Showcases Culture at Hong Kong Book Fair

FROM PAGE 1

The Myanmar Consulate-General showcased books and publications on Myanmar lacquerware, agriculture, investment opportunities, special economic zones and consumer protection laws, along with brochures promoting the country's tourism, traditional cuisine and festivals. — ASH/KN

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NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Third Pyithu Hluttaw concludes Second Regular Session

THE Third Pyithu Hluttaw successfully concluded its second regular session yesterday after 32 sitting days, during which lawmakers focused on infrastructure, agriculture, housing and public services while raising hundreds of questions on national and regional development.

At the final day's meeting in Nay Pyi Taw, Speaker U Khin Yi, Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn and members of parliament heard responses from deputy ministers on 12 questions covering agricultural laboratory staffing, irrigation projects, rice production, roads, bridges, public housing and transport infrastructure.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Ye Tint Tun said laboratories under the Dawei District Agriculture Department would continue operating under the existing organi-



The final day of the Second Regular Session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw gets underway in Nay Pyi Taw, presided over by Speaker U Khin Yi and Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn.

zational structure. Instead of creating separate staffing positions, the ministry plans to train and assign qualified personnel through recruitment and promotion programmes.

The ministry also outlined plans to improve the Kinta Left Main Canal to strengthen irrigation for farmland in Wundwin, Myittha and TadaU townships. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Bo Bo Kyaw said

upgrades would be implemented in phases, subject to funding from regional or Union budgets.

On agricultural production, the ministry announced targets to cultivate about 14.9 million acres of monsoon rice and 2.93 million acres of summer rice during the 2026-2027 financial year, with plans to gradually expand monsoon rice cultivation to over 15.1 million acres and summer rice cultivation to

more than three million acres by 2030-2031. The ministry emphasized improving productivity, food safety, export competitiveness and farmers' incomes rather than expanding cultivated land.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Myo Myint responded to a series of questions on roads and bridges across the country, outlining plans for road upgrades in Bago and Yangon regions, and Shan and

Rakhine states, while also providing updates on proposed bridge projects and public housing initiatives. He said implementation would depend largely on annual budget allocations.

In his closing address, Speaker U Khin Yi reviewed the session's achievements, noting that lawmakers had submitted 722 parliamentary questions, including 286 starred and 436 unstarred questions, as well as three motions. The questions covered a wide range of sectors, including transport, construction, agriculture, education, healthcare, energy, administration and regional development.

The Speaker also highlighted progress in legislative work, including discussions on amendments to the Political Parties Registration Law and the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law, while an Anti-Online Scam Bill has already been debated in the Pyidaungsu

Hluttaw and is expected to become law.

He said Hluttaw committees had continued reviewing legislation and engaging with ministries and stakeholders, while efforts were being made to improve public engagement through the parliament's website, YouTube channel and TikTok platform, as well as visitor programmes and media briefings.

Looking ahead, the Speaker outlined a five-year strategy to modernize parliament by drafting new laws, reviewing outdated legislation, expanding public participation, promoting digital parliamentary systems and strengthening international parliamentary cooperation. He urged lawmakers to use the parliamentary recess to meet constituents, gather public concerns and return with proposals that address both regional and national priorities. — MNA/ST

Chin State reviews FY2026-27 supplementary budget plans

A coordination meeting to review Chin State's supplementary budget allocation list and revised estimates for the 2026-2027 financial year was held at the Chin State Government Office in Haka yesterday.

During the meeting, Chin State Chief Minister Dr Vun Sawn Thang said that only essential projects, particularly rehabilitation work and necessary activities, should be included in supplementary funding requests. He urged officials to avoid inflated proposals and carefully assess whether projects could be completed within six months and effectively implemented.

He added that the sub-



A coordination meeting to review Chin State's supplementary budget for the 2026-2027 financial year is in progress.

mitted plans would be reviewed by the State Cabinet before being presented to the Chin State Hluttaw and, once approved, forwarded to the Union level. Officials also discussed re-

quests for supplementary funding, budget assessment procedures, financial management practices, and relevant rules, regulations and procedures. — IPRD/KZL

Magway's Smart Village Project Committee formed and introduced

TO promote the socioeconomic development of rural communities, the Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, organized an introductory briefing and committee formation ceremony for the Smart Village Project for the 2026-2027 financial year. The event took place yesterday in Phayapyo (South) Village, Magway Township.

Township Head U Soe Lin Htut of the Magway Township Department of Rural Development delivered



An initiation and committee formation ceremony for village projects is underway in Magway Township.

the opening speech. Project implementation staff then explained the objectives, benefits, and operational procedures of the project to the villagers.

Afterwards, a seven-member committee was democratically elected and formed with the full consensus of the local villagers. — Nyein Thu (Rural)

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NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Debates conclude at 2nd Regular Session of 3rd Amyotha Hluttaw

THE second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the 23rd day at its convention hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

MP U Mya Lin from the Rakhine State Constituency 2 asked about the plan to operate the Yangon-Rakhine coastal liners. Deputy Minister for Transport U Tun Lu stated that the Yangon-Rakhine route cannot yet be operated as there are no coastal vessels available to provide the service. The Rakhine State Government also still faces certain limitations in arranging the service at this time due to the security situation.

Regarding the question raised by MP U Sein Shwe Min from the Magway Region Constituency 4 about the plan to open a temporary office at Minbu Township Administrator's Office to deliver pension salaries to more than 1,000 pensioners from Sagu. Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw Than Than Lin replied that the Minbu



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

District branch of Myanmar Economic Bank is providing monthly pension payments to retirees in Sagu through cash payments, account transfers, remittances, and mobile payment services. Therefore, it is not possible to open a temporary office at the Sagu Administrator's Office for pension payment.

MP U Soe Min San from the Mon State Constituency 9 asked about the plan to cancel the endorsement confirming that they have not remarried for more than 70 years old

women who take out family pension salary. Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Han Win Aung responded that the submission of a certificate confirming that family pension recipients have not remarried is being verified and requested in accordance with the existing laws and regulations, without any distinction based on gender or age. This measure serves as evidence to ensure the accuracy of the number of eligible family pension recipients and is

carried out to safeguard against the wastage or loss of State funds.

Member of the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee MP U Than Tun from the Rakhine State Constituency read out the report of the bill committee for the seventh amendment to the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Bill. Secretary of the committee MP U Zin Min Htet from the Bago Region Constituency 7 sought the approval for each section of the bill.

Amyotha Hluttaw

Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe announced that the Hluttaw approved the bill as amended. After the report on seventh amendment to the Region or State Hluttaw Election Bill was clarified, the Amyotha Hluttaw also approved it as amended.

The Speaker delivered a speech, saying that the Amyotha Hluttaw recorded the messages sent by the international parliamentary association and other relevant bodies to the Hluttaw Speaker.

During the second regular session, the Amyotha Hluttaw formed 16 affairs committees, seven parliamentary friendship associations between the Amyotha Hluttaw and those of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Laos, China, India and Thailand.

Lawmakers asked 93 asterisk questions and 131 non-asterisk questions at the Hluttaw sessions. They also submitted five proposals but two proposals were approved and two more were recorded. One

proposal will be discussed in the third regular session. During the period, the Hluttaw discussed three bills.

It is also necessary to listen to the voices of the people and the difficulties they face regarding the impacts of relevant laws on the public. On the other hand, it is also necessary to hear the challenges encountered by administrative officials responsible for implementing and carrying out these tasks. Regarding amendments to laws, some departments may have laws that need to be revised, while there may also be laws that remain pending for amendment due to various reasons.

The Speaker urged the Hluttaw committees to assign responsibilities among their members to study the laws administered by the respective ministries under their purview.

The Speaker announced the concluding of the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw. — MNA/TTA

Govt staff, residents in Falam provided with rice, cooking oil

A total of 433 bags of rice and 978 viss of cooking oil, provided by the National Disaster Management Committee, were distributed yesterday morning at the City Hall of Falam to government employees serving in Falam and residents of the eight wards: Farhtauk, Cinnmul, Talanlo, Valai, Laizo, Lailun, Lonpi and Zalai.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo attended the event and provided the relief items to the locals. Moreover, he inspected the healthcare services at the outpatient department of the temporary public hospi-



Residents receive the rice distribution in Falam.

tal of Falam, and sale of fish, meat and vegetables at the municipal market in Blineward, and also distributed rice to the people.

The temporary public hospital in Falam, located at the city hall in Farhtauk

Ward, has been operating since 11 May 2026, with two doctors and 82 health-care workers. As of today, the hospital has provided medical treatment to a total of 1,750 patients. — MNA/KTZH

Tatkon's village concrete road project inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Nay Pyi Taw, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the completed concrete paving of Cherry Road in ShweU Daung Village, Tatkon Township.

The project was implemented to improve rural transport and provide all-weather road access for local communities.

Tatkon Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Zin Lin Htet, engineering staff and village development committee members examined the



This image shows the completed concrete road in Tatkon Township.

completed concrete road measuring 1,247 feet long, 12 feet wide and seven inches thick in ShweU Daung Village. She met village elders and locals to emphasize the need to maintain the road for long-term sustainability through community co-operation, while coordinating issues raised by

residents.

The concrete road project was implemented using K113.68 million allocated by the Nay Pyi Taw Council for the 2026-2027 financial year, under the technical guidance and close supervision of township DRD officials together with local participation. — Karan (Rural)

NATIONAL

‘Tomorrow’s Boss’ TV programme competition launched

THE ‘Tomorrow’s Boss’ Business Idea TV programme competition focuses on modern challenges, innovative ideas and solutions, practical implementation, and positive impacts on society, and it will be jointly organized by Yunnan International Communication Centre (YICC) and Shwe Than Lwin Media Company Limited, according to the TV programme launch event.

The launch event was held yesterday morning at Hexagon Studio in Shwe Htut Tin compound in Tamway Township. The



The launch of the Business Idea TV programme competition in progress yesterday.

competition will be broadcast on Channel 9 and digital platforms, including the Skynet App, Channel 9 YouTube and TikTok, with

the aim of nurturing future leaders and entrepreneurs in Myanmar’s business community.

The launch event was

opened by Ren Yuanjiang, Secretary of the Yunnan Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China and Chairman of the Yunnan Newspaper Group, and Daw Nan Mauk Lao Seng of Shwe Than Lwin Media.

In addition, Myanmar Radio and Television Director-General U Ye Naing, the Secretary of the Communist Party of Yunnan Province and Chairman of the Yunnan Newspaper Group and Daw Nan Mauk Lao Seng of Shwe Than Lwin Media delivered speeches. — MNA/MKKS

Lewe’s MSY village project loans disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Lewe District, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project (Exit Strategy) in Kyoetan Village, Lewe Township, yesterday.

Lewe Township Department of Rural Development Head U San Yu Hlaing explained that the Exit Strategy is being implemented under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project to enable rural communities to independently manage and sustain the project, ensure the long-term continuity of livelihood and family income-generating activities, and maintain village development in-

itiatives. Officials then explained project activities, interest rates, repayment periods and rules and regulations to be followed, and handed over K65.5 million in revolving funds to members of the project implementation groups.

Kyoetan Village is implementing family income-generating activities using K65.5 million from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project (Exit Strategy). Under the supervision of the township head, members of the project implementation groups disbursed the revolving loans at low interest rates to a total of 219 members from the village engaged in agricultural, livestock breeding and trading businesses. — Sein Lwin (Rural)



A village representative receives village project funds in Lewe Township.

Dala’s rural water supply project inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the completed village pond desilting work and water distribution system in Ngaphaw Village, Dala Township. The project was implemented to ensure year-round access to safe drinking water for rural residents.

Dala Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw San Chaw Chaw Khin and

officials examined the completed earth pond desilting measuring 140 feet long, 130 feet wide, and five feet deep, as well as the current operation of the village water distribution system. She also met local communities and emphasized the need to maintain the rural water supply facilities for long-term sustainability through community co-operation, while coordinating issues raised by residents.

The project was implemented using funds al-

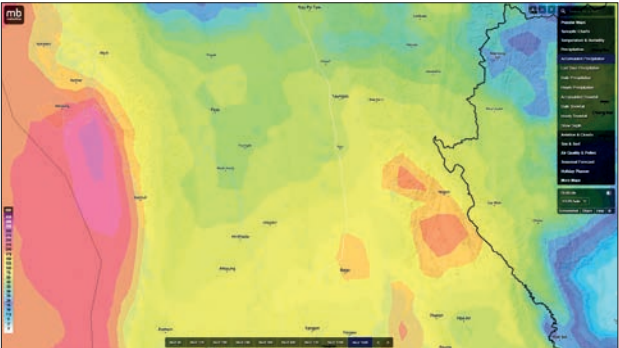


Officials oversee the completed water supply project in Dala Township, Yangon Region.

located by the Yangon Region Government. Upon completion, the pond’s storage capacity has increased to approximately

566,930 gallons of water, easing seasonal drinking water shortages during the summer. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

DMH warns Bago River to rise another foot in 24 hours



Rainfall conditions shown in Meteoblue (ICON Global Model).

ACCORDING to this morning’s measurements, the water level of the Bago River has risen above the danger mark in Bago. As it could rise further within the next 24 hours, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) has issued a warning for residents living near the riverbanks and in low-lying

areas to remain vigilant.

The statement at 8 am on 30 July described that the water level of the Bago River in Bago currently stands at one centimetre above the danger mark.

The river is forecast to rise to about one foot above the danger mark in Bago within the next 24

hours and remain above the danger level. The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) has therefore issued an advisory, urging residents living along the Bago River and in low-lying areas of Bago Township to remain on high alert and take precautionary measures against possible flooding.

Similarly, meteorologist U Win Naing, citing Meteoblue (ICON Global Model), has also warned that based on model maps

issued on 27 July, due to a deep depression (centre of ‘L’) in the northern Bay of Bengal, monsoon winds from the Gulf of Martaban and the Andaman Sea are being intensely pulled into Bago Region. Consequently, rainfall will become extremely heavy after the next 72 hours, and it is an orange/pink alert zone where a total rainfall of not less than 260 millimetres could fall within 168 hours. — TWA/ZN

Establish agriculture and livestock zones for the people

THE Government is making efforts with a focus on ensuring the prosperity and well-being of the country and food security. These efforts include the development of agriculture and livestock breeding through modern methods, the establishment of agricultural and livestock breeding zones, and the implementation of the cooperative system.

It will be essential for the people of the country to have access to adequate food supplies and to achieve economic stability. Therefore, agricultural and livestock breeding zones are established in respective regions in order to ensure that the people have sufficient food. The main objective is not to seek profits, but rather to ensure

Livestock breeding activities must be continuously carried out through a batch breeding system and modern breeding methods to increase productivity. In conducting agricultural activities, modern farming methods and techniques must be applied instead of traditional conventional practices. Similarly, in other regions and states, agricultural and livestock production for food security must be systematically implemented in other regions and states based on calculations of the local population and consumption needs.

26th-Mile Integrated Agricultural and Livestock Farm are mainly intended to meet the daily demand for agricultural and livestock products for the around eight million population in Yangon Region.

In implementing agricultural and livestock breeding zones, measures are being taken to increase the productivity and yield of crops and livestock, select and breed high-quality and pure breeds, conduct research and apply modern methods and machinery in farming and breeding, enhance breeding practices, and ensure the availability of high-quality and nutritious animal feed. The agricultural and livestock products produced are being distributed and sold in the market.

Livestock breeding activities must be continuously carried out through a batch breeding system and modern breeding methods to increase productivity. In conducting agricultural activities, modern farming methods and techniques must be applied instead of traditional conventional practices. Similarly, in other regions and states, agricultural and livestock production for food security must be systematically implemented in other regions and states based on calculations of the local population and consumption needs.

THE statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 23 July regarding the ASEAN Five-Point Statement also Five-Points Consensus has drawn significant public attention across major media platforms.

Far from being perceived as a routine diplomatic communication, this declaration reflects a resolute commitment to safeguarding sovereign national interests in alignment with the foreign policy objectives of the newly elected government established under Myanmar's new political context in 2026. Ultimately, it signifies a decisive response by a sovereign state against discriminatory practices by certain member states that undermine the fundamental principles of the ASEAN Charter.

Specifically, attempts by select member states to leverage a non-binding statement rather than a true consensus to exert political pressure constitute a clear departure from the Charter's core tenets of mutual respect, equality, and non-interference in domestic affairs.

Consequently, the position viewing the Five-Point Statement not as a binding agreement, but as a mere Chair's statement, is firmly reiterated. While the Statement or Consensus as originally framed is not accepted, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has noted its contents as constructive input offered in the spirit of ASEAN family, to

be considered strictly through the lens of domestic developments. This measured approach enjoys broad public resonance and support.

Next, all ASEAN member states must strictly adhere to the ASEAN Charter and respect established regional protocols to realize the collective vision of a resilient, unified, and capable ASEAN Community.

In accordance with ASEAN protocols, decision-making relies on the participation and consultation of every member state to reach a genuine consensus. Procedurally, a true consensus is formed only after formal drafts are circulated among member states for comprehensive input and deliberation. Regarding the 2021 Five-Point Statement, these essential procedural steps were bypassed and the document was issued as an annex to the Chairman's Statement immediately following the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting, precluding true consensus. Myanmar's position regarding this procedural inconsistency was officially articulated on 27 April 2021.

As a responsible member

state, Myanmar remains fully committed to the ASEAN Charter, the fundamental principle of non-interference, and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, while steadfastly respecting the sovereignty of fellow nations. Reciprocally, Myanmar rejects any attempts to compromise its national sovereignty or exert external political pressure. Myanmar will not permit external entities to misrepresent facts or intervene in its domestic affairs and this is a stance that directly reflects the resolve and dignity of the sovereign nation.

Furthermore, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Parliament), comprising duly elected representatives in accordance with the constitution, has formally reflected the public will by introducing an Urgent Motion, deliberating, and adopting an important resolution regarding the ASEAN statement and Myanmar Position.

As the current government operates in strict alignment with the 2008 Constitution, it is bound to uphold and act upon the motions and resolutions adopted

hard. Actually, writing exercises usually consume years as well as demand both accuracy and fluency in a language. Hence, in most cases, it will not be easy for a student to do writing exercises all by himself. At such times, communicative writing ideas

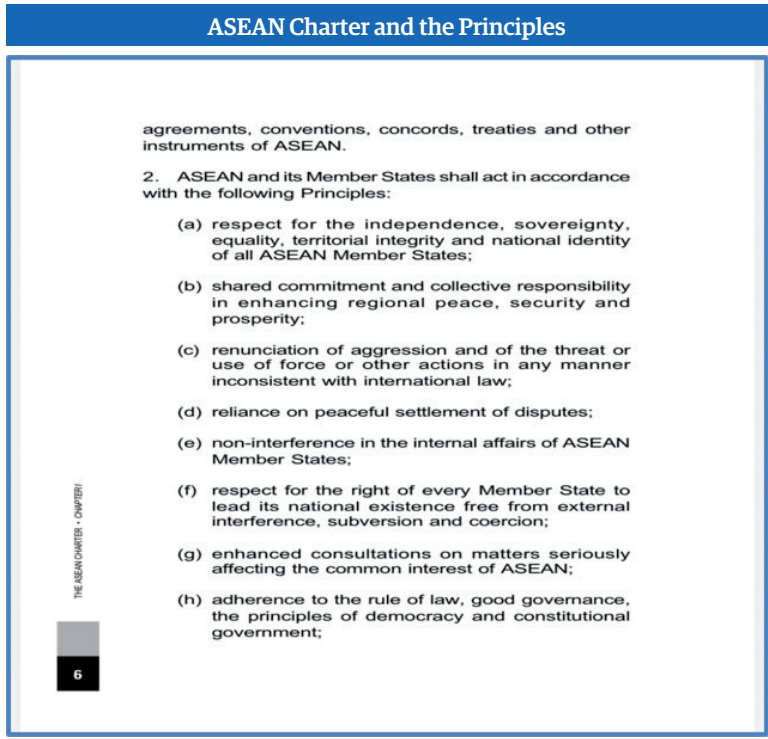


between students come into use to a distinct extent. Although, as the saying goes, one shallow does not make a summer, more than one can make a summer. And communicative writing ideas will describe not only the concerted effort of students but also their exchange of knowledge and information.

Chain stories: In this way, each student must add a sentence to a story, then pass it on, where they can use a pic-

Public Sentiment Surrounding the Declaration on the ASEAN Five-Point Statement

By Min Khant



by the Union Parliament. This dynamic demonstrates a genuine political evolution in Myanmar, wherein the executive branch respects and adheres to the parliamentary guidance of the legislative branch in full accord with democratic norms and practices.

These parliamentary deliberations accurately reflect the prevailing political landscape and highlight crucial, logical concerns. Notably, certain parliamentary proposals have called for a complete withdrawal from ASEAN, citing disproportionate treatment, ungrounded political

pressure regarding matters beyond official declarations, and a persistent failure to recognize the government's accountable and constructive efforts.

Specifically, members of Parliament emphasized that the current administration established in accordance with the 2008 Constitution, similar to the first democratic government in 2010 (USDP) and the second democratic government in 2015 (NLD), reflects the genuine will of the voting majority. Consequently, the public calls upon ASEAN to extend equal and formal recognition to this elected government.

As the elected government is constitutionally bound to take appropriate measures in response to this Parliamentary Urgent Motion, the Minister for Foreign Affairs articulated the government's position at the Thailand Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting. Subsequently, the 23 July official press release communicated to the international community a more definitive, unambiguous stance alongside the framework for future action.

This official release demonstrates the government's appropriate implementation of the Parliament's Important Motion. It reflects a firm, resolute stand against unequal treatment and unilateral pressure, defending the country and its people and this is a position that enjoys broad public resonance and support.

Furthermore, in strict adherence to the foreign policy principles enshrined in the 2008 Constitution, the elected government actively enhances diplomatic engagement with neighboring and friendly nations. Myanmar maintains mutually beneficial cooperation with individual ASEAN member states on a bilateral basis. Preparing for all contingencies while striving for the best possible outcome, the government remains committed to patient, sustained diplomatic efforts to restore regular relations with ASEAN.

ASEAN is fundamentally an inter-governmental organization. Consequently, member states must engage on an equal footing based on mutual cooperation, rather than exerting co-

ercive pressure on one another. Since its inception, ASEAN was never established as a political or legal governing body, but rather as an institution for socioeconomic cooperation. Therefore, by straying from regional socioeconomic development to apply pressure on a member state's political and internal affairs, ASEAN risks undermining its foundational principles and core values.

In truth, Myanmar's stance regarding the ASEAN Five-Point Statement serves to uphold and safeguard the values of the ASEAN Spirit, the ASEAN Way, and the ASEAN Charter to reinforce regional solidarity. A majority of ASEAN member states maintain an understanding and supportive view toward Myanmar's principled position in defending the Charter. Conversely, only a select few member states have exploited the concept of "consensus" to serve self-interested motives, thereby encroaching upon the internal affairs of a sovereign nation.

As citizens of a sovereign State, there is no justification to accept external interference in domestic affairs, nor can we endorse any departure from the Charter and foundational principles of an organization to which our nation belongs. Consequently, the public strongly affirms its support for the government's ongoing efforts and roadmap to achieve the best possible outcomes in restoring regular engagement with ASEAN.

By Hu Wo
(Cuckoo's Song)

without being scattered after the writing process. Actually, jigsaw writing flows well towards a lucid passage if the paragraphs must have a strong connection with each other.

Pen pals and email/letter replies: In this way, students should set up pen pals, even with other classes in the same school. In this way, they can write letters or emails and reply to each other, for example, job applications and responses. Not only that, this writing may lead to role plays, for example, a job interview. After all, students are able to make pen pals with others from different schools. In the past, people have made contact with one another by letter or email. Truly, this writing

students must plan a longer text, no matter whether it is an essay or a report. Each of these learners has to write one part, then they will join all parts. Jigsaw writing can help students with clear organization and break writing into smaller steps. Really, this writing relies on paragraph writing, not separating a cluster of sentences. Here, jigsaw writing means partly or content-limited writing.

Hence, all paragraphs of students need be well collected

ture, the first line or music as a prompt. For instance, when students are asked to write an essay on the conservation of the natural environment, they can be shown one of the pictures that were awarded the Pulitzer Prize. Similarly, if students are allowed to write an essay based on a story, they can even be given a descriptive painting which portrays the story in one way or another. And language teachers can give students the first line

of the subject matter, as well as its introductory sentence, as a hint. Or a piece of music can be played to students to begin any work of writing. Whatever it is, chain stories will apparently diminish such writing-related emotional or mental stress as boredom, fear and other unnecessary hesitations. Then, the final version can be edited and displayed or even work well on-line too.

Jigsaw writing: In this way,

A Collection of Communicative Writing Ideas

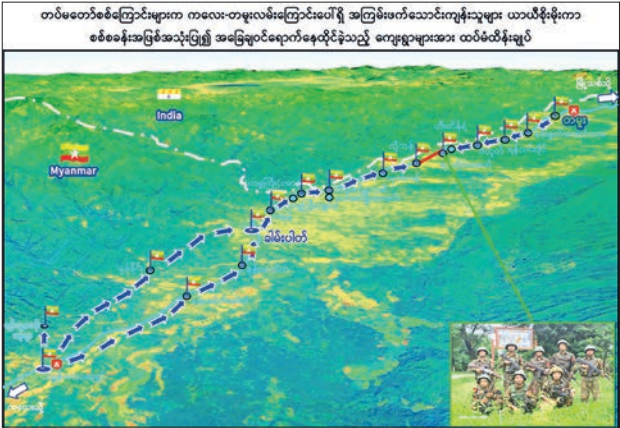
IN MY teaching experience, many students are hesitant to do writing practice. Of course, out of the four language skills, writing appears to be the most difficult among students, even though it is said that whatever we can do is not

strengthens their relationships and also improves their language skills, except that they could make common or careless mistakes in the language.

The silent classroom: Silence is golden, as the proverb states. This proverb can be applied in the silent classroom for writing. In actual fact, silence refers to a passive circumstance for most students but means positive for writing classes. In this way, students have to run part of a lesson only through written communication. Students ought to use notes, mini whiteboards or online tools, such as Padlet, for example, to 'talk'. This writing can reduce pressure and mirror real-life online writing.

NATIONAL

Tatmadaw regains four villages on Kalay-Tamu route



This map shows Tatmadaw columns retaking strategic villages on the Kalay-Tamu road.

TATMADAW columns systematically conducted counter-terrorism operations to reopen Kalay-Tamu route starting from 7 June, and the column marched from Kalay recaptured the towns and villages along that route. On 28 July, they reoccupied Boatkan Mod-

el village whereas another column Yanlinfaing village. Yesterday, the Tatmadaw column marching from Tamu regained Witoke, Taintyan, Yantineang villages and vicinity areas, and the column from Kalay Twiban village, and also seized bombs, explosives, homemade mines and other materials. Meanwhile, the terrorists retreated with huge casualties. While occupying the villages, Tatmadaw found out that the insurgents had allegedly intimidated residents, extorted money by force of arms, and established checkpoints made of sandbags along roadsides. They had also converted civilians' houses into defensive positions, constructing fortified firing points, bunkers and communication trenches using sandbags and logs, which were seized by the Tatmadaw. Tatmadaw columns will continue Counter-Terrorism Operation and mine clearance operations, and reconstruction work on damaged roads and bridges along the Kalay-Tamu will also be carried out. — MNA/KTZH

China-ASEAN digital education community to expand learning opportunities



This photo features the opening ceremony of the 2026 China-ASEAN Education Week, attended by Deputy Minister Dr Zaw Myint.

A China-ASEAN digital education community will be established to create better learning opportunities for the younger generation and enhance education and skills development, Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Myint said. He made the remarks while delivering an opening address at the opening ceremony of the 2026 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week, held in Guiyang, Guizhou Province, China, under the theme “Building a Friendly Regional Community through Smart Technology-based Education”. Following the opening ceremony, the deputy minister joined education ministers and deputy ministers from China and ASEAN member states in launching the China-ASEAN Smart Education Quality Enhancement Programme. He also attended the China-ASEAN Education Ministers’ Dialogue, chaired by Chinese Vice-Minister of Education Mr Ren Youqun. In the afternoon, he participated in a forum on “Integrating Industry and Education in the Era of Digital and Artificial Intelligence Transformation”. The 2026 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week was attended by education ministers and deputy ministers from China and ASEAN countries, as well as senior officials from Guizhou Province. — MNA/KZL

Tachilek’s Mya Sein Yaung income-generating activities inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the progress of household income-generating activities financed through the revolving fund of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Maelekpakaw, Konehsa and Namhkam (Wa) villages, Tachilek Township.

Tachilek Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Lei Lei Thin and staff visited the villages to inspect the progress of agriculture, livestock breeding, trad-



Officials inspect a rural development project in Tachilek Township.

ing and other livelihood activities being carried out with loans from the project’s revolving fund. They also met members of the village Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Manage-

ment Committees and women-led households to examine the utilization of the project funds, check whether the monthly financial records had been properly completed, and collect

information through survey questionnaires, while urging committee members to expand household income-generating activities and coordinating issues raised by residents. Under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project, revolving funds of K58 million, K20 million and K22 million have been disbursed to Maelekpakaw, Konehsa and Namhkam (Wa) villages, respectively, all of whom are successfully operating local income-generating activities with support from the project funds. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

Gold Market Rate as of 30 July 2026

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K6,950,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

A collection of gold bars and coins, some stacked and some scattered, representing the gold market.

YBS bus catches fire near Sanpya Market



A fire broke out on a YBS bus travelling on the Pyidaungsu overbridge in Thingangyun Township. PHOTO: FSD

A No 6 YBS caught fire on the Pyidaungsu overbridge near the Sanpya Market, Thingangyun Township, at around 6:45 am on 30 July, according to the Fire Services Department. The fire was put out at 6:57 am by firefighters from Thingangyun Township fire station, and no casualties were reported.

The vehicle was a second-hand, low-entry Hyundai city bus manufactured in the Republic of Korea. Residents in the area said they heard a gas cylinder explode as the fire broke out. On 10 April this year, a YBS fire happened at the new Thirimingala Market stop. — Htun Htun/ZS

DICA: 1,000 companies fail to file AR in H1 2026

A total of 1,000 companies were struck off the register in the first half of 2026 for failing to file annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA stated that 200 companies each in January and February 2026, no companies in March and June, 400 companies in April, and 200 companies in May failed to submit their annual returns (ARs), respectively. 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.

All registered companies are required to submit annual returns (ARs) through the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation and at least once every year thereafter, no later than one month after the anniversary of their incorporation, in accordance with Section 97 of the Myanmar Companies Law.

Under Section 266(A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns

and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. Overseas corporations are required to file ARs in the prescribed format through MyCO within 28 days of the end of their financial year, under Section 53(A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

According to a DICA report, thousands of companies have been suspended for failing to submit AR forms by the required deadlines. Newly established companies must file ARs within two months of incorporation; late submissions are subject to a fine of K100,000.

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

Myanmar, Japan Business Leaders Deepen Economic Ties



This photo captures a group photo of the Myanmar-Japan business leaders' meeting.

MYANMAR and Japanese business leaders met at the Myawady Media Centre in Yangon Region's Yankin Township on 29 July to discuss opportunities for expanding bilateral trade and investment.

The meeting was organized by the Central Committee of Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central). It aimed to contribute to Myanmar's economic development by promoting economic cooperation between the two countries' business communities.

"Through this bilateral meeting, we will learn from each other's strengths not only in the economic sector but also in other areas, and work together for the benefit of the country. If more foreign investment flows into Myanmar, more employment opportunities will be created," said Dr Tu Tu, the Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee (Christian Affairs) of Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central).

During the meeting, the Chairman of Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central) and two Japanese businesspersons delivered opening remarks. The chairman presented a commemorative gift to the Chairman of Japan's INGO PEACE organization and hosted a tea reception for the participants. — ASH/KZL

MOEE to sell over 357 tonnes of prilled urea and urea briquettes through open tenders

OVER 357 tonnes of urea fertilizer (prilled and briquettes) from No 4 Fertilizer Plant (Myaungtaga) and No 5 Fertilizer Plant (Kangyidaunt) operated under the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be sold through an open tender on its basis, according to the Ministry of Electricity and Energy.

Open tender forms and terms and conditions will be available for purchase starting from 30 July at the Finance Department of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Office 44, in Nay Pyi Taw. The tender notice has been uploaded on the ministry's website energy.gov.mm.

The open tender must be submitted in person by 1 pm on 13 August to the Yadanar Hall of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Office 6 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Individuals can enquire through the Ministry of Electricity and Energy at 067 3411082 or 09 5414513. — NN/KK

275th basic sewing machine operator training kicks off in Aug

THE free basic sewing machine operator training course, batch 275, will open soon for those who want to learn sewing skills from the beginning level, according to the Myanmar Garment Human Resources Development Training Centre (MGHRDC).

It will be based at MGHRDC, located in Insein Township; the duration is from 10 to 28 August, and the time is from 8 am to 4 pm.

During the 15-day pro-



The basic sewing machine operator training course.

gramme, participants will attend practical and educational talks on workplace skills and knowledge. When the course ends, a certificate of completion and travel allowance will be given, and job opportunities will be provided for trainees by connecting with garment factories.

Registrations can be made to these phone numbers: 09 940858350, 09 450723262, 09 784085794, said MGHRDC. — MT/ZS

YAU seeks tender for asphalt overlay work on quake-hit entrance main road

YEZIN Agricultural University under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation invited domestic companies to submit an open tender to repair the earthquake-damaged university entrance main road with asphalt concrete overlay, according to the Tender Accepting and Evaluation Committee.

The project will be

funded under the 2026-2027 financial year Union Capital Expenditure of Yezin Agricultural University, with a value exceeding K200 million. The work involves overlaying the earthquake-damaged university entrance main road with a nylon tar layer (1,270 feet by 18 feet by three inches). Interested Myanmar-owned

companies are invited to submit open tenders. Tender forms will be available for purchase until 2 pm on 6 August. Tender proposals can be submitted to the Administrative Department of the Yezin Agricultural University until 3 pm from 12 to 14 August.

The date for the tender opening will be announced

separately. Tender forms, terms and conditions and detailed specifications can be obtained from the Cashier Office, Yezin Agricultural University, at 0673 416686. Interested individuals can enquire details through the Administrative Department at 0673 416513, according to the Tender Accepting and Evaluation Committee. — NN/KK

ECONOMY

WORLD

Houthis say Japan vessels not to be attacked in Bab el-Mandeb Strait

The Bab el-Mandeb Strait connects the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden.

AN official from Yemen’s Iran-aligned Houthi rebels said Thursday after the group declared a maritime blockade of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait for vessels linked to Saudi Arabia that ships from other countries including Japan would not be targeted for attacks.

In a phone call with Kyodo News, the official said the Houthis would not “impede the freedom of navigation”. But while denying reports that the group was considering collecting transit fees,



3D Render of a Topographic Map of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden. **PHOTO: FRANK RAMSPOTTI, ISTOCK**

the official said vessels passing through the shipping route would have to gain permission from it

to do so.

The Bab el-Mandeb Strait connects the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden and has become an alternative route for crude oil transport amid the ongoing de facto closure of the Strait of Hormuz since the United States and Israeli launched attacks on Iran in late February.

The Strait of Hormuz is a key artery for global energy shipments, with Japan heavily reliant on crude oil imports from the Middle East. — Kyodo

Laos’ inflation rate rises slightly in July

LAOS recorded an inflation rate of 7.6 per cent in July, a slight increase from 7.4 per cent in June, mainly driven by sharp increases in energy prices, according to the Lao Statistics Bureau.

According to a report released by the bureau on Wednesday, the highest price rise in July was recorded in the housing, water, electricity and gas category, which stood at 25.7 per cent.

Other categories driving inflation included the medical care and medicines category at 12.7 per cent, the education category at 12.3 per cent, and the alcohol and tobacco category at 10.1 per cent.

The report attributed the rise in inflation primarily to a 91.5-per-cent year-on-year increase in electricity prices and fuel prices that were 30 per cent higher than a year earlier. — Xinhua

Europe’s militarization brings record profit to EU’s largest shipbuilder

ITALIAN company Fincantieri, Europe’s largest shipbuilding group, posted record profits and orders

amid the accelerated militarization of European countries, Sputnik found on Wednesday after re-

viewing the company’s industrial plans.

Fincantieri, which works closely with the defence sector, reported EBITDA of 681 million euros (around \$776 million) in 2025, up 33.9 per cent from 2024. At the same time, new orders surged 32.4 per cent to a record 20.3 billion euros, the documents said. In 2025, Fincantieri delivered 24 vessels to unnamed customers. Although the company did not disclose the full list of clients in its report, it said customers last year

included companies and government entities from Italy, France, the United States, Switzerland and Indonesia. Deliveries included warships, specialized offshore vessels and cruise ships. The company’s order backlog stands at 97 vessels, with deliveries scheduled through 2037. Under its long-term development strategy through 2030, Fincantieri expects to increase its net profit from 117 million euros to around 500 million euros by the end of the decade. — SPUTNIK



Italian company Fincantieri, Europe’s largest shipbuilding group, posted record profits and orders amid the accelerated militarization of European countries. **PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bangladesh’s forex reserves reach US\$36.46 bln

BANGLADESH’S gross foreign exchange reserves amounted to US\$36.46 billion on Tuesday, data from the central bank showed on Wednesday.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) calculation method, however, Bangladesh’s forex reserves stood at \$31.75 billion, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) said.

Reserves calculated under the IMF’s Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual are immediately usable, while gross reserves are usable subject to the liquidation of investments.

A senior BB official who declined to be named said Bangladesh is now in a position to cover around six months of import bills with the existing reserves, which are sufficient to help the central bank’s efforts in keeping the country’s foreign exchange market stable.

The gross reserves reached \$34.43 billion at the end of March. — Xinhua

Portuguese exports grow 10% in Q2 after year-long decline

PORTUGUESE goods exports rose 10 per cent year-on-year in the second quarter of 2026, reversing four consecutive quarters of decline, the National Statistics Institute (INE) said Wednesday.

Export growth also outpaced the 8.2-per-cent increase in imports during the same period, the first time this had occurred in more than a year.

The rebound followed a 6.5-per-cent year-on-

year drop in exports in the first quarter of 2026, the steepest decline in the series, while imports rose 2.7 per cent.

INE attributed the recovery mainly to transactions involving processing work for foreign clients, known as TTE transactions. Under such arrangements, goods are sent to Portugal for processing and later returned to their original owner without a formal transfer of ownership. — Xinhua



The Port of Lisbon is the third-largest port in Portugal. **PHOTO: PORTODELISBO**

“World’s supermarket”
Yiwu posts double-digit
foreign trade growth

THE total import and export value of Yiwu City, known as the “world’s supermarket” in east China’s Zhejiang Province, reached 486.42 billion yuan (about US\$71.64 billion) in the first half of 2026, up 19.9 per cent year on year, according to customs statistics.

Its exports hit a record high of 420.72 billion yuan from January to June, up 17.3 per cent, while the imports surged 39.1 per cent to 65.7 billion yuan.

Since the beginning of this year, local market vendors have capitalized on global sporting events such as the 2026 FIFA World Cup, driving a sustained increase in exports of sports goods. In the first half of 2026,

Yiwu exported 6.22 billion yuan of sports goods, of which 1.25 billion yuan went to Latin America, an increase of 20.4 per cent year on year.

Yiwu Customs has pioneered a new model that enables parallel inspection and container loading at supervised warehouses. The reform has not only resolved key bottlenecks but also boosted export efficiency by 30 per cent.

While consolidating traditional markets, Yiwu’s foreign trade network continues to expand. In the first half, the city engaged in import and export trade with 230 countries and regions, an increase of four compared with the same period last year. — Xinhua



Football-themed products are seen at the Yiwu International Trade Market in Yiwu, east China’s Zhejiang Province, 15 May 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

Cuba eases restrictions on
private businesses

CUBA has eased restrictions on non-state economic actors under a new legal framework governing private enterprises, non-agricultural cooperatives and self-employed workers, the local media reported Wednesday.

Lazara Mercedes Lopez, president of the National Institute of Non-State Economic Actors, said at a press conference on Tuesday that the measures were part of economic and social reforms approved by Cuba’s National Assembly of People’s Power in June.

Lopez said the new rules cover areas including industry, manufacturing, energy, mining, transport and commerce.

The reforms followed consultations with non-state economic actors amid economic difficulties and the tightening of the US economic, commercial, financial and energy blockade against Cuba, she said. — Xinhua

Indian employees AI-ready,
but enterprise workflows
holding them back

WHILE a majority of Indian employees say artificial intelligence (AI) has improved their day-to-day work experience, only 32 per cent believe AI is embedded into the core systems where work happens, highlighting a gap between employee readiness and enterprise adoption, according to a new report by Workday.

The report found that 89 per cent of Indian employees say AI has improved their day-to-day work experience. However, organizations are yet to fully integrate AI into their core business systems and workflows, limiting the technology’s overall impact.

According to the re-



Most Indian workers praise AI, but company integration remains slow. PHOTO: ANI

port, AI is helping employees complete individual tasks more efficiently, but disconnected systems and workflows continue to consume a significant amount of employee time. More than one-third of employees lose over seven hours each week moving information between systems, while 56 per cent spend at least half of their effort coordinating across different systems and teams instead of creating value for their organizations. — ANI

BMW to cut 8,000 jobs worldwide by end of 2027

GERMAN auto giant BMW plans to cut around 8,000 jobs worldwide from October this year till the end of 2027 in a cost-cutting drive, German press agency dpa reported Tuesday. BMW expects the restructuring to result in around 1 billion euros (US\$1.14 billion) in one-off costs, including voluntary severance payments for employees in non-production roles in Germany.

As the voluntary severance payments are offered only in Germany, more than half of the job cuts are expected to fall there, where more than 80,000 of BMW’s roughly 154,500 employees worldwide were based at the end of 2025.

The cuts also reflected BMW scaling back spending after years of heavy investment in its Neue Klasse electric vehicle range, as the project moved beyond its development phase, dpa cited company sources as saying. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC GUANGDONG VOY.NO. (2614S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC GUANGDONG VOY.NO. (2614S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2026** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V HAPPY TRADER VOY.NO. (SW2608)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HAPPY TRADER VOY.NO. (SW2608)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2026** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S WILHELMSEN PORT SERVICE(S) PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Eyeing global AI race, EU seeks private investment

The EU fears tech reliance on foreign governments creates major vulnerabilities.

THE European Union on Thursday sought tens of billions of euros in private investment to build AI “gigafactories”, as Brussels scrambles to build infrastructure to keep the bloc in the global AI race.

The EU is heavily dependent on foreign countries for technology and it fears that makes it vulnerable to the whims of non-European governments, like the United States.

The European Commission launched a call for tenders to establish up to seven AI gigafactories across Europe worth more than 30 billion euros (\$34 billion).

Up 10 billion euros will come from EU and national funding, and over 20 billion euros from private investment.

Brussels says the gigafactories would be made up of advanced AI processors, software and



French President Emmanuel Macron hosted global leaders in Paris for the AI Action Summit. PHOTO: AFP

cloud technology stacks, high-speed connectivity and energy-efficient data centres.

They would “expand Europe’s AI computing capacity and give start-ups, scale-ups, small and medium-sized enterprises, industry, academia and public authorities access to infrastructure”,

the commission said.

The EU wants to triple data centre capacity in Europe in the next five to seven years by making it easier to build them, although it faces difficulties over energy costs which are higher than in the United States and China.

“The opening of the AI gigafactories call

represents a milestone in our AI continent ambitions,” EU tech chief Henna Virkkunen said in a statement.

“Access to the raw scale of computing power within AI Gigafactories is a strategic necessity for Europe as AI development accelerates”. — AFP

Australian wine exports fall as global consumption shrinks

AUSTRALIAN wine exports declined in the year ended June 2026 as

global wine consumption fell, industry data showed on Wednesday.



Dominique Portet, a ninth-generation French winemaker based in Australia, poses for a photo at his winery in the Yarra Valley town of Coldstream, east of Melbourne. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

The fall mirrors broader global trends as consumers increasingly moderate alcohol intake, face cost-of-living pressures and switch to alternative beverages, according to Wine Australia, the country’s wine industry body.

Export value fell seven per cent to 2.3 billion Australian dollars (about US\$1.6 billion), while export volume dropped six per cent to 598 million litres, the first time shipments

have fallen below 600 million liters since 2004, said a Wine Australia report.

The report said lower- and mid-priced wines were hit hardest, while premium wines proved more resilient.

Many competing wine-producing nations, including France, Italy, Spain, Chile and South Africa, also recorded weaker export performance during the year, according to Wine Australia. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Egypt says fire breaks out on 2 vessels at Damietta Port

EGYPT’S Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources said on Wednesday that a fire had broken out on a re-gasification vessel and a storage vessel at Damietta Port on the Mediterranean coast, adding that the incident was brought under control immediately and caused no casualties. Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Karim Badawi headed to the scene to monitor the situation on the ground and oversee containment and safety operations, according to a statement by the ministry.

The ministry said emergency teams and the relevant technical authorities were taking the necessary measures in line with approved standards, adding that procedures were underway to assess the repercussions of the incident. — Xinhua

Netanyahu proposed boosting US military aid significantly

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu suggested to President Donald Trump a renegotiated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on security assistance for Israel where Washington would hike the contribution to \$16 billion, Axios reported on Wednesday, citing officials.

According to the MoU, signed in 2016 under former US President Barack Obama for fiscal years 2019-2028, Washington pledged to annually provide \$3.3 billion in security assistance to Israel as well as \$500 million for cooperative missile defence programmes.

The suggestion is part of Israel’s alleged goal of completely phasing out reliance on US military aid over the course of the coming decade, the report said, adding Netanyahu understands there are increasingly negative views held by lawmakers from both sides of the aisle in the US Congress on Washington’s assistance to Israel. — SPUTNIK

ISM 2.0 marks ‘Landmark Year’ for India’s semiconductor push

INDIA’S semiconductor sector is entering a “landmark year”, with the government formally rolling out the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0, backed by an outlay of Rs1,27,500 crore, S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), said while speaking at the CII Conference on Advancing Atmanirbharta in Sem-

iconductor Design and Manufacturing.

Describing 2026 as a turning point for the industry, Krishnan noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has already inaugurated three semiconductor units — Micron’s facility and Tata’s plant at Sanand, along with CG Power, all of which have moved into commercial production. — ANI

SPORTS

Yangon Galacticos reach Esports World Cup 2026 semifinals

MYANMAR'S Yangon Galacticos (YG) MLBB team has reached the semifinals of the Esports World Cup 2026 in France, according to the Myanmar Electronic Sports Federation. YG advanced unbeaten after defeating Cambodia's PRO Esports 3-0 in the quarterfinals on 29 July. More than 200,000 Myanmar esports fans watched the match live.

In the group stage, YG beat Saudi Arabia's Geekay Esports 2-0 and Cambodia's PRO Esports 2-0

before overcoming PRO Esports again 3-0 in the quarterfinals. The club's PUBG Mobile team won the Esports World Cup 2025 title, and the MLBB squad is now one step away from another world championship.

"Our young Myanmar esports players have already proven they belong among the world's best by winning last year's title. Reaching the semifinals again shows they remain at the highest level and brings pride to the nation," said federation



YG beat Cambodia's PRO Esport 3-0 in the quarterfinal.

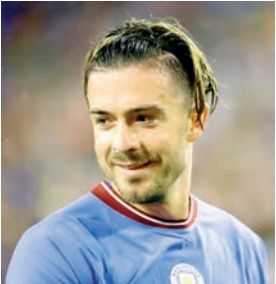
president Dr Kaung Myat San.

Yangon Galacticos will face the Philippines' Team Falcons PH in the semifinals on 1 August. — Thitsa (MNA)/KZL

Grealish hits back over Man City tour snub claims

JACK Grealish has hit back at claims that he was snubbed by Manchester City boss Enzo Maresca for the club's pre-season tour.

Grealish has been left out of City's trip to Hong Kong and Seoul as Maresca's side prepare for the new Premier League season.



Manchester City winger Jack Grealish. PHOTO: AFP

The 30-year-old England winger's absence was interpreted as a sign he will not be part of Maresca's plans in the forthcoming campaign.

But Grealish responded by insisting he is still recovering from season-ending surgery on a foot injury in February.

"Just to let you know I'm still recovering from an injury so I'm not training yet," he wrote in the comments of a subsequently deleted Instagram post on Thursday.

"Haven't been 'left out' so stop talking poo poo thanks."

Grealish made a £100 million (\$133 million) move from boyhood club Aston Villa in 2021 and has won three Premier League titles with City. He was part of City's treble-winning side of 2022-23, but gradually fell out of favour with former boss Pep Guardiola amid reports about his off-field behaviour.

Grealish joined Everton on loan last season, but has been stepping up his rehabilitation in recent weeks in a bid to prove his worth to Maresca. — AFP

Howe set to leave Newcastle, with Al-Ahli's Jaissle to take over: reports



Eddie Howe was appointed as Newcastle boss in 2021. PHOTO: AFP

NEWCASTLE manager Eddie Howe is reportedly set to make a shock exit from Saint James' Park,

with Al-Ahli boss Matthias Jaissle expected to take charge of the Premier League club.

Jaissle would be a surprise choice to replace Howe, given his lack of experience at the top level.

The 38-year-old, a former Germany Under-21 international, was forced to end his playing career due to injury at the age of 25.

Jaissle's first managerial job came with Austrian side Liefering, whom he led to a second-placed finish in the second tier, the club's joint best-ever position.

He took charge at Red Bull Salzburg in 2021, winning successive Austrian titles as well as the Austrian Cup.

Jaissle joined Al-Ahli in 2023 and led the Saudi club to AFC Champions League titles in 2025 and 2026.

In his five years at Newcastle, Howe revitalised a club that had struggled for decades.

He replaced Steve Bruce in November 2021 and won the League Cup in March 2025 — beating Liverpool in the final to clinch the club's first major trophy since 1969. The former Bournemouth boss also led Newcastle to Champions League qualification in 2023 and 2025. — AFP

South Korea coach Hong grilled by MPs over World Cup flop

FORMER South Korea football coach Hong Myung-bo told lawmakers Thursday that he took "full responsibility" for his team's failure to advance from their group at the World Cup.

Hong resigned after the elimination, but appeared Thursday at a hearing for parliament's sports and culture committee probe into the actions of the Korea Football Association (KFA).

Hong, a former South Korea defender who played in the 2002 World Cup at home, has been pilloried by fans, pundits and politicians since his side were eliminated by a shock 1-0 defeat to South Africa.

Hong was jeered at the airport on his return by fans dismayed over the decision to drop veteran skipper Son Heung-min to the bench for a South Africa match they only needed to draw to secure qualification for the knockout stages.

President Lee Jae Myung blamed the failure on "incompetent people" promoted to leadership in a statement which did not name Hong, but alluded to "loyalty and factionalism" tainting recruitment at the sport's top level. — AFP

Atletico complain to FIFA over Barca's Alvarez approach

BARCELONA have received a complaint from Atletico Madrid filed with FIFA over allegedly tapping up Julian Alvarez, a source from the Catalan club told AFP Thursday.

Argentina striker Alvarez said during the World Cup it would be "the best thing for everyone" for Atletico to let him leave, amid strong Barca transfer interest.

Atletico believe Barcelona made prohibited contact with the 26-year-old attacker to encourage him to force his departure.

Barca president Joan Laporta said at the start of July his side had made an offer to Atletico for Alvarez which they would leave on the table for as long as they see fit. Spanish media reported Atletico have also filed a complaint to the

Spanish football federation (RFEF), but the RFEF did not respond to an AFP request for comment.

Atletico rejected an offer of 150 million euros (\$172 million) from Real Madrid for Alvarez in June, widely viewed as a gambit by Los Blancos chief Florentino Perez to complicate a potential deal for Barca and fulfil a pledge made in his election campaign. — AFP



Argentina forward Julian Alvarez is a Barcelona target and Atletico Madrid are not happy with the Catalan giants. PHOTO: AFP



Hanoi welcomes over 21 mln tourist arrivals in 7 months

VIETNAM'S capital Hanoi welcomed an estimated 21.16 million tourist arrivals in the first seven months of 2026, up 15 per cent year on year, local daily Lao Dong reported on Thursday, citing the municipal Department of Tourism.

Of the total, international arrivals reached 5.31 million, an increase of 25 per cent, while domestic visitor arrivals totaled 15.85 million, up 11.9 per cent from the same period last year.

Tourism revenue during the period was estimated at 86.47 trillion Vietnamese dong (about US\$3.4 billion), up 17.9 per cent year on year.

Dang Huong Giang, director of Hanoi's Department of Tourism, said the city will continue developing agricultural, rural and community-based tourism products in August, while organizing tourism promotion programmes and participating in international travel fairs. — Xinhua



Tourists visit the Van Mieu-Quoc Tu Giam (Temple of Literature) in Hanoi, Vietnam, 24 March 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

Pakistan says working to bring US, Iran back to Islamabad MoU

PAKISTAN said on Thursday that it is continuing diplomatic efforts to help ease tensions between the United States and Iran, urging both sides to return to the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as negotiations continue.

"The negotiations between the parties are ongoing to normalize the situation, particularly the situation in the Strait of Hormuz, and to de-escalate," Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Hussain Andrabi told a weekly

media briefing.

He said Pakistan was doing its "utmost" to bring the two sides back to the Islamabad MoU so that "all irritants can be removed" in line with its spirit and the Pakistan-Qatar joint statement.

The spokesperson said the security situation in the Gulf remained "precarious" despite a relative calm in recent days, adding that Pakistan believes dialogue and diplomacy remain the only viable path forward. — Xinhua

India, Germany can unlock major opportunities in AI, R&D, green hydrogen

Noether highlighted growing Indo-German engagement in tech and clean energy.

INDIA and Germany can unlock significant opportunities in innovation, research and development (R&D), artificial intelligence (AI) and green hydrogen through deeper collaboration between businesses and startups, Jan Noether, Director-General, Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (IGCC), said.

Speaking to ANI on the sidelines of Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (IGCC) Industry Dialogue 2026, Noether highlighted the growing engagement between the two countries across emerging technologies and clean energy.

He said the IGCC recently hosted a startup competition in Bengaluru that saw participation from around 90 startups, showcasing innovative products and ideas.



Germany's green hydrogen demand offers a major clean energy cooperation area for India. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/SHUTTERSTOCK**

"... Two days ago we had a startup competition in Bangalore where we had 90 participants, and this competition was really spurred by wonderful, very innovative products...", he said.

Apart from this, Noether highlighted that AI has emerged as a key

area of interest in the German Global Capability Centre (GCC) ecosystem. He said, "AI is a particular topic when it comes to the German GCC setup...", stressing, "There is a cooperation very much geared towards research and development..."

Noether said greater

collaboration between the two countries could result in highly competitive projects and innovations. "If the German-Indian partners come together and develop their ideas, the projects and the results of these projects are going to be unbeatable," he said. — ANI

Low Danube levels force nuclear shutdown in Romania

ROMANIA will shut down its second nuclear reactor due to low water levels in the Danube, the energy ministry said Wednesday, days after the first was shut down for the same reason.

The two reactors at the Cernavoda plant run by Romania's national nuclear energy company Nuclearelectrica rely on the waters of the Danube for cooling.

"Given the unfavourable development of hydrological conditions on the Danube, Unit 2 of

the Cernavoda Nuclear Power Plant will be shut down in a controlled manner tomorrow, 30 July, starting at 10:00 am (0700

GMT)," the ministry said. Nuclearelectrica said in a statement that the reactors were being shut down "in accordance with the

plant's procedures applicable in situations of severe drought". It is the first time both reactors have been shut down simultaneously due to low water levels in the Danube, according to local media.

The Danube — which runs from the Black Forest mountains of western Germany through 10 countries to the Black Sea — has dropped to record low levels in parts due to prolonged rain shortages and successive heatwaves since May. — AFP



Ferry services between Romania and Bulgaria are temporarily suspended in two areas. **PHOTO: AFP**