

Field survey planned to identify national costumes

An official from the National Costume Determination Committee said the team has been working to develop authentic ethnic costumes and has already submitted the first ten designs to the Myanmar National Culture Central Committee for approval.



This photo features ethnic costumes on display during a filming session.

THE Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture has announced that it will conduct a field survey on the traditional clothing of Myanmar’s ethnic groups to determine the appropriate national costumes.

The survey was conducted by the National Costume Determination Committee, established in 2023 to eliminate misconceptions about ethnic costumes and investigate their origins.

An official from the National Costume Determination Committee stated that the

committee has been working to develop authentic ethnic costumes and has submitted the first ten to the Myanmar National Culture Central Committee for approval. Similarly, efforts are underway to promptly and accurately identify appropriate uniforms for ethnic groups in the remaining states and regions.

In conducting the survey, the committee will collaborate with experts, the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs, and relevant ethnic and cultural organizations. As the traditional costumes of some ethnic groups

have evolved, the committee will document and catalogue these changes. In addition, each type of clothing must be submitted in accordance with specified standards. This includes textual descriptions, photographs of both men’s and women’s attire, and step-by-step instructions for wearing the garments, accompanied by photos and short videos against a blue background. The submitted materials will reportedly be forwarded to the Myanmar National Culture Central Committee and documented in official publications. — ASH/TH

Mobile wallets linked to MMQR rise to 11

MOBILE wallets connected with MMQR have now expanded to 11, said MyanmarPay MMQR.

Payments are also available with Yoma Bank, which is now connected with MyanmarPay MMQR, it announced on 21 July.

“Now, there are 11 mobile wallets provided by MMQR, which enables business owners and merchants to accept payments through a wider payment landscape as well as customers to make more efficient payments than before,” said MyanmarPay MMQR.

Payment is available by AyaPay, KBZPay, WavePay, OK\$, A+, uabpay, CBPay, ZegoMoney, Trustpay, CTZ Pay and Yoma Bank at every store connected with MMQR. Customers can make payment by their mobile wallet by scanning MMQR.

MyanmarPay MMQR doesn’t need to be downloaded and doesn’t need to open a new account; just scan the QR through your current supported mobile wallets. — MT/ZS



Eleven mobile wallets connected with MMQR.

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NATIONAL

Individuals with academic education can effectively learn technical skills

❖ Today's era is an age of knowledge, and only with academic education can one effectively learn and master technical skills.

(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)

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Head of Service Organization

THE State Administration Council has appointed Dr Aung Moe Myo Tint, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Agricultural Research under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, as Head of the same organization on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Public Notice

THE respective township offices of the Ministry of Immigration and Population issue a Unique ID by collecting biographic and biometric data of the retired government employees. This enables them to have access to the centralized e-pension system of the Myanma Economic Bank and e-ID system of the ministry, and aims to make the verification processes accurate, correct and fast for the retired government employees who receive pension payment at the Myanma Economic Bank.

Due to a large number of applicants at the township offices, the staff of the township offices of the ministry will run the processes at the relevant Myanma Economic Banks starting from 23 July 2025 during the pension payment period as a special activity.

This process will be carried out efficiently as a One-Stop Service at the respective Myanma Economic Banks. Therefore, retired government employees are kindly informed that they can apply for and obtain their Unique ID without worry or concern, and complete the process easily and conveniently.

Ministry of Immigration and Population

Matriculation exam results to be released on 27 July

1. The 2025 matriculation examination results will be released at 6 am on 27 July 2025, Sunday.
2. The lists of results will be put on the notice board at the designated schools in respective townships at the same time.
3. The results can also be accessed on the website of the Department of Myanmar Examinations, www.myanmarexam.org, at 4 am on 27 July 2025.
4. In addition to the announcement through the website, the Myanmar Radio will also announce the pass lists of the exam centres which are located in remote areas and other areas with no good internet access on the same day.
5. The people are requested to systematically adhere to COVID-19 health rules and regulations of the Ministry of Health in coming to check the pass list at respective exam centres.
6. For further information, individuals can contact 01 653509 of the Department of Myanmar Examinations on 27 July 2025, Sunday.

Ministry of Education

Special Weather News

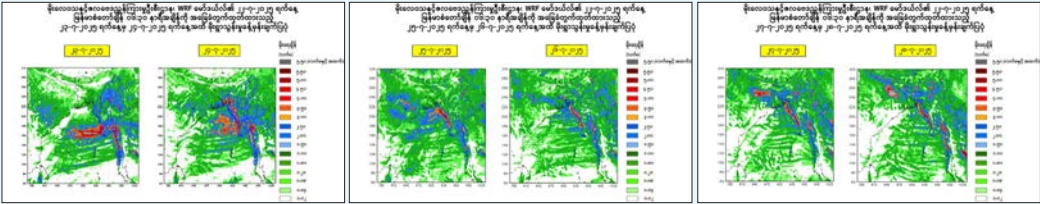
Issued at 7 pm MST on 22 July 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, the remnants of the tropical storm Wipha crossing inland area of Vietnam may reach to Myanmar 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 28 July 2025. Occasional squalls with

rough to very rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40-45 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-16 feet off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong winds, 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



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm MST on 22 June 2025

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the tropical storm Wipha crossing the inland areas of Vietnam is likely to move west-northwestwards and continue to cross the inland areas of Vietnam and weaken into a Land Depression over Laos during next 18 hours. Due to the remnants of tropical storm Wipha, heavy rain with strong wind will be in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States from today evening to 25 July 2025.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 23 JULY 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing Regions and Kachin, northern Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and Kayin and Mon States and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway and Ayeyawady Regions and Kayah, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Region and Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan States. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather

phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Frequent squalls with very rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 45 mile per hour. Wave height will be about 14-16 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-13 feet off and along Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Rain or thundershowers with isolated and regionally heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 JULY 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 JULY 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 JULY 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

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)

DPM MoTC Union Minister reviews Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay railway upgrades

STATE Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Aung Myaing, embarked on an RBE train journey from Nay Pyi Taw to the Shanywa Railway Station in Pyawbwe of Mandalay Region to inspect the complete demolition of railway station building, new design of railway station and the use of modular office on 20 July.

The Deputy Prime Minister and party arrived at Thazi railway station and oversaw the land areas for new railway station construction and new design, and made proper instructions.

They proceeded to Bridge 691 between Samone and Thabyaytaung railway stations, which was destroyed by erosion last year in Wundwin township, and inspected the waterway maintenance and other measures.

They also looked into the



SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo is pictured during his inspection tours along the Nay Pyi Taw Mandalay railway.

demolition of old affected by the Mandalay earthquake railway station at Thabyaytaung railway station, land areas, new design and modular office, and inspected the yard and new design for Kyaukse railway station. During

the inspection, the Deputy Prime Minister emphasized the need to be clean at the entry and exit of the railway stations and arrange the lounge for the passengers.

In the evening, the Deputy Prime Minister and party

arrived at Mandalay railway station, inspected the damaged railway switch cabin and installation of railway switch signal system with modular office, and instructed officials to complete the major maintenance for the

original railway switch cabin.

On 21 July, the Deputy Prime Minister and party arrived at Myitnge Carriage and Wagon Factory, and heard the reports made by the general manager of the factory.

They inspected the building of wagons, DEMU, major maintenance of carriages and wagons and production of bogies.

They arrived at the transport division of the Myanmar Railways in Chanmyathazi Township and inspected the use of mobile tower stations at the automobile telephone stations by the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications.

They also made inspection tours to the affiliated department of the ministry in Chanmyathazi, Mahaaungmyay, and Pyigyidagun townships, and inspected the maintenance works, use of the modular offices and modular houses for staff and families after the quake. — MNA/KTZH

MoE Dy Minister inspects basic education and private schools in Yangon Region

DEPUTY Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing visited schools in Yangon Region yesterday, visiting the Basic Education High School (Agriculture and Livestock) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. He checked the school environment, cleanliness, classrooms, and academic activities, instructing officials to maintain systematic operations where

needed.

The deputy minister also visited Myanmar Thar Kaung Basic Education Middle School and Basic Education High School 3 in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, ensuring a safe and pleasant learning environment for students, while guiding on improving discipline and school culture.

He continued to the Yuza-

na Alinn Private High School in Yuzana Garden City, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, where he met with officials and instructed that all private schools have to organize flag-saluting ceremonies, sing the national anthem, and the Myanmar school song to foster patriotism, national spirit, and good discipline among students. — MNA/KZL



Deputy Minister U Nay Myo Hlaing inspects classroom learning at schools in Yangon Region.

NATIONAL

Kalay Team wins 2025 Sagaing Region Chief Minister's U25 Futsal Cup

THE final match and awarding ceremony of the 2025 Sagaing Region Chief Minister's Inter-District U25 Men's Futsal Championship took place yesterday afternoon at the Futsal Gymnasium in the Public Sports Grounds, Monywa. Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw and his wife, the Region Chief Justice and his wife, region, district and township officials, team coaches, and athletes attended the event.

Spectators watched the final match between the Kalay District futsal team and the Shwebo District futsal team, with the Kalay team winning 4-2.

Following the match, the awarding ceremony was held. Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw presented medals, K500,000 in cash awards, and a championship trophy to the Kalay District team, while his wife



Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw presents the cash award and trophy to the winning team.

presented medals and K300,000 in cash awards to the Shwebo District team, which secured second place.

Next, the regional chief justice presented medals and K200,000 to the Monywa District team, which shared third place, while the regional minister for Security and Border Affairs presented medals and K200,000 to the other joint third-place team, Sagaing District.

Also, the regional minister for Economy, the region minister for Road Transport, and the region advocate-general awarded cash prizes and medals to players who received individual best-player honours throughout the tournament. The regional secretary also presented a special prize of K500,000 to the champion team, Kalay District. — Region IPRD/KZL

Healthcare services provided to monks and residents in Hlegu

THE mobile medical team from the Yangon Command gave healthcare services yesterday morning to monks and residents from Wayonsun village and surrounding villages in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region. The healthcare activities took place at the Shwebontha Monastery in the village.

The medical team conducted consultations and treatments

for a range of conditions, including orthopaedic issues, surgical needs, paediatric illnesses, eye diseases, ENT conditions, dental and oral problems, obstetric and gynaecological cases, and general illnesses.

Officials from Indaing Station also visited the site to observe the activities and helped coordinate the necessary support. — MNA/MKKS



Healthcare services are underway, and locals receive treatment.

Corruption Prevention Unit holds 3rd meeting



The third meeting of the Corruption Prevention Unit in progress at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation yesterday.

THE Corruption Prevention Unit (CPU) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation held its third meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the event, Deputy Minister Dr Aung Gyi, who is also

leader of CPU, highlighted the proper understanding of the staff after the awareness seminars, pamphlet distribution, departmental protests and meetings conducted over six years ago.

The members of CPU from different departments and universities coordinated the discussion, and the deputy minister addressed the need. — MNA/KTZH

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

NATIONAL

Kayin Chief Minister inspects livestock and farming in Hpa-an



Kayin State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo and officials are pictured during their inspection of the paddy field.



monsoon paddy seed production field of farmer U Chan Aye from Kawthinshuu village, and distributed EM strong liquid to the farmers.

They also oversaw the use of urea fertilizer and natural fertilizer in six acres of that monsoon paddy seed production field and two Kubota 50 tractors in Htamatine field.

At noon, they attended the demonstration event for the use of natural fertilizer and urea fertilizer in the monsoon paddy field of farmer U Aye Win in Kaw Thin Shuu village, and provided proper instructions. — Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD)/KTZH

KAYIN State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo, accompanied by departmental officials, inspected the Shweni cow farms and domestic goat farms of U Salun, in Eindu village, Hpa-an, and

provided medicines and iodized salt yesterday. They watched the demon-

stration of the usage methods of snail amino acid and EM Bokashi compost for farmers at the

19 DPLA members return to legal fold

STATE Administration Council is extending an invitation to those involved in various armed groups, including PDFs, to return to the legal fold. Those who do so are being provided with necessary assistance and support.

Tatmadaw was able to regain full control of the Taungkham area and Nawngkhio, which had temporarily been occupied by terrorists. As a result, people have expressed renewed trust and confidence in Tatmadaw, showing strong and active support. Similarly, the terrorists come under the peace processes and enter the legal fold.

Yesterday, 19 members of DPLA surrendered the path of armed struggle and returned to the legal fold via the nearby Tatmadaw bases.

According to their initial confession, most of them are honest farmers. They were abducted forcibly by the terrorists, and they attended the training near Manlwal village, about 10 miles west of Hsipaw. After the training, they lived in villages and camps, losing their human rights and were tortured seri-

ously and forced to commit terrorist activities. They no longer accept the terrorist activities, and they believe in Tatmadaw and the peace processes of Tatmadaw and want to live in a legal framework peacefully. Therefore, they abandoned the armed path, and left Ingyingon village to Thonze village, to Lwalkhun village, to Zeephyupin village, and informed to Tatmadaw convoy that served security measures near Yinngubin village in Nawngkhio Township and entered the legal fold.

Between 17 and 22 July, four TNLA members, 15 MDY-PDF members and 41 DPLA members returned to the legal fold together with 13 arms and 1,515 bullets and 12 magazines.

There are still individuals who wish to return to the legal fold. Those who intend to do so are encouraged to promptly contact and report to the nearest district or township administration bodies, Tatmadaw bases, or police stations. They will be welcomed and accepted, provided with the necessary assistance and support, and cash rewards for any arms and munitions. — MNA/KTZH

17th ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum held



The 17th ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum underway on 22-25 July in Yangon.

MYANMAR is hosting the 17th meeting of ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF) and the 33rd ASEAN Fisheries Working Group (AFWG) Meeting from 22 to 25 July.

The 17th Meeting of the ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum was held yesterday morning at the Summit Parkview Hotel's Ballroom in Yangon.

Mr Nazri Bin Ishak from the Department of Fisheries, Malaysia, and U Myint Zin Htoo, Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, Myanmar, delivered opening remarks at the ceremony.

The forum was then co-chaired by U Myint Zin Htoo,

Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, and Ms Maria Abegail Albaladejo from the Department of Fisheries, the Philippines.

The ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum was convened to discuss and coordinate fisheries activities among ASEAN countries to support the ASEAN Fisheries Cooperation Organization.

The forum will address issues such as fishing capacity control and zoning, sustainable small-scale fisheries, promotion of fish stock recovery, the impact of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture, combating illegal fishing, and implementing a

traceability system for fishery products.

The outcomes of the forum discussions will be presented at the ASEAN Regional Fisheries Framework (ARFF) meeting, which will take place on 23 to 25 July.

The meeting is being attended by representatives from ASEAN Member States, including Myanmar, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, and Indonesia, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat, representatives from SEAFDEC and fisheries partner organizations, and representatives from Singapore who will join online. — MNA

NATIONAL

Commander-in-Chief(Air)’s Trophy Football Tournament kicks off

THE opening ceremony of the 2025 Commander-in-Chief (Air)’s Trophy Football Tournament was held yesterday evening at the Flying Training Base Football Stadium in Meiktila, Mandalay Region.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Flying Training Base Commander Maj-Gen Win Maung Thein attended the event together with senior officers, officers, other ranks, their families, participating teams, invitees and football enthusiasts.

At the ceremony, the Commander delivered an opening speech before watching the opening match between the Hmawby



The launch of the 2025 Commander-in-Chief (Air)’s Trophy Football Tourney in action yesterday in Meiktila, Mandalay Region.

Airbase team and the TadaU Airbase team.

A total of 14 teams from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief

(Air), headquarters and various air bases will compete in the tour-

namment, which will continue until 8 August. — MNA/KZL



Veterans meet in Taunggyi

A meeting with veterans was held in Taunggyi Township, Shan State (South) yesterday morning at the Thanlwin hall of the Eastern Command Headquarters.

The meeting was attended by Chairman General Khin Aung Myint (Retd) of the Central Executive Committee of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Patron of Shan State (South) War Veterans Supervisory Committee Command of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Zaw Min Latt, officials from the Central Executive Committee of the MWVO, members from the Taunggyi District Veterans

and guests.

The Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Myanmar Veterans Organization first delivered an opening speech. Officials then clarified the issues related to veterans, and First Joint Secretary Brig-Gen Myint Hein (Retd) of the Central Executive Committee of the Myanmar Veterans Organization responded to the presentations.

Afterwards, the Chairman and the Commander presented cash to the respective officials. The Chairman and the Commander cordially greeted the veterans. — MNA/MKKS



Presentation of cash awards during the veterans’ meeting.

School enrolment, healthcare services resume in Nawnghkio

TATMADAW, in coordination with relevant government authorities, has been actively carrying out rehabilitation tasks in Nawnghkio, northern Shan State, which was recently brought under control through counter-terrorism operations. Efforts include ensuring the security of residents, reopening government offices, resuming classes at schools for children, and providing healthcare services to restore normalcy for the public.

Following the directive of the Prime Minister, who emphasized that education is the foundation for skills development and national progress, schools that had remained closed for nearly a year are being reopened to enable students to resume their studies in a safe and peaceful environment. On 22 July, the Basic Education High School in Nawnghkio commenced its enrolment process. Tatmadaw personnel, teachers, education staff, and parents jointly facilitated the smooth registration of 165 students. To ensure a safe learning environment, Tatmadaw personnel have conducted mine clearance operations, security measures, and cleaning tasks around the school compound.



Nawnghkio kicks off school education with student enrolment drive.

Preparations are also underway to reopen other schools, student including the Basic Education High School, Basic Education Primary Schools, and the Thabyeyay Basic Education Primary School. Tatmadaw members have been clearing bushes, dredging drains, trimming trees, and spraying insecticides to ensure the compounds are clean and safe for students.

According to the Prime Minister’s second guidance, the Nawnghkio Township People’s Hospital with 25 beds, which was destroyed by terrorists, is undergoing urgent repairs to restore its original condition.

While renovation works are ongoing, a temporary hospital has been opened at the Myanan Taw Win Mingala Hall by the Tatmadaw in collaboration with the Ministry of Health to provide medical services to the public. On 22 July, a total of 182 locals received medical check-ups and treatment for seasonal influenza and general illnesses, along with vaccination services.

Security forces are continuing Local security measures to ensure peace, stability, and long-term socioeconomic development, allowing local ethnic communities to live and work in safety and harmony. — MNA/KZL

Fisheries Dept aims to generate \$750M from fishery exports

DEPARTMENT of Fisheries aims to export over 530,000 tonnes of fishery products in the current financial year 2025-2026 and expects to attain US\$750 million.

Myanmar conveyed 82,773 tonnes of fishery products in the first quarter (April-June), bagging \$119.6 million.

Myanmar is endeavouring to accelerate the productivity of agriculture and livestock sectors, contributing to self-sufficiency and exports. Myanmar conveyed over 550,000 tonnes of fisheries worth \$722 million to external markets in the past FY 2024-2025.

Myanmar steadily exports seafood to 40 countries, including China, Thailand, Bangladesh and Japan, through maritime and border trade channels. Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Fisheries Department joined hands to bolster fisheries exports.

More than 20 fish species, including hilsa, rohu, catfish, and seabass, are conveyed to foreign markets, according to Myanmar Fisheries Federation. There are over 140 fishery cold storage facilities, and the department is granting annual licence renewals. — NN/KK



Female workers meticulously operate the fishery production line at the cold storage facility.



Export-import activities thrive along the Myanmar-China border.

Remote pest risk system to be tested for Myanmar avocados

A remote video inspection system will be adopted for Myanmar avocado, designated to be exported to China, streamlining phytosanitary controls, according to Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) negotiated matters to export the avocado (*Persea Americana*) to China throughout the year at the earliest. The Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine under the GACC sent Questionnaires of Information Needed for Import-Pest Risk Analysis,

and the ministry responded to them on 12 March 2020. Afterwards, experts from both countries discussed pest risks that can be found on avocado.

China proposed to exercise remote video inspection to carry out pest risk analysis. China's side asked for the opinion of the ministry on the remote pest risk analysis programme (draft). The Ministry gave green light to it and sent a confirmation to the Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine on 20 March 2025.

At present, the Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine under the GACC is responsible for regulating the importation of fresh produce

and animals. The Bureau of Export and Import Food Safety will assess value-added food products to ensure imported food meets China's food safety standards.

Both countries agreed to practise Remote Video Inspection for pest risk analysis of fresh avocado.

Processed goods (avocado oil, frozen pulp, beverages) are required to be registered through GACC's CIPHER system. Cosmetics made from avocados require compliance with special cosmetics and general cosmetics regulations of China's Cosmetic Supervision and Administration Regulation (CSAR). — NN/KK

CBM injects dollars into import sector

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.75 million each into edible oil-importing companies and fuel oil-importing companies on 22 July again, after injection of over 9.36 million baht to construction companies and over 337,800 yuan and 500,000 Indian rupees to the financial market on 21 July.

CBM pumped over \$3 million and 700,000 yuan into the financial market on 18 July after selling \$1.1 million to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold over \$1.5 million to edible oil-importing companies on 17 July, in addition to an injection of over 756,260 yuan and 2,000 baht into the financial market.

CBM sold \$1.2 million, which

were purchased from companies working on a Cut-Make and Pack basis, to edible oil companies on 16 July.

CBM announced on 15 July that it would pump \$33 million into the fuel oil industry. In addition to injecting over 324,360 yuan into the financial market, CBM sold over \$771,290 million into edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM sold over \$757,230 and 1.426 million yuan on 14 July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.58 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$359,230 to commodities-importing companies as well.

CBM sold over \$1.7 million to edible oil-importing companies

on 11 July 2025.

CBM sold over \$1.5 million purchased from CMP companies into edible oil-importing companies on 10 July, in addition to an injection of \$621,000 and 600,000 yuan into the financial market.

CBM announced on 8 July that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil importers. CBM also sold \$885,100, which was purchased from the CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold \$1.8 million and 1.3 million yuan on 7 July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.87 million to edible oil companies and over \$912,150 to commodities-importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold \$1.75 million to

edible oil-importing companies and over \$481,540 to commodities-importing companies on 4 July, in addition to an injection of \$578,542 and 900,000 yuan into the financial market.

CBM sold \$678,000, 1.24 million yuan and 2.94 million baht on 3 July. CBM sold \$3.346 million to edible oil importing companies, over \$578,400 to commodities-importing countries on that day.

CBM announced on 2 July that it would sell 10 million yuan to importers. CBM sold over \$1.593 million to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 1 July that it would pump \$33 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold over \$1.15 million, which was pur-

chased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold S\$8.4 million, 13.9 million baht and 5.2 million yuan in June 2025, in addition to an injection of \$14.9 million that was purchased from the CMP enterprises into the financial market.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

Effectively overcoming monsoon-season natural disasters

FLOODS are considered the most frequent natural disaster globally, accounting for approximately 40 per cent of all natural disasters worldwide. Over the past two decades, an average of 400 million people per year around the world have been affected by flooding. Myanmar is also one of the countries vulnerable to various natural disasters, and flooding is the most common type of natural disaster that occurs in the country.

This year in Myanmar, due to heavy and continuous rainfall during the monsoon season, flooding has affected farmlands and villages across the country. Some rivers and creeks have even exceeded the warning levels, causing significant concern. As a result, people have suffered losses of life, homes, and property

Since flooding as a natural disaster can be predicted to some extent, warnings and alerts have been issued. People living in high-risk areas such as the banks of the Ayeyawady River, the banks of the Chindwin River, and low-lying regions should carefully follow weather reports, natural disaster warnings, and health advisories. By doing so, the impact and losses caused by flood-related natural disasters can be minimized.

Due to the recent rising water levels of the Ayeyawady River and the upper Chindwin River areas, among other places within the country, there is a potential risk of flooding as a natural disaster. Therefore, preparations must be made accordingly. In addition, before the flood risk occurs, essential supplies such as medicine, food, drinking water, and other necessities should be adequately gathered.

Since flooding as a natural disaster can be predicted to some extent, warnings and alerts have been issued. People living in high-risk areas such as the banks of the Ayeyawady River, the banks of the Chindwin River, and low-lying regions should carefully follow weather reports, natural disaster warnings, and health advisories. By doing so, the impact and losses caused by flood-related natural disasters can be minimized.

Therefore, the people in urban and rural areas across Myanmar should be aware and understand the health problems that may arise along with floods and flood disasters in their regions. By being cautious and well-prepared, they can face flood-related natural disasters in a healthy and resilient manner.

*“From the cool, soothing fragrance of Thanaka,
To the radiant blossoms of the twelve-season flowers’
petals,
From the tranquil currents of the Irrawaddy,
To the verdant majesty of the Yoma mountain ranges
...
The strength of the Myanmar people
Lies deeply in our cherished heritage —
Anchored in the enduring values
Those who have shaped our nation through times.”*

MYANMAR is a nation imbued with a steadfast history and a rich tapestry of cultural traditions. From the radiant golden glow of the grand Shwedagon Pagoda to the serene, graceful flow of the Irrawaddy River, the identity of this land has been shaped through centuries by enduring customs and the quiet strength of its diverse ethnic peoples.

Indeed, the essence of Myanmar’s national character is revealed even within the very name of the country itself. The word **“Myanmar”** reflects a dual spirit — of agility and resilience. The syllable **“Myan”** signifies swiftness and harmony in movement, while **“Mar”** evokes strength, endurance, and the will to persevere. Together, they form a portrait of a people whose resilience is not merely inherited but deeply ingrained in a spirit that has weathered time, conflict, and change with unshakable grace.

Myanmar’s Thanaka is far more than a cosmetic that enhances the beauty and radiance of the skin. It is a symbol of purity, a shield against the sun’s harshness, and a living tradition passed reverently from one generation to the next. Just as Thanaka represents continuity and care, so too do the values of Myanmar refined cultural grace, unwavering unity, and resilient strength stand as enduring legacies that have been handed down and woven into the fabric of national identity.

These values, inherited across generations, are not mere abstractions; they have been forged into collective strength — an energy with which the people of Myanmar have met challenge after challenge, swiftly and steadfastly. Such is the essence of Myanmar’s **Way: a path born of its soil and soul, authentically Myanmar, led by its people and shaped by its enduring wisdom (Myanmar-Led Myanmar Owned).**

Through the tides of time, this nation has endured and emerged, rising from the shadows of colonial rule, navigating the turbulence of insurgency and unrest, and passing through eras marked by competing ideologies and political strife. And yet, in the aftermath of each storm, Myanmar has reemerged — like a radiant rainbow breaking through the clouds — rekindling hope, reaffirming identity, and writing anew the chronicles of a people who endure.

Historical Value

Myanmar stands as a nation distinguished on the



Myanma Thanaka.



An aerial drone view of the Shwedagon Pagoda.

Myanmar’s Value – Myanmar’s Future

By Maung Moe

world stage by its ancient civilization, remarkable historical heritage, and breathtaking natural beauty. It holds a unique and enduring place in global history, not merely for the longevity of its cultural lineage, but for the profound spirit woven into every era of its past.

From the glorious days of the Bagan Kingdom to the trials of colonial subjugation, through the determined struggle for independence and into the complexities of the modern era, this land has borne witness to a long and storied journey. **These legacies are not relics of the past — they are mirrors reflecting the dignity, resilience, and identity of the Myanmar people.**

Spanning thousands of years, Myanmar’s historical narrative encompasses the rise of cultures from the

Stone Age to the Bronze and Iron Ages, and onward to flourishing urban civilizations. Bagan, in particular, stands as a monumental testament to this cultural evolution, a beacon of artistic, spiritual, and political sophistication that continues to inspire and define the nation’s soul.

From the dawn of Tagaung, where the words **“Tagaung Abhiyaza, of the noble Sakya lineage, we the sons of Myanmar”** were first inscribed, to the resplendent eras of Tharaykhittaya, Bagan, Pinya, Sagaing, Inwa, Taungoo, Nyaungyan, and Konbaung, the people of Myanmar have, across centuries, reigned with sovereign pride, ruling from thrones of their own making, under crowns forged by their own will.

Throughout this long and enduring historical journey, generations of ancestors offered their blood and sacrifice to uphold the strength and sovereignty of the nation. The annals of history record their noble deeds of valour for independence, of devotion to self-rule, etched not in myth, but in the ink of real sacrifice, preserved faithfully through time.

The value of Myanmar’s history lies not merely in remembering the past, but in drawing lessons from it to shape the future. History is not a closed chapter; it is the foundation upon which vision is built. For us, the present generation, this legacy is a sacred trust, a duty to safeguard, to honour, and to carry

forward as we strive to build a peaceful and prosperous nation.

Strategic Geographical Value

Myanmar’s geographic position commands profound significance. Situated at the crossroads of the Indochinese peninsula, it is uniquely poised, bordered to the east by the vast expanse of Asia, including the ASEAN nations and the Pacific Ocean, and to the west by the Indian Ocean along with the broader regions of South Asia.

In essence, Myanmar stands as a vital land bridge, linking two distinct continental regions and flanked by two great oceans. This position not only anchors Myanmar at the nexus of Asia and beyond but also imbues it with unparalleled geopolitical importance.

The country’s maritime connection to the Indian Ocean situates it at the very heart of global trade routes, serving as a critical junction among the continents of Asia, Africa, and Australia. Economically, this affords Myanmar an indispensable role in international commerce. Strategically, it elevates the nation to a position of considerable military and geopolitical relevance, making it a pivotal actor in regional security and global maritime dynamics.

Nestled at the confluence between South Asia and Southeast Asia, Myanmar has long stood as a

pivotal hub for trade, diplomacy, and cultural exchange — an enduring testament to its profound geopolitical value. The ancient capital of Bagan, adorned with countless pagodas, once served as a vibrant bridge of history and civilization connecting India, China, and Southeast Asia. It attracted scholars and merchants alike from across the region, weaving Myanmar into the fabric of continental dialogue and commerce.

Strategically positioned on the western edge of the vast Indochinese peninsula, Myanmar’s significance is not merely defined by its geography but is amplified by the abundance of its natural resources, extensive coastline, and access to both natural and man-made ports. Its river systems, fertile lands, proximity to key maritime trade routes, and multiple sea access points further enhance its status as a land of immense value.

This strategic geographic centrality calls upon every citizen of Myanmar to diligently safeguard and preserve these national assets. The people must harness this legacy with wisdom and foresight — transform-



Bagan.

ing Myanmar’s geographic advantages into tangible progress that advances the collective prosperity and sovereignty of the nation.

Economic Value

Economics has long stood as one of Myanmar’s core pillars of national wealth and pride. Historically, Myanmar was renowned as the world’s largest exporter of rice, earning the distinguished title of the **“Rice Bowl of Asia”**. During the illustrious Bagan period (AD 949–1297), a sophisticated monetary system flourished, utilizing silver coins and ingots, and facilitating vibrant trade with India, China, and neighbouring Southeast Asian states.

Throughout the eras of Inwa, Hanthawaddy, and the Konbaung dynasty (14th to 19th centuries), vital commodities such as salt, teak, and spices dominated trade routes, expanding Myanmar’s commercial ties to Europe — particularly with Portuguese and Dutch traders — as were — as well as with India and China. From jade and precious stones to petroleum and natural gas, Myanmar’s abundant natural resources have secured its reputation as one of the wealthiest nations in Asia.

NATIONAL

5 foreign nationals deported for telecom fraud and crimes

THE Government of Myanmar, in collaboration with international organizations and neighbouring countries, is intensifying efforts to eradicate telecom fraud and related criminal activities. As part of these efforts, five foreign nationals – four from Ethiopia and one from Kenya—who were illegally residing in Myanmar and engaged in unlawful online gambling, online scams, and other criminal activities in Shwe Kokko, KK Park, and Kyaukkhet areas in Myawady, Kayin State, were repatriated via Thailand yesterday.

Authorities conducted the transfer with due consideration for humanitarian grounds and friendly international relations, following legal and procedural requirements. To ensure the repatriation process was smooth and systematic, U Myint Phone,



Immigration processes underway for the deportation of undocumented foreign entrants.

Deputy Director-General of the Ministry of Immigration and Population, and officials met with relevant coordination teams to review the repatriation

procedures and verify records and documentation before the handover. The formal handover ceremony was attended by U Myint

Phone and officials, representatives from the embassies of Ethiopia and Kenya, including Mr Tana Judah Hira, and Thai immigration officials from Tak

Province. Myanmar authorities officially handed over the necessary repatriation documents to the respective countries' representatives. Between 30 January and 22 July 2025, a total of 9,299 illegal foreign entrants were detected and detained in Myanmar. Of these, 9,060 individuals were repatriated to their respective countries via Thailand under the law, while the remaining 239 individuals are in custody, awaiting transfer. The government is actively investigating and taking decisive action against foreigners operating online scam centres and criminal networks. Simultaneously, authorities are working with other countries to repatriate foreign victims of human trafficking and those in distress as swiftly as possible. — MNA/KZL

Gang trafficking over K48.4B worth of drugs nabbed in Insein



Offenders are seen alongside confiscated drugs and vehicles.

THE Myanmar Police Force stated that a gang trafficking drugs worth over K48.4 billion was arrested in Insein Township, Yangon. A combined team comprising those from the Drug Enforcement Division seized 1,875 kilogrammes of Ice (methamphetamine) worth K46.875 billion and 1,600,000 stimulant tablets valued at K1.6 billion with a Toyota Dyna from Zaw Zaw Lwin's

house rent by Thein Win Htun and Htun Htun Lin (aka) Ko Htun in Insein Township at 6:30 am on 12 July. According to confession, Nay Myo Aung who transported the drugs was arrested in Hlaing Township at 7 pm, Kyi Phyu (aka) Kyaw Win Htay and Zaw Min Naing in a Kluger in Waw Township on 15 July, Soe Lin Paing (aka) Lin Lin at 4:30 pm on 15 July at the Nawade bridge in Pyay

Township, Ye Htun (aka) Pae Nin (aka) Phoe Tha Gi who is a boat owner at 10:30 pm on 16 July in Patheingyi Township, boat owner Thein Than Htay (aka) Zaw Zaw Aung (aka) Nga Htay, Kyaw Swa Min (aka) Min Min and Myo Htun (aka) Ko Htun at 4:30 pm on 17 July in Mingaladon Township. The offenders admitted the drugs were kept by Htun Htun Win (aka) Ko Htun under the supervision of Bawsi (aka) Panthee (aka) Owner, were transported to Malaysia water by Ko Sai and Maung Maung together with Kyi Phyu (aka) Kyaw Win Htay and Aung Phyo (aka) Aung Pyo Naing (aka) Ko Myo, Thein Than Htay (aka) Zaw Zaw Aung (aka) Nga Htay, Ye Htun (aka) Pae Nin (aka) Phoe Tha Gi. An investigation is underway, and action is being taken against them under the Anti-Money Laundering Law. — MNA/MKKS

Extortion scams using video calls increasingly target men

ACCORDING to sources close to the online fraud prevention task force, there has been a resurgence of online threats and extortions targeting men, via recorded video calls. Extortions and harassment are made via Facebook, Viber and Telegram, as well as other social media platforms, which are the most popular in Myanmar. "The key is to avoid video calls from unknown accounts. If you answer, the other side may be doing some vulgar acts or replaying a video, and they will threaten to spread it after taking a screenshot. It is an extortion. Some have to pay a monthly fee,"

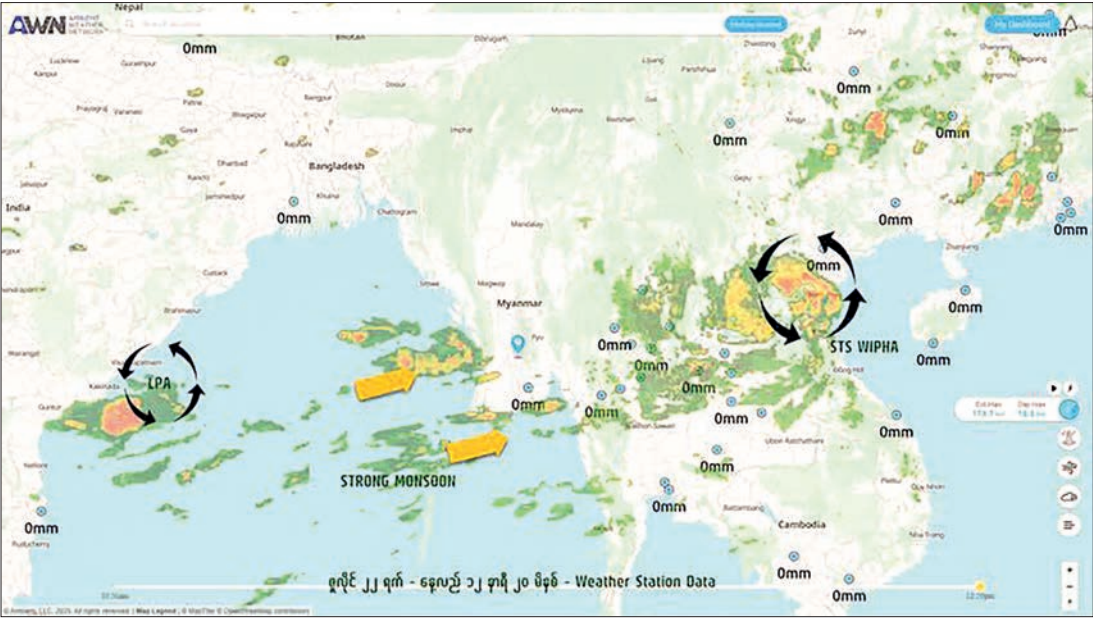
he said. If the amount of money demanded is not paid, the screenshots are spread to the friends of the perpetrators to humiliate the victim. "There are people in our community who have gone through the same incident. When he answered an unknown video call, the other side was showing a woman's private parts. It hung up after about five seconds. Then they sent a recorded video and asked for money," said a victim. Most victims had to pay as they feared humiliation, but some have responded. "They tend to target honest people. Even people who live in big cities pay money when they have to deal with this kind of thing. When they could no longer stand it, they revealed the case online. We can't know how those in rural areas will cope with it," said a resident of Yangon. In the past, threats of sexual harassment were often directed at women, but from 2023 onwards, their targets were shifting to men. — Htet Oo Maung/ZN



A depiction relating to cybercrime.

NATIONAL

Typhoon Wipha may bring rain, floods, but less severe than Yagi



This image shows the weather station data at 12:20 pm on 22 July.

HEAVY rainfall and floods are likely due to the remnants of Typhoon Wipha, but it cannot be as strong as Typhoon Yagi, said meteorologist U Win Naing. A low-pressure area and

whirlwind in the Bay of Bengal are related to A-B-C connection effect from Wipha in the South

China Sea, he said. Wipha is expected to create a low-pressure area in the Bay of Bengal, and the south-western winds may strengthen, causing hail and storm remnants to continue in Myanmar from 22 July to its end. As a result, there is a possibility of localised heavy rainfall. However, Wipha is not as severe a typhoon as "Severe Typhoon Yagi" in 2024, and the flooding will not be as severe as in 2024, he added. Due to mid-rainy season and high tide, the rising water levels in low-lying areas along the river's banks are expected to continue for some time. People should also be aware of sudden rising mountain torrents, but the situation may not be as long-lasting as in 2024, he said. – MT/ZN

Renowned composer-cum-singer to dazzle in upcoming live show

COMPOSER and singer Wai Gyi will hold a live music show, according to the artiste himself. "With the Judson Band on instruments, there will be talented young vocalists with powerful voices, trendy beats, exciting DJ performances, and dancers to enhance the entertainment," Wai Gyi said. The show will take place at Judson Entertainment Bar in Mingalartaungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, starting at 6 pm on 26 July as part of the Night Live Concept. — ASH/KZL

Burmese Amateur Golf Championship held over 4 days in Yangon



This image depicts an invite advert for the Burmese Golf Amateur Open Championship.

A four-day Burmese Golf Amateur Open Championship will be held in August at Yangon Golf Club located in Danyingone. Conducted by the Myanmar Golf Federation (MGF) and mainly sponsored by Burmese Golf (BG), it has been scheduled from 4 to 7 August. MGF said the golf championship will be played in accordance with R&A and USGA rules of golf 2023 and local rules. Interested amateur players (male), who hold a world handicap index of 0-12 approved by MGF and a handicap certificate approved by their member club, can register through 09 421002259 by 2 pm on August 2, and an admission fee of K30,000 per player will be applicable. – MT/ZS

Yazar Htet Aung to compete in Mister International 2025 in Thailand

MISTER Myanmar 2025 Winner Yazar Htet Aung will represent Myanmar in the Mister International 2025 Competition, which will be held in Thailand. The Mister Myanmar 2025 Grand Final was held at Era-vati Sule Hotel in Kyauktada Township, Yangon Region, on 21 July. In the competition,

Yazar Htet Aung won Mister Myanmar 2025. "I did not expect to win the award. I will continue to do the best because I will compete in Thailand as a representative of Myanmar," said Yazar Htet Aung. Mister Myanmar 2025 was awarded to Yazar Htet

Aung, The Dr Face Brand Model 2025 award went to Min Khant Win, the 4th runner up award went to Koe, the 3rd runner up award went to Lum Tu Arsin, the 2nd runner up award went to Thet Wai Ko, and the 1st runner up award went to Rico Htut. — ASH/MKKS



Mister Myanmar 2025 Winner and other winners are seen at the Mister Myanmar 2025 Grand Final.

ARTICLE/SCI
WORLD

Myanmar's Value – Myanmar's Future

FROM PAGE 9

Today, revitalizing Myanmar's economic value demands a multifaceted approach. Sustained growth in GDP, expansion of exports, industrial development, and the flourishing of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are essential. Equally crucial are the advancement of the agricultural sector and the stimulation of tourism — all of which must be pursued with deliberate momentum and coordinated effort to restore Myanmar's rightful place as an economic powerhouse.

Faith, Religion and Cultural Value

Myanmar is a land where faith, spirituality, and cultural traditions have flourished for thousands of years. Throughout its long civilizational journey, the people of Myanmar have



The Maravijaya Buddha Image.

persistently preserved and lived in harmony with their religious beliefs and time-honoured cultural practices. Deeply rooted in the teachings of Theravāda Buddhism, Myanmar's culture is built upon the timeless virtues of compassion, loving-kindness, goodwill, and faith — virtues that continue to bind communities together

in unity and purpose.

This communal spirit is vividly reflected in the collective participation of citizens in traditional festivals and religious ceremonies, where devotion and togetherness converge in public expression. The honesty, loyalty, and gratitude that define the Myanmar character are not accidental traits, but

values nurtured by the moral discipline and meditative traditions (Vāritta) upheld by generations of Buddhists.

Myanmar is recognized globally as one of the principal countries that embrace Theravāda Buddhism. Yet, it is also a nation that enshrines the freedom to worship — a land where diverse religious beliefs coexist with mutual respect. While Buddhists hold their faith in reverence, they are equally respectful of other beliefs, embracing religious plurality as a mark of cultural maturity.

This spirit of tolerance and spiritual freedom is enshrined in Myanmar's 2008 Constitution, which guarantees not only political freedoms but also the right to religious liberty, affirming that the strength of a nation lies in the harmony of its beliefs

and the dignity of its diversity.

The inscription of Myanmar's ancient cities — Hanlin, Beikthano, Tharaykhittaya, and the magnificent cultural site of Bagan into the UNESCO World Heritage List stands as a resounding recognition of Myanmar's cultural grandeur by the global community. This acknowledgement extends further with the Myanmar Thingyan Festival, now inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Soon, the traditional use of Thanaka, cherished for generations, is also expected to find its rightful place among the world's safeguarded cultural treasures.

In addition, the State Administration Council has realized a profound vision by commissioning the creation of the Māravijaya Buddha Image — a masterwork of devotion and artistry, now acclaimed as the most intellectually profound stone-carved seated Buddha image in the world. This monumental endeavour not only attests to the flourishing of Theravāda Buddhism within Myanmar but also proclaims the nation's spiritual brilliance to the world, affirming its role as a central pillar of the Theravāda tradition. It embodies aspirations for national serenity, global peace, and the preservation of sacred heritage.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



Myanmar's export quality rice and its exportation process at port.

The eye-opening science of close encounters with polar bears

IT'S a pretty risky business trying to take a blood sample from a polar bear — one of the most dangerous predators on the planet — on an Arctic ice floe.

First you have to find it and then shoot it with a sedative dart from a helicopter before a vet dares approach on foot to put a GPS collar around its neck.

Then the blood has to be taken and a delicate incision made into a layer of fat before it wakes.

All this with a wind chill of up to minus 30C.

For the last four decades experts from the Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI) have been keeping tabs on the health and movement of polar bears in the Svalbard archipelago, halfway between Norway and the North Pole.

Like the rest of the Arctic, global warming has been happening there three to four times faster than elsewhere.

But this year the eight scientists working from the Norwegian icebreaker Kronprins Haakon are experimenting with new methods to monitor the world's largest land carnivore, including for the first time tracking the PFAS "forever chemicals" from the other ends of the Earth that finish up in their bodies.

An AFP photographer joined them on this year's eye-opening expedition. — AFP



French spatial scientist Marie-Anne Blanchet examines bear cubs before taking adipose tissue biopsies and blood samples from their sedated mother, in eastern Spitzbergen, in the Svalbard archipelago, on 6 April 2025. PHOTO: AFP

AstraZeneca says to invest \$50 bln in US

BRITISH pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca said Tuesday it would invest \$50 billion in the United States amid a looming deadline of ramped-up tariffs from Washington.

A large chunk of the funds will go toward building a multi-billion-dollar manufacturing centre in Virginia, the company said in a statement, adding that it expects 50 per cent of its revenue to come from the United States by 2030.

“Today’s announcement underpins our belief in America’s innovation in biopharmaceuticals,” the statement quoted CEO Pascal Soriot as saying.

US President Donald Trump has opened the door to potential

tariffs targeting pharmaceuticals, which have so far benefited from exemptions to his sweeping levies on imports from trading partners.

He ordered an investigation launched into pharmaceutical imports, suggesting that levies could reach up to 200 per cent.

The United States is a key market for the pharmaceutical industry, and AstraZeneca had already announced in April that it had begun transferring part of its European production to the United States.

“For decades Americans have been reliant on foreign supply of key pharmaceutical products,” US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said in a statement. — AFP



(FILES) A logo is pictured on a wall outside the offices of pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca in Macclesfield, central England on 11 May 2021. PHOTO: AFP

Hong Kong Intl Airport sees 16.5% YoY growth in passenger volume in H1

PASSENGER volume at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) reached 29.4 million in the first half of this year, up 16.5 per cent year on year, Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) announced on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, flight movements increased

by 10.1 per cent to 192,365, while cargo throughput increased by 1.9 per cent to 2.4 million tonnes, according to the AAHK.

Passenger growth in June was primarily driven by an increase in transfer/transit passengers. — Xinhua

German companies pledge 631 bln euros in investment to boost economic confidence

MORE than 60 of leading German companies, including Siemens and Deutsche Bank, pledged on Monday to invest 631 billion euros (US\$735 billion) in the country by 2028 in a joint effort to restore investor confidence, according to the German newspaper Handelsblatt.

The initiative, titled “Made for Germany,” will be formally presented to German Chancellor Friedrich Merz and Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil later on Monday. It includes capital expenditure, research and development spending, and commitments from international investors.

The announcement comes as Germany seeks to reverse sluggish growth and attract private capital, helped in part by a recent overhaul of fiscal rules and the



This photo taken on 28 May 2025 shows a view of the Container Terminal Tollerort in Hamburg, Germany. PHOTO: XINHUA

creation of a special fund for infrastructure investment. Germany’s industrial competitiveness has been strained by high energy prices and structural challenges, prompting

growing calls for deeper reforms.

“We need political courage for structural change, and bold steps must follow,” Siemens CEO Roland Busch told

Handelsblatt. “But we also need companies that believe in Germany as a location and are ready to invest. Both must come together quickly to build momentum.” — Xinhua

Notice for Change of Registration Trade Name and Distributor

Notice is hereby given that official registration trade name has been changed for the following pesticides by Aung Linn Animal Health. Distributor has been changed from Aung Linn Animal Health Ltd to New Asia High-Tech Seeds Company Limited.

No	Trade Name		Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration Number
	Old	New			
1	Sapar Kaung Paung Thay	ဗစ်စီ ကင်း	Bispyribac-sodium 20% WP	Provisional	P2022-5572

Aung Linn Animal Health Ltd., invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

Aung Linn Animal Health Ltd. Tel: (+95)9 955006789

Notice for Change of Registration Trade Name

Notice is hereby given that official registration trade name has been changed for the following pesticides by Agri Leading Biotech Co.Ltd. Distributor has been changed from Agri Leading Biotech Co. Ltd to New Asia High-Tech Seeds Company Limited.

No	Trade Name		Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration Number
	Old	New			
1	Penofop	ပေါင်း ဆရာကြီး	Cyhalofop-butyl 5% + Penoxsulalm 1% OD	Provisional	P2022-5789
2	ALB-CyBis 16 OD	ပေါင်း ရိန်းဂျား	Bispyribac-sodium 4% + Cyhalofop-butyl 12% OD	Provisional	P2023-5393
3	Triatrasulfuron	ပြောင်းဆရာကြီး	Atrazine 18% + Mesotrione 4% + Nicosulfuron 2% OD	Provisional	P2023-5426
4	ALB-Mesozine	ပြောင်းရိန်းဂျား	Atrazine 20% + Mesotrione 6% SC	Provisional	P2023-5444

Agri Leading Biotech Co.Ltd., invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

Agri Leading Biotech Co.Ltd. Tel: (+95)9 955006789

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

2 regencies in Indonesia’s West Sumatra
declare emergency as forest fires spread

SOLOK and Limapuluh Kota Regencies in Indonesia’s West Sumatra province have declared an emergency status for forest and land fires, following a surge in hotspots during the ongoing dry season, according to Ilham Wahab, an official from the West Sumatra Provincial Disaster Management Agency, on Tuesday.

“In Solok Regency alone, forest and land fires have occurred in all 14 districts,” said Ilham.

He noted that water bombing operations using helicopters have not yet been deployed, as the National Disaster Management Agency is currently prioritizing firefighting efforts in Riau and South Sumatra



Firefighters try to extinguish a peatland fire at Rimbo Panjang village in Kampar regency, Riau Province, Indonesia, 20 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

provinces, where the situation is considered more critical.

Rahmadinol, head of the Limapuluh Kota Regency Disaster Management Agency, explained that challenging terrain and limited equipment have hindered firefighting efforts.

“Most of the fire locations in Limapuluh Kota have slopes of 70-90 degrees, which makes firefighting efforts very challenging,” Rahmadinol said.

According to the West Sumatra Forestry Service, at least 64 forest and land fire incidents have been recorded across nine regencies and cities from early 2025 to 19 July, affecting a total area of 140.87 hectares. — Xinhua

Philippines flooding displaces
thousands as new storm threatens

HEAVY flooding inundated the Philippines’ capital on Tuesday, forcing tens of thousands of people to flee and schools and government offices to shut, while a fresh storm brewed off the coast.

At least six people have died and another six remain missing after Tropical Storm Wipha skirted the country on Friday, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

Many neighbourhoods in Manila woke to find calf-deep

pools of floodwater Tuesday after an overnight downpour swelled the Marikina River.

More than 23,000 people living along the riverbank were evacuated from their homes overnight and moved to schools, village halls and covered courtyards.

About 47,000 more were evacuated from across the capital’s Quezon, Pasig and Caloocan areas, as well as from the main government district.

“Usually, these people are

from low-lying areas like beside creeks,” said Wilmer Tan of the Marikina rescue office, who said the river had reached 18 metres (59 feet) in height.

An elderly woman and her driver were swept down one of the swollen creeks as they attempted to cross a bridge in Caloocan, said John Paul Nietes, an emergency worker.

It was initially hoped that the pair had escaped after the car was recovered with a broken window.

But Caloocan Mayor Dale Gonzalo Malapitan announced one of the bodies had been found.

“We’ve found (the driver),” he told Manila radio station DZMM.

“The body was recovered 4.5 kilometres from where the vehicle was swept away.... They were unable to bail out.”

No respite

As floodwaters began receding in Manila by Tuesday afternoon, the national weather service said a low-pressure area off the country’s east coast had developed into a tropical depression. — AFP



People wade through a flooded street at a village in Cainta town, east of Manila on 22 July 2025 in the aftermath of monsoon rains. PHOTO: AFP

Survey to start for 1st new
nuclear reactor since
Fukushima disaster

KANSAI Electric Power Co said Tuesday it plans to begin a geological survey to replace a nuclear reactor on the premises of its Mihama nuclear power plant on the Sea of Japan coast, in what would be the first new reactor since the 2011 Fukushima disaster.

Currently, the No 3 unit is the only reactor in operation at the Mihama station in Tsuruga, Fukui Prefecture, while the other

two units are set to be decommissioned.

No new reactor has been built in Japan since the building of the No 3 unit at Hokkaido Electric Power Co’s Tomari plant. The unit began operation in 2009.

“We will conduct (the survey) while explaining to and seeking the cooperation of local residents,” Kansai Electric President Nozomu Mori said at a press conference in Osaka. — Kyodo

DPRK to build 3rd
Choe Hyon-class destroyer

A major shipyard in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea announced its plan to build another advanced destroyer, state media said on Tuesday.

In a mobilization gathering held on Monday, the Nampho Shipyard pledged to build its third Choe Hyon-class destroyer by 10 October 2026, a date marking the founding of the Workers’ Party of Korea, the official Kore-

an Central News Agency (KCNA) reported. Yun Chi Gol, manager of the Nampho Shipyard, noted the shipmaker’s success in building the country’s first new-generation multi-mission destroyer. He called on shipyard workers to build the new warship within the designated timeframe, the KCNA report said, citing the official’s address to the gathering. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar draw with Thailand, exit ASEAN U23 Championship

MYANMAR exited the 2025 ASEAN U23 Championship after a goalless draw with Thailand on 22 July in Indonesia, failing to advance to the semifinals.

Myanmar had drawn unexpectedly with Timor-Leste in their opening match and needed a win against Thailand to progress. Despite their efforts, they managed only a single point, which was not enough to secure a place in the knockout stage.

Head coach Kurosaki made several changes to the starting lineup, while Thailand, already in a favourable position, played strongly. Both teams showed solid defence, leading to the scoreless stalemate.

The tournament is split into three groups, with the three

group winners and the best second-placed team advancing to the semi-finals. Indonesia topped Group A with seven points, Vietnam led Group B with six points, and Thailand secured Group C with four points. For the best runner-up spot, results against the bottom team in Group A (Brunei) were excluded, leaving the Philippines from Group A with three points, Cambodia from Group B with one point, and Myanmar from Group C with two points. The Philippines claimed the best runner-up place with three points.

The semifinal matches on 25 July will see Vietnam face the Philippines, while Indonesia takes on Thailand. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Myanmar and Thai players in action during the match. PHOTO: FAT

Zheng Qinwen withdraws from US Open following elbow surgery



Zheng hits a return during the women's singles first round match against Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Britain, on 1 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

CHINA'S Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen has pulled out of this year's US Open tournament following an elbow surgery, the event's organizers announced on Monday.

The sixth-ranked Zheng, two-time US Open quarterfinalist, said in a social media post last Saturday that she has undergone successful surgery on her right elbow and is now

recovering.

"During recent training sessions and competitions, I have been consistently bothered by pain in my right elbow," Zheng wrote. "Although I persisted through interventions, the impact of the pain persisted. After diagnosis by elbow specialists, they recommended to me and my team to complete minimally invasive arthroscop-

ic surgery on the right elbow as soon as possible to thoroughly resolve the issue".

"After careful discussion with my team, in order to return to the court in the best possible state as soon as possible, we decided that surgery was the best course. I completed the surgery yesterday, it went very smoothly, and I am in recovery," she added.

A consistent presence in the latter stages of the Grand Slam event in New York, Zheng reached the women's singles quarterfinals in 2023 and 2024. The 2025 US Open is scheduled to take place from 24 August to 7 September.

Looking ahead, Zheng expressed her commitment to a full recovery.

"In the coming period, I will focus my efforts on rehabilitation training, striving to return to the court at 100 per cent as soon as possible. This brief adjustment is for a stronger comeback in the future. Thanks, everyone, for your support and patience. Please wait for me to return to full strength, we will meet on the court," she said. — Xinhua

Alcaraz to miss Toronto Masters with muscle problems

FRENCH Open champion Carlos Alcaraz has announced he will not compete in the forthcoming ATP 1000 Toronto Masters.

Alcaraz, who lost an intense Wimbledon final to Jannik Sinner just over a week ago, has explained why he won't be in Toronto for the tournament that starts on 27 July and ends on 7 August.

"After many consecutive weeks of competition without rest, I will not be able to play in Toronto this year. I have small muscles issues and I need to

recover physically and mentally for what comes next. To the tournament and to my fans in Canada I am very sorry, I will see you next year," he wrote on social media.

Sinner and Novak Djokovic have also confirmed they will miss the event due to muscle problems, while Alcaraz will return to action in Cincinnati ahead of the US Open, with its main draw competition starting on 24 August. — Xinhua



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz falls as he fails to return the ball to Italy's Jannik Sinner during their men's singles final tennis match on the fourteenth day of the 2025 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, on 13 July 2025. PHOTO: KIRILL KUDRYAVTSEV / AFP

2 regencies in Indonesia's West Sumatra declare emergency as forest fires spread
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WORLD

China promotes high-tech solutions for disability support

CHINA is exploring the use of advanced technologies such as smart bionic hands and guide robots to improve the well-being of people with disabilities, ensuring that scientific and technological progress benefits this community, an official said Tuesday.

Zhou Changkui, chairperson of the Board of Executive Directors of the China Disabled Persons' Federation, said at a press conference that these applications were unveiled at a recent forum.

He added that China will further focus on the development of new technologies and industries, including brain-computer interfaces, to better support people with disabilities.

According to Zhou, the federation and some other governmental departments have jointly issued a guiding document to promote the use of technology in supporting people with disabilities. It is also collaborating with universities, research institutes and high-tech companies to boost the development of relevant technologies and industries.

Zhou noted that during the upcoming 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030), China will continue to promote the application of artificial intelligence and other cutting-edge technologies to serve people with disabilities, and ensure that advanced technologies better meet their needs. — Xinhua



A staff member from local barrier-free promotion association explains how to use the electronic blind track for a visually impaired woman at Hezhuang cultural and sports centre in Qiantang District of Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province, 16 May 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

Trump administration releases Martin Luther King Jr assassination files

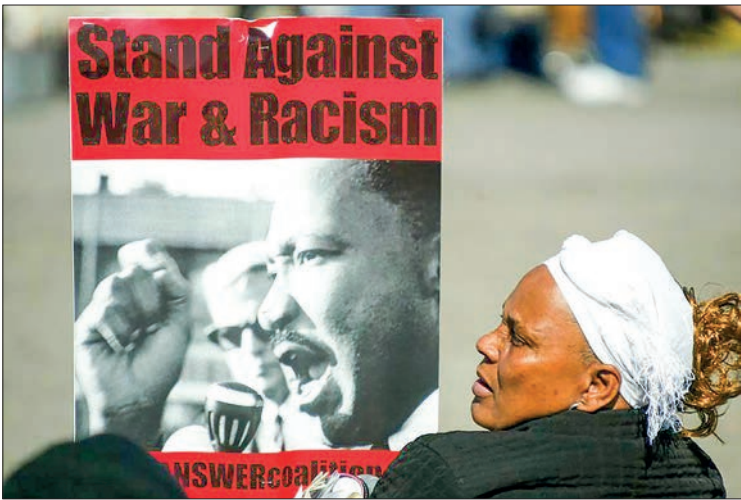
US President Donald Trump's Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard announced on Monday that the administration has released over 230,000 pages of documents related to the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr (MLK).

The related files were released after nearly 60 years of questions surrounding the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr; Gabbard said in a post on social media platform X.

"The documents include details about the FBI's investigation into the assassination of MLK, discussion of potential leads, internal FBI memos detailing the progress of the case, information about James Earl Ray's former cellmate who stated he discussed with Ray an alleged assassination plot, and more," according to Gabbard.

On 23 January, three days after taking office, Trump signed an executive order to declassify any remaining files from the assassinations of former President John F Kennedy, his brother Robert F Kennedy, and MLK.

MLK stands as one of the most prominent figures in the American civil rights movement. He is widely celebrated for his commitment to nonviolent campaigns against racial segregation and inequality, as well as his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. — Xinhua



A woman holds a poster of Martin Luther King Jr at a workers' rally in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC, 17 October 2004. PHOTO: XINHUA

Humans beat AI gold-level score at top maths contest

Humans beat generative AI models made by Google and OpenAI at a top international mathematics competition, despite the programmes reaching gold-level scores for the first time. Neither model scored full marks — unlike five young people at the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), a prestigious annual competition where participants must be under 20 years old. Google said Monday that an advanced version of its Gemini chatbot had solved five out of the six maths problems set at the IMO, held in Australia's Queensland this month.

"We can confirm that Google DeepMind has reached the much-desired milestone, earning 35 out of a possible 42 points — a gold medal score," the US tech giant cited IMO president Gregor Dolinar as saying. "Their solutions were astonishing in many respects. IMO graders found them to be clear, precise and most of them easy to follow." Around 10 per cent of human contestants won gold-level medals, and five received perfect scores of 42 points. US ChatGPT maker OpenAI said that its experimental reasoning model had scored a gold-level 35 points on the test.

The result "achieved a longstanding grand challenge in AI" at "the world's most prestigious math competition", OpenAI researcher Alexander Wei wrote on social media. "We evaluated our models on the 2025 IMO problems under the same rules as human contestants," he said. — AFP