

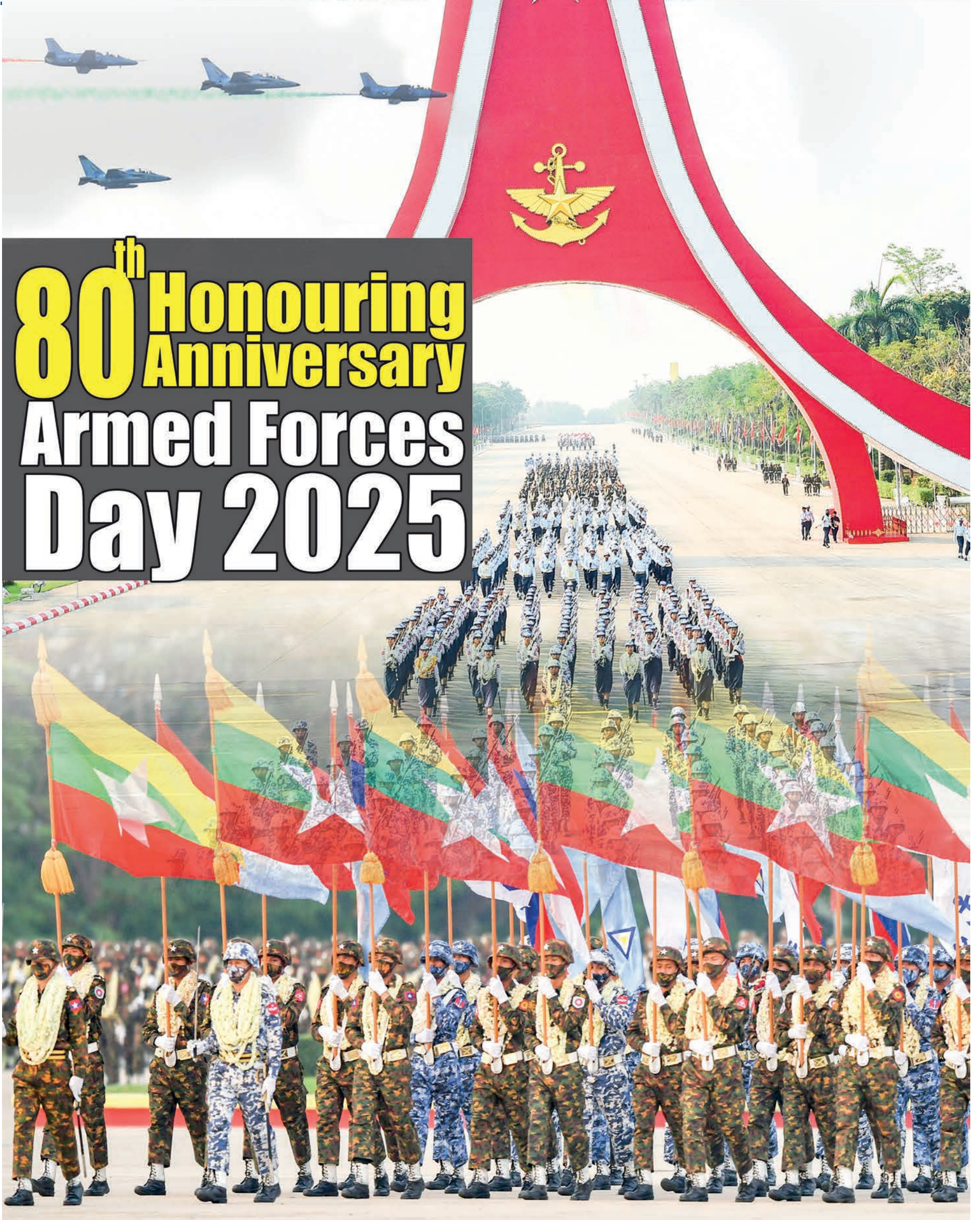
Embrace the Future: Unfolding a New Chapter with a Fresh Vision

The Global **NEW LIGHT** MYANMAR

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Thursday, 27 March 2025



**80th Honouring
Anniversary
Armed Forces
Day 2025**

NATIONAL

United Strength Needed to Stop Internal Threats Undermining National Progress

- While many citizens work to improve the country, some engage in obstructionism, undermining progress.
- Terrorists, often from within the region, commit destructive acts.
- Outsiders cannot destroy a region; the threat often comes from within.
- It's like those who take shelter under a tree but cut off its branches.
- These terrorists must be stopped through the united strength of the people.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the SAC Meeting 3/2024 on 7 June 2024)

Objectives of 80th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day 2025

- To actively participate in serving three main functions of Tatmadaw national defence duty, training duty and public benefit duty upholding Our Three Main National Causes;
- To steadfastly carry out measures for State development and genuine, eternal peace by ending the armed conflicts under the Constitution (2008) and NCA;
- To protect the State and its citizens from dangers and provide sector-wise assistance for the safety and socioeconomic development of the people;
- To provide necessary assistance to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election by Tatmadaw for the emergence of a Union based on democratic and federal systems after carrying out measures per the stipulations of the State of Emergency.

Shwedagon Pagoda area roads to close on 2 and 6 April

ON 2 and 6 April, roads around Shwedagon Pagoda will be closed temporarily, according to Yangon Region government's statement.

On 2 April, a parade of 5,500 novices will be held under the guidance of Thaephyu Tawya Sayadaw from Hmawby Township and west Shwegondine Road, Arzani Road and U Wizaya Road will be closed on the morning of the day.

While the parade is in progress, the west Shwegondine Road will be blocked to the intersection with Link Road and U Wizaya Road, Arzani Road will be blocked from the southern staircase of Shwedagon Pagoda to the intersection with the west Shwegondine Road and U Wizaya Road will be blocked to the intersection with Dhamma Zaydi Road and U Wizaya



U Wizaya Road and Pyay Road which are to be closed temporarily on 2 and 6 April.

roundabout.

A rice offering ceremony is scheduled to take place on 6 April at Peoples's Park, and Pyay Road will be closed from the intersection with Ahlon Road to Myaynigon Bridge from 5 am until the event concludes, it said. — Htun Htun/ZS



Tamote Shwegugyi welcomes pilgrims with Bagan, Pinya era artworks

KING Anawrahta constructed dams, creeks, lakes, pagodas and temples across Kyaukse township in Kyaukse District of Mandalay. The pilgrims can pay a visit to Tamote Shwegugyi Pagoda for its artworks ranging from 11 AD

during the Bagan era to 14 AD during the Pinya era.

The Tamote Shwegugyi Pagoda was constructed by King Anawrahta who founded the First Myanmar Empire and introduced Theravada Buddhism to the country. It is located



These images show serene scenes of Tamote Shwegugyi Pagoda. **PHOTO: THET MAUNG (KYAUKSE)**

near Nyaungbinzauk village, Kyaungpangon village-tract by the Kyaukse-TadaU intervillage tar road, about six miles from the west of Kyaukse. Pilgrims can get to the pagoda via the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

The pilgrims can observe the artworks between 11 AD in the Bagan era and 14 AD in the

Pinya era at the Tamote Shinpin Shwegugyi Pagoda including murals inside the Gandakuti of the second cave and half Buddha image measuring 2 feet and six inches for head and about 10 feet tall, ogres festooned on the wall, sculptors, lotus stems, Atthamukhi, a bird with an elephant head, two egrets twisting

their necks, chicken, elephant, deer, monkey, crocodile and fish.

Moreover, the visitors can see Jataka stories and sculptors depicting 550 Jataka stories and other detailed artworks of Pannawt (the art of making floral designs) of the 12th Century in each of the terraces. — Thet Maung (Kyaukse)/KTZH

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)



Families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, and Air) hold a respect-paying ceremony for retired senior Tatmadaw officers attending the 80th Armed Forces Day Anniversary in Nay Pyi Taw.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing: Tatmadaw is committed to democracy, unity, and national integrity in pursuance of the law

Families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) paid respect to retired senior Tatmadaw officers who had served Tatmadaw and who will attend the parade of the 80th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March, at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The ceremony was attended by 15 retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their six wives. Led by SAC Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General



SAC Chair Defence Services C-in-C Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla greet retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives at yesterday's event.

Kyaw Swa Lin and wife, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) and their wives paid respect to the retired senior Tatmadaw officers.

In extending greetings, the Senior General said that following the traditions of Tatmadaw,

they all are serving the duties of Tatmadaw passed down by the retired senior Tatmadaw officers who are mentors to them. Since the post-independence period, Tatmadaw has been maintaining its traditions with an unwavering commitment to serve the nation. Just as Tatmadaw is an integral part of the country, Tatmadaw members are also a part of the people, and therefore, they must serve the interests of the people and the nation. This fundamental spirit has been nurtured and handed down by the retired senior Tatmadaw officers who previously served in Tatmadaw. The senior Tatmadaw officers have good and bad experiences. Tatmadaw has experienced various political systems throughout different eras and has repeatedly repelled and eliminated both internal and

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NATIONAL

SAC Chairman Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla cordially greet retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives who will attend 80th Anniversary of the Armed Forces Day Parade



State Administration Council Chairman Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla engage in warm conversation with retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives yesterday.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla greeted retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives at Bayintnaung Villa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives will attend the parade for

the 80th Anniversary of the Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2025.

On the occasion, the Senior General and his wife cordially asked the retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives about health and social needs individually and fulfilled their requirements.

At the meetings, the Senior General talked about maintaining the fine traditions of Tatmadaw, efforts to enhance the capability and power of Tatmadaw, paying

gratitude to them for attending the Armed Forces Day Parade, emphasis being placed by Tatmadaw on peace and stability of the State, efforts to overall development of the nation by the State Administration Council, enhancement of education to promote the national education standard, and encouragement for non-formal education in addition to the formal education and library measures.

The retired senior Tatmadaw officers

expressed thanks to the Senior General for having the chance to attend the Armed Forces Day Parade, their recognition of and endeavours of the Senior General in discharging State duties without weaknesses, and making their wishes for the Senior General to further serve the interests of the State and ensure peace, stability and overall development of the nation, and gave other advice. — MNA/TTA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing: Tatmadaw is committed to democracy, unity, and national ...

FROM PAGE 3

the external threats that could dismantle the nation. In addition to defending against foreign invasions and preventing domestic unrest, Tatmadaw also plays a key role in preserving and safeguarding the nation, its people, religion, traditions, and culture. Taking lessons from past experiences, Tatmadaw will do the best for future plans.

Tatmadaw is serving State responsibilities under the 2008 Constitution. By the end of this year, a free and fair multiparty democratic general election will be held, and the responsibilities of the State will be systematically transferred to the winning party. Tatmadaw is working to strengthen the multiparty democratic system, maintain national unity, and ensure the Union does not fall apart, all under the law. It will continue to act with dedication in the best interests of the nation and its citizens. Efforts will be made to shape Tatmadaw

the State and the people can rely on. The military is committed to being a trusted institution for the people and a reliable force for the country.

The Senior General expressed this thanks to the retired senior Tatmadaw officers for attending the respect-paying ceremonies on the occasion of the Armed Forces Day. In accordance with Buddhist traditions, paying respect with gratitude and reverence in this manner is a noble custom of Tatmadaw. The Senior General said he also wishes to receive valuable guidance and advice from the retired senior Tatmadaw officers.

The Senior General and his wife, and senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives, on behalf of the families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), paid respect to retired senior Tatmadaw officers in pursuance of Myanmar traditions.

On behalf of the retired senior Tat-

madaw officers, General Thein Sein and Lt-Gen Aung Htwe said that paying respects to retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their spouses annually is an admirable tradition of Tatmadaw. They are proud and recognize the efforts of Tatmadaw under the leadership of the Chairman of the State Administration Council and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services, in working tirelessly, day and night, not only for Tatmadaw affairs but also for national stability, peace, and the socioeconomic development of the people. Tatmadaw members are continuously serving their duties to safeguard national security and defence day and night. Throughout history, Tatmadaw has upheld a noble tradition of protecting the Union, ensuring that all ethnic groups remain united, maintaining sovereignty, and defending against both internal and external threats. A strong Tatmadaw en-

sures a strong nation. Therefore, all must continue to uphold the glorious past and good traditions of the Tatmadaw while striving to enhance its strength and capabilities. The powerful Tatmadaw will take a leading role in building the nation. Tatmadaw members have to strive to overcome difficulties and crises. May all Tatmadaw members and families led by the Senior General and his wife be physically and mentally well-being, and give advice.

The Senior General and his wife, the Vice-Senior General and his wife and senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives respectfully presented gifts to the retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives.

The Senior General and senior Tatmadaw officers posed for documentary photos together with the retired senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives and cordially greeted them. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

A pre-dinner to mark the 80th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day 2025 hosted by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla took place at the square of Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

During the dinner, fireworks were launched from the Armed Forces Day Parade Ground and Bayintnaung Village to hail the 80th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day.

The Senior General and his wife cordially greeted Deputy Minister for Defence of the Russian Federation Colonel General Alexander Vasilyevich Fomin and party, SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Kyaw Swa Lin and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung and his wife, the SAC Secretary and his wife, the Joint Secretary and his wife, council members and their wives, union-level dignitaries, Union ministers and their wives, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, families of the Thirty Comrades, families of the retired commanders-in-chief, retired senior officers of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), Independence Mawgun Award winners, advisers, deputy ministers, retired Tatmadaw officer ambassadors, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council, military attachés from the foreign military attaché's offices and officials, representatives from ethnic armed organizations which have signed the nationwide ceasefire agreement (NCA), chairperson and officials of political parties, families and



State Administration Council Chairman Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing greets the Russian delegation led by Deputy Minister for Defence Colonel-General Alexander Vasilyevich Fomin and attendees.

Police Force, and the orchestra of the Russian Armed Forces performed songs and dances during the dinner.

The Senior General and party cordially greeted the attendees to the dinner and enjoyed the fireworks display.

The Senior General, his wife and attendees enjoyed the drama with the title of 'Abhidhamma of three flowers' presented by Tatmadaw members under the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare at Thabin Hall of Zeyathiri Beikman.

The Senior General and his wife presented flower baskets to artistes.

Attendees to the dinner viewed Tatmadaw vessels, helicopters and armoured vehicles, and statues of three emperor

Pre-dinner marks 80th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day

relatives of Aung San Thuriya title, Thiha Thura, Thura and military gallantry titles and gallantry medal winning officers and other ranks and families, members of Myanmar War Veterans Organization, transformed people's militia, original people's militia and members of the border guard central supervisory committee, officials from Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade and Myanmar Red Cross Society, officials and staff from ministries, officials from YMBA, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, and Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central), artistes in the Armed Forces Day commemorative films, winners in the military songs and marching songs, poem, short story and novel contests, officials from Myanmar Press Council, Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization, Theatrical Association and Music Association and officials from



SAC Chairman Defence Services C-in-C Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla warmly greet the military attaches from the foreign military attaché's offices and attendees.

the Myanmar Institute of Strategic Studies (MISS), members of University Training Corps, faculty members and students of the

University for Development of National Races and guests.

Artistes from Myawady Entertainment Troupe, Myanmar

kings along the road leading to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) illuminated with lighting. — MNA/TTA

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

Peace Talk 2025 ends on high note



The third and final day of Peace Talk 2025 in progress at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

THE third day of Peace Talk 2025 in accord with the motto “From Peace Talks to the New Peaceful Nation” took place at the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

In the first session of the Peace Talk, Secretary of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Lt-Gen Min Naing presided over the “Political Affairs and Security”, and Dr Aung Myat Oo and Dr Aye Maung discussed “election, security, stability and rule of law”.

Then, Member of NSPNC Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein (Rtd) led the “Economics and State Development Sector”, and Lt-

Gen Myint Soe (Rtd) and U Ko Ko Gyi discussed the topic of “election, security, stability and the rule of law”.

Attendees exchanged views about the talks. Relevant representatives made suggestions, held discussions and raised questions during the talks and the speakers presented clarifications.

The closing ceremony was held at noon, and Member of NSPNC Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (Rtd) reviewed the discussions on political affairs and security, and economist Dr Zaw Oo discussed the matters related to economy and national development.

Secretary of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Lt-

Gen Min Naing recorded the outcomes of three-day discussions on political affairs and security, while Lt-Gen Win Bo Shein (Rtd) on economy and national development.

After the ceremonial agenda, National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae made a concluding remark, saying that the conclusions and recommendations received from the three-day peace talk are believed to contribute to some extent to the political processes of Myanmar. Efforts will be made to practically adopt these insights and suggestions, and the NSPNC will hold peace dialogues occasionally. — MNA/KTZH

Bangladesh celebrates 54th Independence Day and National Day in Yangon

THE 54th Independence Day and National Day reception of Bangladesh was held yesterday at the Lotte Hotel in Yangon.

State Administration Council Chairman’s Office Ministry 2 Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing and his wife attended the ceremony.

Bangladesh’s Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Md Monwar Hossain and his wife and officials first welcomed the Union minister and his wife and other attendees.

The ceremony commenced with the National Anthems of both the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Bangladesh, followed by a welcome speech by the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar.

The Union minister and his wife and the Bangladeshi ambassador and his wife, cut a commemorative cake to celebrate

Bangladesh’s 54th Independence Day and National Day.

They also took a commemorative photo with the attendees. Following this, the ambassador and his wife hosted a dinner for those who attended the ceremony.

Ministry of Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing and his wife, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and his wife, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw and his wife, Deputy Minister for Commerce U Kyaw Shwe Tun and his wife, Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar Dr Lin Aung, Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay and his wife, ambassadors from foreign embassies in Yangon, chargé d’affaires, resident representatives of the United Nations and invitees attended the ceremony. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing, the Bangladeshi ambassador and dignitaries pose for the documentary group photo during the ceremony of the 54th Independence Day reception of Bangladesh.

Cultural festival in Pyay showcases Thanaka and Chinlone



A lively market and celebration featuring traditional sports like Chinlone (traditional Myanmar cane ball) performance and lovely contests like wearing Thanaka (Myanmar’s sandalwood) opened evening of 25 March at the Liberty Stone Monument and the township sports ground in Pyay, Bago Region. The event is organized by the Heritage Preservation Committee.

Dr Wai Wai Myint, Head of the Law Department at Pyay University and Daw

Contestants compete applying Thanaka competition in Pyay, Bago Region, on 25 March.

Khine Wah Wah Aung, Head of the Traditional Medicine Department in Pyay District explained the history and medicinal benefits of Myanmar’s Thanaka. The audience enjoyed traditional Chinlone performances by Poe Ei Nwe and Linn Latt Aung from Mandalay.

The seven-day festival, which runs from 25 to 31 March, includes a variety of events such as traditional Thanaka and Chinlone competitions, cultural performances by local artistes and stalls selling local products. Attendees can also enjoy amusement rides, a children’s play area and free entry to the performances and competitions. — Ko Satt (IPRD)/KZL

NATIONAL

MoI holds legal knowledge seminar in Nay Pyi Taw

THE Ministry of Information organized a legal knowledge dissemination seminar yesterday at the ministry's assembly hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Deputy Minister U Ye Tint, the Permanent Secretary, departmental officials, and 150 staff members attended the seminar.

In his opening speech, the Union minister emphasized the importance of legal awareness for all citizens and highlighted that government employees must understand and adhere to their respective departmental laws, bylaws, and civil service regulations. He stated that the seminar was being held to ensure that participants were



Legal knowledge dissemination seminar organized by the Ministry of Information underway at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

well-informed about the laws, rules, orders, and directives implemented within the Ministry of Information.

Following this, officials provided explanations on various legal matters, including contract document review, civil service laws and regulations, television and audio broadcasting laws and bylaws, media laws and regulations, printing and publishing laws and bylaws, film laws and bylaws, television and video laws and regulations, video industry bylaws, as well as laws and regulations related to libraries, museums, and exhibitions. Attendees also engaged in discussions and raised questions to clarify their understanding of these legal frameworks. — MNA/MKKS

MNTT unveils website to boost national image

THE Myanmar Narrative Think Tank (MNTT) has launched its website to promote Myanmar's perspectives on both domestic and international matters.

The Ministry of Information aims to gather and share research-based evidence and domestic knowledge exchanges to facilitate discussions and promote diverse viewpoints in addressing issues related

to Myanmar. This plan also aims to foster collaboration among thought leaders, practitioners and policymakers to support peacebuilding, and development and contribute to Myanmar's broader global engagement.

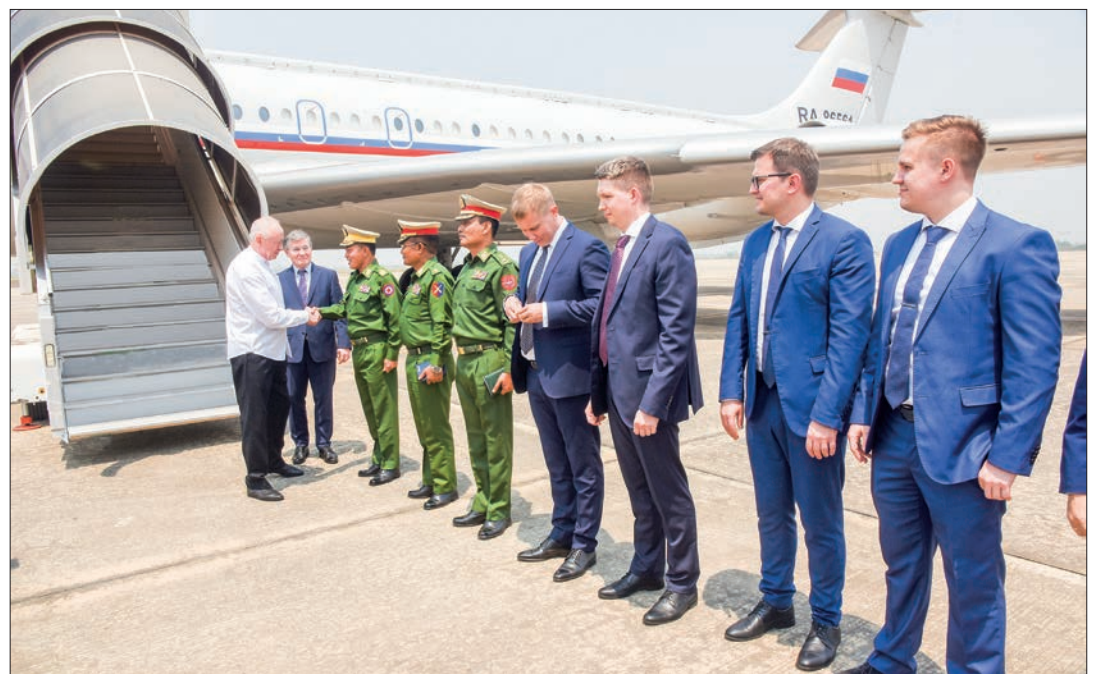
MNTT was established on 14 January 2025, with its website www.myanmarnarrative.org going live on 10 March 2025. The website focuses on various aspects of Myanmar including its transformations, cultural values, traditional customs and involvement in global movements. It also provides counter-narratives to unfounded criticisms and promotes positive discussions about Myanmar's image, addressing ethnic issues, and national concerns, and fostering unity within the country and with neighbouring nations.

Anyone wishing to provide feedback or submit contributions to the Myanmar Narrative Think Tank or its website can contact them via email at myanmarnarrative@gmail.com in English. — MNA/KZL



This image shows the website page of the Myanmar Narrative Think Tank.

Russian and Belarusian delegations arrive to attend 80th Myanmar Armed Forces Day



Russian Deputy Minister of Defence Colonel-General Alexander Vasilyevich Fomin is welcomed by the Commander of the Nay Pyi Taw Command at Tatmadaw Airport in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

A delegation led by Colonel-General Alexander Vasilyevich Fomin, Deputy Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation, arrived at the Tatmadaw Airport in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon to attend the 80th Armed Forces Day celebration on 27 March 2025.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Maj-Gen Soe Min, Commander of the Nay Pyi Taw Command, and senior military officers.

Similarly, a delegation led by Lt-Gen Viktor Genadyevich Khrenin, Minister of Defence of the Republic of

Belarus, arrived at Yangon International Airport yesterday evening to attend the 80th Armed Forces Day ceremony, and they were welcomed by Brig-Gen Pyae Sone Lin, Commander of the Yangon Command, and other officials. — MNA/TH

OPINION

ARTICLE POEM

Duty of Tatmadaw: Serving defence and security for the State

ARMED forces in the international community are protecting relevant countries against external dangers. In Myanmar, the Tatmadaw on its part is discharging security duty and solving internal armed conflicts for the people.

The Tatmadaw joining hands with the ethnic people took a key role in the independence struggle in history. Hence, the Tatmadaw becomes a main pillar to safeguard the independence of the nation. Significantly, the Tatmadaw is serving the assigned duties in building a new democratic nation the people aspire to in addition to serving the State defence duty.

According to the geopolitics and internal political situation, the Tatmadaw needs to continue its duties of ceasing ethnic armed conflicts, ensuring the rule of law and undertaking the development of the nation as a national duty. The Tatmadaw must be a

united, strong, capable and disciplined armed force.

Tatmadaw members are obliged to be loyal to the country and people are the ones who are responsible for the duty to defend the nation, the duty to undergo training and the duty to serve the interests of the people. For the sake of communal contributions, the national defence duty taken by Tatmadaw personnel with their consent and spiritual conduct means to safeguard the people at the bottom end and Our Three Main National Causes denoted as the national duty at the top either.

Those Tatmadaw members, hence, are required to precisely abide by the Codes of Conduct to maintain constant unity within the organization and Tatmadaw members and their family members are to live together in pursuit of the right perception, belief and stance in the same manner. Moreover, individuals have set in their hearts family figures with mutual understanding and due respect embracing the comradeship spirit.

Moreover, people have to be loyal to the State. They are responsible for defending the State by all means to forge peace and stability in the nation. Both Tatmadaw members and the people have to emphasize the development of the State and strengthen national solidarity as part of realizing Our Three Main National Causes. Such causes are the significant fences of the State to prevent external dangers.

This year's Armed Forces Day turns 80th Anniversary. The organization is, indeed, older in its lifespan in comparison with human nature. But, Tatmadaw is very young and strong. It is capable of serving the defence and security duties of the State for the sake of the nation and citizens to be able to enjoy the fruits of peace and prosperity.

“Let’s Act Correctly to Advance the Interests of the Country”

By Alinn Yaung (Ba Than)

WHEN defining the valuation of imported goods, it should be reasonable, fair, balanced, impartial, reflective of the actual price, and should also be based on the actual workable price. There are six (6) basic valuation methods for defining price such as the transaction value method, transaction value of identical goods, transaction value of similar goods, subtraction method, addition method, and retrospective method.

Among these six methods, the transaction value method is the method that the customs value of the imported goods shall be the transaction value. This also means that the price actually paid or payable when sold for export of the goods to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is the value calculated in accordance with the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade of the World Trade Organization if the transaction complies with the terms and conditions.

The following restrictions must be followed when using the transaction value method:

(a) There shall be no restrictions for the resale or the use of the goods by the

Buyer except for the following restrictions:

(1) Law of the imported country (or) restrictions imposed by the authorities (or) restrictions claimed as necessary;

(2) Restrictions on the area when reselling the goods;

(3) Restrictions that do not significantly affect the value of the goods.

(b) The sale (or) price shall not be subject to any conditions or considerations that would prevent the determination of the value of the depreciated goods;

(c) The seller cannot benefit directly or indirectly when any part of the resale, disposal, or use of the goods by the buyer unless an adjustment calculation can be made as a reasonable one following the provisions.

(d) The buyer and seller must not be related persons.

The following must be added to the price actually paid or payable as an adjustment calculation:

(a) Costs and charges incurred by the buyer that are not included in the price, actually, payable for the goods:

(1) Commissions and fees other than purchase commissions,

(2) Costs for packaging materials included with the relevant goods being valued for customs purposes;

(3) Costs related to packaging,

whether for labour or raw materials.

(b) The following goods and services provided directly or indirectly by the purchaser free of charge or at a reduced cost and

whose value is not included in the price actually paid or payable shall be added to the calculation:

(1) Raw materials, components and other materials incorporated into imported goods;

(2) Tools, metal engravings, moulds and similar items used in the production of imported goods;

(3) Raw materials used in the production of imported goods and consumed;



When defining the valuation of imported goods, it should be reasonable, fair, balanced, impartial, reflective of the actual price, and should also be based on the actual workable price. **ILLUSTRATION: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/CONCEPT ART**

“Sentinels of the Nation”

INORI

Born of bravery,
A creation of indomitable spirit,
With the sole purpose to protect,
Basking in honour, it stands.

The son of General Aung San,
Forged from his valiant spirit,
With the singular duty of safeguarding,
Dedicating its soul, it defends.

Tatmadaw, pillar of the nation,
Built upon the loyalty of those

With unwavering resolve,
Exists to fulfil the country's command.

It is the knight, watching over the land,
Harnessing the utmost devotion
Of those who pledge their faith and fidelity --
Not to a king, but to the nation.

Members of Tatmadaw,
Their lives they willingly relinquish;
Forsaking the ties they cherish,
They offer their hearts to the nation.

Unassailable tenacity and courage
Take root in their patriotic spirit!
Expecting nothing in return,
They face loss and peril.

For years and centuries to come,
We will honour the lives of those
Who lived for the country's sake.
Their sacrifices are etched into history,
A testament to unwavering devotion.

“In our archive, they live on...”



(4) Industrial construction, art, design and model designs carried out in other countries except from the country of import.

(c) Copyright fees and license fees paid directly or indirectly by the buyer under a sale contract of the goods that are defining the value;

(d) The value of any part of the process that results in a profit for the exporter by reselling, processing, or using the imported goods.

The customs value of imported goods is based on the value at the port (CIF) and includes costs and fees:

(a) Costs for transporting imported goods to the port or place of importation;

(b) Loading and unloading costs and handling costs incurred in transporting the imported goods to the port or place of import;

(c) Insurance costs.

In the adjustment calculation, additions to the price actually paid or payable shall be based only on objectively measurable data. Apart from the above, no other additions shall be made to the price actually paid or payable in determining the customs value.

Therefore, it is necessary to define a value that reflects actual trade and to base it on the actual transaction value as much as possible. By understanding the basic methods of valuation, small, medium and large enterprises (MSMEs) across Myanmar, both domestically and internationally, can determine the value of imported goods based on reasonable, fair, consistent, impartial and real trade values, and contribute to the fight against illegal trade, thereby contributing to the development of the country's interests.

New eye drops slow vision loss in animals: Study

RESearchers have developed eye drops that extend vision in animal models of a group of inherited diseases that lead to progressive vision loss in humans, known as retinitis pigmentosa.

The eye drops contain a small fragment derived from a protein made by the body and found in the eye, known as pigment epithelium-derived factor (PEDF). PEDF helps preserve cells in the eye's retina. A report on the study is published in Communications Medicine.

“While not a cure, this study shows that PEDF-based eye drops can slow progression of a variety of degenerative retinal diseases in animals, including various types of retinitis pigmentosa and dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD),” said Patricia Becerra, PhD, chief of NIH's Section on Protein Structure and Function at the National Eye Institute and senior author of the study.

“Given these results, we're excited to begin trials of these eye drops in people.”

All degenerative retinal diseases have cellular stress in common. While the source of the stress may vary — dozens of mutations and gene variants have been linked to retinitis pigmentosa, AMD, and other disorders — high levels of cellular stress cause retinal cells to gradually lose function and die. Progressive loss of photoreceptor cells leads to vision loss and eventually blindness.

In this new study, led by first author Alexandra Bernardo-Colon, Becerra's team created two eye drop formulations, each containing a short peptide. The first peptide candidate, called “17-mer,” contains 17 amino acids found in the active region of PEDF.

A second peptide, H105A, is similar but binds more strongly to the PEDF receptor. Peptides applied to mice as drops on the eye's surface were found in high concentration in the retina within 60 minutes, slowly decreasing over the next 24 to 48 hours. Neither peptide caused toxicity or other side effects.

SOURCE: ANI

March of Pride, Heart of Unity

Marching strong beneath the sky,
Banners wave as hopes soar high,
Unity binds, a nation's creed,
Strength and honour, hearts that lead.

From dawn's light to twilight's glow,
Their courage sets a steady flow,
Through trials faced, they boldly stand,
Defenders are proud of this dear land.

Amid the chants, the spirit sings,
Of loyalty that duty brings,
Myanmar's pride, in steps, unites,
A timeless bond, their soul ignites.

Min Zan

(Honouring Myanmar Armed Forces Day)

NATIONAL

Myanmar deports 392 foreigners in telecom fraud crackdown

FOR bilateral relations and on humanitarian grounds, Myanmar authorities yesterday sent back 363 Chinese nationals and 23 South Africans, totalling 392, who were involved in online gambling, telecom frauds and destructive actions in Kayin State, via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II.

From 30 January to 26 March, a total of 8,670 foreign nationals who entered Myanmar illegally were identified and detained. Of them, 5,798 were systematically handed over to the relevant countries via Thailand in pursuance of legal procedures, and the remaining 2,872 foreign nationals are ready for repatria-

tion and are being well cared for.

The government is also intensifying efforts to crack down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with international countries, including neighbouring countries, especially through the Myanmar-China-Thailand Trilateral Cooperation. — MNA/KTZH



Myanmar Immigration officials hand over the documents for the repatriation process to South African Ambassador to Thailand Mr Darkey Africa yesterday.

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

1. Office of the State Administration Council
<https://sacoffice.gov.mm>
2. Ministry of Defence
<https://www.mod.gov.mm>
3. Ministry of Legal Affairs
<https://www.mlis.gov.mm>
4. Ministry of Information
<https://www.moi.gov.mm>
5. Myawady Webportal
<https://myawady.net.mm>
6. Myanmar National Portal
<https://myanmar.gov.mm>

Action taken against CRPH, NUG supporters and propagandists

AUTHORITIES have announced that individuals who engaged in promoting or supporting the activities of CRPH, NUG, and their affiliated groups — designated as terrorist groups — will be identified and prosecuted under the law. These groups have been found to incite violence and disrupt national stability through their

propaganda and actions, with the intent to harm government mechanism and the peace of the nation.

Although a public notice had been issued, the owner of a Telegram account named “Tun Tun Aung” continued to incite and spread ideologies aimed at disturbing national peace through social media pages on

25 March 2025 in disregard of the government announcement.

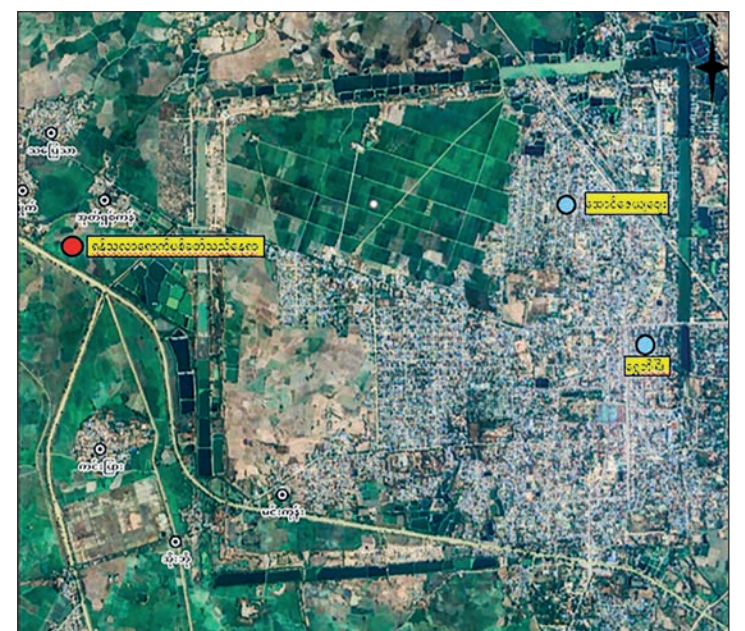
The man named Tun Tun Aung, who resides in Saya San Ward, Bahan Township, Yangon Region, was apprehended at 5:40 pm on the same day at the Bago Myoma Police Station. Legal action has been taken against him under the law. — MNA/KZL

Rocket attack by PDF terrorists in Shwebo market injures five, including child

ON 25 March, armed individuals identified as PDF members launched a rocket-propelled grenade attack inside the Aung Zeya market in Thethapantaung Ward in Shwebo, Sagaing Region. As a result, five innocent civilians, including a child, were injured.

The incident occurred around 1 pm on 25 March, when PDF terrorists, approximately 250 metres southwest of Ushikan village, fired a rocket-propelled grenade into the market. A five-year-old child and four women selling goods in the market sustained injuries from the explosion. The injured individuals were promptly transported to the Shwebo Township People’s Hospital for medical treatment.

Such attacks have disrupted the peaceful lives of locals in towns and villages. The use of heavy and small weapons, as well as explosive devices



The satellite map shows the launch site of a rocket-propelled grenade to the Aung Zeya market in Thethapantaung Ward in Shwebo, Sagaing Region.

es such as drop bombs and rocket-propelled grenades, has caused severe damage to homes and properties, resulting in the loss of lives and property. These acts of violence by armed terrorists have

been strongly condemned by local communities, who are not accepting these actions. In response, security forces have been increasing their efforts to carry out necessary security operations. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Malicious media fabricates stories of airstrikes in Singu



Screenshot of Khit Thit Media validates misinformation.

SUBVERSIVE media claimed that airstrikes caused significant damage to buildings in three vil-

lages of Singu Township, Mandalay Region, including Malenat Taung reservoir.

According to a security official from the region, the news is inaccurate and Tatmadaw has not targeted non-military areas. The official emphasized that Tatmadaw’s operations are focused on ensuring the safety of civilians and maintaining peace.

The malicious media’s intention appears to be spreading false perceptions about the security forces. — MNA

NATIONAL

MMPO to host Maha Thingyan Festival on 9 April

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization, its Maha Thingyan Festival will be held on 9 April at the Yar Pyae Grounds.

The festival is held as a way for members of the film industry to welcome the Myanmar New Year joyously and vibrantly. It will take place from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm with live music performances.

“The Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization’s Maha Thingyan Festival will be held from 8:30 am to 6 pm on 9 April to welcome the Myanmar New Year. As part of the traditional Maha Thingyan customs, we will honour senior film industry members. There will also be a performance by the Thingyan Film Music Group and a special screening of the film ‘Maung Doh Cherry Myay’. We have also arranged a lucky draw event for the children of film industry members. Meals will be provided to festival attendees. United Amara Bank (UAB) has also donated K10 million on 25 March to support the festival,” said Vice-Chairman U Aye Kyu Lay of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization.

Film industry members and guests will get souvenir lucky draw tickets for a chance to win prizes. Traditional Thingyan snacks will also be served in the morning. — MNA/KZL



This image showcases a schedule of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization’s Thingyan Festival.

Yangon launches waste-to-energy projects for sustainable power supply

TO meet the long-term electricity demands for Yangon Region, projects will be implemented to generate electricity from waste-derived fuel, according to the Ministry of Electric Power.

To ensure a sustainable electricity supply for the country, various energy sources are being utilized for power generation. The Yangon Region’s waste-to-energy initiatives are being prioritized as part of this strategy.

“To meet long-term electricity needs, we are focusing on generating power from multiple energy sources. This includes electricity production from waste-derived fuel in Yangon, as well as renewable energy sources such as solar and wind

power. We will also be developing projects to ensure a balanced energy mix by tapping into other available energy sources,” said an official from the Ministry of

Electric Power.

Currently, the country’s electricity production is supplied by hydropower plants, solar power plants, natural gas-fired power

plants, and coal-fired power plants, with a combined total output of approximately 2,500 megawatts, according to the ministry. — ASH/KNN



Waste generated in Yangon City.

Yangon hosts red carpet for ‘Myaysa’; Nationwide release on 28 Mar



This photo depicts cast members and the production team at the red carpet show.

THE red carpet show for the film ‘Myaysa’ was held on 24 March at the Mingala Wazira Cinema in Hlinethaya Town-

ship, Yangon Region. The screenplay and story for the film were written by Lwan Wai Aung, while director

Nay Paing directed the production on behalf of Shwe Nadi Shwe Yi Film Production.

Actor Sithu Win, who plays a role in the film, shared his thoughts, saying, “In the film Myaysa, my character, Thura, is quite a rough and aggressive person – especially towards his older brother. After reading the script, I wanted to take on this role because it gave me the freedom to explore the character. Audiences are used to seeing me in calmer, more reserved roles, but this time, I had the opportunity to push

my limits. When I watched Ko Myint Myat acting at the North Dagon dumpsite I felt a deep sense of sympathy for him. He put in a tremendous effort for this film.”

Scheduled for release nationwide in major cinemas on 28 March, ‘Myaysa’ marks the second film by Shwe Nadi Shwe Yi Film Production. The cast includes Academy Award winners Myint Myat and Aye Myat Thu, along with Phone Min Nay La, Sithu Win, Than Tha Nyi, Sin Ma, Htoo Cha, San Yu, and many more. — ASH/MKKS

Thityakauk substation powers 7 Magway villages

A total of seven villages in Magway Township have gained access to electricity this year through a 66 kV power line supplied by the Thityakauk Substation, according to the Ministry of Electric Power.

The Magway Region government has been allocating annual funds to boost electricity generation, increase household consumption, and provide electricity to off-grid villages, resulting in the electrification of seven villages in the township.

Similarly, in March last year, an 11 kV power line and nine transformers, in



This photo showcases a substation facility that supplies electricity to a village in Magway Township.

addition to the 66 kV power line supplied by the 66 kV Thityakauk Substation, were

installed, providing electricity to 1,550 households across four villages in the area.

The Magway Region government has been providing annual funding to ensure electricity access for township residents and expand necessary power lines and substations, with reports showing that 1,822 houses and 1,941 households across 746 villages have received electricity from 2021 to the present, improving their social, economic, educational, and health conditions. — Htun Htun/TH

NATIONAL BUSINESS

China approves Myanmar's avocado exports



Quality avocado fruits prepared to be distributed to markets.

CHINA gave the green light to Myanmar for avocado export, said the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Myanmar.

Myanmar Fruits, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association (MFVP) announced on 24 March that Myanmar's avocado passed customs inspection and safety regulations of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), according to the embassy's statement.

Consequently, they will be exported to China through a government-to-government pact. It is the third fruit legally flowing into Chinese markets after watermelon and mango. It contributes to a 12 per cent growth in Myanmar's agricultural gross production.

GACC announced on 11 November 2024 that Myanmar's pineapple will be allowed to be imported to China, following the Phytosanitary issue. Myanmar's pineapple is cultivated in northern and southern Shan

State. The harvest season usually takes place in June-September. Earlier, Myanmar's pineapple export to China was conducted via a green channel under a cross-border trade plan. Yet, China halted this trade route on 16 June 2019, affecting Myanmar's pineapple industry adversely.

Myanmar's exporters explored new markets in Thailand, Singapore and other countries. However, market share is quite low. A series of negotiations between Myanmar and China in the past years reaped a fruitful result and Myanmar's pineapple is now allowed to be exported to China via sea trade.

According to GACC's notification, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation needs to forward the list of pineapple farms and processing factories to the China side to seek approval from the GACC. The approved list will be disclosed on its website.

Myanmar's growers are required to strictly adhere to good agricultural practices and im-

plement quality management, a tracking system for food security and Integrated pest management measures,

Packing fresh fruits includes washing them with high-pressure spray and checking and removing debris to ensure they are free of insects, snails, invasive grass seeds, soil, crop residue weeds, and dirt.

Infestation of the spiralling whitefly (*Aleurodicus dispersus*), grey pineapple mealybug (*Dysmicoccus neobrevipes*), passionvine mealybug (*Planococcus minor*), Jack Beardsley mealybug (*Pseudococcus jackbeardsleyi*) and the fungal plant pathogen *Fusarium sacchari* are considered as devastating pests.

Therefore, Myanmar's relevant authorities are asked to check samples of export volume of less than two per cent within the first two years of pineapple trade. Inspection of food samples will be reduced to one per cent if pests cannot be detected in two years. — NN/KK

CBM sells US\$35M, CNY1.2M on 25 March

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) pumped US\$35 million and 1.2 million yuan into the financial market on 25 March.

CBM announced on 24 March that it would inject \$35 million into the fuel oil sector and 10 million yuan into the import industry.

It sold over 166,880 yuan on 21 March, over 777,000 yuan on 20 March, \$300,000 and 1.12 million yuan on 19 March, and \$33 million on 18 March after it announced on 17 March to inject them into the fuel oil sector.

CBM sold \$33.5 million and over 156 million baht on 11 March after it announced on 10 March to inject them into the fuel oil sector.

CBM pumped \$197,032.72 on 10 March, \$335,000 and 1.98 million baht on 7 March, and over US\$130,000 on 6 March into the financial market. CBM announced on 5 March that it would sell 50 million baht to importers soon. Later, it sold over eight million baht on that day.

CBM announced the sale of \$23 million and 150 million baht on 3 March for fuel oil importers. It injected that amount of foreign currencies into the fuel oil sector on 4 March. It sold \$550,000, 400,000 yuan and 638,550 baht on 3 March.

CBM pumped over \$88 million, 7.5 million yuan and 161 million baht in February and over \$124 million, over 13.8 million baht and over 4.8 million yuan in January. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw.

SMVTI launches 8th batch of engineering and hospitality courses this May

THE Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute (SMVTI) will conduct courses related to engineering, tourism and industry in early May.

SMVTI will offer Courses for Engineering & Technology in the areas of Electrical Technology, Electronics (Computer & Networking), Residential Air-condition-

ing, Mechatronics (Basic Servicing) and General Welding and Courses for Hospitality & Tourism including Front Office Operations, Housekeeping Operations and Restaurant Operations.

Those who passed or have taken the matriculation exam and those who passed the Government Technical High

School can join the courses. The six-month course will offer theoretical and practical approaches with the use of lab equipment.

Interested individuals can enrol in the courses at SMVTI located at No 123, Natmouk Street, Bahan Township, Yangon, between 9 am and 4 pm by March-end.

They need to present a citizenship scrutiny card and copy, exam pass result, three passport-sized photos, a police clearance certificate and a ward administrator's recommendation certificate. For further details, individuals can enquire through the contact number 09 781002572 during office hours. — NN/KK

France to auction superyacht seized in money-laundering case

The yacht is estimated to be worth between 10 and 12 million euros (\$10.8-\$13 million).

FRENCH authorities will put up for sale Thursday a superyacht seized in a money laundering case involving a Belarusian national, according to the state agency for handling confiscated assets.

The 41-metre (135-foot)-long boat, Stefania, will be auctioned at the shipyards of La Ciotat, a town located to the east of the southern port city of Marseille.

The vessel, built in 2021, is estimated at between 10 and 12 million euros (\$10.8-\$13 million), and the starting price has been set at 10 million euros.

The Stefania, which

features an Art Deco interior, can accommodate up to 10 guests and up to six crew. It has a pool, a jacuzzi and a wood-burning fireplace.

“Many of the details, such as glass inlaid railings and a transparent flagpole, have never been seen on a yacht before,” according to De Baecque, a firm conducting the auction.

The superyacht had been seized in 2023 during a stopover near Genoa in northwestern Italy at the request of French authorities. French police had been investigating “criminal activities” of Belarusian and Ukrainian nationals,



The Stefania, a luxury yacht seized in a money-laundering case, will be auctioned off in La Ciotat in southern France. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

according to the Marseille public prosecutor’s office.

A probe had been

launched into “arms trafficking, drug trafficking and money laundering by

an organized gang,” according to the public prosecutor’s office. — AFP

Over 8,000 foreign tourists visit Afghanistan

MORE than 8,000 foreign tourists visited Afghanistan in the year of 1403 (in Persian calendar which ended on 20 March 2025), and the number of foreigners visiting the country is on the rise, a spokesman for the Afghan interim government’s Ministry of Information and Culture (MIC) said on Wednesday.

Registered by the MIC, the number of foreign tourists visiting Afghanistan in 1403 is more than 8,200, Afghanistan National Radio and Television quoted MIC Spokesman Habib Ghafran assaying. About four million domestic tourists, according to the official, also visited cultural heritages, natural beauties and historical monuments in several provinces of the country over the past year. — Xinhua

US judge sets 23 June trial date over Boeing crashes

A US federal judge on Tuesday set a trial date of 23 June in the Justice Department’s criminal case against aircraft manufacturer Boeing over two deadly 737 MAX crashes in 2018 and 2019.

In two court filings in Texas, Judge Reed O’Connor said he was vacating an 11 April deadline for Boeing and prosecutors to announce progress on a plea deal, and

moving ahead with the trial over the two crashes, in which altogether 346 people died.

After the accidents, all 737 MAXs were grounded for 20 months worldwide. Boeing admitted in April 2019 that its Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System (MCAS) — an anti-stall software — had been partly to blame. — AFP



Boeing is facing intensifying scrutiny over its quality control practice. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Regulations stifle MSMEs, hindering independent growth

BVR Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog on Wednesday noted that Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are most affected by regulations and MSMEs cannot exist in isolation and that their challenges must be tackled in clusters

and groups. Speaking at a launch event organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) today in New Delhi, Subrahmanyam said that medium enterprises of today (or MSMEs) are going to be the large enterprises of tomorrow. He

said that the Government must handhold them and transform them from micro to small, small to medium and medium to large enterprises.

The NITI Aayog CEO underlined the three main challenges MSMEs face:

improving technology, skilled workforce and issues related to quality certifications. He said that India cannot become a developed nation until it raises its standards and manufacturing systems across the country. — ANI

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC SUPARNA F VOY.NO. (SB511A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC SUPARNA F VOY.NO. (SB511A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-3-2025** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2504S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHENMING VOY.NO. (2504S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-3-2025** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Japan, Brazil leaders meet to boost strategic ties

Lula is Japan's first state guest in six years, highlighting Brazil's significance as a leader in the Global South and a member of the BRICs group.



Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba (far R) and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva (far L) hold talks in Tokyo on 26 March 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and visiting Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva held talks on Wednesday to deepen their countries' strategic partnership.

Japan is hosting Lula as its first state guest in six years, underscoring the importance of Brazil as a major leader in the Global South, and a member of the BRICs group that includes China and Russia.

Lula's four-day state visit through Thursday comes as the return of US President Donald Trump to the White House earlier this year poses challenges to free trade and global efforts to combat climate change. The previous state guest received by Japan was Trump in May 2019 during his first term.

Japan and Brazil share fundamental values such as democracy, freedom and the rule of law, and the summit in Tokyo is expected to be an opportunity for Ishiba and Lula to affirm the importance of the bilateral relationship, which marks its 130th anniversary this year. Brazil has one of the world's largest Japanese diasporas.

Lula and First Lady Janja Lula da Silva had an audience with Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako on Tuesday.

Brazil is a major exporter of agricultural produce and minerals like iron ore to resource-scarce Japan, which mainly exports industrial products including auto parts to the South American country. — Kyodo

Lukashenko sworn in for new term as Belarus' president

ALEXANDER Lukashenko was officially sworn in as the president of Belarus for the seventh time on Tuesday, reaffirming his continued leadership over the country, Anadolu reported.

The inauguration ceremony was held in the Cer-

emonial Hall, the grandest venue inside the Palace of Independence in Minsk. Over 1,100 guests attended the event, witnessing the formal proceedings. Just before Lukashenko's entrance, the national flag of Belarus and the presidential standard

were carried into the hall, marking the significance of the occasion.

During the ceremony, Lukashenko placed his right hand on the Constitution and took the official oath of office. The moment was followed by the playing of the national anthem, symbolizing the formal transfer of power for his new term. The chairman of the Central Election Commission then presented Lukashenko with the official presidential certificate, confirming the results of the election.

Lukashenko secured another term in office after winning the presidential election held on 26 January. According to the official vote count, he received over 5.1 million votes, accounting for nearly 87 per cent of the total ballots cast. The outcome reinforced his strong grip on power, continuing a presidency that has spanned decades, Anadolu reported. — ANI



During the ceremony, Lukashenko placed his right hand on the Constitution and took the official oath of office. **PHOTO: ANI**

NEWS IN BRIEF

US National Security Advisor Waltz claims responsibility for leaked chat of Yemen military plan

US National Security Advisor Mike Waltz has assumed "full responsibility" for a leaked group chat discussing an upcoming strike in Yemen.

"I take full responsibility. I built the group," Waltz said in an interview with Fox News Channel on Tuesday.

"It's embarrassing. We're going to get to the bottom of it," he said on the channel's "The Ingraham Angle."

Jeffrey Goldberg, editor-in-chief of The Atlantic, wrote on Monday that he was invited on 11 March to join a group chat named "Houthi PC Small Group" on Signal, a popular encrypted messaging app used by journalists and government officials.

Upon joining, he discovered that several high-ranking officials, including Waltz, Vice-President JD Vance, Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth, were discussing plans for a forthcoming strike on the Houthis in Yemen. — Xinhua

6 injured in Russian ship fire off S Korea's southeastern coast

Six people were injured Wednesday as a Russian ship caught fire in waters off South Korea's southeastern coast, according to Yonhap news agency.

A patrol boat of the South Korean coast guard found the Russian-registered 7,534-tonne refrigerated carrier catching fire in waters off the southeastern port city of Busan at about 7:14 am local time (2214 GMT Tuesday).

The coast guard dispatched patrol boats and aircraft to extinguish the fire and rescue crew members at the scene. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar Sepak Takraw team returns after success in World Cup 2025

THE Myanmar Sepak Takraw team returned to Yangon last night after securing one gold, two silver and one bronze medal at the ISTAF World Cup 2025 held in Bhopal, India, from 20 to 25 March.

The competition featured events such as Men's Double, Men's Quadrant, Women's Double, Women's Quadrant and Mixed Quadrant. Team Myanmar earned gold in the Women's Double, silver in both the Men's Double and Mixed Quadrant and bronze in the Men's Double

event.

The tournament saw participation from 21 countries, including hosts India, New Zealand, the USA, Poland and ASEAN nations such as Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia.

The returning team was welcomed by officials, students from the Yangon Institute of Sports and Physical Education and athletes. U Soe Thein, Chief Minister of Yangon Region presented awards and congratulated the team on their achievements. —Arkar Linn/KZL



The Myanmar Sepak Takraw team is seen being welcomed at Yangon International Airport.

Myanmar to host 2026 Women's Asian Cup qualifiers group matches



Team Myanmar competing in a four-nation invitational tournament in Nepal. PHOTO: MFF

MYANMAR received the opportunity to host the group-stage matches of the 2026 Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers. The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) will hold the lots-drawing event for the tournament today, with 34 teams set to compete. The competition will be divided into eight groups, with two groups of five teams and six groups of four teams.

The host nations for the eight groups are Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Jordan, Indonesia, Cambodia

and Tajikistan.

Pot 1 boasts North Korea, the Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Iran, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, and Uzbekistan. Pot 2 brings together India, Hong Kong, Bahrain, Guam, Nepal, Malaysia, Jordan, and Indonesia.

Pot 3 showcases Laos, UAE, Mongolia, Lebanon, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Palestine, and Cambodia. Pot 4 stacks up Tajikistan, Singapore, Turkmenistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Maldives, and Saudi

Arabia. Pot 5 rounds it out with Bhutan and Iraq.

The group matches will take place from 23 June to 5 July, with only the top team from each group advancing to the next stage. The final phase of the 2026 Women's Asian Cup will be held from 1 to 21 March 2026, with the defending champions China, the runners-up South Korea, and the third-place winners Japan automatically qualifying for the final round without needing to compete in the group stages. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Japan display talent and ambition to scale new heights at World Cup

JAPAN have never gone beyond the last 16 at a World Cup but they have set themselves the ambitious target of winning next year's tournament after dominating in Asian qualifying.

Hajime Moriyasu's side became the first team to punch their ticket to the 2026 competition in the United States, Canada and Mexico when they beat Bahrain 2-0 last week in Saitama. With their place sealed, they followed that up with a 0-0 home draw with Saudi Arabia, giving them 20 points from eight games with 24 goals scored and two conceded in the third round of qualifiers.

Japan are 15th in the FIFA rankings and Moriyasu and his players firmly believe they can become the first Asian team to lift the World Cup next summer. — AFP

Club World Cup winner to score up to \$125 million prize money



FIFA President Gianni Infantino with the Club World Cup Trophy during draw in December 2024. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

THE winner of this year's expanded Club World Cup in the United States will receive up to \$125 million in prize money, FIFA announced on Wednesday.

A total prize fund of \$1 billion for the event, which runs from 14 June to 13 July, had already been made public, but FIFA has now broken down the sums for the 32 participating teams.

Each team will share in the \$525 million pot for participating while a further \$475 million will be distributed according to performance in the tournament.

With additional bonuses, the team that emerges victorious from the seven matches played could receive up to \$125 million.

Europe will receive the lion's share of the prize money, with each of their clubs receiving between \$12.81 and \$38.19 million, the exact amounts to be determined according to sporting and commercial criteria.

South American teams will each receive \$15.21 million in participation bonuses, while those from North and Central America, the Caribbean, Asia and Africa will receive \$9.55 million. Auckland City, the Oceania representative, will take home \$3.58 million for taking part. — AFP



Russia, Ukraine hold parallel US-mediated talks in Saudi Arabia amid disagreement, distrust

THREE days of technical-level negotiations on the details of a potential ceasefire in Ukraine concluded in Riyadh on Tuesday without an official joint statement, as participating parties offered somewhat conflicting assessments of the talks.

The intense parallel interactions between the United States and delegations from Ukraine and Russia on the table, including a 12-hour one between the United States and Russia on Monday, and two shorter rounds between the United States and Ukraine on Sunday and Tuesday, came as fighting on the battlefield remains intense.

Although Washington signalled on Tuesday its willingness to continue facilitating negotiations between the warring parties, analysts remain skeptical about the prospects of such a diplomatic push, citing deep-seated distrust, conflicting demands among stakeholders, and the inherent complexities of the process.

For the latest talks, which build on previous negotiations held in Saudi Arabia and subsequent phone exchanges between the presidents of the three countries, the US delegation included Andrew Peek, a senior director at the White House National Security Council, and Michael Anton, a senior official from the State Department. The Russian delegation was led by Grigory Karasin, chair of the Federation Council's Foreign Affairs Committee, and Sergei Beseda, an advisor to the director of the Federal Security Service. Defence Minister Rustem Umerov headed the Ukrainian delegation. On Tuesday, hours after the US

Despite the negotiations, fighting on the battlefield in Ukraine remains intense.



This photo taken on 23 March 2025 shows a view of the Ritz-Carlton hotel, venue of the talks between US and Ukrainian delegations, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. **PHOTO: WANG DONGZHEN/XINHUA**

and Ukrainian delegations concluded their second round of talks, the White House issued separate statements elaborating on its understanding of the parallel meetings.

It stated that the United States had agreed separately with Russia and Ukraine to “ensure safe navigation, eliminate the use of force, and prevent the use of commercial vessels for military purposes in the

Black Sea”, and to develop measures for implementing the presidents’ agreement to “ban strikes against energy facilities of Russia and Ukraine”. The United States, with Russia and Ukraine respectively, also “welcomes the good offices of third countries with a view toward supporting the implementation of the energy and maritime agreements” and “will continue working

towards achieving a durable and lasting peace”, the statement added.

Among the outcomes of the US-Russia talks, the United States pledged to help restore Russia’s access to the global market for agricultural and fertilizer exports, reduce maritime insurance costs, and improve access to ports and payment systems for such transactions. — Xinhua

Thai PM survives no-confidence vote



Thailand’s Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra (C) poses with members of the government after surviving a no-confidence vote at the Thai Parliament in Bangkok on 26 March 2025. **PHOTO: LILLIAN SUWANRUMPHA / AFP**

THAI Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra survived a no-confidence vote in parliament on Wednesday, defeating a challenge from opposition parties who accused her of being a puppet of her father, billionaire ex-premier Thaksin Shinawatra.

After a two-day censure debate in which the opposition attacked 38-year-old Paetongtarn’s management of the country and her inexperience, MPs voted down the no-confidence motion by 319 votes to 162, with seven abstentions.

Paetongtarn thanked her supporters after winning the vote. “All votes, both for and against, will be a force driving me and the cabinet to carry on working hard for the people,” she wrote on Facebook.

Thaksin, the most influential but controversial politician of modern Thai history, returned to the kingdom in 2023 after 15 years of self-exile. — AFP

FOCUSING ON BLOC EXPANSION

10th BRICS Policy Planning Dialogue concludes in Brasilia

THE 10th BRICS Policy Planning Dialogue concluded on Tuesday, in Brasilia, convening policy planners from the Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, along with senior representatives from the newly expanded BRICS membership, covering pressing global geopolitical issues and regional developments, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated in a press release.

Hosted by the current BRICS President, Brazil, the two-day event on 24-25 March laid the groundwork for the upcoming BRICS Summit later this year.

The Indian delegation was led by the Joint Secretary of Policy Planning & Research of the MEA, Raghuram S. — ANI