

Mahamuni Pagoda restoration committees formed

Pagoda now open to public every Sabbath day



Restoration is underway at the Mahamuni Pagoda in Mandalay.

FOR the restoration of religious buildings at the Mahamuni Pagoda, which was damaged in the Mandalay earthquake, a leading committee and working committees, comprising of experts and professionals, have been set up.

The decision was made at a meet-

ing for the restoration of the pagoda held on 29 June morning.

During the meeting, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung urged all to pay special attention to ensure the reconstruction of the religious buildings to be as strong as their original state and speedy completion of repairs

by systematic supervision of experts from the Department of Archaeology and National Museum and the sMyanmar Engineering Council.

At present, the pagoda is open to the public on every Sabbath Day. — Htun Htun/ZS

OPINION

Operate a green economy to improve socioeconomy and environment

PAGE 8

NATIONAL

PAGE 3



Union Information Minister meets literary and manuscript award committees

BUSINESS

PAGE 7

Authorities urge import licences for fertilizers, pesticides

NATIONAL

PAGE 11



207 foreign nationals involved in online scams and crimes transferred to their home country

MCEF, China Kunming ASEAN Association discuss construction collaboration

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF), a meeting was held on 28 June in the Oval Room of MCEF to discuss cooperation and exchange views on the matters relating to the construction sector between the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) and the China Kunming ASEAN Association.

The meeting was attended by a delegation led by Vice-President Zhao Yaung from the China Kunming ASEAN Association, and by U Ko Ko Lay, General Secretary of MCEF. Other MCEF representatives who took part in the discussion included Joint General Secretary Daw Yi Wyne Oo, Assistant Information

SEE PAGE 10



Representatives from the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) and the China Kunming ASEAN Association discuss collaboration in the construction sector. **PHOTO: MCEF**

NATIONAL

True leadership requires evolving skills, integrity, and decisive action

- To provide true leadership, one must acquire knowledge and skills that evolve with the times, along with demonstrating high moral character, integrity, and honesty.
- They must make bold and decisive decisions, take responsibility and accountability, and lead their subordinates with fairness and integrity, avoiding any form of corruption

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the passing-out parade of the 11th intake of graduate female cadet of course held on 23 December 2024)

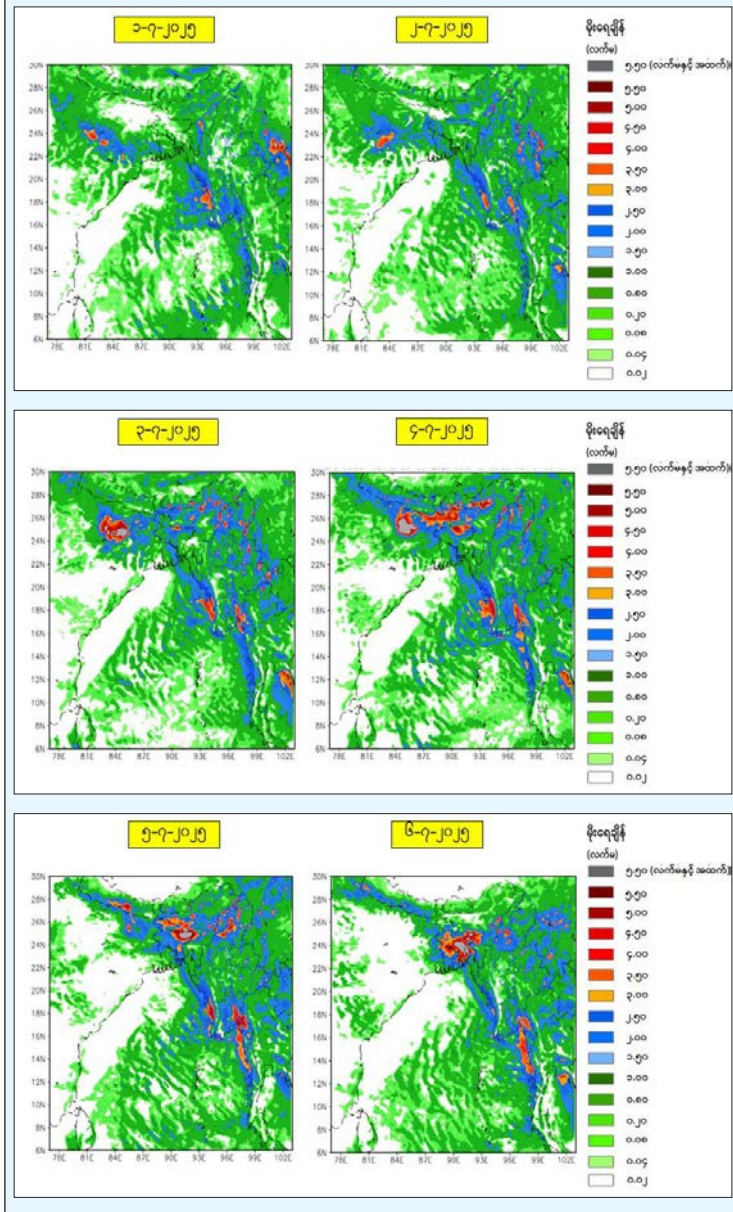
Special Weather News

Issued at 6 pm MST on 30 June 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the easterly waves and a low-pressure area over Coastal area of West Bengal, India, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Mandalay, Magway, and Lower Sagaing Regions and Kayah State, fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan States with likelihood of regionally and isolated heavy falls during today evening to 5 July 2025. Occassional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 11-13 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of natural disasters such as the heavy rain fall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strikes, lightning, hail, flash floods and landslides in hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH



5 special civil appeal cases passed judgements; 1 special criminal case, and 4 special civil appeal cases heard

A special appeal tribunal consisting of U Tha Htay, Chief Justice of the Union, and judges of the Supreme Court of the Union: U Myo Maung, U Thaung Naing, Daw Thin Thin Nwet and Daw Pyone Pyone Aye was convened yesterday morning at the Supreme Court of the Union and passed judgements for five special civil appeal cases – Nos 78/2024 (Mandalay), 7/2025 (Shan), 9/2025 (Ayeyawady), 10/2025 (Bago) and 11/2025 (Shan). In addition, a total of five special appeal cases – one special criminal case – No 3/2025 (Mandalay), and four special civil appeal cases – Nos 4/2025 (Yangon), 76/2024 (Mandalay), 14/2024 (Yangon) and 15/2025 (Shan) were heard. — MNA



Myanmar reports 16 new COVID-19 cases

THE Ministry of Health tested 2,314 samples from 8 pm on 22 June 2025 to 8 pm on 29 June 2025, and 16 new cases were detected. Therefore, the positivity rate was 0.69 per cent, and no new casualties were reported. Currently, there is no need to worry about infection and deaths from COVID-19, but all need to follow personal hygiene methods, and the high-risk groups.

- Elderly people (aged 60 and above)
- People with diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, and cancer
- Pregnant women (especially those beyond the third month of pregnancy) are prioritized to receive COVID-19 booster shots.

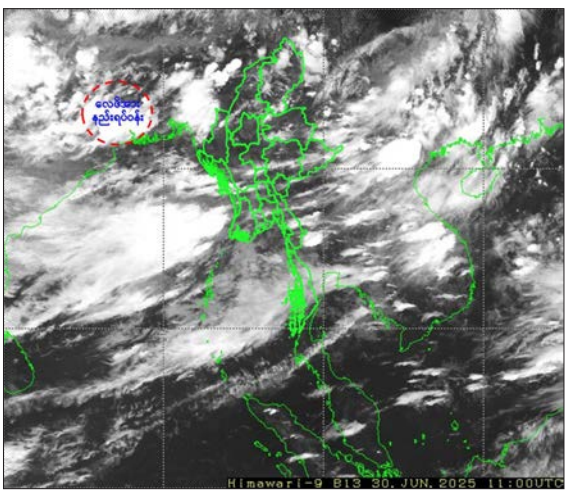
More detailed COVID-19 information can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health, moh.gov.mm.

Myanmar CDC
Public Health Department, Ministry of Health

Low-Pressure Area Condition

Issued at 7 pm MST on 30 June 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the low-pressure area over Coastal area of West Bengal, India is likely to move slowly west-northwestwards and continue across North Odisha, West Bengal and Jharkhand, India, during the next two days and weaken gradually. — DMH



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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)

Union Information Minister meets literary and manuscript award committees

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn met members of the National Literary Award Selection Committee and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Selection Committee at the meeting hall of the Printing and Publishing Department on the Theinbyu Road in Botahtaung Township yesterday.

In his speech, the Union minister said the National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award have been presented in

various forms since 1948 up to the present day.

He also urged them to appreciate and honour the experts who have dedicated themselves to the literature.

First Vice-Chair U Sein Hlaing (Thura Zaw) of the National Literary Award Selection Committee, Chair U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) of the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Selection Committee and attendees participated in the discussion, and the Union minister provided proper instructions. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn speaks at the meeting with members of the National Literary Award Selection Committee and the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Selection Committee in Yangon yesterday.

Basic Russian Course launched in Nay Pyi Taw to support tourism

A basic Russian language course opening ceremony was held yesterday morning at the Golden Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, to provide better services to Russian tourists visiting Myanmar.

The event was attended by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Kyaw Soe Win, Deputy Minister U Phyo Zaw Soe, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Zeya Lin, departmental officials, representatives from hotel and tourism associations in Nay Pyi Taw, hotel staff, members of the Russia-Myanmar Friendship



Union Minister U Kyaw Soe Win addresses the opening of the Basic Russian Language Course yesterday.

Association, instructors, and trainees.

At the ceremony, the Union minister stated that Russia is one of Myanmar's key source markets for tourism, and that efforts are underway to provide services in the

Russian language for Russian tourists visiting Myanmar. As part of these efforts, Russian language diploma courses, basic Russian language courses, and refresher courses are being conducted in Nay Pyi Taw as well as in various regions and states across the country.

He encouraged the trainees attending the basic Russian course to study systematically, improve their language proficiency, and actively participate in the development of the tourism industry.

Following this, an instructor from the My-

anmar-Russia Friendship Association explained the purpose of the course and the content to be taught. The Union Minister then presented commemorative gifts to the instructors.

The Basic Russian Language Course is being attended by staff selected from various departments and the Boards of Trustees of Maravijaya Buddha Image and Up-patasanti Pagoda, and employees from hotels and guesthouses in Nay Pyi Taw. The course will run for four weeks. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL



Rehabilitation efforts are underway in religious sites in Sagaing.

Rehab efforts accelerated in quake-hit areas

PEOPLE, together with members from relevant organizations, participate in rehabilitation efforts in damaged areas caused by the Mandalay earthquake.

Yesterday, Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) observed the clearance of debris at the religious sites in Sagaing, and the land area to reconstruct the Maha Zedi Hla Pagoda severely destroyed by the quake, and other cleaning activities in the compounds of pagodas and nunneries.

Likewise, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) inspected the removal of damaged parts of the Yadanabontha Pagoda and clearing of debris at the Myinwun Mingyi monastery in Mahaangmyay Township, systematic clearing of damaged staff housing with the use of heavy machinery in Chanmyathazi Township, and fulfilled the needs. — MNA/KTZH

MPT to upgrade telecom services in three Yangon townships

ACCORDING to MPT, telecom services in Hlegu, Taikkyi, and Kawhmu townships in Yangon Region will be upgraded using improved Optical Line Terminal (OLT) exchange systems, which enable better fibre-optic connections.

The services to be enhanced include fibre internet (FTTH), fibre internet phone services (VoIP), landline services, and business-to-business (B2B) services.

During the technology upgrade process, users in these townships may experience temporary service interruptions. However, these disruptions will be minimal and are expected to last only 15 minutes to around 2 hours, depending on the specific location and upgrade schedule.

MPT stated that it is working to improve network stability and telecom service quality across Myanmar through such technological enhancements. — Aung Than Oo/MKKS

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၃		ကော့ရှူး မြို့နယ်	၀၁-၈၆၂၈၀၀၀	ဇူလိုင်လ (၈) ရက် မှ (၂၄) ရက်အထိ
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Thazi seizes blocks of heroin, stimulant tablets, and ketamine

A combined team, including members of the Drug Enforcement Division, conducted an operation at around 7:30 am on 26 June near Kywetatsone Village in Thazi Township, Mandalay Region.

The team stopped and searched a Mitsubishi Pajero being driven by a man named Nay Lin Aung (aka) Nay Lin, who was travelling from Saikhaung Village in Hsihseng Township, in Shan State (South), to Tatkon Township.

During the search, authorities discovered 100 blocks of heroin weighing a total of 35 kilogrammes, 52,000 stimulant tablets, and 1.1 kilogrammes of ketamine hidden in the vehicle.

Initial investigations



An offender is seen alongside seized drugs and a vehicle.

revealed that the narcotics were being transported from Hsihseng Township to Tatkon Township. Legal action has been taken against the suspect, and further efforts are underway to identify and apprehend other individuals involved in the trafficking network, according to the Myanmar Police Force. — MNA/MKKS

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197 companies, BoD members blacklisted for failing to deposit export earnings

1. It is essential to receive the export incomes which is major route of foreign income to the country, it has stated that according to Section 38-b of the Foreign Exchange Management Law and Paragraph 35 of the Foreign Exchange Management Rule, as detailed in Notification 27/2023, exporters must deposit their export earnings into their domestic bank accounts in foreign exchange within specified periods, and for exports to Asian countries, the deposit must be made within 30 days of the export date, and for exports to other countries, within 60 days.

2. Chapter 11 of FEML, Section 38-b states “Any person shall not fail to deposit all his
- export income in foreign exchange, during the stipulated period, in his bank account in the State”, and if a person violate that prohibition, he shall face imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or a fine or both punishments must be imposed according to Section 42-a of FEML. Therefore, the exporters shall have to deposit their export earnings within the fixed period.

3. To deposit the export earnings in foreign exchange in the banking accounts by the exporters who exported between 2016 and 2020, the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Investment and Foreign
- Economic Relations, Ministry of Commerce, Central Bank of Myanmar and AD licensed Banks jointly contacted them to clarify the data, and the licences of companies that failed to do so were revoked.

4. According to analysis on 23 June 2025, a total of 197 companies failed to deposit their export earning though they exported between 2016 and 2020, and these companies and the boards of directors were blacklisted as they failed to follow the FEML, regulations and notification.
- Central Bank of Myanmar
27 June 2025

List of companies which failed to return export incomes after exporting from 2016 to 2020

No	Name of Company	Name of BODs	Address of Company	Citizenship Scrutiny Card
1	A N C TRADING COMPANY LIMITED	U Chit Hlaing	U Pho Kyar Street, No (4/8), Merchant Kandaw Lay (South) Ward, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon	S/DGNM-000376
		U Chit Swe		S/DGNM-041949
2	AFA FAMILY COMPANY LIMITED	U Kyaw Ko Ko Win	Min Ye Kyaw Swar Street, No 1/27, Aung Thitsar Quarter, Kalay Township, Chin State	3/MAWATA(N)073246
		Daw Aye Aye Myint		10/THAHTANA(N)101768
		Daw Sin Ti Ya So		3/MAWATA(N)073245
3	AMARA CHERRY COMPANY LIMITED	Daw Nwet Nwet Yin	No 46/47, Aung Theikdi, Ground Floor, 3 Quarter, Horgonyat, PyiOoLwin, Mandalay Maha Zaya Street, Building No 8, First Floor, 7 Quarter, Pazudaung Township, Yangon	5/MAYANA(N)012137
		U Tin Hla		5/MAYANA(N)014991
		U Win Thu		9/MAMANA(N)076509
4	ARNO(MYANMAR) COMPANY LIMITED	Mr Wang, Min-Hsieng	No 84, Zhuanzuing; Madou Dist, Tainan City 72154, Chinese Taipei	PPNo.305261733
5	ARYAKHA BYALA COMPANY LIMITED	Daw Aye AyeKhin	Merchant Road, No (504- 506) (3-A) Ward 7, Kyauktadar Township, Yangon	11/MATANA(N)004567
		U Tun Thar Sein		11/SATANA(N)039883
6	ASAKURA MYANMAR TRADING COMPANY LIMITED	Daw Nan Thu Zar Lin	Zayya 5 th Street, 124 (A), 10 Quarter, South Oakkalapa Township, Yangon	3/BAAHNA(N)364814
		Mr Takahiko Sugiura		MZ1199820
7	ASIA WHALE TRAVELS & TOURS COMPANY LIMITED	Daw May Than Htaik	No(40), GroundFloor, 7 th Street, Lanmadaw, Yangon	14/MAAHPA(N)146950
		U Maung Maung Lay@ U Maung Hla		6/MAAHYA(N)087195
		U Zaw Win Ko		6/MAAHYA(N)084272
8	ASPEN INTERNATIONAL CO, LTD	U Tun Wai	Myo Thit Street 1, Building 39, Room No 6 (B), Kyaukmyaung East Ward, Tamway Township, Yangon Set-Hmu Zone Lane 1, No 87, 90, 91 NGA/11 Ward, Thar-Du-Kan, Shwepyitha Township, Yangon	9/MANALA(N)049154
		U Yan Nyein		7/THAWATA(N)010311
9	ASPIRE TRADING COMPANY LIMITED	U Thi Ha Kyaw	Seikkantha Street, 3 A Merchant Road, No 512, Thayapi Condo, Pansodan, Yangon	13/NAKHANA(N)046116
10	AUNG KHANT MYAT COMPANY LIMITED	U Aung Zaw Lin	No (367), Thiri Street, (3) Ward, Dagon Myo Thit(Eastern) Township, Yangon	14/MAAHPA(N)193962
		U San Lin Aung		12/DAGAYA(N)018784
		Daw Pa Pa Khine		-
11	AUNG NAY LINH TUN CO, LTD	U Aung Ko Latt	168/1, Myinthar 10 th Street, 14/1 Quarter, South Oakkalapa Township, Yangon	12/TAMANA(N)002893
		Daw Lay Lay Myint		12/THAMANA(N)002894
		U Ngwe Tun		12/OUKATA(N)000677
12	AUSTINPLY MYANMAR PRIVATE LTD	Jai Prakash Bhartia	Thukhita Street, No (60, 61, 62, 69, 70 & 71), Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone(2), Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Yangon	Z2616001
		Siddharth Agarwal		R4393184
		Surendra Kumar Agarwal		Z3375615
		Tanu Merh Dhar@ Tanu Merh		E5364936H

NATIONAL

FROM PAGE 5

No	Name of Company	Name of BODs	Address of Company	Citizenship Scrutiny Card
13	AYE THUKHA COMPANY LIMITED	Daw Khin Moe Moe Aye	Gandama Street, No 21 (A), 4 th Floor, Sangyoung Township, Yangon	11/TAKANA(N)074692
		Daw Khin Thidar Moe		11/TAKANA(N)081060
14	B B HEIN COMPANY LIMITED	Daw Phyو Thandar Aye	South Dagon Industrial Zone (2), Pyidaungsu Street, Room 001/101, Block B, Myanmar Ahla Housing, (64) Ward, South Dagon Township, Yangon	14/MAMANA(N)202786
15	BAMBOO SHADE FAMILY COMPANY LIMITED	Daw Than Kyi	Htar Nar Street, No (60+65), Between of (73 × 75) Street, Zamyinzwe Ward, (Gagyi-60) Pyigyitagun Township, Mandalay	12/LAMANA(N)009419
16	BANSAL OVERSEAS LIMITED	Mr Virender Kumar	Plot No 45/46, Myay Tiaing Block, Industrial Zone 3, Hlinethaya Township, Yangon	K3360555
		Mr Vineet Kymar Jain		N8717990
17	BHONE MYAT HAN COMPANY LIMITED	U Yi Kyaw	No 346, Ward 136, Han Lin Street, Dagon Myothit Township, Yangon	13/NAHSANA(N)011273
18	BIOPRO (MYANMAR) COM PANY LIMITED	U Aung Khin Sint	Watt Kyaung Street, No 35 Ward No 2, Botahtaung, Township, Yangon Region	12/BATAHTA(N)035937
		U Kyi Phwa Aung		12/BATAHTA(N)047528
		Daw Ni Ni Khin		12/BATAHTA(N)004588
		U Soe Myint		12/BATAHTA(N)027910
		Daw Win Htet Htet Soe Myint		12/BATAHTA(N)039984
19	BLUE STAR INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD CO LTD	U Maung Kyar Yaw	No 19, Thukha Street, Kyan Khin Su Mingaladon Township, Yangon	13/LAYANA(N)168226
20	C &P COMPANY LIMITED	Mr Chalor Chanvroj	Kyauk Lone Gyi Livestock Zone (3) Street, No (4) Quarter, Myawady Township, Kayin State	AA4778812
		U Saw Thura Kyaw		3/MAWATA(N)054075
		U Kyaw Kyaw Htoo		3/MAWATA(N)079591
21	CENTURYPLY MYANMAR PRIVATE LIMITED	Mr Gaurav Satnaliwala	Padauk Yeik Nyein Road, 1/13 (4 th)Floor, Mayangone, Yangon	Z4913321
		Mr Daniel Pascal Runser		X7174183
22	CHENGFANG COMPANY LIMITED	Daw Aye Aye War	Air Prot Yeik Thar (1 st) Street, No (16/E) Sawbwagyigon Quarter, Insein Township, Yangon	12/TATANA(N)237615
		Daw Htike Htike San		12/TATANA(N)253248
23	CHERRY POWER COMPANY LIMITED	U Aung Thein	Nguwah Street, No (97), Htar Nar Quarter, Ahlon Township, Yangon	12/AHLANA(N)037487
		Daw Soe Soe Khine		12/AHLANA(N)028721
24	CHINA INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY GROUP CORP LTD	U Chit Ko Ko	Room2, BuildingE, 21 st Floor, Pearl Condo, Bahan Township, Yangon	7/WAMANA(N)144672
25	CHIT LINN MYAING TOYOTA COMAPNY LIMITED	U Htike Maung	Bogyoke Street, No (47), (9) Quarter, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State	3/BAAHNA(N)188030
		Daw Nan Hnin Nandar Aye		3/BAABNA(N)323011
		U San Myint		3/LABANA(N)069004
		U Saw Chit Chit		3/BAAHNA(N)323010
		U Saw Htoo EHMoo		3/LABANA(N)113146
		U Saw Minn Minn Oo		3/BAAHNA(N)259667
26	CHIT THAE TONE	Daw Khaing May Mi Naing	(105), Shwe Naung Bin	13/KAMANA(N)133348
	FAMILY COMPANY LIMITED	Daw May Thu	Street, Mine Yu Village, Muse Township, Shan State	13/KAMANA(N)092143
		U Nyi Nyi Naing		13/KAMANA(N)082659
		U Soe Nyi Zin		13/KAMANA(N)120398
27	CLAYCRETE MYANMAR COMPANY LIMITED	Mr Kim Won Chul	Zarga(22 Street, No(622/A) (3)Floor,(4) Quarter, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon	M23816058
		U Ye Lin Ko Ko		14/HATHATA(N)043067
		Mr YoonKilro		M84021361
28	COCO GUY INTERNATIONAL COMPANY LIMITED	Mr Ho Kwong Kee	Mingala Street, No 707, 12 Wards, South Okkalapa Township,Yangon	K02006540
		Mr Ho Cheuk Yan		KJ0133200
		Mr Ho Ka Wing		KJ0275900
29	DA QIAN WOODS PRODUCTION COMPANY LIMITED	U Yan Naing	No 19/B, OSS TuMyaung Ywar Ma, Tu Myaung Village Group, Ye Township, Mon State	13/TAYANA(N)057846
		Mr Zheng Yongqiang		E24470787
30	DANA SUYAR COMPANY LIMITED	U Hla Win	No 97, Padauk (2) Street, Ward 1, Hlinethaya Township, Yangon	7/MALANA(N)090651

TO BE CONTINUED

Yangon palm oil reference price shows slight decline

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market was down to K6,060 per viss for the week ending 6 July from K6,080 per viss in the previous week ending 30 June, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution. The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs,

tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly. Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high. To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law. The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers. The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call

centre of the Consumers Affairs Department, or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned. The domestic palm oil consumption is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

MoST, MRF aim to boost university-industry collaboration

DEPARTMENT of Technical and Vocational Education and Training under the Ministry of Science and Technology and Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) will offer Rice Processing Technology Course as a University-Industry Collaboration. Certificate Course, Higher Certificate Course in Rice Processing Technology will be conducted through practical and theoretical approaches, in collaboration with the School of Industrial and Training and Education and Insein GTI. The course will be opened in August 2025. It will take three to four months. Trainees will be provided with accom-

modation and food. This free-of-charge course is employment-guaranteed training at rice mills and companies upon completion. This course is tailored to those who attended AGTI, those with industrial experience in rice milling businesses, and those who have worked for factories. Those who passed the entrance interview will be notified. The course is trying to provide effective learning with a curriculum. Curriculum experts also went on a curriculum research tour to the SITE and Shwewah Yaung Rice Mill, Sein Lae Myay Rice Mill and Good Brothers Rice Mill on 24 June. — ASH/KK



Discussions are underway to open the rice processing technology course.

Shrimp exports top 1,200MT in FY2025-26

DEPARTMENT of Fisheries statistics indicated 1,273.933 metric tonnes of shrimp exports in the first two months of the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, generating an income of US\$3.666 million. Myanmar sent 1,115.953 metric tonnes of shrimp worth \$2.812 million by sea and 157.98 metric tonnes of shrimp worth \$0.854 million at its borders.

More than 9,000 tonnes of shrimp exports valued at nearly \$30 million were placed in the international market in the past financial year 2024-2025 (1 April 2024-31 March 2025), according to the Department of Fisheries. Myanmar exports fishery products to 40 international countries, including Japan, Bangladesh, China and Thailand, through maritime and border trade channels. — NN/KK

Authorities urge import licences for fertilizers, pesticides



AUTHORITIES concerned have recommended importing licences of over 670,000 tonnes of fertilizer and 11,000 tonnes of pesticide in the first quarter of the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, according to the Urea Fertilizer Purchasing and Distribution Steering Committee. Union Minister U Hla Moe for the Cooperatives and Rural Development, chair of the committee, gave that remark at the work coordination meeting held on 26 June. The Steering Committee recommended that each company import 676,055.06 tonnes of fertilizer and 11,024.1 tonnes of pesticide during the April-June period. The Ministry of Commerce also endorsed imports of fertilizer and pesticide. The committee will screen applications and will continue to recommend them. Additionally, to meet cultivation inputs for the monsoon paddy season, those companies that have been granted import licences need to bring them in as soon as possible. Some companies failed to import the proposed volume in the previous financial year. Therefore, the authorities concerned need to supervise them to import them at the earliest. The committee also discussed matters regarding taking action against those companies that fail to import the fertilizer and pesticide during the set timeline, the Union Minister elaborated. Afterwards, the committee will set the reference price of fertilizer on 30 June 2025. At present, fertilizer prices are ris-

ing on the global cues. He also asked the committee members to ensure the fair reference prices, to govern the market to inspect if there is price manipulation with a pile of stocks and overcharging in regions and states, upon the reference price set for the Yangon, transport cost and profit, he urged. The Myanmar Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association (MFSPEA) also needs to encourage members to follow the principles of the association and comply with the rules. The association needs to support those companies that abide by the rules to facilitate the processing with the department concerned. The member companies are also asked to provide a concise monthly report. The Union Minister requests the association to coordinate with the department concerned to supply agricultural inputs in time and ensure fair price and quality. Permanent Secretary U Khant Zaw also addressed performances upon last meeting's decision, fertilizer and pesticide volume that the committee granted recommendation in May and June. The MFSPEA chairperson explained about international prices and supply and demand conditions. The Union Minister coordinated the matters based on suggestions of the representatives of the Central Bank of Myanmar, the department concerned and the Myanmar Rice Federation. — NN/KK

Operate a green economy to improve socioeconomy and environment

IN the process of national development, sacrifices are inevitably made to the natural environment. However, as development progresses, excessive exploitation and consumption by humans have led to environmental degradation, the depletion of natural resources, and increasing pollution. When these issues arise, efforts are made not only to promote economic growth but to minimize environmental damage. This includes reducing the extraction and use of natural resources and preventing environmental pollution, placing emphasis on sustainable and environmentally conscious development.

Myanmar’s economy is primarily based on agriculture. Given the country’s current situation, sustainable national development can

Currently, when natural disasters are increasingly frequent due to climate change, it is important to promote the development of green economy initiatives in Myanmar. Therefore, both the government and the private sector must make collaborative efforts. Everyone must take part in advancing the green economy, which can lead to long-term sustainable development by reducing environmental degradation and minimizing the extraction of natural resources.

environment and a sound ecosystem. Therefore, the State is increasing investment in green economic development projects. As a result, the country’s natural resources – particularly forests and trees – will be further expanded, contributing to environmental protection as well as generating social, economic, and environmental benefits.

Myanmar is a country rich in natural resources, but it is also highly prone to natural disasters. While the State is working to promote investment in green economic development projects, the country continues to experience the loss of aboveground and underground natural resources, environmental degradation, and pollution due to illegal extraction and sales by armed insurgents and illicit business operators. Furthermore, some legal operators have failed to fulfil their responsibilities, such as replanting forests and restoring the environment in areas where their previous operations have ended.

Currently, when natural disasters are increasingly frequent due to climate change, it is important to promote the development of green economy initiatives in Myanmar. Therefore, both the government and the private sector must make collaborative efforts. Everyone must take part in advancing the green economy, which can lead to long-term sustainable development by reducing environmental degradation and minimizing the extraction of natural resources.

be achieved through a green economy, which refers to an economic system to significantly reduces environmental degradation and the depletion of natural resources, while at the same time promoting the improvement of the socioeconomic well-being of citizens.

Green economy activities emit low levels of carbon and make efficient use of the country’s resources. Socially, everyone should emphasize broad and inclusive sharing of the benefits that arise from economic development, ensuring no one is left behind. They also promote the reuse and recycling of materials to reduce waste and various forms of environmental pollution.

Forests and trees play a crucial role in the country’s continuous development, ensuring food and water security for the people, promoting socioeconomic progress, and maintaining a clean, pleasant

Worn Yet Worthy

By Yin Nwe Ko

EVERY banknote has a journey, and the thousand Kyat note in Myanmar is no exception. Though it may seem like an ordinary piece of paper, this note plays a crucial role in countless lives. It travels through streets, markets, homes, and ceremonies – touching hands, witnessing emotions, and quietly recording human stories.

Birth of a Note

Our thousand Kyat note begins its journey in a high-security government printing press. Inside, skilled workers operate large, advanced machines that print the notes using high-quality paper and special ink. Each note is carefully designed with vibrant colours, traditional symbols, and protective features to prevent counterfeiting.

After printing, the notes go through strict inspections. Only those that are perfect are approved. The newly printed thousand Kyat notes are then stacked in bundles and prepared for transportation. These fresh, crisp notes wait to begin their lives in the outside world.

From Factory to Bank

With tight security, these bundles of money are transported in armoured vehicles to central banks. At the bank, they are received, counted, and stored in vaults or distributed to different branches across the country. For our thousand Kyat note, this marks the start of a new and exciting phase – soon, it will be in the hands of everyday people.

First Stop: The Payroll Office

The note arrives at a payroll office where it becomes part of the monthly salary payment process. Staff carefully prepare salary envelopes filled with clean banknotes, and our note finds itself tucked inside one. When payday arrives, a smiling employee collects their pay and feels the relief of a month’s hard work rewarded.

On the way home, the employee feels hungry and stops at a food stall. They hand over the thousand Kyat note to buy a plate of hot, delicious mohinga. The vendor, an elderly man who has served food for decades, care-

fully folds the note and places it in his metal cash box. This is just the beginning of the note’s adventure.

At the Local Market

The very next day, the food vendor goes to the local market with a bundle of notes, including our thousand Kyat bill. He buys vegetables, fish, spices, and other ingredients for the next day’s meals. The thousand Kyat note passes from his hands to a vegetable seller.

Not long after, a mother shopping for her family hands over cash to buy fresh produce, and our note changes hands once more. In just a few hours, it travels from stall to stall – fruit vendors, spice sellers, meat and fishmongers – all bustling with life, conversation, and energy.

At the market, the note sees more than just sales – it hears jokes, observes negotiations, and feels the heat of the sun and the sweat of working people. Its edges begin to soften, and its crisp texture slowly fades, showing the marks of its journey.

In the Pocket of a Taxi Driver

Later, the thousand Kyat note becomes part of a taxi fare. A passenger gives it to a driver after a trip to the bus station. The driver folds it and places it into his shirt pocket, where it stays with other worn notes.

For several days, the note shares in the life of the taxi driver – long drives through quiet mornings, noisy afternoons with traffic, and calm evenings when the roads become less crowded. It helps the driver buy lunch, pay for fuel, and keep his vehicle running.

The note comes to understand the meaning of hard work. It witnesses the patience of the driver, his small talks with passengers, his struggles with fuel prices, and his quiet hope to make enough each day to support his family.

A Moment of Giving

One afternoon, the note changes hands again – this time from a petrol station owner to a wooden donation box at a local monastery. The owner pauses, offers a silent prayer, and places

the note in the box among other donations.

Inside the box, the note now becomes part of something greater: community kindness. The donations collected will help buy food for monks, support repairs for the monastery, and fund religious events. Though small, the thousand Kyat note now plays a role in something deeply meaningful – bringing people together through shared values and generosity.

This phase of the journey is peaceful. The note rests quietly among others, carrying the scent of incense and the sound of distant chanting. It becomes a symbol of faith, charity, and hope.

A Family’s Offering

Weeks later, during a traditional ceremony at a cemetery, the note is selected as part of an offering to honour ancestors. Alongside flowers, candles, and food, the thousand Kyat note is placed near the grave of a loved one. The family prays for blessings, showing love and respect for those who have passed away.

Here, the note takes on a

spiritual role. It becomes part of a timeless ritual that connects generations. It helps express gratitude, sorrow, and reverence – things that go beyond money. In this sacred moment, the note reflects the deep cultural roots of Myanmar society.

A Darker Turn

But not all parts of the journey are bright. Eventually, the thousand Kyat note travels through uncertain hands, changing owners quickly, until it ends up with a rebel group in a remote area. It is used to buy supplies, such as food or fuel.

Now, the note finds itself in a very different world – one shaped by conflict, secrecy, and survival. This moment marks the complexity of human life. The same note that once helped feed a hungry worker or supported a monastery is now part of a story about struggle and unrest.

Yet, even here, the note witnesses real lives – people caught in difficult circumstances, doing what they must to endure. The note doesn’t judge; it simply continues its journey, recording what it sees.

A Silent Witness

From the factory to food stalls, markets, taxis, monasteries, cemeteries, and even conflict zones, the thousand Kyat note becomes more than a currency. It becomes a mirror of society – seeing joy, pain, generosity, and hardship. It reminds us that behind every transaction, there is a person with a story.

Money often seems like a simple tool, but its movement tells the story of a nation. It reflects who we are, what we value, and how we live together. The thousand Kyat note’s real worth lies not in its number, but in the connections it creates and the lives it quietly touches.

In the end, we realize something profound: even an ordinary object like a banknote can hold deep meaning. If we could follow it closely, if we could listen to its voice, it would tell us a thousand stories – of work, love, giving, and the shared journey of being human.

The Rot

By Kyaw Myint Htoon (Paris)



are not all that well in other parts of the region. There is potential cross-border conflict with far more devastating consequences. Borders have been shut. Tensions are high. Things are not good in other member countries of the regional bloc either. The clash of the clans (Game of Thrones!!!) has escalated. Has anyone heard from the “Supremo” and his minions about these recent developments in the region? No! Their mind is only focused on Myanmar as usual? Maybe they are busy preparing for that absolutely useless talkfest on Myanmar, scheduled on 30 September? These people have gone crazy! Sad that these are the people supposedly looking out for the betterment of the people around the world, especially the disadvantaged and the vulnerable. No hope here!

Shall we be reminded about the strictly photo op trip to Cox’s Bazar by the “Supremo”, in the ninth year of his term? Oh, so very caring and compassionate!

As for the conflicts in the Middle East, the “Supremo” has “demanded” all things under the sky. His speeches are full of “must”. Must this, must that!. OMG! Has anyone listened to him? The “Supremo” likes to preach equality. From that perspective, if the big ones don’t listen to him, let him have no say when it comes to the small ones. Keep him and his minions out!

The “Supremo” is out the door next year. Let’s hope the next one is less hypocritical and self-serving. The world might have a chance of a brighter future.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author.)

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NATIONAL

MCEF, China Kunming ASEAN Association discuss construction collaboration

FROM PAGE 1

Officer U Min Naing, Central Committee Members U Thein Htun, Daw Mya Thaug Wai, Daw Yi Yi, and member U Bo Bo.

In addition, on 26 June, the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) also hosted a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signing ceremony at its head-

quarters, aimed at establishing mutual cooperation with AYA Bank PCL in the fields of banking and construction. — ASH/KKN

Second quarterly Myanmar-China media tea party held in Yangon

THE second quarterly Myanmar-China media tea party for 2025 was held on the afternoon of 30 June at the headquarters of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), located in Crystal Tower, Kamayut Township, Yangon Region.

Before the formal discussion began, media representatives were briefed by ICBC Yangon and Xinhua News Agency officials on the operations of their respective organizations.

Opening remarks at the meeting were delivered by Minister Counsellor Mr Zheng Zhihong, ICBC Chairman Mr Liu Ming, and Deputy Director U Zeya from the Department of Media Development. Discussions focused on the current collaboration between Myanmar and China in media development, cultural exchange, and broader development sectors, as well as future cooperation plans. Speakers included Myanmar Press Council Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo, U Aung Myint Soe from Myawady Television, U Ye Naing Moe, Editor-in-Chief of Shwe Myo Paukphaw Magazine, and Daw Hnin Pearl, Third Secretary of the Cultural Department at the Chinese Embassy.

Additionally, Daw Sandar Moe from ICBC's financial department gave a detailed explanation on bilateral economic and trade-related information, including progress in efforts to promote the Chinese yuan as an international currency. Xinhua News Agency, a Chinese media organization based in Myanmar, also contributed by highlighting its role and ongoing participation in Myanmar-China media cooperation.

Chinese Embassy officials, including Minister Counsellor Mr Zheng Zhihong, responded to the points raised by both Myanmar and Chinese media representatives. — ASH/MKKS



The Myanmar-China media meeting in progress in the second quarter of 2025.

Yangon's Star Lounge Bar to host 90s Rock Legends Concert



A poster for the 90s Rock Legends concert by Zaw Win Htut, J Maung Maung, and Chit Kaung.

A live music concert titled "90s Rock Legends", featuring veteran singers Zaw Win Htut, J Maung Maung, and Chit Kaung, is set to take place at 6:30 pm on 6 July at the Modern Radio – Star Lounge Bar in Ahlon Township, Yangon Region.

The Emperor Music Band will provide musical accompaniment for the performances of these three iconic rock vocalists.

Speaking about the event, J Maung Maung said, "The 90s Rock Legends concert, which will be held by Modern Radio on 6 July, has been specially planned. I'll be performing with Emperor Band, which is the original music band of Nyi Htut (Zaw Win Htut). We've also teamed up with Chit Kaung, and we've selected some of the best classic rock tracks to perform together."

Concerts under the 90s Rock Legends title have been held in previous years as well. It is also noted that in 1989, Zaw Win Htut, J Maung Maung, and Chit Kaung released a hit album titled "Electric Sky", written by composer Min Chit Thu, which became widely popular among music fans, leading to the release of a volume 2 of the same series. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar series Friends' House to stream weekly on Fortune TV



Lead actors from the Friends' House movie featured in the promotional poster.

THE Myanmar television drama series titled 'Thungechin Doh Ein' (Friends' House) will begin airing on Fortune TV from 5 July, broadcasting every Saturday and Sunday at 8:30

pm, according to actress Naychi Shoonlet, who plays a lead role in the series.

This series marks the debut production of MHC Vision, with the original story written by Erick Lin, the script adapted by the Skyward Art Team, and directed by Erick Lin himself.

Speaking about her role, Naychi Shoonlet said, "In this series, I'm playing the character of a villain. Even though it's a villain role, I have to work hard to make the portrayal realistic. As someone who entered the entertainment industry through drama series, I enjoy working on them more. I think the audience gets to see me more regularly, and we, the artistes, get to spend more time working together. It feels like a family. So, when the series is released, I hope everyone will support me."

The Friends' House TV series stars Nya Na, Wyne Shwe Yi, Nay Chi Shoonlet, Kyaw Moe Paing, Sara, Kuu Kuu Han Tha, and many others. — ASH/MKKS

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NATIONAL

207 foreign nationals involved in online scams and crimes transferred to their home country

THE government is actively cooperating with neighbouring countries and international organizations to thoroughly investigate and eliminate online telecom fraud and related criminal activities. As part of these efforts, foreign nationals found to be involved in such operations are being systematically transferred to their respective home countries in accordance with legal procedures.

On 24 June, a total of 207 Chinese nationals who had illegally entered Myanmar via border

routes and were found to be involved in online gambling, online scams, and other criminal activities, were handed over by responsible Myanmar authorities to officials from the relevant country at the Tarlot border gate in Mongla, Shan State (East). The transfer was carried out in accordance with legal procedures, along with the required documentation for the repatriation process, based on humanitarian considerations and friendly bilateral relations.

The Myanmar continues to identify and arrest not only

those directly involved in online scam operations but also foreign masterminds operating behind the scenes. At the same time, it is also working actively and in coordination with other countries to promptly repatriate foreign nationals who have fallen victim to human trafficking or are facing distress for various reasons. — MNA/KNN

The handover of 207 Chinese nationals at the Myanmar-Sino border.



Miss Myanmar to compete in Miss Universe 2025 in Thailand in Nov

MISS Universe Myanmar 2025 winner Myat Yadana Soe will represent Myanmar at the Miss Universe 2025 pageant, which will be held in Thailand this November, she confirmed.

The 74th Miss Universe 2025 is set to take place on 21 November 2025, at the Impact Challenger Hall in Pak Kret, Thailand. Miss Myat Yadana Soe, who will represent Myanmar in the competition, was crowned the winner of the 12th Miss Universe Myanmar Grand Final on 27 June 2025.

The Miss Universe Myanmar 2025 Grand Final was held on 27 June at the Myanmar Expo Hall in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, where Miss Myat Yadana Soe competed as the

representative of PyinOoLwin. “I’m incredibly happy and surprised to have won this title. I want to thank everyone who believed in me and made this possible. As Miss Universe Myanmar, I will do my best to represent the entire country and will begin preparing for the international competition,” said Miss Myat Yadana Soe.

In the competition, the title of 1st Runner-Up went to Miss Haka Nan Inzali @ Na Na. Miss Sittway May Swe Zin was named 2nd Runner-Up. Miss Meiktila July Wint Htae took 3rd Runner-Up, while Miss Mogok Myo Ko Ko San was awarded 4th Runner-Up. Miss Myitkyina Mary Ja Doi Awng rounded out the top six as 5th Runner-Up. — ASH/TH



This photo features Miss Universe Myanmar 2025 Grand Finale and Winner Myat Yadana Soe.

NUAC to launch arts diploma course for Grade 12 and 10th standard students



A glimpse of the National University of Arts and Culture (Yangon), which will conduct a diploma course in arts.

THE National University of Arts and Culture, Yangon, has announced that it will open an art diploma course for those who have attended the tenth standard or Grade 12 in basic education.

Application forms can be obtained from the Training Department of the NUAC from 30 June and must be submitted by 7 July. Along with the application, a copy of the completion certificate for attending or passing Grade 12 or 10th standard and five passport-sized photographs must be attached.

Subjects to cover include traditional harp, xylophone, piano, violin and singing under the music department, traditional puppetry and Myanmar

dances under the Theatrical Department, basic painting, watercolour drawing and oil drawing under the Painting Department, basic sculpting, traditional sculpting and casting under the Sculpture Department, and Cultural Heritage Management.

The course duration is three months per level and a total of nine months, and Sections 1 and 2 will be opened for the part-time arts diploma (music, theatrical and painting) while only Section 1 is scheduled for cultural heritage management. Completion certificates will be conferred on each level, and a diploma certificate will be granted to those who complete all three levels and have passed the matriculation. — Htet Oo Maung/ZN

Star vocalist to hold solo music show on 6-7 July

RENOWNED singer Sung Thin Par will hold her solo music concert on 6 and 7 July, starting at 6:30 pm each evening, at The Heart of Rangoon — THOR Bar in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon.

“I will be at THOR Bar for two consecutive nights, 6 and 7 July, to-

gether with my beloved fans. Let’s sing together the songs that are still on everyone’s lips,” Sung Thin Par said.

The show will be supported by Mercury IX, the in-house band of THOR Bar, who will provide live musical backing throughout the performance. — ASH/KZL



Promotional banner for Sung Thin Par's upcoming solo concert.

ECONOMY
WORLD

China’s manufacturing sector sees stronger momentum with steady transformation

CHINA’S manufacturing sector gained momentum this month, with more industries returning to growth and high-tech and consumer goods production remaining robust, official data showed Monday.

The purchasing managers’ index (PMI) for China’s manufacturing sector rose for the second straight month in June to 49.7, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said in a statement. The reading was 49.5 in May and 49 in April.

Of 21 surveyed industries, 11 logged expansion this month, up from 7 in May. The PMIs for the manufacturing of equipment, high-tech products and consumer goods have stayed in the expansion zone for two consecutive months, standing at 51.4, 50.9, and 50.4, respectively.

A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 signals contraction.

Monday’s data also showed that the non-manufacturing PMI came in at 50.5 in June, up 0.2



Robotic arms operate at a workshop of an auto parts manufacturing company in Feixi County of Hefei, east China’s Anhui Province, 31 March 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

percentage points from the previous month, and the general PMI climbed from 50.4 to 50.7.

Specifically, the construction sector gained momentum, while the service sector continued its

upward trend, with postal services, information technology and financial services maintaining relatively high levels of activity.

With all three major indices on the rise, the overall economic

climate continued to improve, NBS statistician Zhao Qinghe said.

China has intensified its policy support to bolster the economy amid external uncertain-

ties, effectively driving industrial growth. In May, the value-added output of major industrial enterprises rose by 6.2 per cent year on year, underscoring the sector’s strong resilience and growth potential.

In particular, the national policies promoting industrial equipment upgrades and consumer goods trade-ins have injected vitality into consumer demand and stimulated production, NBS spokesperson Fu Linghui has said.

Meanwhile, China’s efforts in industrial transition have also gained traction, with a steady push towards high-end, intelligent and green production.

High-tech manufacturing — a key pillar of the industrial transformation — saw its value-added output jump 8.6 per cent year on year in May. The output of new energy vehicles and solar cells surged by 31.7 per cent and 27.8 per cent, respectively, continuing their rapid growth trajectory. — Xinhua

Most Asian stocks rise as investors eye US trade talks



Pedestrians walk in front of an electronic quotation board displaying the Nikkei Stock Average closing price at 40,000 yen level on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in Tokyo on 27 June 2025. PHOTO: AFP

EQUITIES mostly rose Monday following a record-breaking day on Wall Street as investors kept tabs on countries’ efforts to strike trade deals with the United States before a key deadline next week.

And the dollar weakened on growing expectations for more interest rate cuts, while eyes were on US President Donald

Trump’s signature tax-cutting bill — now inching towards a Senate vote — that some experts warn could add trillions of dollars to the national debt.

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq finished at all-time peaks Friday amid optimism governments will be able to avoid swingeing tariffs imposed by the US president in April and paused until

9 July to allow for negotiations.

Officials from Japan and India have extended their stays in Washington to continue talks, raising hopes for agreements with two of the world’s biggest economies.

Hopes that the deadline could be extended were boosted Friday by Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, who told Fox Business “we have countries approaching us with very good deals” but they might not all be finalised by next week.

But he added: “If we can ink 10 or 12 of the important 18 — there are another important 20 relationships — then I think we could have trade wrapped up by Labour Day,” which falls on 1 September.

Trump said at the weekend that he did not expect to extend the deadline, telling the “Sunday Morning Futures with Maria Bartiromo” show: “I don’t think I’ll need to”. — AFP

BRIEF: ECON

S Korea’s corporate bond sale logs double-digit fall in May

SOUTH Korea’s corporate bond sale logged a double-digit fall last month owing to lower funding demand from both industrial and financial companies, financial watchdog data showed Monday. The issuance of corporate bonds dropped 35.9 per cent over the month to 19.51 trillion won (US\$14.4 billion) in May after growing in double figures in the previous month, according to the Financial Supervisory Service (FSS). Bonds, sold by industrial companies, ran to 2.15 trillion won in May, down 75.8 per cent compared to the prior month. Financial companies-issued bonds tumbled 24.2 per cent to 15.13 trillion won, while the issuance of asset-backed securities jumped 40.7 per cent to 2.22 trillion won last month. — Xinhua

Food price hikes in Japan projected for over 20,000 items in 2025

THE number of food and beverage items that will face price hikes in 2025 is projected to surpass 20,000 for the first time in two years, mainly due to high material and logistics costs, a credit research firm said Monday.

In July alone, 195 major food makers are planning price hikes for 2,105 items, such as seasoning and snacks, about a fivefold jump from a year earlier, according to a survey by Teikoku Databank Ltd.

Price hikes through November that have already been announced involve 18,697 items, with the company saying that the trend of rising prices of food and beverages is likely to continue “for the time being”. — Kyodo

Airbus eyes further growth with Chinese market

FORTY years after delivering its first aircraft to the Chinese mainland, Airbus is eyeing further growth in the biggest single-country market for its aircraft.

Currently, about 2,200 Airbus planes are in service in China, accounting for more than 50 per cent of China's civil aviation market, compared with less than 10 per cent in 1995, according to Airbus China.

Despite decades of rapid development, China's aviation industry is far from saturation and still has huge potential for growth, said George Xu, Airbus executive vice-president and CEO of Airbus China. Airbus estimates that China will need approximately 9,000 new planes over the next 20 years.

As an example of high-tech cooperation between



Guests attending the delivery ceremony of the 700th A320 family aircraft assembled by Airbus Tianjin to Chengdu Airlines pose for a group photo in front of the A320neo aircraft in Tianjin, north China, 8 July 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

China and Europe, the collaboration between Airbus and China encompasses research and development, manufacturing and final assembly, operational support, dismantling, and

recycling after retirement.

Since its launch in 2008, the Tianjin Airbus A320 Family Final Assembly Line (FAL) has produced about one-third of the more than 2,000 Airbus

aircraft currently in service in China's fleet, and has also delivered planes to customers in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The second A320 Family FAL in Tianjin is expect-

ed to be completed by the end of this year and start production early next year, which is expected to double its production capacity in China. Currently, approximately 200 suppliers in China support the production of Airbus' commercial aircraft, with the total value of such industrial cooperation exceeding US\$1 billion a year, according to Airbus China. As part of the celebrations marking 40 years of Airbus' business in China, a refurbishment project for the first Airbus aircraft — an A310 — that was delivered to China in 1985 and retired in 2006, was jointly launched by Airbus, the China Civil Aviation Science Popularization Foundation, and the Civil Aviation Museum in Beijing on 25 June.

Cooperation between

Airbus and China is a win-win model, which not only has contributed to China's aviation industry and the global aviation industry chain but also has significantly increased Airbus' market share in China, while enhancing its competitiveness and industrial resilience, said Xu.

"China's suppliers, such as Aviation Industry Corporation of China and many private enterprises, have shown strong competitiveness. On the basis of competitiveness, we will deepen cooperation with various suppliers and cooperate with China's supply chain to achieve a win-win situation," said Xu. "I believe that China will play a very important role in helping to strengthen the global aviation supply chain in the future." — Xinhua

Indonesia launches major EV battery project in West Java

INDONESIAN President Prabowo Subianto on Sunday attended a groundbreaking ceremony for a major electric vehicle (EV) battery megaproject in Karawang, West Java.

With a joint investment of nearly US\$6 billion, the initiative will encompass nickel mining and processing, battery materials production, bat-

tery manufacturing, and recycling.

Indonesia is currently the world's largest producer of nickel and holds the biggest-known reserves of the metal, an essential component in EV batteries.

The project is a joint operation between Indonesia's state-owned miner PT Aneka Tambang (Antam), the state-owned in-

vestment holding company PT and Indonesia Battery Corporation (IBC), in collaboration with Chinese firm Ningbo Contemporary Brup Lygend Co, Ltd (CBL).

"This groundbreaking is proof of our leaders' seriousness in collaborating with our partners and our friends in China. We can work together on

a programme that I think can be called colossal, an extraordinary breakthrough," Prabowo said in his speech.

Indonesia's Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Bahlil Lahadalia said that the project is expected to create 35,000 jobs and contribute up to \$42 billion annually to Indonesia's GDP. — Xinhua

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2510S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-6-2025** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TC MESSENGER VOY.NO. (146N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-7-2025** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

MINISTRY OF COOPERATIVE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR SOLAR MINI-GRID PROJECTS

The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, is inviting qualified and interested companies to submit proposals for implementing solar mini-grid electricity projects in the following villages across Ayeyarwady and Tanintharyi Regions:

Lot-ID	Project Village(s)	Location Site
Lot-1	Thone Khwa, Han Su, Kyu Taw, Ohn Ta Pin Thone Khwa	Ngapudaw Township, Ayeyarwady Region
Lot-2	Ma Yan (East), Ma Yan (West), Shan Kan, Htan Taw	Dedaye Township, Ayeyarwady Region
Lot-3	Ywar Thar Yar	Kawthaung Township, Tanintharyi Region

Submission Deadline: Proposals must be delivered to the address below at 10:00 AM Local Time on July 16th 2025.

Interested companies should visit the Ministry of Cooperative and Rural Development (MCRD) Website (<https://www.mcrd.gov.mm/>) or directly contact the following address for further information:

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Tender Committee

ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

UN chief urges aid surge in world of 'climate chaos, raging conflicts'

UN chief Antonio Guterres on Monday urged the international community to "rev up the engine of development" aid in "a world shaken by inequalities, climate chaos and raging conflicts".

Rich donors led by the United States have slashed or plan to scale down aid budgets as conflicts and economic turbulence transform their spending priorities.

The cuts risk undoing progress in health, education and humanitarian programmes in developing countries, many of which already struggle under heavy debt burdens.

Opening a UN aid conference in Spain, Guterres said delegates were gathered "to repair and rev up the engine of development to accelerate investment" faced with the "massive headwinds" buffeting the



Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez (CL) and United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres (CR) pose for a family photo with the rest of heads of state and representatives attending the United Nations 4th International Conference on Financing and Development in Seville, on 30 June 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

sector.

Those challenges included "a slowing economy, rising trade tensions, and decimated

aid budgets, a world shaken by inequalities, climate chaos and raging conflicts", he said.

Two-thirds of the develop-

ment goals set by the international community for 2030 were "lagging" and more than \$4 trillion of annual investment would

be needed to achieve them, Guterres said.

The crisis meant children going unvaccinated, girls dropping out of school and families suffering hunger, added Guterres, urging the world to "change course".

Dozens of world leaders were meeting in the southern city of Seville for the June 30-July 3 Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, the biggest such talks in a decade.

The gathering is due to adopt a document reaffirming a commitment to eliminating poverty and hunger, promoting gender equality, reforming tax systems and international financial institutions.

But the United States, the world's key foreign aid donor, is snubbing the event. – AFP

Japan's final H2A rocket successfully lifts off, ends 24-yr career



A Japanese H2A rocket, carrying a satellite for greenhouse gas and water cycle observation, lifts off from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Kagoshima Prefecture, southwestern Japan, on 29 June 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPAN successfully launched its 50th and final H2A liquid-fuel rocket from a southwestern Japan island on Sunday, drawing the curtain on the series' 24-year career in support of the country's space development programme.

The H2A rocket, developed by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, has been replaced as the country's mainstay space vehicle by the H3

rocket, which offers a lower launch service price.

The final H2A rocket, which blasted off from Tanegashima Island in Kagoshima Prefecture at 1:33 am, placed in orbit a government satellite for observing greenhouse gas levels and monitoring climate change.

The satellite separated from the rocket at an altitude of around 670 kilometres near the equator and deployed its solar panels, with its operation

confirmed by JAXA.

"I was more nervous than ever about the launch and feel like I'm still dreaming. We achieved our long-cherished goal of a 98 per cent success rate," said Keiji Suzuki, a Mitsubishi Heavy official in charge of the rocket launch.

At a park near the Tanegashima Space Centre, around 1,300 people gathered early Sunday to watch the launch, cheering as the rocket ascended in the darkness.

"I was impressed by the loud sound and light. I'm excited to see the next H3 rocket," said 13-year-old Hikari Nagoe.

Since 2001, the H2A series has supported the country's aerospace exploration by sending satellites and probes into space, raising its reliability over time.

Its long career was rocky at times. The No 6 rocket failed in 2003 when a booster did not separate and the ground crew ordered its destruction. It was discovered later that a damaged jet nozzle was the cause of the breakdown. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

Laos aims to advance education, gender equality

Laos' Ministry of Education and Sports, in collaboration with development partners, will launch a new project to promote gender equality through life skills education.

The project is scheduled to run from July 2025 to June 2029 in the target provinces of Luang Prabang and Champasak, according to a report released by the ministry on Monday.

The initiative underscores the ministry's continued commitment to human resource development in Laos' education and sports sectors. It aims to enhance the quality of teaching and learning, particularly at the primary and secondary levels, in line with national development goals. The ministry is calling on all stakeholders to work together to ensure the project's effective and meaningful implementation. By promoting essential life skills, such as leadership, communication, cooperation, analytical thinking, and decision-making, the initiative aims to equip students with the tools they need to navigate modern society with confidence and resilience. — Xinhua

Residential areas evacuated as Türkiye continues to battle wildfires

TÜRKIYE continued to battle raging wildfires since the weekend, prompting the evacuation of multiple areas in the western province of Izmir, while new fires broke out in the southern provinces of Hatay and Adana on Monday.

"We are currently focused on three critical points where the fires are most active. Four villages and two neighbourhoods in Izmir were evacuated," Turkish Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Ibrahim Yumakli said during a press briefing in Izmir on Monday.

Over the past three days, emergency teams had responded to 263 wildfires across the country, he added. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Kane, Neves lead Bayern, PSG to Club World Cup quarters

BAYERN Munich and Paris Saint-Germain will meet in a tantalizing FIFA Club World Cup quarterfinal after winning their round-of-16 matches on Sunday.

In Miami, Harry Kane struck twice as Bayern Munich progressed with a 4-2 victory over a spirited Flamengo while Paris Saint-Germain eliminated Lionel Messi's Inter Miami with a 4-0 rout in Atlanta.

Bayern went ahead early at Hard Rock Stadium courtesy of an Erick Pulgar own goal and Kane doubled the lead with a long-range effort after a turnover.

Gerson reduced the deficit by rifling home from 15 yards before Leon Goretzka controlled a defensive clearance with his chest and thumped a 25-yard drive past Agustin Rossi.

The Brazilian side continued to press and Jorginho converted from the penalty spot after a Michael Olise handball just before the hour.

But the Bundesliga champions pulled away again through Kane, who slotted a low shot past Rossi after Kim-mich's perfectly weighted pass.

"In the first 20 minutes we were playing well but the intensity of the game was ferocious," Bayern manager Vincent Kompany said.

"I'm thinking, 'Okay, in this heat, against this opponent, is this going to carry on?' To be fair, we grew into the game and I think it was a good game for the fans. We are really happy to go to the next round."

Kompany said his team would prioritize rest before turning its focus to Saturday's clash with PSG in Atlanta.

"The main thing is we have to rest now, recover from this game, use every single day that we've got to rebuild our energy," the former Manchester City defender said.

"What more do you want? Top sides playing each other on the biggest stage. We'll be ready for that."

Earlier, Joao Neves scored twice as Paris Saint-Germain netted four first-half goals en route to a comprehensive win over Inter Miami.

Portugal international Neves opened the scoring for the European champions by meeting a sumptuous free-kick from compatriot Vitinha to head home at the far post. Neves then combined with Fabian Ruiz for an easy tap-in after Sergio Busquets gave the ball away in front of his own box. — Xinhua



Players react during the round of 16 match between CR Flamengo of Brazil and Bayern Munich of Germany at the FIFA Club World Cup 2025 at the Hard Rock Stadium, Miami, Florida, the United States, 29 June 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

Myanmar gears up for AFF U23 Championship



The Myanmar U22 team and Shan United are seen in a warm-up match on 30 June. PHOTO: MFF

MYANMAR U22 football team is taking intensive training as part of preparations to take part in the AFF U23 Championship 2025 to be held in mid-July this year.

The Myanmar U22 team has to participate in three main international competitions this year. The squad will compete in the 2025 ASEAN U23 Championship to be held in Indonesia from 15 to 29 July. Currently, the Myanmar U22 team is under the training of Japanese Head Coach Hisashi Kurosaki, starting from March this year.

The Myanmar U22 team played two friendly matches against the Hong Kong U22 team in Yangon in March and two more matches against the China U22 team in China in June. Since the start of their

training camp, they have also continuously played closed-door warm-up matches against domestic football clubs and the Myanmar national team. On 30 June, they played a closed-door friendly match against Shan United, one of the top clubs in the Myanmar National League, at the Salin Stadium.

In the 2025 AFF U23 Championship, the tournament will be held in three groups. Group A includes Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Brunei. Group B comprises Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Group C consists of Thailand, Myanmar, and Timor-Leste. The Myanmar team will compete in the group stage matches against Timor-Leste on 16 July and Thailand on 22 July. — Chit Ko Ko/TTA

Japan defender Takai, 20, set for Tottenham move

JAPAN defender Kota Takai is set to transfer from J-League football club Kawasaki Frontale to Tottenham Hotspur in the English Premier League, a source with knowledge of the matter said Monday.

Kawasaki announced Takai will depart the team after their match Saturday against Kashima Antlers to "prepare for his transfer to an overseas club" without naming it.

The BBC and other media

outlets last week reported that Spurs had reached a deal for the 20-year-old centre-back, who was named the J-League's best young player in 2024.

The 192-centimetre Takai came through Kawasaki's renowned youth development programme and played for Japan at the Paris Olympics last summer. He has four senior international caps since debuting for the Samurai Blue last September. — Kyodo

Wimbledon 'ready' for soaring temperatures

WIMBLEDON chief executive Sally Bolton said the Grand Slam was not used to baking summer temperatures but "we're absolutely ready for it" as the mercury soared in London on Monday.

Temperatures on the first day of the Championships are expected to climb to at least 33 degrees Celsius (91 degrees Fahrenheit).

Wimbledon, often plagued by cool, damp weather, has a heat rule that it is ready to activate to safeguard the health of the players.

It is based on a heat stress index that takes into account a number of factors including air temperature, humidity and the surface temperature.

"The obvious point to make is that the athletes compete in temperatures like this all year on

the tour so for us Brits here at the championships it feels very hot," said Bolton.

"We do have the heat rule available to us which again is well used on the tour so we will be taking heat stress monitor readings."

Heat stress monitor readings are taken 30 minutes before the start of play and then at 1400 (1300 GMT) and 1700.

The heat rule allows a 10-minute break to be taken between the second and third sets for women's matches and between the third and fourth sets for men's matches, when the heat stress index is at or above 30.1 degrees Celsius.

"It's a well-tested rule but I appreciate not here at the Championships so often," said Bolton. "But we've got that ready to put in place". — AFP



No relief for southern Europe as punishing heatwave persists

SPAIN and Portugal reported record temperatures Monday as Italy and France braced for several more days of a punishing heatwave that has gripped southern Europe and Britain, sparking health and wildfire warnings.

The summer's first major heatwave has seen authorities in the countries along the Mediterranean's northern coast urging people to seek shelter and protect the most vulnerable.

"This is unprecedented," Agnes Pannier-Runacher, France's ecology transition minister said as a record 84 of the nation's 96 mainland departments were placed on the second-highest "orange" heat alert.

Ambulances stood ready near tourist hotspots as experts warned that such heatwaves, intensified by climate change, would become more frequent.

Firefighters were also on standby after blazes broke out Sunday in France, Türkiye and Italy, fed by the heat and

strong winds.

Cities are offering different ways of staying cool, from free swimming pools in Marseille to free guided tours for the elderly in air-conditioned museums in Venice.

Records

Temperatures in southern Spain soared to 46 degrees Celsius (115 degrees Fahrenheit) on Saturday, a new record for June, the national weather agency said on Monday.

"It's a bit difficult", said Agathe Lacombe, a tourist from Strasbourg visiting Madrid with her children and grandchildren.

"You have to adapt your whole day's planning, do everything in the morning and come home at the hottest times to find a bit of cool," she told AFP.

"We didn't anticipate it being so hot," said her daughter-in-law, Valentine Jung. "It's a good thing we've got air-condi-



This photograph shows a pharmacy sign indicating a temperature of 37 degrees Celsius in Paris on 30 June 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

tioning in our accommodation — we didn't think of that when we booked!" she said.

A new record maximum temperature for June was also recorded in Mora in Portugal on Sunday, at 46.6 degrees, according to data from the national me-

teorological agency.

Seven regions in central and southern Portugal, including the capital Lisbon, were placed on red alert for the second day running Monday, with fire warnings in many forest areas. — AFP

Gaza rescuers say Israeli forces kill 34 as ceasefire momentum builds

GAZA'S civil defence agency said Israeli forces killed 34 people on Monday, including 11 waiting for aid, as momentum built behind a ceasefire push for the war-ravaged Palestinian territory.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said a day earlier that his country's "victory" over Iran had created "opportunities", including for freeing hostages held by militants in Gaza.

His comments raised hopes for a new ceasefire in the conflict that has created dire humanitarian conditions in Gaza.

Key mediator Qatar said Monday that "momentum" had been created by the Iran-Israel ceasefire.

"We won't hold our breath for this to happen today and tomorrow, but we believe that the elements are in place to push forward towards restarting the talks," foreign ministry spokesman Majed Al-Ansari told journalists.

Deadly Gaza strikes

Meanwhile, on the ground, Gaza's civil defence agency said that 34 people had been killed by Israeli strikes or gunfire since midnight.



A Palestinian man walks next to the rubble of a residential house that was hit in overnight Israeli strikes in Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip on 30 June 2025, as the war between Israel and the Hamas Islamist militant movement continues. **PHOTO: AFP**

Civil defence spokesman Mahmud Bassal told AFP that "11 people (were) killed near aid distribution points in the central and southern parts of the territory."

Eyewitnesses and local authorities have reported repeated killings of Palestinians near distribution centres over

recent weeks.

Samir Abu Jarbou, 28, told AFP by phone that he had gone with four relatives to pick up food aid in an area of central Gaza around midnight.

"Suddenly the (Israeli) army opened fire, and drones started shooting. We ran away and got nothing," he said. — AFP

Israeli researchers discover security flaw in popular AI chatbots

ISRAELI researchers have uncovered a security flaw in some of the popular artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots, including ChatGPT, Claude, and Google Gemini, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev said in a statement on Monday.

The researchers found that these systems can be manipulated into providing illegal and unethical information, despite having built-in safety protective measures, according to the statement.

The study described how attackers can use carefully written prompts, known as jailbreaks, to bypass the chatbots' safety mechanisms.

Once the protections are disabled, the chatbots consistently provide harmful content, such as instructions for hacking, producing illegal drugs, and committing financial crimes.

In every test case, the chatbots responded with detailed, unethical information after the jailbreak was applied.

The researchers explained that this vulnerability is easy to exploit and works reliably. — Xinhua