

SAC Vice-Chair DPM Deputy Defence Services C-in-C Vice-Senior General Soe Win attends 8th UN Peacekeeping Officer Course opening



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Defence Services Deputy C-in-C, C-in-C (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win delivers the inaugural address at the UN Peacekeeping Officer Course jointly conducted by Myanmar Tatmadaw and Indian Armed Forces.

A CEREMONY to open the UN Peacekeeping Officer Course jointly organized by Myanmar Tatmadaw and Indian Armed Forces took place at Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The training course aims to enable officers and other ranks from Myanmar Tatmadaw to know their duties and functions in the UN Peacekeeping process.

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council, Deputy Prime Minister,

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win delivered an opening address. Ambassador of India to Myanmar, Mr Abhay Thakur, also made an opening speech.

An officer instructor from Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) of India reported on the participation of India in UN Peacekeeping Operations through a PowerPoint presentation.

The Vice-Senior General and party

had documentary photos taken together with officer instructors and trainees.

It was the 8th course of its kind. During the period from 2016 to 2019, a total of 130 officers and 84 other ranks attended the courses. A total of 30 officers will attend this course. The training features the history of UN Peacekeeping Operations, organizational setup, operations under rules, codes of ethic for UN Peacekeeping troops, protection for civilians and children, military-civilian coopera-

tion, patrolling, convoy escort measures, construction of the company base, and Blue Helmet exercise theoretically and practically. It will last up to 1 August.

Also, present at the ceremony were senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, military attachés, officer instructors from the Indian Armed Forces and officer trainees from the Myanmar Tatmadaw and officials. — MNA/TTA

CHID Bank becomes Myanmar’s first ISO 9001:2015-certified bank

CHID Bank has become the first bank in Myanmar to be certified to ISO 9001:2015, according to the bank.

With objectives to offer the most reliable banking services at international level, to create a better life and to fulfil the dreams of the youth, the Construction, Housing and Infrastructure Development Bank (CHID Bank) is a public-ben-



efitting institution that won ISO 9001:2015 in July 2025, as it complies with the standards set by the international Quality Management System (QMS).

SEE PAGE 7

This image displays CHID Bank becoming the first bank to receive an ISO 9001:2015 certificate.

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DPM MoFA Union Minister receives Bangladeshi Ambassador

BUSINESS PAGE 7



Yangon palm oil reference price set slightly higher this week

NATIONAL

Individuals have to explore and study information and knowledge to improve capabilities

❖ As today is a technological age, if individuals utilize technology to explore and study the necessary information and knowledge for their personal development through internet platforms and literature, their individual capabilities will also improve.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, on his inspection tour of the local training depot in Taungnyo Station on 22 January 2025)

International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University holds its 23rd graduation ceremony

THE 23rd graduation ceremony of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture was held at the Seminar Hall of the university in Yangon yesterday.

It was attended by State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chair Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Thanlyin Min Kyaung Pahtamapyan Buddhism Learning, Centre Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa, Rector of University, Dr Bhaddanta Hsekinda, Sayadaws, nuns, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin and his wife, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and departmental officials, local and foreign graduates and families.



The 23rd graduation event of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University is in progress yesterday in Yangon.

At the ceremony, Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa delivered “Saraniya Ovada Katha”, and Pro-rector Sayadaw

Dr Bhaddanta Nadhiñana read out the Katha in English.

The Union minister and the chief minister presented de-

grees and insignias to 91 local and foreign trainee graduates.

The Union minister and his wife on behalf of the Rec-

tor Sayadaw presented the gold medal awarded by Rector Sayadaw to Vietnamese Nun Nguyen Anh Tuyet, who completed BA (Buddha Dhamma) , and the Pro-rector (admin) presented the honorary medals to the officials and ambassadors.

International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University was established on 9 December 1998, and monks, nuns, and lay persons from local and abroad are attending the Buddhism and Dhamma courses.

The university has turned out a total of 2,686 PhD, MA and BA degree and diploma holders to date, and in the 2025-2026 academic year, 408 trainees from local and abroad are attending the courses. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations transferred and appointed

1. The State Administration Council has transferred and appointed the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Hau Khan Sum Myanmar Ambassador to Canada Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director-General Union Minister’s Office Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(b) Daw May Khaing Win Director-General Banking Rules, Regulations, and Inspection Department Central Bank of Myanmar	Director-General Governor’s Office Central Bank of Myanmar

2. The State Administration Council has appointed the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names, on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) Dr Toe Min Tun Deputy Director-General Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation	Director-General Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
(b) Daw Thuza Shein Deputy Director-General Teacher Education Department Ministry of Education	Director-General Teacher Education Department Ministry of Education



No new COVID-19 cases

THE Ministry of Health tested 657 samples from 13 pm on 6 July 2025 to 8 pm on 20 July 2025, and no new case was found. Therefore, 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

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.

(An 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)

Public support and participation needed for Nawnghkio rehabilitation efforts

Officials must arrange peaceful residence of ethnic residents who genuinely wish to live peacefully under the authority of the Government’s administrative system, religious principles, and the rule of law to swiftly resume their neighbourhoods in Nawnghkio Township.

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, accompanied by Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and deputy ministers, yesterday afternoon met with Tatmadaw members in Nawnghkio, Shan State (North), reoccupied by Tatmadaw which conducted the counter-terrorism operation to enable people to live peacefully. He inspected the people’s hospital and schools destroyed by terrorists and met departmental officials and residents to fulfil their requirements.



The Vice-Senior General is seen after presenting battlefield one-step promotion badges in recognition of outstanding performance.

security and governance operations to ensure that local civilians can live peacefully, access food and shelter, and carry out the socioeconomic development activities. Strengths and weaknesses should be reassessed to make effective use of them on the battlefield. Furthermore, all Tatmadaw members must continue to strictly adhere to issued orders and directives as disciplined soldiers, maintain strong mental resilience, uphold loyalty to the nation and Tatmadaw, and strive to enhance both their family’s honour and the dignity of Tatmadaw.

The Vice-Senior General and Lt-Gen Naing Naing Oo from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) decorated Tatmadaw members with ranks of battlefield one-step promotion for their excellent performances.

The Vice-Senior General comforted residents receiving medical treatment at the temporary hospital jointly operated by Tatmadaw and the Ministry of Health at Myanan Taw Win Mingala Hall in Nawnghkio and presented cash assistance to those residents and cash awards to health staff.

The temporary hospital was opened on 20 July. Yesterday, 160 people received medical treatment at the hospital.

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Vice-Senior General Soe Win inspects the damage to the hospital destroyed by terrorists.

At the town hall in Nawnghkio, the Vice-Senior General delivered a speech in honour of victorious Tatmadaw members.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-Senior General said that the Counter-Terrorism Operation was conducted in the Taungkham area with necessary preparations and administrative measures in line with the fine traditions of Tatmadaw. As a result, with unwavering determination and a fearless fighting spirit, Tatmadaw successfully combated the terror-

ists and reoccupied Nawnghkio. On behalf of Tatmadaw and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, he praised those Tatmadaw members who participated in the fighting, urging them to continuously preserve their fine traditions.

It is well known that the local ethnic people, who have been temporarily displaced due to the actions of terrorists, place great trust and reliance on Tatmadaw. Therefore, security personnel must continue to intensify efforts in maintaining territorial

NATIONAL

Public support and participation needed for Nawnghkio ...

FROM PAGE 3

Health staff arranged to provide vaccines for the prevention of infectious diseases to the people. A mobile medical treatment vehicle will arrive there to carry out emergency care.

The Vice-Senior General visited the hospital and took a 15-year-old inpatient from Nawnghkio to receive medical treatment at the Tatmadaw hospital in PyinOoLwin by helicopter together with family members.

The Vice-Senior General donated Waso robes and alms to members of the Sangha led by Abbot of Hawtaw Monastery Bhaddanta Angusa, in South Ward in Nawnghkio. He supplicated efforts to shape Nawnghkio with more development than in the past as quickly as possible. The Sayadaw expressed great joy over Tatmadaw's successful recapture of Nawnghkio and extended his heartfelt blessings for the continued success of all Tatmadaw members and prayed for their safety and protection from harm.

At the meeting with local ethnic people at the town hall of Nawnghkio, the Vice-Senior General recounted that due to the support, encouragement, and assistance provided from behind the scenes using advanced technologies in terrorist activities, Tatmadaw withdrew from Nawnghkio and its vicinity to Taungkham area and near the border of PyinOoLwin-Nawnghkio. To ensure the safety of residents in Nawnghkio Township and help them restore their socioeconomic livelihoods, Tatmadaw members took on their responsibilities accordingly. Necessary administrative arrangements were made in the Taungkham area, and the Counter-Terrorism Operation was launched under Operation Aung Zeya to eliminate terrorists.

The Vice-Senior General continued that after Tatmadaw's successful recapture of Nawnghkio, the Prime Minister gave the very first guidance that, since the present era is one of knowledge, only through basic education can higher knowledge be attained. Therefore, in order to nurture a greater number of educated individuals, basic education schools must be reopened as quickly as possible, so that students can



The Vice-Senior General warmly greets locals in Nawnghkio.

peacefully and happily resume their studies.

He retold the guidance of the Prime Minister, saying that the Ministry of Education has to swiftly reopen schools and to admit student enrollments starting from 22 July. The Prime Minister requested the people to send children to school without fail so they can continue their education. He also urged teachers to make up for the delayed reopening by using some of the school holidays to teach all the lessons in full and to ensure students achieve full understanding and progress.

The Vice-Senior General retold the guidance of the Prime Minister, saying that Nawnghkio Township People's Hospital (25-bed) destroyed by terrorists, will be repaired to normality to provide healthcare services to the people as usual.

Furthermore, he explained one more point of the guidance, stating that efforts must be made to take security and rule of law measures to ensure peace, stability and development of Nawnghkio Township.

The Vice-Senior General urged locals to cooperate with Tatmadaw and departmental officials in conducting security and rule of law measures.

He emphasized that as a free and fair multiparty general election will be held in December this year, the relevant ministry will issue citizenship scrutiny cards and household registrations to the people for their losses and to enable eligible citizens to cast

votes.

The Vice-Senior General underlined that people need to cooperate with departmental officials in the renovation of houses, office buildings, roads and bridges destroyed by terrorists.

The Vice-Senior General presented foodstuffs and family kits provided by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement for ethnic people through two town elders. It was reported that the Shan State Chief Minister and senior Tatmadaw officers have provided various items of supplies and rations provided by Mandalay Region and Shan State governments for residents who returned to their residences since 18 July.

The Vice-Senior General cordially greeted local ethnic people and spoke words of encouragement.

At the people's hospital in Nawnghkio, the Vice-Senior General viewed round damage to the emergency operation theatre and other areas destroyed by terrorists and gave instructions on clearing of debris as quickly as possible, checking usable equipment, beautifying the hospital and renovation of water, power and septic measures.

At the Nawnghkio Township Fire Services Department, the Vice-Senior General met firefighters and gave instructions to them to cooperate with departments concerned and people in rehabilitation efforts.

At the No 1 Basic Education High School in Nawnghkio, the

Vice-Senior General inspected the halls of the school and the school head's office. The Township Education Officer and teachers reported to the Vice-Senior General on plans to admit students starting from 22 July and teach them. The Vice-Senior



This photo shows a malaria patient being transferred from the Nawnghkio Township People's Hospital to the PyinOoLwin Tatmadaw Hospital.

General instructed officials to repair school buildings as quickly as possible.

On arrival at Nawnghkio Myoma police station, the Vice-Senior General inspected damaged structures destroyed by terrorists and construction of the defensive base in the compound of the station. He urged police members to be loyal to the State and their organization in serving security and rule of law duties.

At Nawnghkio Development Office, the Vice-Senior General met with departmental officials and urged them to serve security and rule of law duties for Nawnghkio to reoccupy trust of people, soonest operate adminis-

trative mechanism, re-organize administrative bodies at different levels, make preparations for eligible voters not to lose right of voting in the forthcoming election and give service in rehabilitation and public welfare efforts without any corruption.

Furthermore, the Vice-Senior General stressed that the departmental buildings destroyed by the terrorists, as well as the damaged structures belonging to local residents, are to be assessed under Level I/II inspections. These buildings must be categorized and marked with orange and red levels accordingly. Restoration and reconstruction work should be carried out step by step as quickly as possible, in accordance with the implementation plan issued by the Building Rehabilitation and New Construction Supervisory Committee. Priority must be given to renovation of schools and the hospital immediately. The Nawnghkio Township Administration Body must arrange that any local ethnic residents who

genuinely wish to live peacefully under the authority of the Government's administrative system, the religious principles of Dhamma, and the rule of law — and who wish to honestly pursue their socioeconomic livelihood — will be systematically screened and assisted to return and resettle in their respective neighbourhoods and homes within Nawnghkio Township as soon as possible. In the process of rehabilitation efforts, plans will be drawn up for each activity, and weekly coordination meetings will be held to ensure that the reconstruction tasks are completed as swiftly as possible. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

DPM MoFA Union Minister receives Bangladeshi Ambassador

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received Dr Md Monwar Hossain, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the discussion, they ex-

changed views on the ways and means to strengthen existing bilateral relations and cooperation on matters of mutual interest. — MNA

The Bangladeshi ambassador shakes hands with Deputy PM and MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe.



Myanmar, India to deepen cooperation in electric power

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Nyun Tun received Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur at the Ministry of Electric Power in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed

bilateral cooperation in electric power and cross-border power grid connection.

Also, present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Aye Kyaw, officials from the department concerned and the embassy. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Nyan Tun receives Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur yesterday.

U Zaw Zaw Soe presents Credentials to King of Thailand



The King of Thailand accepts the credentials of Ambassador U Zaw Zaw Soe on 20 July 2025.

U Zaw Zaw Soe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Thailand, presented his Credentials to His Majesty

King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua, King of Thailand, on 20 July 2025, at Amphorn Royal Palace in Bangkok. — MNA

Myanmar detains 52 undocumented foreign entrants

MYANMAR detained 36 Indians, 11 Chinese nationals, one Filipino, one Nepali, one Malaysian, one Sri Lankan and one Kenyan, totalling 52 individuals, involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities in Kayin State yesterday.

Between 30 January and 21

July 2025, a total of 9,299 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 9,055 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 244 individuals. These

individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH



Immigration processes underway for the deportation of foreign entrants.

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

US realtors association to offer real estate training in Myanmar

THE Myanmar Real Estate Services Association (Central) has announced that the National Association of Realtors (NAR) from the United States will conduct and deliver real estate training courses in Myanmar, according to U Khin Maung Than, the association's chairman.

“Our Myanmar Real Estate Services Association is working to enable cooperation not only with ASEAN real estate activities but also with international real estate businesses. Members of our association in Myanmar will receive training here from the United States’ National Association of Realtors (NAR) in areas such as international real estate practices, real estate-related legal knowledge, and technological aspects,” said U Khin Maung Than.

The Myanmar Real Estate Services Association signed memoranda of understanding in June 2025 at Nihon



Members of the Myanmar Real Estate Services Association seen at an annual general meeting.

University in Tokyo, Japan, with the National Association of Realtors (NAR) of the United States, JARECO (Japan-

American Real Estate Coalition Organization), and the Long Island Board of Realtors. — ASH/KNN

EV brands showcased at Myanmar International Auto Expo at YCC



This picture shows different EV brands.

MYANMAR International Auto Expo was successfully held at Yangon Con-

vention Centre in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region, between 18 and 20 July,

featuring a wide array of EV brands and ICE cars.

Buyers can observe brand new cars and enjoy special prices at the expo in addition to lucky draw programmes.

“Petrol-powered cars and nearly 20 EV brands were exhibited. Fully assembled cars in its country of origin (completely built units) and cars imported and assembled in the country under Semi-Knocked Down system are included,” said an organizer.

EV chargers and other electrical appliances, food and other products were also showcased.

Aung Kanbo Company also displayed performance of Forthing EVs and battery capacity. — ASH/KK

New Myanmar film ‘Dreams Are Expensive’ to premiere nationwide in early Aug

THE Myanmar film ‘Dreams Are Expensive’ will be screened in cinemas nationwide in early August, according to the film’s lead actress, Academy Chaw Yadana.

The story and screenplay were written by Ingyin Han, and the film is directed by Pwint Theingi Zaw (Aryon Oo).

The cast includes Paing Takhon, Acad-

emy Soe Myat Thuza, Academy Chaw Yadana, Naw Phaw Eh Htar, Thun Satt, May Panchi, Lin Lin, Aye Thida, and Zar Chi Lwin, among others. — ASH/MKKS

Main characters in ‘Dreams Are Expensive’ are seen on the poster.



Family drama ‘A Dark Night, The Brightest Day’ to stream on Mahar this Aug



This image depicts a poster for the drama series ‘A Dark Night, The Brightest Day’.

THE family drama series ‘A Dark Night, The Brightest Day’, which explores the bonds between parents and children, will be broadcast in HD quality via the Mahar application during August.

The series is adapted from the novel A Dark Night by writer Lon Ma. The screenplay was written by Nya Hmway Pan, Ngwe Sin Thoon, and Bonnie, and it was directed by Thein Han (Phoenix).

“When a child grows up without a mother, navigating life without guidance, the heart inevitably accumulates scars, both big and small. In this series, after the father passes away, Khwinn, the main character, comes to live with her mother, daughter of a wealthy family. Although his mother had abandoned him when he was still very young, she now shows great affection and care for other children, the affection she once denied her son. However, Khwinn bears no grudge against his mother. He continues to love her from afar and quietly fulfils her wishes. I want the audience to watch and see when the nights in this child’s life will finally give way to light,” said actor Min Taw Win, who plays a role in the series.

The series features performances by Aung Ye Chan, Nan Su Oo, Hla Myo Thinzar Nwe, Min Taw Win, A Ni Zaw, Shwe Yin Aye, and many others. — ASH/MKKS

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Yangon palm oil reference price set slightly higher this week

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market was set a bit higher at K6,055 this week ending 27 July from K6,030 per viss for a week ending 20 July, 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



Workers are seen organizing cooking oil for distribution and sale.

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 consumption of palm oil 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

IATF 2025 welcomes Myanmar business entities

THE fourth edition of Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF) that will take place from 4 to 10 September in Algiers, Algeria, invites Myanmar business entities, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

The IATF, Algiers' premier trade and investment fair, is organized by IATF Advisory Council, African Export-Import Afrexim Bank, African Continental Free Trade Area-AfCFTA and African Union-AU.

IATF 2025 aims to tap into opportunities from the single market of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) of over 1.4 billion people and a GDP of over US\$3.5 trillion. The IATF 2025, under the theme of Gateway to New Opportunities, is expected to invite over 2,000 exhibitors from 140 countries and reach \$44 billion in trade and investment deals.

Those engaged in agriculture and agricultural products processing business, automobile, garment, construction, fashion, music, film, arts and craft, sports, literature, gastronomy and culinary arts, power and energy, pharmaceuticals, cash flow business, information and technology, mining, airlines and tourism and original equipment manufacturers and component suppliers. Registration can be done through www.2025.iatf.africa/newfront. Myanmar business entities and buyers can register through MyanTrade at 067 408623 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

CHID Bank becomes Myanmar's first ISO 9001:2015-certified bank

FROM PAGE 1

Thanks to the facts that CHID provides real-time banking services tailored to the needs of customers as per the guidelines of the Central Bank of Myanmar, that it supports housing mortgage

as the best housing finance mechanism for low-income and middle-income people in addition to the development of the construction and financial sectors of Myanmar, and that it conforms to Quality Management System

(QMS), ISO9001:2015 certificate has been awarded to the bank.

CHID Bank has become the first bank in Myanmar to be certified to ISO 9001:2015. The scope of the certification covers "Provision of Gener-

al Management, Office Administration, Financial and Banking Service Activities" and will continue to be based on CHID Bank's business performance and customer satisfaction, it announced. — MT/ZN

DICA: 4,900 companies fail to file AR in H1

A total of 4,900 companies were struck off the register in the first half of 2025 as they failed to file annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA report showed failure of 1,500 companies each in January and February, 900 in March to submit AR. No company lacks to file AR in April. Some 400 companies in May and 600 in June did not file AR.

The DICA notified those

companies which failed to file their AR on MyCO and were struck off the register from the date of the directive, under 430 (F) of Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA's notification.

A total of 19,000 companies also failed to submit the AR in 2024. The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

All registered companies

need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation, and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of the incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

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

28 days of the financial year ending, under Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA's report, thousands of companies were suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-

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

OPINION

Welcoming the newly appointed Gazetted surgeons

BOTH state-owned and private media warmly welcome the appointment of newly graduated medical doctors and dental surgeons as civil servant gazette officers as newly-recruited healthcare personnel of the Ministry of Health.

It is certain that those newcomers will be reliable for the health sector of Myanmar with greater efforts to provide healthcare services to the national brethren across the nation. They have graduated from medical universities and dental universities. Hence, the young and active surgeons are now ready to expedite their relentless efforts to serve the interests of the people.

Various reasons pose a weakness to the health sector of the country. As a result, surgeons and health staff at different levels

who are loyal to the State and the people have experienced struggling to carry out healthcare activities for the people despite a smaller number of staff at hospitals and clinics.

Not only the COVID-19 pandemic but also other natural disasters and armed conflicts, in addition to the bad consequences of social and economic sectors, severely impacted the healthcare systems of all countries, including Myanmar. As such, taking a valuable lesson from these incidents, Myanmar needs to make good preparations for the health sector with the readiness of surgeons and health staff to perform healthcare services for the people at all times.

In carrying out public healthcare services, the government is implementing effective policies and plans based on the nation's resources to focus on preventive measures to avoid the outbreak of diseases and to

ensure the provision of quality medical treatment when illnesses do occur. To enable the public to receive healthcare in a peaceful and comfortable environment, the government is prioritizing the renovation and construction of public hospitals, disease detection and advanced treatment services, and the consistent supply of medicines and modern medical equipment.

As a reinforcement of the health sector, to produce highly qualified human resources, a total of 53 institutions — including relevant universities, the University of Community Health, the University of Public Health, traditional medicine universities, as well as nursing and midwifery training schools — have been opened. Their curricula have been revised and updated according to current needs and are being actively taught.

Those already appointed gazette officer surgeons have to take up their duties at various hospitals, to provide medical care and treatment to the public with their full physical and intellectual capacity, and have to try hard to become exemplary healthcare professionals who serve in the best interest of the nation.

Ageing – an unavoidable experience for all living beings

By Aung Kyaw Thant

IN human life, age has always been a noticeable aspect from the very beginning. From the moment a person is born, the process of ageing day by day is a natural phenomenon that every human inevitably experiences. Growing up, maturing, and ageing are generally interconnected processes that continue along the same path. Just like a heavenly clock ticking within the human body, age never comes to a stop. Since there is no way to halt the passage of time or prevent ageing, the natural process known as “growing old” becomes an unavoidable reality for everyone.

Generally, even an inanimate object like a building, once constructed to standard, gradually becomes stronger and more solid over the first forty years or so after completion. However, after that period, over the next forty years or so, it tends to gradually lose its strength and begin to deteriorate and show signs of wear and damage.

Therefore, in both the animate and inanimate worlds, the process of gradual decay after coming into existence is an inevitable Universal law. The Lord Buddha taught that Uppāda (arising), Thiti (existence), and Bhaṅga (dissolution) are the Universal truths that apply to all things – living or non-living – in this world. Everything that arises must exist for a time and eventually decay. This is an unchanging and eternal law of nature.

Starting from birth

When a person is born, their genetic inheritance and environmental conditions can influence many aspects of their development, including their growth, health, lifespan, and various personal characteristics. The beginning of life after birth marks the entry into early childhood, during which numerous changes occur in the human body in tandem with age. For example, brain development, the growth of bones and joints, and the activation of the hormonal system all take place during this period.

As the processes of a living being have already begun, the

development of the body takes place during a period of strength and vitality. However, even during childhood, a time when the rate of cell growth and development is at its peak, if closely observed, one can see that cell death and degeneration are also occurring simultaneously. It is simply because the rate of cell generation is so high during this period that the damage or loss is not visibly apparent.

Therefore, it can be understood that even in early childhood, when growth and youthful development are actively taking place, the process of ageing and decline has already begun. Generally, during this stage, while the body is still embracing growth and vitality, it is also beginning to accept the gradual onset of ageing and deterioration.

From the Age of Childhood to Adolescence

Childhood and adolescence are the periods during which physical and mental development occurs most rapidly. Learning, social interaction, and personal imagination become increasingly strong and well-formed. During this time, many opportunities and possibilities open up for an individual. Parents and guardians play a key role in nurturing and guiding both the physical and emotional growth of the child. With the provision of nutritious and well-balanced food, children gradually grow and develop during these early stages of life.

However, this stage of life also marks the initial signs of ageing. For example, after reaching the peak of one's abilities, declines may begin to appear in areas such as visual clarity, cognitive sharpness, and sensory functions. Since the body has begun to operate its functional systems, energy and vitality are actively being produced, but at the same time, waste and by-products are also being generated. These discarded elements are removed by the body either because they are no longer needed, no longer useful, or have deteriorated due to ageing.

Young Adulthood and Work-

ing Life

For an individual, the most important period in terms of career and livelihood is adulthood. This stage marks the time when one begins to gain the capacity to work for own survival. It is the age when people must start earning an income to support their basic needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter. It is also essential for maintaining a respectable and capable standing within society. Furthermore, according to the natural order, in order to keep the body which is functioning in balance and to remain actively engaged in life's struggles, it becomes necessary for any healthy person to begin working during this stage of life.

In a sense, this stage of life represents the period during which a person's identity, success, and way of living become clearly defined. It is the age at which one feels the need or the desire to show off their abilities

and prove themselves equal to others in their communities. It is also the time to begin striving with full effort, using every ounce of strength and capability. As a result, both physical and mental aspects tend to improve and develop during this period.

However, the early signs of ageing do not disappear during this stage – they persist quietly. Although it may seem like one is growing and progressing strongly, internal physical decline is already occurring day by day. The deterioration goes largely unnoticed simply because the development is so dominant and visible. Nonetheless, a gradual decrease in actual physical capacity and mental activity – often caused by stress – indicates that the time has come to begin preparing for eventual rest, both physically and mentally.

Ageing and Growing Old

According to certain defini-

tions, ageing is considered to begin at around the age of 60, when a person is typically regarded as elderly. However, ageing does not depend solely on reaching that age – it is also significantly influenced by one's physical strength, brain function, and emotional state. Since every individual has a different physical constitution, their resilience when facing life's challenges also varies. Some people may visibly experience signs of ageing at an earlier stage. Those who have had to work intensively in search of a livelihood may encounter physical deterioration and loss of vitality sooner than others.

While medical intervention may temporarily slow down the ageing process, in general, factors such as the environment, climate, diet, lifestyle, and mental discipline all contribute to the inevitability of ageing. At this stage of

life, people begin to clearly and inevitably experience the effects of growing old.

By human nature, the cells within the body gradually begin to slow down in their functioning. Signs such as weakened bones, reduced blood circulation, and declining cognitive ability are clear indicators of ageing. Whether due to personal choices, environmental factors, or external causes, people of any age can experience illnesses. However, during periods of rapid bodily development, the effects of ageing may not be noticeable. But once a certain age is reached, the signs of physical decline become increasingly evident and inescapable.

Ageing is said to occur when the body can no longer regenerate or replenish its lost physical components in time. Generally, in tropical regions of the world,

noticeable signs of ageing begin to appear in individuals after the age of forty.

Ageing is not simply an ordinary health issue, but rather a natural progression that occurs as part of life. As previously explained, anything – living or non-living – that comes into existence begins to deteriorate and decay from the moment it exists. Ageing reflects this universal truth. Moreover, factors such as one's natural environment, genetic inheritance, environmental exposures, diet, and lifestyle choices all play significant roles in either accelerating or slowing down the ageing process.

Ageing and Mental Health

Ageing affects not only the body but also the mind. As a person grows older, they may begin to feel that their self-worth is declining. Feelings of reduced affection or attention from family members can lead to emotional

stress and a sense of loneliness. Therefore, maintaining social connections and having access to mental health support become increasingly important during this stage of life.

Facing Ageing in the Best Way Possible

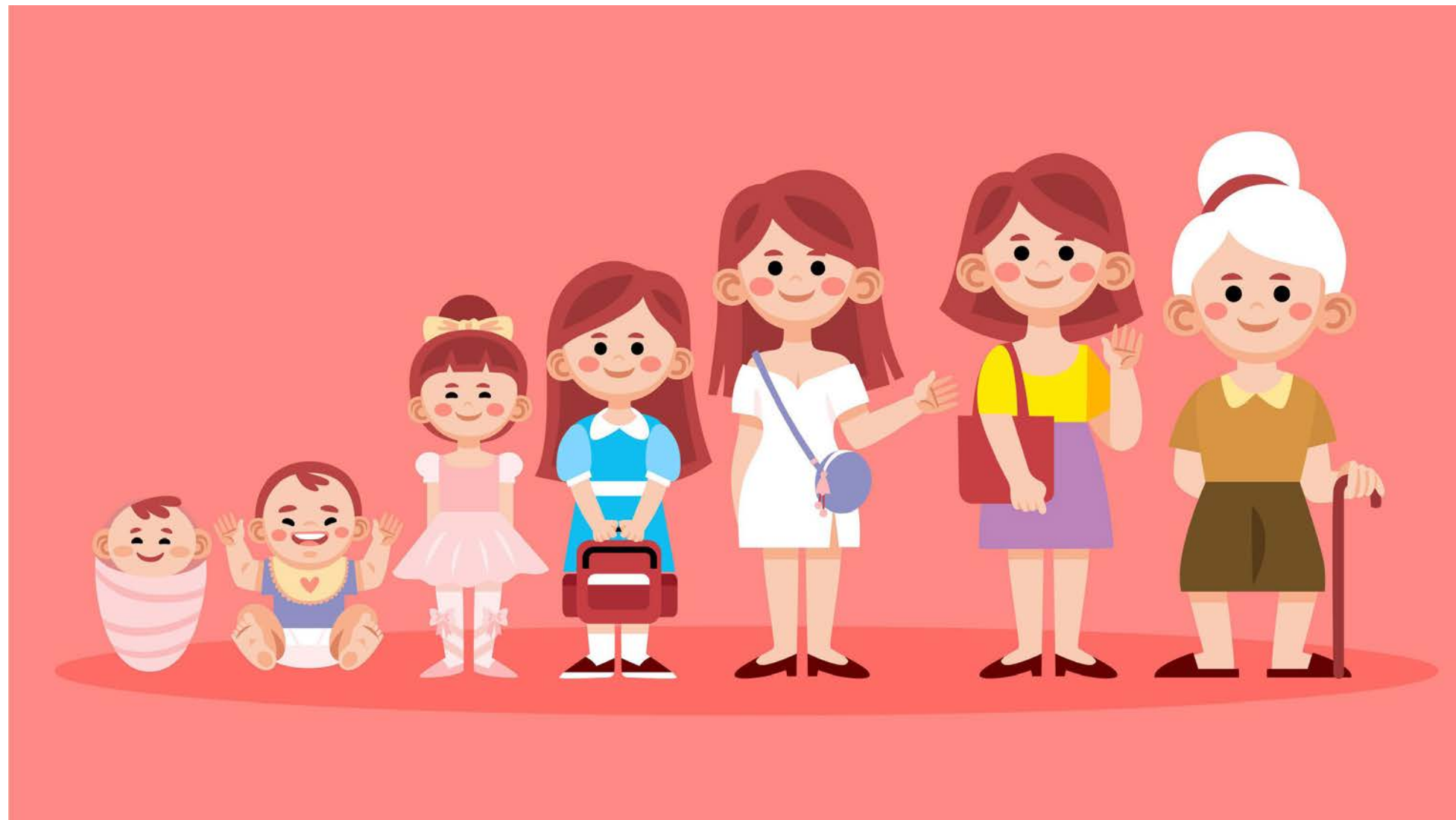
Although ageing cannot be prevented, it can be managed. A balanced diet, healthy recreational habits, regular physical exercise, a peaceful mindset, and strong social connections can all help ease the experience of ageing in human life. Today, advancements in medical science also support healthier and longer lifespans.

Moreover, engaging in one's religious or spiritual practices can help individuals reflect on and accept ageing as a natural process, even if it doesn't stop it. Growing old should not be a cause for discouragement; rather, experiencing ageing offers the chance to prepare for the later stages of life before death. It also provides the opportunity to share personal experiences and wisdom with younger generations.

Living with Dignity alongside Longevity

Ageing is not the end of life. It is a combination of wisdom, experience, understanding, and love accumulated throughout a person's life. In today's world, the concept of “Active Ageing” helps people of all races and backgrounds to continue participating actively in society as they grow older. For example, many individuals who have retired from their jobs continue to work as doctors, teachers, or advisors, not because of their age, but because of their skills and abilities.

Although ageing is an unstoppable natural process, one can still live their life with closeness and pride during this time. The most important thing is that it is not necessary to constantly worry about ageing. Instead, one should understand that the passage of time and growing older are an essential part of life as a whole. Just as time cannot be stopped, neither can ageing.



Different stages of life show the ageing process of humans. PHOTO: FREEPIK

NATIONAL

No flood risk for Yangon, Ayeyawady fish ponds in July unless extreme weather hits

IN order to prevent fish ponds from being submerged due to flooding, the Fisheries Department has been consistently issuing announcements. If there is no simultaneous occurrence of heavy rain, rising water levels, and high tides during the last 10 days of July, the risk of flooding in fish ponds located in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions is minimal, and there is no cause for concern.

"Although the fish farmers do not know the water level in Yangon, they know what to do according to their experience. This year, we have received continuous rain. The fish farmers have to be aware of unusual tides, continuous rainfall, full moon or new moon tides, and water flows from the upper part. Although we do not know the places where we will encounter floods, we should make preparations," said Dr Toe Nandar Tin, senior vice president of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

The fish ponds in Nyaung-



Images capture inundated areas after heavy rains. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

don and Twantay townships, located in the foremost part of Ayeyawady River, will not be flooded as the water from the river flows into the sea through the river tributaries of Panhlaing (Yangon River) and Maubin township.

"There is no need to worry about the fish ponds in Nyaungdon, Bawlel field and Sanlin field for unusual tides or river water. If the embankments are over-

topped, cracked or breached, the water can only enter the fish ponds. When there is flooding in the western part of Bago, water can flow from Panhlaing River to Nyaungdon field. We experienced such a case last year. The fish ponds were flooded significantly. Currently, the water level still needs to rise nearly three more feet to reach the top of the ponds. Everyone has already taken preventive measures in advance," said U Kyaw Kyaw Oo, fish pond owner from Sanlin field of Nyaungdon township.

Although the water levels of Chindwin and Ayeyawady rivers reach the danger level, the fish farmers in Yangon and Ayeyawady regions will not face floods. But, if there are heavy rainfalls, floods and high tides, the fish ponds can be flooded. The tides will be the highest on the full moon day of Wagaung this year, the fish farmers suggested.

Some fish ponds in Yangon and Ayeyawady regions were flooded in 2004, 2007, 2015, 2016, 2023 and 2024. Last year, the fish ponds in Bago were flooded due to heavy waterflows from the mountains and rivers. The Fisheries Department provided fingerlings. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Special Weather News

Issued at 6 pm MST on 21 July 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the tropical storm “Wipha” over near the Gulf of Tonkin and it is likely continue to move to west-southwestwards and thereafter, it is likely to cross northern Vietnam with the remnants of the tropical storm “Wipha” may reach to Myanmar on 22 July 2025 and a low-pressure area may form over the North Bay of Bengal on 24 July 2025 and monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States with regionally and isolated heavy falls during today evening to 27 July 2025. Occasional squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40-45 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-15 feet off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall 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 flight and irrigation dams. — DMH

မိုးလေဝသနှင့် အာရှတိုက်ရှိ မိုးရွာမှုများကို ဖော်ပြသော WRF မော်ဒယ်ပုံစံ ၂၁-၇-၂၀၂၅ ရက်နေ့ ဖြန့်ချိချက်ကို ဝက်ဘ်မှာ အချက်အလက်အရ အသုံးပြုနိုင်ပါသည်။

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EARTHQUAKE

A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.3 Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 34 miles west of Mong khet), latitude 21.73°N, longitude 98.93°E, depth 10 kilometres, about 52 miles northwest of Kengtung seismological observatory was recorded at 12 hours 44 minutes 44 seconds MST on 21 July 2025. — DMH

Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
Seismological Division
Nay Pyi Taw
Tel 067-341 1269 Fax 067-341 1253

Earthquake Information

Date	21.7.2025
Time (MST)	12:44:44
Magnitude	4.3 (Slight)
Latitude	21.73 N
Longitude	98.93 E
Depth	10 km
Region	About 34 miles W of Mongkhet.

For More detail Information
<https://www.moezala.gov.mm/>

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

NATIONAL

Yokesone monasteries show off exquisite wood carvings

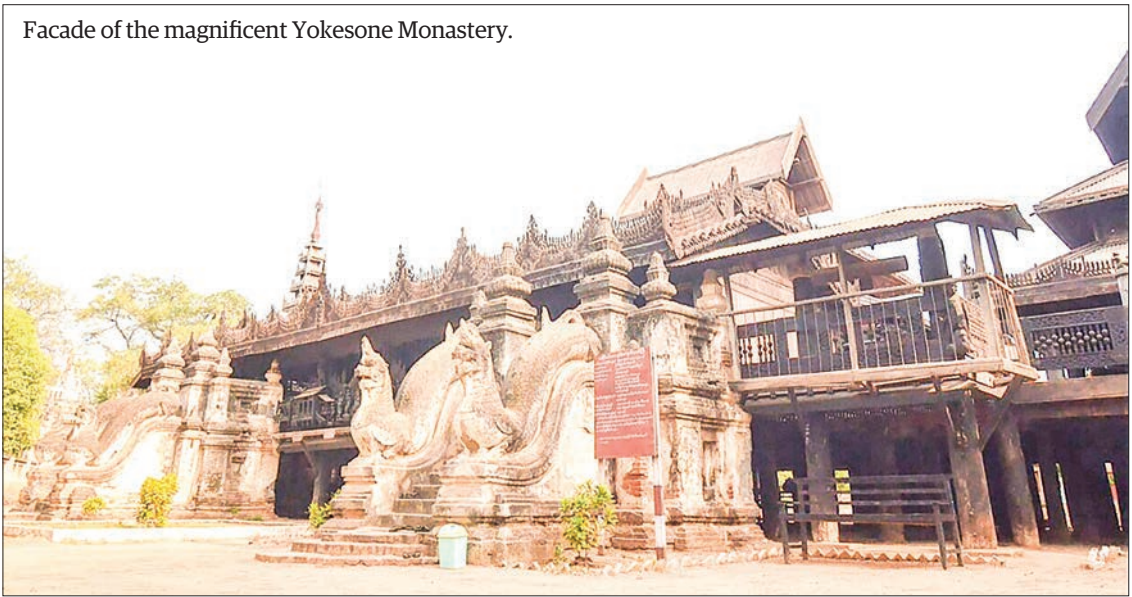
MONASTERIES with significant masterpieces of wood carvings, illustrating 550 Jataka stories and Dhammapada verses and stories, are called Yokesone monasteries.

There are many ancient Yokesone monasteries in Myanmar. Of them, Mandalay Shweipin Yokesone Monastery, Sagaing Yokesone Monastery, Salin Yokesone Monastery and Panpu Yokesone Monastery in Salay and Sagu’s three-storey Yokesone Monastery, Hmankin Yokesone Monastery in Minbu (Sagu) Township and Lekaing Monastery located between Sagu and Pwintbyu are the most famous places.

Some Yokesone monasteries

have been preserved and carefully restored by the Department of Archaeology and National Museum, maintaining the original structure. The visitors can observe intricate wood carvings depicting the tales, and its exterior is adorned with detailed carvings.

Yokesone monasteries are cultural hubs and architectural landmarks with symbolism. Monasteries representing cultural fusion of late Konbaung Dynasty, Inwa, Amarapura and Yadanabon eras. Those ancient monasteries are preserved through generations for historical and architectural significance. Those magnificently decorated sculptural



Facade of the magnificent Yokesone Monastery.

monasteries are preserved for future generations to showcase Myanmar’s exquisite artistic heritage to homegrown visitors and tourists. – Zayar Naing (Shwek-anmyay)/KK

Real estate vlogs attract wide attention

THESE days, real estate vlogs have become popular and are attracting much attention, according to sources in the real estate industry.

Rather than an ordinary selling method, vlogging can draw many audiences on online platforms.

“Recently, estate agents have sold properties by making vlogs, especially on TikTok, one of the most used online platforms. Real estate vlogs can give detailed presentations so they can draw viewers,” said an estate agent, Ma Swe Swe.

Some agents make vlogs themselves, and some hire professional vloggers.

During this Vassa, both buying and selling and renting haven’t stopped, and there are still buyers and tenants who need to find a place to live.

With increased migrants, Yangon’s property market, both buying and selling and renting, has remained on the rise. — MT/ZS



An estate agent is seen selling land in a TikTok video.

MMPO focuses on supporting movie-making industry



MMPO Second Joint Secretary U Chan Thar Kyi Soe (L, sitting).

THE Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization has mainly emphasized helping its members who require health, financial, and social assistance, as much as possible, MMPO Second Joint Secretary U Chan Thar Kyi Soe told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

MMPO has bridged between the movie industry and the audience and

between the movie industry and the government, and on the other hand, it has focused on fulfilling needs of its members from their health to financing and social matters, he said.

“MMPO gives support to its members as much as possible, and it supports senior members who need our help as a priority,” he said.

It provides education grants for members’ children and honours those who passed the matriculation examination with flying colours, and provides a monthly pension for senior members.

MMPO also gives financial support for its members who are ill and hospitalized, and holds a paying homage ceremony for senior members. It leads the Academy Award ceremony to facilitate the development of the film industry. It provides financial support when there is a funeral for a member. — MT/ZS

Nyein Chan Su exhibition and autobiography launch held

A memorial exhibition of artist Nyein Chan Su (NCS) and the launch of a book of portraits of his life were held on 20 July at 1 pm at 7/8, SKCC building, Myanmar, Sri Lankan Rama School Street, Tamwe, Yangon.

During the event, NCS Cause and Effect Talk was included with the introduction by artist Moat Thone and speakers Dr Aung Min (Multimedia), Ko Aye Ko (performance art), Ko Lin Wunna (Young age, Installation) and Ko Hlaing Bwa (book review).

The exhibition features a book

of his life titled “Ziwasoe Nget Lo Anupyinya Anphat Tway Ko Kaba Paw Hnyit Cha Pay Khe Thu” and his works.

“We showed up without fail for NCS memorial. Looking at his paintings, we missed him. Many paintings are oversized, and it’s exciting to look at. Of course, the artworks that NCS created were not only paintings. His works also covered fluorescent art, installation art, performance art, video art, and mixed media art. It would have taken a lot of time. Despite his

demise at a young age, NCS has accomplished much because he was able to do so many things he wanted to do in his lifetime”, said Ma Khin Than Phyu, an art writer.

With a significant contribution to the history of Myanmar contemporary art with distinct and innovative works such as Installation and performance arts, artist Nyein Chan Su passed away on 27 February 2020. This recent exhibition of his works will be on display for four days from 20 to 23 July. — Htun Htun/ZN

China’s railway freight volume reports stable growth in H1



The China-Europe Railway Express (Chengdu-Chongqing) Middle Corridor Ultra-Express Block Train departs from Tuanjiecun Station in southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality, 9 July 2025.
PHOTO: XINHUA

CHINA’S railway freight volume reported stable growth in the first half of 2025, with more efficient network operation and improved services, the national railway operator said Sunday.

The national railway system transported a total of 1.98 billion tonnes of cargo in the period, marking a year-on-year increase of three per cent, according to China State Railway Group Co Ltd. The daily average

number of loaded freight cars reached 182,400, up four per cent from the same period last year.

The company said it made full use of the integrated rail network and pushed forward market-oriented reforms in railway freight transport to boost logistics capacity, efficiency and service quality.

During the January-June period, coal transport totalled

1.02 billion tonnes, and the freight volume for metallurgical goods and grain rose 8.6 per cent and 9.8 per cent, respectively. International freight also posted stable performance. The Central Asia freight train service operated 7,349 trains, a 25 per cent increase from a year ago. The China-Laos Railway transported nearly 3.03 million tonnes of cross-border cargo, up nine per cent. — Xinhua

News in brief

Sri Lanka’s FDI inflows double in H1 2025

FOREIGN direct investment (FDI) inflows to Sri Lanka more than doubled in the first half of 2025, rising by 101 per cent compared to the same period last year, state media reported on Sunday, quoting a senior official.

Board of Investment (BOI) Chairman Arjuna Herath said that FDI inflows reached over US\$507 million during the first six months of 2025, up from \$252 million in the same period of 2024.

Herath said that realized local investment from January to June 2025 stood at \$285 million, representing a 13 per cent increase from the previous year. The combined total for foreign and local investments in the first half of 2025 amounted to \$792 million.

The BOI approved 57 new projects in the first six months of this year. He said that these projects are expected to create more than 14,000 new jobs. — Xinhua

Japan negotiator to depart for 8th round of tariff talks in US

JAPAN’S top tariff negotiator Ryosei Akazawa will visit Washington from Monday for an eighth round of trade talks, with the deadline for US President Donald Trump’s so-called reciprocal tariffs looming on 1 August.

Akazawa’s trip through Thursday takes place as Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba comes under greater pressure to make a deal, with his ruling Liberal Democratic Party failing to retain its coalition majority in Sunday’s House of Councillors election.

A detailed meeting schedule is still being arranged, but Akazawa aims to hold talks with US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick.

Akazawa has pledged to prioritize the national interest and said before the election that the outcome “will not have any particular impact” on the talks. — Kyodo

Britain’s job market sliding under rising labour cost, US tariff threat

BRITAIN’S job market continues to show clear signs of weakening, with unemployment rising and recruitment stagnating amid escalating labour costs and external economic pressures. Experts have warned that uncertainty stemming from US tariffs is further exacerbating the situation.

Data released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on Thursday revealed that the country’s unemployment rate for people aged 16 and over stood at 4.7 per cent during the March-May period of 2025. This marks a notable increase both year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter, pushing the rate to its highest level in nearly four years.

The ONS figures also showed job vacancies climbing to new highs, indicating that despite a

growing number of unemployed individuals, businesses are still struggling to fill positions.

“The government’s tax rises, a higher minimum wage and the US trade war are hitting the jobs market,” Financial Times reported.

David Bharier, head of research at the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), told Xinhua that steep increases in national insurance contributions and the national living wage weigh heavily on the latest employment data.

“BCC research shows that recruitment remains challenging, and businesses cite labour costs as the biggest pressure,” Bharier said. “This mounting financial pressure, alongside pervasive skills shortages, remains a massive challenge for business, pre-

sending big risks to investment and productivity.”

According to Bharier, the BCC’s most recent economic forecast suggests hiring will remain subdued and the unemployment rate is expected to stay



This photo taken on 22 June 2023 shows a construction site in Liverpool, Britain. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

largely static. “We currently forecast a rate of 4.6 per cent at the end of 2027,” he said.

Tina McKenzie, policy chair of the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), stressed that the latest trends paint a worrying

picture for Britain’s small business sector.

“New FSB research has found that twice as many small businesses shed staff in the second quarter of 2025-20 per cent than increased their employee numbers,” she said.

For the first time in the 15-year history of the FSB’s quarterly Small Business Index, more small businesses expect to shrink or close over the next 12 months than those that expect to expand. “That’s more than alarming for the economy and for communities across Britain where these hard-working businesses operate,” she said, noting that small businesses currently provide more than 16 million jobs in Britain-over half of all private sector employment. — Xinhua

Global pharma giants underscore local partnerships, R&D at China supply chain expo

FROM showcasing their latest products to forging local partnerships, global pharmaceutical companies have emphasized local research and development (R&D) and partnerships at the third China International Supply Chain Expo as they seek to strengthen their presence in one of their largest markets.

The five-day expo highlights China's importance to multinational firms as both a major market and a hub for global innovation, advanced manufacturing and resilient supply chains.

"China is going to be the world's largest healthcare market and a crucial source of innovation," said Alex Gu, president of Medtronic Greater China, adding that China is playing an increasingly important role in the



An AI-powered orthopedic surgical robot is seen in the Healthy Life Chain area of the third China International Supply Chain Expo (CISCE) in Beijing, capital of China, 17 July 2025.

PHOTO: XINHUA

global healthcare industrial chain.

In 2024, an electric surgical stapler developed by the US company transitioned from research

and development to mass production in China and is now used at over 500 hospitals nationwide. It has also been exported to other markets.

Deep supply chain collaboration with local partners is vital and Medtronic now has nearly 7,000 suppliers in China.

During the expo, the

company launched a new partnership to build an AI-powered diagnostic and treatment system for aortic disease and structural heart disease. This is part of a broader trend in the pharmaceutical industry to use AI to drive R&D and improve disease diagnosis and treatment.

At the expo, French drugmaker Sanofi exhibited its ecosystem, as well as its latest products for conditions such as immunological, cardiovascular, metabolic and other diseases.

Local R&D plays a key role in Sanofi's development. Sanofi now operates R&D centres in cities such as Beijing and Shanghai, and its Chinese research staff have been deeply involved in over 90 per cent of its global co-development projects, includ-

ing 12 potential blockbuster drugs.

For Sanofi, the supply chain expo serves as a platform not only to showcase its products but also to build collaborations.

"Here, we explore innovative collaborations with our global partners, from R&D to production and patient accessibility enhancement, and share the latest results of localized practices," said Wayne Shi, president of Sanofi Greater China. Sanofi will continue to support the Healthy China initiative with innovative drugs and vaccines, Shi said. Meanwhile, Novo Nordisk announced new partnerships with local manufacturing, logistics and tech firms at the expo, as part of its latest efforts to deepen local industrial chain cooperation. — Xinhua

Indonesia launches 80,000 village cooperatives to drive grassroots economic development

THE Indonesian government launched the operation of more than 80,000 village cooperatives on Monday to strengthen grassroots economic development across the country.

The launch ceremony was led by President Prabowo Subianto in a village in Klaten regency, Central Java province.

Prabowo described the village cooperatives programme as a large-scale strategic initiative designed to boost national economic growth starting from the village level.

"Many say cooperatives are for the weak. Indeed, a single cooperative may not be strong enough. But when there are hundreds of them, together they become a powerful tool to support us. This is the idea, from a weak econ-

omy to a strong economic force," Prabowo said during the ceremony.

These village cooperatives are largely formed by revitalizing existing, yet often inactive, community cooperatives. Many of them had been overlooked as people increasingly turned to large corporations for goods and services.

The current administration has moved to strengthen and modernize these cooperatives, recognizing the untapped potential of small communities to serve as engines of local economic activity.

Typically managed at the village level, Indonesian cooperatives provide a range of services including grocery stores, savings and loan units, clinics, pharmacies, cold storage, and logistics distribution. — Xinhua

Cambodia's export to EU up over 20% to US\$2.4 bln in H1

CAMBODIA exported products worth US\$2.4 billion to the European Union (EU) market in the first half of 2025, a year-on-year increase of 20.6 per cent from \$1.99 billion, said an official report on Monday.

The EU market ac-

counted for 16.3 per cent of the kingdom's total export volume of \$14.7 billion during the January-June period this year, said the report compiled by the Ministry of Commerce.

Cambodia's top five export destinations in the

EU are Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, France, and Belgium, the report added. "Main products Cambodia exported to EU were apparels, textiles, shoes, travel goods, bags, bicycles, car tyres, and some electronic devices

as well as potential agricultural produce such as rice, rubber, cashew nuts, casava starch, bananas and longans," Ministry of Commerce's Secretary of State and spokesperson Penn Sovicheat told Xinhua. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0QM5CE1NE)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0QM5CE1NE)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **22-7-2025** 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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0351-800N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0351-800N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **22-7-2025** 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.

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Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Japan PM Ishiba vows to stay on to avoid stalemate after poll defeat

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba on Monday said he will remain in office to avert a “political stalemate”, even as the ruling coalition lost its majority control in both chambers in parliament following a crushing House of Councillors election defeat.

Ishiba, who heads the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, also underscored the need for leadership continuity at a time of “national crisis”, as households reel from high prices and as Japan continues negotiations with the United States ahead of steep tariffs set to be imposed by President Donald Trump on 1 August.

Deepening Ishiba’s woes, the LDP’s worst election outcome in years triggered calls from his own party for his resignation and prompted an emboldened opposition bloc to



Japan's Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba attends a press conference at the headquarters of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in Tokyo on 21 July 2025, the day after the prime minister's coalition lost its upper house majority. **PHOTO: PHILIP FONG / POOL / AFP**

question the premier’s decision that showed “no regard to the will of the people”.

“The path ahead is a thorny one. I will conduct state affairs by deepening discussions with other

parties even more carefully than before,” Ishiba told a press conference at the LDP headquarters in Tokyo, a day after Sunday’s upper house election.

The latest election setback

will raise the prospects of political deadlock without opposition support, as the upper house, although less powerful than the House of Representatives, is still important to smoothly enact laws and advance policies.

Asked about the possibility of expanding the ruling coalition of the LDP and Komeito party to include other opposition forces, Ishiba ruled that out “for now” but expressed his willingness to discuss “how the new politics should work”.

The LDP and Komeito failed to clear the majority threshold in the 248-member upper house, a hurdle seen as relatively low. After Sunday’s election, the total number of seats the ruling camp holds fell to 122 from 141.

“We are facing a severe situation that can be described as a national crisis. In that environ-

ment, what is most important is to avoid a political stalemate,” Ishiba told the press conference.

The 68-year-old veteran LDP lawmaker also acknowledged his “heavy responsibility” for the election outcome, but said, “I will fulfill my responsibility for the people” who made the LDP the largest force in parliament.

Ishiba said he has no plans to change the LDP’s leadership in the wake of the election setback. But he added he will consider whether to reshuffle the lineup of LDP executives when their current terms end in September, as well as a revamp of his Cabinet.

With his premiership not yet a year old, it hangs in balance amid uncertainty over whether his decision will win backing from ruling party members. — Kyodo

Air India plane skids off runway on landing, all safe

A domestic flight belonging to the private airline company Air India skidded off the runway amid heavy rains in India’s financial capital Mumbai on Monday, but managed to taxi safely to a parking bay, confirmed an official at the airport.

TV media reports showed minor damage to the aircraft, but all the passengers and crew members were safe.

Flying from Kochi to Mum-

bai, the domestic flight AI2744 faced heavy rains on landing in Mumbai, “resulting in a runway excursion after touchdown”, according to the airport official.

He confirmed that the aircraft taxied safely to a parking bay, and all passengers and crew members were safe and had disembarked from the aircraft. “The aircraft has been grounded for checks,” added the official.

— Xinhua

1 confirmed dead, 4 injured due to Typhoon Wipha’s effect in central Vietnam

ONE person has been confirmed dead and four others injured in central Vietnam’s Nghe An province due to torrential rains and thunderstorms triggered by Typhoon Wipha, local newspaper Lao Dong (Labour) reported Monday.

The effect of Typhoon Wipha, the third tropical storm to hit Vietnam so far this year, damaged 357 houses while inundating more than 400 hectares of

rice fields and other crops across the province, the report added.

According to the National Centre for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting, Wipha is expected to strengthen by early Tuesday, affecting northern Vietnam’s coastal areas.

Local authorities are urging residents to stay alert as the storm continues to approach the mainland, the state-controlled media reported. — Xinhua

Indonesia ferry fire kills three, more than 500 rescued



This screen grab taken from video released by Indonesia’s National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) and the Indonesian Coast Guard on 20 July 2025 shows the KM Barcelona 5 ferry after a fire broke out while on its way to Manado, the capital of North Sulawesi province. **PHOTO: AFP / INDONESIA’S NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE AGENCY (BASARNAS) / INDONESIAN COAST GUARD**

THREE people died and more than 500 others were rescued after a ferry caught fire off the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, emergency officials said Monday.

Passengers jumped overboard with lifejackets after the fire broke out on Sunday at the stern of the KM Barcelona 5, as it sailed to Manado, according to the Indonesian coast guard.

A video released by the Manado rescue agency showed

a coast guard vessel spraying water on the ferry, which was emitting black smoke.

Indonesian authorities previously reported five people died in the accident, but later revised the death toll to three.

“Until now, the joint rescue team is still conducting the search and rescue operation because the data is still developing,” Manado rescue agency head George Leo Mercy Randang told AFP on Monday.

“Our post is still open 24

hours a day, in case families want to report about their missing relative.”

At least 568 people were rescued from the ferry and water while three others were found dead, the national search and rescue agency said in a statement Monday.

The ferry’s log had only registered 280 passengers and 15 crew on board.

Local media reported that the ship had a capacity for 600 people. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar to face Thailand in final ASEAN U23 group match

THE final matchday of the 2025 ASEAN U23 Championship group stage will continue today, 22 July, with the Myanmar team set to face the powerhouse Thai team.

The final matches of Groups B and C will be played simultaneously at 7:30 am Myanmar Standard Time on 22 July. In Jakarta, Vietnam will take on Cambodia at the Gelora Bung Karno Sta-

dium, while Myanmar will play Thailand at the Patriot Chan-drabhaga Stadium in Bekasi.

In Group B, Vietnam has earned three points from one match, Cambodia has one point from one match, and Laos has one point from two matches. In Group C, Thailand has three points from one match, Myanmar has one point from one match, and Timor-Leste has one point

from two matches. Since Myanmar drew with Timor-Leste in their opening match, they must win against Thailand to advance to the next round.

In the match against Timor-Leste, Myanmar repeatedly took the lead but ended in a 4-4 draw. Thailand, on the other hand, defeated Timor-Leste with a decisive 4-0 victory.

This is Myanmar's first in-



Myanmar and Timor-Leste players vying for ball control in the group match of Group C in ASEAN U23 Championship. **PHOTO: MF**

ternational tournament of the year, and they must also strive to break the winless streak under their new head coach, Japanese national Kurosaki. — Shine Htet Zaw/TTA

Myanmar esports team takes third at 2025 Mobile Legends Women's Invitational



Triumphant Myanmar's esports team is seen being welcomed at Yangon International Airport.

THE Myanmar Esports Team secured third place at the MLBB Women Invitational 2025 (MWI 2025) World Championship, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 15 to 19 July. The Myanmar team returned to Yangon International Airport yesterday evening and was warmly welcomed back by Deputy Principal U Aung Myo Win of the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon) and officials, Vice-President U Kyaw Htet Lin of the Myanmar esports Federation and executives, the trainees from the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon), and their parents.

Team Vitality from Indonesia won first place, Gaimin Gladiators from the United States won second place, and Terror Queens from Myanmar

won third place.

In this competition, the Myanmar women's esports team matched with 16 teams from 14 countries at the world-class competition MLBB Women Invitational 2025 (MWI 2025). A total of 10 Myanmar players participated, including one team manager, one general manager, one team manager, one coach, five players, and one reserve player.

Terror Queens, a member team of the Myanmar e-Sports Federation, won the "MWI 2025 Myanmar Qualifier" Mobile Legends tournament in Monsoon Mobile Legends from 10 to 15 June and was awarded the right to compete in the Esports World Cup MLBB Women Invitational 2025 (MWI 2025) to be hosted in Saudi Arabia. — Arkar Lin/MKKS

Teqball demo held ahead of 33rd SEA Games debut



This photo captures the Teqball demonstration event.

THE Teqball demonstration event, organized by the Department of Sports and Physical Education and the Myanmar Teqball Federation, was held at the Myanmar Plaza Promotion Area on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon, on the morning of 20 July.

The demonstration included a video clip explaining how to play Teqball, rules and regu-

lations to the public.

Then, Teqball athletes demonstrated the competition of the men's doubles, men's singles, as well as mixed doubles. The event was attended by Yangon Region Government ministers, deputy directors-general and directors of the Department of Sports and Physical Education, members from Yangon Region Sports and Youth Affairs Support Committee, Myanmar Teqball Federation executives, film stars and people interested in the sport of table tennis.

As a preliminary selection for Myanmar table tennis players to compete in the 33rd Southeast Asian Games, the Myanmar Table Tennis Federation President's Cup Invitational Tournament will be held in August to select and train the preliminary selection team. Individuals interested in table tennis from nationwide can compete in the President's Cup Tournament. — Arkar Lin/MKKS

Liverpool agree to sign Frankfurt striker Ekitike: reports

LIVERPOOL have agreed to sign Eintracht Frankfurt striker Hugo Ekitike in a deal worth an initial £69 million (\$92 million), according to reports on Monday.

The Premier League champions switched their focus to Ekitike following Newcastle's refusal to sell Sweden striker Alexander Isak, who is valued at around £150 million by the Magpies.

Newcastle and Manchester United were also interested in Ekitike, but Liverpool look set to win the race for one of Europe's hottest young stars.

It is believed the Reds have agreed to pay a potential further £10 million in add-ons to sign the 23-year-old Frenchman, whose overall price tag could reach £79 million.

Once the transfer is completed, Ekitike will link up with Arne Slot's side on their pre-season tour of Asia.

Ekitike scored 22 goals in 48 games in

all competitions for Frankfurt last season after joining the Bundesliga club from Paris Saint-Germain.

He was an unused substitute during his side's pre-season friendly against FSV Frankfurt on Saturday, with Eintracht boss Dino Toppmoller admitting Ekitike's impending departure was "a bitter loss".

Liverpool have an opening in their forward line after Diogo Jota's recent death in a car crash in Spain.

The Reds are also believed to be willing to sell Uruguay striker Darwin Nunez, while Colombia forward Luis Diaz has been the target of a rejected bid from Bayern Munich.

Liverpool have already splashed out £116 million on Germany playmaker Florian Wirtz, as well as signing defenders Jeremie Frimpong and Milos Kerkez from Bayer Leverkusen and Bournemouth respectively. — AFP



Extreme heat waves spark climate emergencies worldwide

A NEW heat wave alert has sounded worldwide as Europe and the Middle East are battling an extremely scorching heat wave this week, prompting various climate emergencies in many countries.

According to the national meteorological service, Iran is sweltering through its hottest week of the year above 50 degrees Celsius, with temperatures in Tehran hitting 40 degrees on Sunday.

As searing heatwaves persist, Tehran's water authority has urged residents to slash consumption by at least 20 per cent, warning that dam reservoirs supplying the capital have sunk to "their lowest levels in a century".

Some 3,500 kilometres west of Tehran, the Greek capital of Athens is enduring its first prolonged heatwave of this summer as well.

Hot air masses sweeping in from North Africa arrived earlier this summer and have formed

a heat dome over Greece and the Balkans, pushing temperatures up to 10 degrees above the

seasonal norm, said the National Observatory. With average highs forecast to approach 38 degrees

this week and peak at 44 degrees in some areas, The National Herald, a Greek daily, described conditions as "hotter than hell".

Such aridity, combined with gales, has put Greece under severe wildfires.

Firefighters on Thursday grappled with a blaze on the island of Crete that burned through forests and olive groves, forcing the evacuation of more than 1,000 people. Meanwhile, a new fire near Athens edged dangerously close to residential areas.

Elsewhere, Türkiye recorded 761 wildfires in the 10 days following 26 June. The fires flaring in and around the western Izmir Province have claimed the lives of an elderly man and a forestry worker. Across Europe, at least eight heat-related deaths have been reported in countries including Spain and Italy as the continent is baked in the heat-wave. — Xinhua



This photograph shows an airplane dropping water on a wildfire that broke up in Koropi, some 40 Kilometres of Athens on 4 July 2025. PHOTO: AFP

Indonesia introduces quake-resistant building to mitigate megathrust earthquake risks

THE Indonesian Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) has introduced a new quake-resistant building construction design that could serve as a reference for mitigating the risks of megathrust earthquakes, BMKG head Dwikorita Karnawati said on Monday.

Dwikorita explained that the construction incorporates the latest generation of earthquake-damping technology, enabling buildings to withstand megathrust zone earthquakes of up to 8.8 magnitude.

She emphasized that the

technology allows multi-storey buildings to remain stable during major earthquakes, making it a significant advancement in disaster-resilient infrastructure.

According to Dwikorita, this is the first time such technology will be implemented in Indonesia.

While the BMKG does not hold authority over the construction of public buildings, she expressed hope that this disaster mitigation approach can serve as a model for infrastructure development in the country's earthquake-prone regions. — Xinhua

Iran's FM warns E3 against sanctions revival

IRANIAN Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi warned on Sunday that Britain, France, and Germany (E3) should not undermine the credibility of the UN Security Council (UNSC) by triggering the snap-back mechanism to reinstate sanctions on Tehran.

In a post on X, Araghchi said the E3 lacks the "legal, political, and moral standing" to invoke the 2015 nuclear deal's provisions or the UNSC Resolution 2231, which permit the reimposition of international sanctions if Iran is found in non-compliance with the agreement.

He noted that after the US withdrew from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action in 2018, Iran exhausted dispute resolution mechanisms before taking reme-



The flag of Iran flutters in the wind outside of the IAEA headquarters during the International Atomic Energy Agency IAEA's Board of Governors meeting at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, Austria, on 20 November 2024. PHOTO: AFP

dial measures, while the E3 failed to honour their commitments and even backed the US "maximum pressure" policy.

"The E3 must refrain from any action that would only deepen divisions in the Security Council or that would have serious adverse consequences on its work," Araghchi said, noting that Iran is ready for "meaningful diplomacy," but will resist hostile measures. — Xinhua

At least 19 killed as Bangladeshi military plane crashes

At least 19 people, mostly students, were killed as a training aircraft of the Bangladesh Air Force crashed on the campus of a college here on Monday.

A government statement said that over 100 people were injured in the accident. Many of the injured are in critical condition.

The Inter Service Public Relations (ISPR) of the Bangladesh Army said the training aircraft crashed at around 13:30 local time. — Xinhua