

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Myanmar booths exhibiting gem products at the China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) held in Nanning, China, in September 2024.

Myanmar to exhibit 80 booths at CAEXPO

MYANMAR will exhibit about 80 booths at the 22nd China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO), which will be held on 17-21 September in Nanning, capital city of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China.

Myanmar will participate in the expo as the Country of Honour and explore market access for Myanmar's

agro-based SMEs' products into the Chinese market through the CAEXPO platform and display Myanmar's high-quality gemstones, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

Myanmar will promote Myitkyina City in Kachin State as the City of Charm at the CAEXPO, according to the Kachin State government.

It serves as a platform to promote the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (FTA) 3.0. The expo will strengthen friendship between the participating countries and bring about trade benefits. China-ASEAN Expo was launched in 2004, and Myanmar started to join in 2005. — ASH/KK

SUNDAY EDITION

NATIONAL PAGE 6



DUHD to approve Yoma low-cost housing purchases

BUSINESS PAGE 7



MIC approves SKD status for motorcycle parts import



Salontaung Island mangrove forest designated protected

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has officially designated a mangrove forest area in Salontaung Island as a protected mangrove forest reserve under Notification 72/2025, effective from 22 July 2025 (13th Waning of Waso, 1387 ME).

SEE PAGE 2

Be Proud with "DAGON"

Sales Department- Ph-01 651177, 09 694965080
STARMART Nine Mile Showroom- (9)mile, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph-09 263147385
KHA YAE PIN MART - Mingalardone, Pyay Road, Yangon. Ph- 09 671443555
STARMART MANDALAY Wholesale -Corner of 26th st and 66th st , Mandalay.Ph-09 661702244
STARMART Nay Pyi Taw -Yangon- Mandalay Highway Road, Ywar Gauk Ward, Pynmanar.Ph- 09 685119077

NATIONAL

Research must cover increased production of specific agricultural products

❖ It is necessary to research to enhance the production of region-specific agricultural products.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the coordination meeting of the Union government on 3 February 2025)

2025 matric exam results released, pass rate at 48.06%

THE results of the March 2025 matriculation examination and the June 2025 retake examination for earthquake-affected states and regions were announced simultaneously across the country today's morning.

A total of 207,898 students sat for the exam, of whom 99,924 passed, resulting in a pass rate of

48.06 per cent.

The results have been released at schools in various regions and states, including the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, where students, teachers, and parents gathered peacefully to check the outcomes.

In addition, the results are available on the Myanmar Exami-

nations Department website: www.myanmarexam.org. For regions and states with limited transport access, the results are also being broadcast on Myanmar Radio and through ethnic-language programmes.

The matriculation examination results for each region and state are released. — MNA/MKKS

Weather

Land Depression News, No 5, 2025

Issued at 2 pm MST on 26 July 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 12:30 pm MST today, the Land Depression that crossed over the western parts of Jharkhand, India, has moved westwards and it likely continues to across the northern parts of Chhattisgarh and adjoining interior region of Jharkhand and it will weaken gradually.

This is the last news for the Depression. — DMH

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Saturday 26 July 2025)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 27 July 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay and lower Sagaing regions, fairly widespread in Magway Region and Kayah State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and upper Sagaing regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (northern and eastern) Shan states. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Magway, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine 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: Occasional squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced in off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35-40 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-14 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain or thundershowers in Bago, Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27 July 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27 July 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 27 July 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH



Salontaung Island mangrove forest.

Salontaung Island mangrove forest designated protected area

FROM PAGE 1

The newly designated “Salontaung Island Mangrove Buffer Protected Forest” covers a total area of 11,786.8 acres in Kyunsu Township, Myeik District, Taninthayi Region. The designation was made under Section 6, Subsection (e) of the 2018 Forest Law, which authorizes the ministry to manage and conserve designated areas.

The reserve aims to ensure the long-term sustainability of the mangrove ecosystem, preserve biodiversity, reduce the impacts of coastal erosion and storms, and support local communities with sustainable harvesting of marine resources such as fish, crabs, and shrimp. It also intends to strengthen the overall management of mangrove areas in the region.

By protecting the Salontaung Island mangroves, key native tree species, including *Bruguiera cylindrica*, *Bruguiera gymnorhiza*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Ceriops decandra*, and *Nypa fruticans*, will be preserved, along with important bird species such as herons, egrets, kingfishers, storks, and shorebirds. The reserve will also help maintain essential breeding grounds for fish and other marine species.

This initiative reinforces the role of mangrove ecosystems as critical coastal barriers that protect against natural disasters and contribute significantly to the stability of marine biodiversity. — Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

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)

SAC Member attends Kayin thread-tying, visits farming sites

STATE Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung attended the traditional Kayin white thread-tying ceremony held yesterday morning at the Ayeyar Min Hall in Kyonpyaw Township.

The ceremony saw venerable Buddhist monks, religious leaders, Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Khun Thant Zaw Htoo, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win and his spouse, leader of the SAC Central Advisory Body U Saw Tun Aung Myint, other regional ministers and their spouses, government officials, Kayin ethnic nationals, and local community members.

The event began with traditional Kayin Don dance performances. SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung and his delegation inaugurated the ceremony by beating a traditional frog drum nine times.

In his remarks, Mahn Nyein Maung highlighted that the ceremony symbolized unity



State Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung takes part in the traditional Kayin white thread-tying ceremony at the Ayeyar Min Hall in Kyonpyaw Township yesterday.

and harmony among all Kayin nationals and that such events are important to uphold cultural heritage and foster solidarity.

Union Minister Khun Thant Zaw Htoo also delivered a speech on the significance of the thread-tying ceremony. Fol-

lowing that, the Chief Minister and the Advisory Body Leader extended their greetings, while religious leaders, including U Nanajoti, the chair of the Kayin Literature and Culture Committee from Pyamalawt village, and Bishop Henry Mahn Aikhlain of the Catholic Archdiocese of

Pathein, also offered their blessings and remarks.

An official from the organizing committee presented a paper on the traditional thread-tying custom, and a representative gave a vote of thanks.

After the formal segment,

elders performed the Kayin white thread-tying rituals for SAC member Mahn Nyein Maung and other distinguished guests. The ceremony proceeded in a festive and vibrant atmosphere.

In the afternoon, the SAC member and his delegation visited a model paddy field at Sisonkon Village-tract in Yekyi Township, where U Kyaw Kyaw Oo cultivates five acres of “Aung Naing Toe” paddy. They observed fertilizer application and weeding as part of the 2025-2026 monsoon season productivity campaign.

They also met farmers and encouraged them to apply correct agricultural methods, including suitable seed selection, soil and water management, and balanced use of organic and chemical fertilizers, to help achieve the region’s monsoon paddy yield targets. Food and refreshments were distributed to participating farmers at the event. — MNA/KZL

MoE Deputy Minister joins Guizhou-ASEAN education pre-meeting

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing arrived in Guiyang, Guizhou Province, People’s Republic of China, on 24 July to attend the 2025 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week.

During a visit to Guizhou University yesterday morning, university officials provided the deputy minister and his delegation with an overview of the institution’s past and present academic activities. The deputy minister asked questions and

sought clarification on topics of interest. Afterwards, the group toured the university’s classrooms, research laboratories, and libraries.

In the afternoon, the deputy minister attended a pre-meeting with the Guizhou Provincial Government and education leaders from ASEAN countries in preparation for the 2025 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week.

In the evening, the deputy minister and other ASEAN participants attended the Chi-

na-ASEAN Cultural Exchange Event.

The 2025 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week will be held from 24 to 27 July. — MNA/MKKS

Deputy Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing attends the pre-meeting with the Guizhou Provincial Government and educational leaders from ASEAN countries in preparation for the 2025 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week.



NATIONAL

Work committee conducts field study in quake-hit Mandalay, Sagaing

UNION Minister for Ministry 2 at the Office of the State Administration Council Chairman U Ko Ko Hlaing, who is also Chairman of the Working Committee on the Development of a Resilient and Strong Social Community, and Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, who is the committee Vice-Chair, presided over the meeting and made inspection tours in quake-affected Mandalay and Sagaing yesterday.

During the meeting with the relevant officials at the Mandalay Region Government office, Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing said the committee is the working committee of National Disaster Management Committee, and it will arrange to proper measures for the central government, regional governments, entrepreneurs, social welfare and altruism organizations to carry out the work procedures more effectively, in regard with short, mid and long terms depending on the prioritized plans.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn highlighted the activities of State media as per the procedures of the National Disaster Management Committee, such as dissemination of information, public awareness programmes and entertainment programmes to support the victims mentally and physically in quake-stricken areas with the artistes.

Secretary of Mandalay Region government, Yamethin District administrator, regional Economic Affairs minister, Nat-



Union Ministers U Ko Ko Hlaing and U Maung Maung Ohn encourage staff families at temporary staff housing in the Maha Sikhongyi Pagoda in Sagaing, yesterday.

ural Resources minister and Development minister reported on their different sectors.

Deputy Minister U Aye Tun of Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture discussed the damage to pagodas, temples and religious buildings and reconstruction processes, while Deputy Minister Dr Myo Thant of Ministry of Immigration and Population talked about the release of household lists, CSCs and UID in quake-hit areas, and Deputy Minister U Myint Soe of Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, who is also secretary of working committee, about ongoing and future work plans.

Then, the two Union ministers highlighted the need to deploy skilled employees, ensure the participation of youths, international aid and the Red Cross Society, release of result-prioritized information and entertainment programmes.

The two Union ministers and the party went to Sinkyone temporary staff housing in Mahaaungmyay Township, Mandalay, and inspected the 150 container houses for 150 staff.

On arrival at Mandalay KBZ Centre in Chanmyathazi Township, they inspected the free medical treatment for people, loan arrangement, sales of quality iron

bars for reconstruction, public awareness for construction processes, and readiness of rescue boats.

They proceeded to the Saungder Weaving and Vocational Institute in Amarapura, and provided proper instructions.

They gave 30 MRTV DTH receivers and 60 Set Top Boxes for each location.

At noon, the two Union ministers met with the officials at Sagaing District Administrative Office, and Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing highlighted the important role of cooperation among governmental organizations, entrepreneurs, social and altruistic

organizations and international assistance, and the need to conduct proper measures to remedy the silver businesses.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn pledged to make efforts in establishing a resilient and strong social community as the State-owned media, and called for public participation in the coming general election.

Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing handed over 50 MRTV DTH receivers and 150 MRTV DVB-T2 Set Top Boxes for the Sagaing Region government.

They proceeded to staff housing in Maha Sikhongyi pagoda in Sagaing, and inspected the container houses for 36 households of staff, cordially greeted them, and Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn gave 10 MRTV DTH receivers and 20 MRTV DVB T-2 Set Top Boxes.

They also inspected a six-acre land near the Ywahtaung Diesel Locomotive Factory in Sagaging to establish further container houses.

In the evening, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn visited the Ocean Super Centre, shops, houses and shopping zone of the Mingala Mandalay commercial area.

Although the buildings in the Mingala Mandalay area were hit by the earthquake, the repair work was conducted following the standards. It was reopened on 1 June and crowded with sellers and shoppers. — MNA/KTZH

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

Gold Market Rate as of 26 July 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,900,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

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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

Weekly Roundup

20 July
78th Anniversary of Martyrs’ Day marked
Chairman of the State Administration Council, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing paid tribute to martyrs at the Martyrs’ Mausoleum in Bahan Township in memory of the 78th Anniversary of Martyrs’ Day.
Wazira Cinema to become Red Carpet Theatre
Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, inspected a plan to upgrade Wazira Cinema as a Red Carpet Theatre and the progress of constructing the Sarso Beikman (Literati House) in Yangon.

21 July
Development undertakings in Hlinethaya Township inspected
Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, inspected efforts to ensure the proper flow of water along both sides of Yangon-Pathein Road in Hline-thaya Township of Yangon Region.

22 July
8th UN Peacekeeping Officer Course commences
Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services,

Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win delivered an address at the opening ceremony of the 8th UN Peacekeeping Officer Course for officers from Myanmar Tatmadaw, jointly organized by Myanmar Tatmadaw and the Indian Armed Forces taking place at the Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.
Victorious Tatmadaw members honoured with one-step rank promotion
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, honoured to decorate one-step rank promotion for victorious Tatmadaw members who reoccupied Nawngkhio, Shan State (North), by conducting the counter-terrorism operation to enable people to live peacefully.

24 July
SAC appoints Chief Justice, Judge of Mon State High Court
The State Administration Council appointed Daw Htay Myint Aye as Chief Justice of the Mon State High Court and Daw Khaing Khaing Myo as Judge of the Mon State High Court under Order 42/2025 and 43/2025 in accord with Section 419 of the Constitution.
Tatmadaw columns reoccupy Thabeikkyin
Tatmadaw successfully regained control of 6th-Mile Village on 30 June 2025, 5th-Mile Village on 5

July, 4th-Mile Village and the nearby Tower Hill on 7 July. Tatmadaw was able to fully retake and regain control over the entire town of Thabeikkyin on 23 July.

25 July
SAC issues Amendment to Road Transport Operations Law
The State Administration Council enacted the amendment to the Road Transport Operations Law as its Law No 42/2025 on 24 July under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Kyondoe-Kawkareik route reopens
Tatmadaw regained full control and reopened the Kyondoe-Kawkareik route, successfully thwarting the enemy’s military objectives after clearing KNU, KNLA, and PDF forces.

26 July
Government disburses K150B in loans, spends K20M on MSME development
The Micro-, Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) development work committee held its meeting 1/2025 at the Ministry of Industry in Nay Pyi Taw, with an address by Chairman of the Work Committee, Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council, Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win. — GNLM/TTA

Endorsement of Revised Myanmar Standards Version Adoption

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

No	Myanmar Standards
52.	MMS IEC 60335-2-101:2024 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 2-101: Particular requirements for vaporizers
53.	MMS IEC 60350 – 1: 2023 - Household electric cooking appliances - Part 1: Ranges, ovens, steam ovens and grills - Methods for measuring performance
54.	MMS IEC 60350-2:2017+AMD1:2021 Household electric cooking appliances - Part 2: Hobs - Methods for measuring performance
55.	MMS IEC 60400:2017+AMD1:2020+AMD2:2022 - Lampholders for tubular fluorescent lamps and starterholders
56.	MMS IEC 60598-1:2024 Luminaries - Part 1: General requirements and tests
57.	MMS IEC 60598-2-1:2020 Luminaires - Part 2-1: Particular requirements - Fixed general purpose luminaires
58.	MMS IEC 60598-2-2:2023 Luminaries - Part 2-2: Particular requirements - Recessed luminaires and recessed air-handling luminaires
59.	MMS IEC 60598-2-20:2022 Luminaries - Part 2-20: Particular requirements - Lighting chains
60.	MMS IEC 60669-1:2017+COR1:2020 Switches for household and similar fixed-electrical installations- Part 1: General requirements
61.	MMS IEC 60669-2-1:2021+COR1:2024 Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations - Part 2-1: Particular requirements - Electronic control devices
62.	MMS IEC 60669-2-2:2024 -Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations - Part 2-2: Particular requirements - Electromagnetic remote-control switches (RCS)

No	Myanmar Standards
63.	MMS IEC 60669-2-3:2024 Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations - Part 2-3: Particular requirements - Time-delay switches (TDS)
64.	MMS IEC 60811-201:2012+AMD1:2017+AMD2:2023 Electric and optical fibre cables - Test methods for non-metallic materials - Part 201: General tests - Measurement of insulation thickness
65.	MMS IEC 60811-202:2012+AMD1:2017+AMD2:2023 Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials –Part 202: General tests – Measurement of thickness of non-metallic sheath
66.	MMS IEC 60811-501:2012+AMD1:2018+AMD2:2023 Electric and optical fibre cables - Test methods for non-metallic materials - Part 501: Mechanical tests - Tests for determining the mechanical properties of insulating and sheathing compounds
67.	MMS IEC 60884-1:2022+COR1:2023 Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes- Part 1: General requirements
68.	MMS IEC 60898-1:2015+AMD1:2019 Electrical accessories – Circuit-breakers for overcurrent protection for household and similar installations - Part 1: Circuit-breakers for a.c. operation
69.	MMS IEC 60898-2:2016 Circuit-breakers for overcurrent protection for household and similar installations Part 2: Circuit-breakers for AC and DC operation
70.	MMS IEC 60929: 2011+AMD1:2015 AC and/or DC - DC-supplied electronic control gear for tubular fluorescent lamps - Performance requirements
71.	MMS IEC 60947-2: 2024 Low-voltage switchgear and control gear- Part 2: Circuit-breakers

TO BE CONTINUED

NATIONAL

Myanmar detains 22 undocumented foreign entrants

MYANMAR detained 19 Filipinos, one Chinese, one Ethiopian and one Indian, totalling 22 individuals, involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities in Kayin State yesterday.

Between 30 January and 26 July 2025, a total of 9,321 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 9,060 individuals have already been deported from Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 261 individuals. These individuals are currently under detention



Immigration processes underway for the deportation of foreign entrants.

while awaiting repatriation. The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with relevant countries. — MNA/KZL

DUHD to approve Yoma low-cost housing purchases

THE Department of Urban and Housing Development (DUHD) under the Ministry of Construction will issue an approval letter notifying those individuals who won in a drawing lot to purchase Yoma low-cost housing apartments that are sold under the guidance of the Yangon Region government.

The notification letter will be granted for four-storey buildings having eight rooms per floor (Nos 19, 20, and 22) on 12 August, four storey building having eight units per floor No 24 on 13 Au-

gust, 12-storey building (Nos 38, 39, and 40) on 12 August, four-storey building having 12 units per floor (Nos 41, 44, 45, 49, and 50) on 13 August, four storey building with 12 units per floor (Nos 46 and 47) on 14 August, four storey buildings with six rooms per floor (Nos 56, 57, 58, and 59) on 12 August, four-storey buildings with six rooms per floor (Nos 60, 61, 62, and 64) on 13 August, and four-storey building with six units per floor (Nos 65, 66, and 67) on 14 August.

Notification letters to purchase apartment units will be issued at City Gallery

(ground floor) of the DUHD in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, from 10 am to 3 pm as per the designated schedules.

Those individuals need to present a citizenship scrutiny card and a copy; a housing registration copy to withdraw the letter, and authorized letter for those on behalf of the entitled winners. If they fail to withdraw the notification letter within the set timeframe, they can still do so by 25 August. After that time, the permit will be cancelled. Individuals can enquire details through the contact number of the DUHD (09 795824722). — NN/KK



This picture captures apartment units of the Yoma low-cost housing to be sold.

Aid flows as Myanmar quake toll hits 3,771

IN Myanmar, the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March severely affected six regions and states, with the death toll reaching 3,771 to date, alongside 5,104 injured and 37 still missing.

The Myanmar Fire Brigade continues to carry out clearing and rehabilitation efforts, and has so far rescued 653 people alive from collapsed buildings, while also recovering 849 deceased.

Updates will continue to be provided regarding the financial and material donations from both local and foreign philanthropists to support the impacted communities. — MNA/KZL

Strong winds halt Botahtaung Port container handling for 3 days



Containers and trucks toppled at Bo Aung Kyaw Port due to strong winds on 24 July.

STRONG winds that struck on the morning of 24 July caused significant disruptions at the Inland Container Depot II (ICD II) in Bo Aung Kyaw Port, located in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, leading to a temporary suspension of container handling operations for three days, according to U Myo Htut Aung, spokesperson for the Myanmar Container Trucks Association.

Following the storm, operations involving container loading, unloading and cargo transfer were halted from 24 to 26 July in order to clear the damage caused within the port premises.

“In the early hours of 24 July, strong winds toppled several

stacks of container shells stored at ICD II. Some stacks were as high as five to six containers, and the collapse affected nearby truck parking areas. Several containers were blown over, and several container trucks were damaged or tipped over,” said U Myo Htut Aung.

Despite the temporary suspension of activities at ICD II, container transport and logistics operations continued as usual outside the affected area.

Widespread strong winds and heavy rainfall were reported across parts of Yangon Region on 24 July, leading to fallen trees and damaged vehicles in several townships. — ASH/KZL

MIC approves SKD status for motorcycle parts import

MYANMAR Investment Commission notified on 25 July that the motorcycle assembly business will be allowed to declare the semi-knocked down (SKD) on the trade invoice for imports of motorcycle and three-wheel cycle parts, to streamline the import, avoid full import duties on completely built units and encourage assembly-based production.

According to Notification 26/2021 dated 14 December 2021, MIC allows annual import tax payment proposals for automobile parts, alcoholic beverages, beer, cigarettes and industrial sugar.

MIC has already announced categories of major components for various vehicles that can be imported by assembly businesses,

as per Notification 85/2017.

Notification 39/2025 of the Ministry of Planning and Finance stated that specific tax rates are set for the importation of automobile and motorcycle parts and trucks for body building under the completely built unit (CBU), SKD, and completely knocked down (CKD) systems.

The Ministry of Industry has been endeavouring to identify the major groups of raw materials imported by motorcycle, three-wheeled motorcycle assembly and manufacturing businesses. This effort is to clarify the tariff rate while the Ministry of Industry is working to define the major components of imported raw materials.

The MoPF's Notification



Electric three-wheeled motorcycles.

39/2025 regarding the inclusion of SKD on import declaration (voice) for motorcycle assembly businesses will come into effect from 1 June 2025 until 31 May 2026. — NN/KK

Myanmar imports \$500M in pharmaceuticals annually



This photo captures the Pharma Connect 2025 being held at the Pan Pacific Hotel on 25 July.

MYANMAR'S annual pharmaceutical import is worth US\$500 million, said Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win for Health in Pharma Connect 2025 held on 25 July at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon.

India is a significant partner for Myanmar's economy and health sectors, and the bilateral trade for the financial year of 2024-2025 was worth \$2.1billion. Of which, pharmaceuticals and healthcare products are majorly included, and India-made pharmacies are being widely used in Myanmar because of their quality and affordable price, he said.

Myanmar imports pharmaceuticals worth between \$400 million and \$500 million a year, of which about \$170 million is accounted for by India alone.

In Myanmar, there are still just two Indian pharmaceutical manufacturers, so he wishes to invite India to do more investment, and India can expand the market in the country by boosting the exports, he said.

Departmental officials in attendance and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry delegation discussed internal pharmaceutical development.

— Htet Oo Maung/ZS

CBM injects US dollars into fuel and edible oil sectors

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.29 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$485,266 to fuel oil-importing companies on 25 July again.

CBM sold over \$1.345 million, which was purchased from companies working on a Cut-Make and Pack basis, to edible oil-importing companies on 24 July.

CBM sold over \$2.36 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$320,700 to fuel oil-importing companies on 23 July 2025.

CBM announced on 22 July that it would sell \$27 million to those engaged in the fuel oil

industry and 130 million baht to importers. CBM injected \$660,000 and 474,900 yuan on 22 July into the financial market after sales of over \$3 million to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold over \$1.75 million each into edible oil-importing companies and fuel oil-importing companies on 21 July again, after an injection of over 9.36 million baht to construction companies and over 337,800 yuan and 500,000 rupees to the financial market on that day.

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 was 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 to the edible oil-importing companies on that day.

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



File photo shows a petrol station in Yangon.

Strengthen the mangrove ecosystem to save coastlines

ALONG Myanmar’s long coastline, natural ecosystems such as mangrove forests, dune forests, seagrass beds, and coral reefs — rich in natural resources — play a vital role in supporting national food security and sustainable development.

In addressing climate change, mangrove forests serve not only as natural barriers that protect against natural disasters, but also as major carbon sinks that absorb and store carbon. The degradation of these mangroves is closely linked to the loss of biodiversity — including fish, shrimp, crabs, and their natural habitats — underscoring the urgent need for systematic conservation and restoration.

Because mangrove restoration plays a key role in disaster risk reduction, enhancing community resilience, and recovery efforts, efforts have been made to restore these ecosystems through various approaches.

The government has been implementing three strategic management plans based on the types and conditions of mangrove forests. A total of 44 mangrove protection forests have been established, along with six marine national parks and nature conservation areas. According to reports, under Myanmar’s Reforestation and Rehabilitation Programme, a total of 21,830 acres of mangrove plantations had been established by the year 2024.

Wetlands for our Future”. The day aims to raise awareness about the crucial role mangroves play in protecting coastlines, supporting biodiversity, and combating climate change.

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Mangroves thrive in tropical and subtropical coastal areas, enduring high salinity, tidal flooding, and low oxygen levels. Only 110 species are classified as mangroves due to their unique adaptation to saline swamps. These trees have complex root systems that help them withstand tidal waves and provide habitats for various organisms, including fish and crustaceans.

Therefore, in the efforts to conserve and restore mangroves and their ecosystems, local communities must recognize and understand the importance of these mangroves and become more actively involved in ensuring their sustainable use for future generations. To this end, all relevant departments, associated agencies, and the general public should continue to work together in collaboration.

These include community-based mangrove reforestation, granting rights to establish community-owned forests, creating green buffer zones with public participation, ecosystem-based mangrove restoration, and nature-based solutions.

Mangrove forests are found in 123 countries within the tropical and subtropical zones of the world, yet they account for only 0.4 per cent of global forest cover. Myanmar, with over 1.1 million acres of mangrove forest spread across four coastal regions and two states, ranks as the seventh-largest country in the world in terms of mangrove forest area. The international commemoration day in 2025 will be observed on 26 July, with the theme “Protecting



Book Title - Artist NCS creates treasured paintings likened to swiftlet saliva

Author - Hlaing Bwa

Publishing House - Seikku Cho Cho

Publication Date - July 2025 (1st Edition)

Price - K38,000

Artist NCS creates rare, treasured paintings likened to swiftlet saliva

GROUNDBREAKING Artist Biography of Nyein Chan Su (NCS) has been published. Art books are rarely found, and artist biographies are scarcer. Moreover, the author who writes that kind of literary genre must have a deep understanding and thorough grasp of the arts and be familiar with the artist. The author “Hlaing Bwa”, who is a well-known journalist, is a graduate of the arts school. He keeps pursuing his passions in the arts by keeping abreast with trends and new techniques in the field. He is acquainted with well-known artists. This book sheds light on the life story of tribalizing Artist Nyein Chan Su (NCS), who creates boundary-pushing, valuable works of art like swiftlets splitting saliva.

NCS is one of the most well-

known performance artists in contemporary art. He is progressive in Myanmar’s contemporary arts history. He was the state-of-the-art artist who was engaged in innovative and experimental genres or works of art. He was also a performance and installation artist. He passed away at the peak of his popularity.

The dimension of the book is close to that of a magazine, with 283 pages. The book price is pretty fair at K38,000 for including hundreds of pages. The reader might feel satisfied with colourful paintings, photos, layout and the quality of the book. Readers can enjoy a special price of K30,000 at the book launch event.

The book comprises five chapters. Chapter I showed how he inclined towards creative activities and how art has

been a passion of his since he was young, how the name called Nyein Chan Su was born, his comrade in his neighbourhood, and his life stories including (student life of arts and sculpture, teaching paintings to Hlaing Bwa, teachers and classmates of the art school, teacher life at BEHS 5, one drunken night, Nyein Chan as pork skewer vendor, five heroes, Modigliani Performance Portrait, days of feasting).

Beginning of NCS’s art debut, Natmawk Art Gallery, IVY Gallery, Khin Wan, NCS and Myat Min, Khin Wan’s Metallurgy arts, influence of Khin Wan, performance, NCS’s NUDE painting, Artist Htein Lin’s Performance Art introduction, 1997, Group Show, NCS and Aye Ko, NCS Myanmar Gallery Of Contemporary Art, Japan’s knife trip, a trip to

Bagan, outdoor field trip to seek inspiration, Nyein Chan Su’s lush green landscape and Poppa are included in Chapter II.

Chapter III highlighted the establishment of Studio Square, NCS and young people, NCS’s weak points and strong points.

Chapter IV revealed changing phase of his works of arts, “24” & Nude, 1997, Nyein Chan Su, Solo Exhibition 1998, Special Oil, Paintings Programme 2000, Nat Series 2003, Yellow Metal, 2001, Landscape, 2002, Dreamscape series, “Nat+” series, 2006, Nyein Chan Su and Experimental Film, the Ferris Wheel movie, a person disrobing and his desire, Yangon Wheel, Stairs, Dead man, resentment, U Lun Kywe’s influence, those who play with fire, Gold Fish Video Art 2008, Red Circle 2009, Near Mandalay 2009, Deep Dreams 2010, power of releasing, a dream about NCS, The Last Memory, 2011, Memories for the Future 2012, Toy Soldiers 2014, Journey to the West Back 2015, Spirituality in High Spirits 2015, CS’s works of arts. Topics related to Memories of Bar Street, Hallucination, NCS’s Day at the Mental Hospital, receiving Art Therapy, the last few days of life, quitting alcohol at the Sakura Hospital, moving from Yangon General Hospital to Sakura Tower 12th floor, collapse of a human being and the last hour are added in Chapter V.



Book Title - Sar, Kabya, Hmawwin Latthan Hnint Sandaya Tin Win Hlaing (Literature, Poetry, and Magical Hands of Pianist Tin Win Hlaing)

Writer - Aung Shan Wine (Kyaikmaraw)

Publishing House - Aryon Oo

Publication Date - July 2025 (1st Edition)

Price - K10,000

Sar, Kabya, Hmawwin Latthan Hnint Sandaya Tin Win Hlaing

THE 14th July, which coincided last week, marked the third anniversary of the death of Pianist Tin Win Hlaing, a star of the musical field. On that day, his family members invited friends from the music and arts fields to a monastery and donated alms food. Similarly, a book commemorating pianist Tin Win Hlaing, “Literature, Poetry, and the Magical Hands of Pianist Tin Win Hlaing”, was also released. The author is Saya Aung Shan Wine (Kyaikmaraw).

Regarding this work, Zagana said U Tin Win Hlaing is an artist who does not need to mention the word academy before his name. He is well-versed in the Myanmar and English languages. He created classical, ordinary and studio music types. He is the one who can beautifully compose the original soundtrack for movies. He drew criticism for what he said at

the Academy event.

Playing the piano is not like asking for land plots or applying for a telephone. He was a pianist, not a beggar, but someone who stood with dignity and self-respect for his unique skills. He did not serve as a conductor because he did not like the acting of the actress after watching the movie. Though he took a male lead role, he never acted again, even when Saya Thadu offered to do so. Saya Aung Shan Wine (Kyaikmaraw) touches his figure. To know who pianist Tin Win Hlaing truly is, just one song, “Chan Myae Par Say,” is enough.

For his song “Chan Myae Par Say”, his mentor pianist Chit Swe praised his song for its unique melody, lyrics and music arrangements. That song became a classic in the Myanmar classical music field. His other famous song is

“Tan Phoe Yay Ma Htar Tae Pachi Kar”.

Pianist Tin Win Hlaing was a Myanmar traditional musician and did not participate in early stereo activity. However, in 1975, the stereo band started using the organ or keyboard (KB). Andrew Kaung played the organ for the Play Boys Band, and its contemporary band E Machine was looking for an organ player for Soe Paing’s music series. Meanwhile, the band found pianist Tin Win Hlaing and started working with him, and he became the main keyboard player of the E Machine band.

The author said, “The book about the biography of pianist Tin Win Hlaing is transferred to the publishing house today. Ko Latt Publishing distributes across the nation. The book cover photo is by Ko Htein Win, and the design is by Ko Kyaw Min Maung. Each

book is priced at K10,000. It will be a memorable one for the family of pianist U Tin Win Hlaing, as I took a supportive action in line with what they wish to become or see.”

The book starts with ...

When I present about the life event of Academy pianist Tin Win Hlaing, who once said, “... even though I tried calling many times, it could not reach. Luckily, I got a chance to see him again at the Academy event. I am a well-known artist and not a businessman trying to forcefully introduce myself to the minister, nor one of those flashy paparazzi trying to take pictures. As a senior artist, can’t I approach the minister? But some people do get the chance. Some of them are acting the way beyond what is necessary.

I called many times from afar, but could not get through. And even when I saw it in person, I wasn’t allowed to approach. You all say I am a respected national artist and so why am I treated like I’m not worthy to go near a minister? When I couldn’t get a chance, I ended up speaking out on stage. Then, I went too far at that moment. My art, created with my heart, was suspended easily, and the art got oppressed. Such cases are happening in our country. Those at the bottom keep eating away like bugs, while above, everything looks like a grand golden pavilion.

Sun and Moon

By Maung Swan Yi
(Translated by Myint Zan)

during the night where does the majestic Sun hide itself?	from this world where do the sun and the moon temporarily leave hither?
in the day where do the luminous Moon hide itself?	I wish I could once follow where temporarily thither they go

နေ နှင့် လ

ညဉ့်အခါတွင်
နေမင်းရှင်သည်
ဘယ်တွင်ရှိအောင်း နေသနည်း ...။

နေ့အခါတွင်
လမင်းရှင်သည်
ဘယ်တွင်ရှိအောင်း နေသနည်း ...။

ဤနေ့ ဤလ
ဤလောကမှ
ခေတ္တခွဲခွာ
သွားကြရာသို့
တစ်ခါကြိုကြိုက်၊ လိုက်လိုလှ ...။

မောင်စွမ်းရည်

Translator's note: The poem is in the first collection of Maung Swan Yi's poems published around 1959. The twentieth/twenty-first of July 2025 is the 56th anniversary of two humans landing on the surface of the moon for the very first time on 20/21 July 1969. The Moon and the Sun (temporarily) 'disappear' as the Earth rotates on its axis and goes around the Sun, and the Moon goes around the Earth. The distance between the Earth and the Moon is approximately 238,655 miles and 12 American astronauts (all males) have set foot on the Moon between July 1969 and December 1972. The Sun is about 93 million miles from Earth. No unmanned (pilotless) spacecraft has been sent to the Sun directly, but a few spacecraft from the former Soviet Union have landed on Venus, the 'hottest' planet in the solar system, and there are several unmanned spacecraft on the planet Mars. This information would not have been available to the poet in the late 1950s, and on the 56th anniversary of humans landing on the Moon, 20/21 July 2025, I translated Saya Swan Yi's poem.

Ornaments of Grace

Translated by Min Zan

In a three-tiered lake, smiling waves bloom,
Yet your fair face in moonlight's gleam,
Outshines the silver midnight's glow –
No moon could ever match your beam.

Your golden brows, so softly brown,
With loyal hearts that intertwine,
When love's sweet breeze begins to roam,
It cools beneath our sheltering vine.

O, you and I, with smiles that meet,
And whisper softly, moon-enthralled
Though nights may lose their moonlit glow,
A human life is never full.

In wisdom's hall, with goals so bright,
With minds adorned in purest grace,
When knowledge crowns the world of man,
All things grow fair-each time, each place-
Step upon step, beauty's embrace.

By Tekkatho Phone Naing

(From a fresher welcome of
Patheon College, 1974)

အလှအဆင့်ဆင့်

ကန်သာသုံးဆင့် လှိုင်းပြုံးပွင့်လည်း
သခင့်မျက်နှာ လမင်းသာမှ
ခမျာပို၍ လှရှာမည်။

မြဝါးရုံညို လွဲလွဲစိုလည်း
နှစ်ကိုယ်သစ္စာ မြက်ကြိုးကာနှင့်
မေတ္တာလေညှင်း ပျံ့ပျံ့သင်းမှ
ပင်ရင်းရိပ်ဝါ ပိုအေးမည်။

မင်းရယ်ကိုယ်ရယ် ပြုံးတုံ့လှယ်၍
ကိုယ်ရယ်မင်းရယ် လမင်းရယ်ဟု
လကွယ်ညများ မရှိငြားလည်း
လူသားဘဝ မမြည့်ဝဘူး။

ပညာနန်းတွင် ရည်မှန်းချက်လှ
စိတ်လည်းလှ၍ အလှကုဋေ
ကြော့ကြော့ဝေမှ လူမြေလည်းလှ
အားလုံးလှဆင့်-အလှပညာအဆင့်ဆင့်တည်း။

တက္ကသိုလ်ဘုန်းနိုင်

NATIONAL

Entertainment

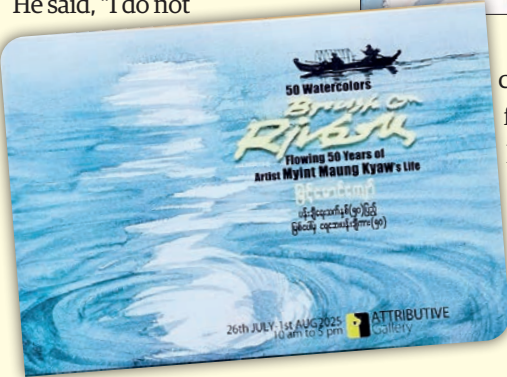
Maung Zaw Thit

MAUNG ZAW THIT, composer and head of Hninsi Hlaing music production, arranges to release a new series. The two vocalists are the younger brothers of Htoo Eain Thin and Tayar, Demon and Htel Wah. The producer, Maung Zaw Thit, said, "I will offer the best support. Although Hnget Gyi and Tayar passed away, I am so excited to recreate their songs." The album is named "Yin Khone Than Diary".



Artist Myint Maung Kyaw

ARTIST and designer Myint Maung Kyaw organizes an exhibition featuring his 50 watercolour paintings marking his 50th anniversary of his career. Titled "Brush On River", the exhibition showcases paintings that vividly portray the lives of creatures in the river and the people living along its banks. He said, "I do not



consider that my third age is concerned just for me, and I simply want to use the skills I have acquired in a way that is understandable to others and contributes positively to society. No one can fully foresee this right way, so I will have to gradually prove it through my work". The exhibition will be at the Attributive Gallery Contemporary Art Space from 26 July to 1 August.



Thitsa Metta Shwe Mann Thabin Show to be held at Linka Dipa Studio

THITSA Metta Shwe Mann Thabin will organize its theatrical entertainment at Linka Dipa studio in Dagon Myothit (South) Township in Yangon, starting from 2 pm to 6 pm on 27 July, according to Myanmar traditional dancer Tin Maung San Min Win.

"Zet Pwe will offer real essence when the visitors and dancers gather at one place with huge excitement. All the Zet Pwe lovers already know the taste of watching a performance in the field. Therefore, I arranged "Thitsa Metta Shwe Mann Thabin" performance," he said.

The performance show will be led by Shwe Mann Chan Thar, and dancers Tin Maung San Min Win, Min Shwe Yaung Tin, San Min Aung, Thiha Hlaing (Thabin Star), Myintmo Chan Thar, San Yay Moe (guest), including female dancers, comedians Metta Myint Myat Hein, Buu Thee, Paung Mont, Phyo Kyaw, Pauk Kyaw and Phyo Kywe will perform in the event. — ASH/KTZH

May La Than Zin

VOCALIST May La Than Zin, who is well-versed in modern, classic and radio songs, uploaded her photo shoot wearing Myanmar traditional dress on her Facebook page. She wore that dress while attending the novitiation ceremony in PyinOoLwin together with singer Aung Htet. She also starred in a new MV with Kyaw Kyaw Bo.



Khay Sett Thwin

ACTRESS Khay Sett Thwin takes a lead role in the "Pay Tayar Si Shauk Par Loh" film of director Maung Myo Min (Yindwin Phytit). The event marking the start of filming took place at My Garden in Yangon on 24 July. The cast includes Tyron, Academy Myo Thandar Tun, Sin Ma and other artistes.



U Chit Saya (comedian)

VETERAN comedian U Chit Saya, now 82 years old, has been receiving medical treatment at home for quite some time due to poor health. Moreover, his family

has been facing financial difficulties, making it hard to continue his medical care. U Chit Saya is experiencing severe health issues, and Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization officials provided cash for his health on 23 July.

Lwin Moe

VETERAN actor Lwin Moe, who has been away from the movie camera for a long time, recently starred in a commercial together with his beloved family. The advertisement features Lwin Moe alongside his wife, Daw May Thu (a former MRTV newscaster), and his grandson Liam. The heartwarming family-themed commercial is for Eushido's new shampoo product. It has also been revealed that Lwin Moe's daughter, Yoon Wadi Lwin Moe, will soon be reentering the acting world. — Htun Htun/KTZH



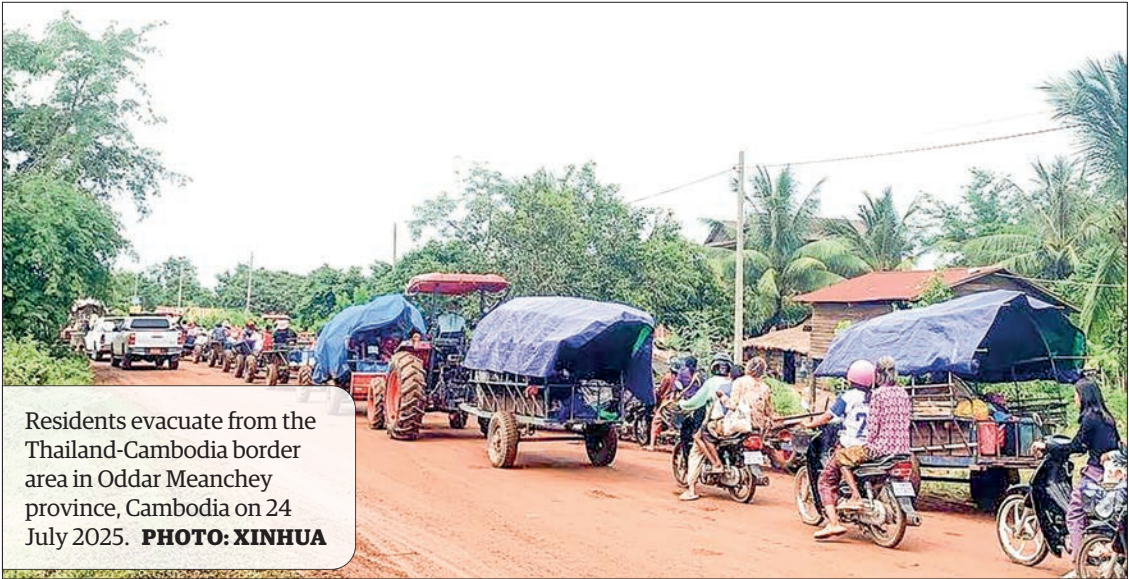
Celebrity

BRIT

WORLD

Thailand-Cambodia border clashes:
Latest developments

- ❖ The majority of the fighting has occurred near the Cambodian town of Samraong, close to the border, with artillery fire reported by residents.
- ❖ Cambodia reported that 536 schools in border provinces were closed due to the ongoing border conflict, affecting 130,000 students and teachers.
- ❖ At least 13 Cambodians died and 71 were injured in border clashes with Thailand, which have been ongoing for three days. This includes five Cambodian soldiers killed and 21 wounded, as well as 8 civilian deaths and 50 injuries in Oddar Meanchey province.
- ❖ The conflict has forced 10,307 families (35,829 people) to flee their homes for



Residents evacuate from the Thailand-Cambodia border area in Oddar Meanchey province, Cambodia on 24 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

- safer areas.
- ❖ The Cambodian Ministry of National Defense reported that the Thai army expanded its military attacks to Pursat province. The clashes began after the Cambodian side opened fire on Thai troops.
- ❖ The Thai Air Force deployed two F-16s and 2 Gripens to attack Cambodian military targets.
- ❖ The Thai Navy launched "Trat Strike 1" operation in response to Cambodian at-

- tacks.
- ❖ The Thai army sent letters to 26 countries, briefing them on the border situation and accusing the Cambodian army of opening fire first and attacking non-military targets.
- ❖ The Thai army accused the

Cambodian army of laying anti-personnel landmines in Thai territory, violating the Ottawa Convention.

- ❖ Both the Thai army and Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister conducted briefings for diplomatic corps and defense attachés regarding the border situation.
- ❖ Tensions remain high along the Thai-Cambodian border, with both sides accusing each other of violating international law.
- ❖ Thai Foreign Minister Maris Sangiampongsa stated that Cambodia must show sincerity for any ceasefire or talks to proceed. Thailand is open to talks, possibly facilitated by Malaysia.
- ❖ The current conflict marks a significant escalation in a long-standing border dispute, with previous fighting occurring between 2008 and 2011, resulting in at least 28 deaths and significant displacement.

SOURCE: AGENCIES

Japan may face political turmoil if
PM quits soon after election loss

IF Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba resigns soon, the move could herald political turmoil in Japan, as no decisive winner emerged from Sunday's House of Councillors election, in which the ruling bloc suffered a major setback.

Having lost its majority in both chambers of parliament it remains unclear whether the ruling Liberal Democratic Party could even produce the next prime minister from within its own ranks, should Ishiba step down.

Amid deep ideological divisions, prospects for an opposition-led government are dim, compelling the LDP's next leader to pursue new alliances. Should coalition talks falter, Japan could be thrust into a period of prolonged political turbulence, analysts warn.

The ruling bloc was al-

ready a minority in the more powerful House of Representatives following last year's general election, held about a month after Ishiba won the LDP leadership race in late September.

Frustration over his gov-

ernment's failure to take effective measures to ease the negative impact of inflation on the economy also led to the LDP losing this year's Tokyo metropolitan assembly election one month before the upper house race. — Kyodo



People take part in a rally outside the office of Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba, urging the embattled leader not to resign in a show of support in Tokyo on 25 July 2025. PHOTO: KYODO

India and Russia hold high-level
talks on bilateral cooperation

IN a significant diplomatic engagement, India's Minister of State for External Affairs, Pabitra Margherita, held discussions with Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister, Alexander Pankin, focusing on the progress of bilateral cooperation between the two nations.

"Had a productive meeting with Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Pankin. As strategic partners, we discussed the progress in our bilateral cooperation and key

global issues, including matters related to the G20," Margherita shared details of the meeting on social media platform X.

The meeting comes amid Margherita's participation in the G20 Development Ministers' Meeting, currently being held under South Africa's presidency. The forum is addressing pressing global concerns related to sustainable development and international financing. — SPUTNIK

US to send nearly 200 letters to trading
partners on tariffs, says Trump

The United States will send close to 200 letters to its trading partners on trade tariffs in the coming days, US President Donald Trump said Friday.

Speaking to reporters before his departure for the United Kingdom, Trump said, "When that letter goes out, that's a deal,

and we'll be sending maybe almost 200 of those letters out."

The letters will mean "they have a deal. It's done."

They pay that tariff, and that is a contract essentially," said Trump, claiming that he would keep the tariffs "minimal". — Xinhua

ECONOMY WORLD

Trump, EU chief to meet Sunday in push for trade deal

US President Donald Trump and European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen will meet in Scotland this weekend for high-stakes talks aimed at averting a sweeping transatlantic tariff war.

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen and US President Donald Trump are set to meet in Scotland this weekend to address a prolonged transatlantic trade standoff.

Trump has threatened to

impose punitive tariffs on numerous countries, including a potential 30-per-cent levy on EU goods, unless a trade agreement is reached by 1 August.

The EU is actively seeking a deal to avoid these tariffs while preparing retaliatory measures if negotiations fail. Von der Leyen announced the meeting on social media, emphasizing the importance of strong transatlantic trade relations. — AFP



Von der Leyen hopes to minimize the scale of Trump's threatened further tariffs on EU good exports, and perhaps win carve outs for certain industries. **PHOTO: AFP**



Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba (2nd from R) meets with leaders of seven ruling and opposition parties in Tokyo on 25 July 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Japan PM vows “steady” implementation of US tariff deal

Ishiba is facing pressure from within his own party to resign amid his embattled leadership.

PRIME Minister Shigeru Ishiba said on Friday that he wants to oversee the “steady” implementation of a recently clinched trade deal with the United States, as the embattled leader met with opposition leaders amid pressure from within his own party to resign.

Worries deepened due to the lack of a written agreement. The trade deal, which includes a reduction of auto and reciprocal tariffs to 15 per cent, is set for parliamentary discussion on 4 August. Ishiba claimed the agreement protects national interests, but it comes at a chal-

lenging time for his ruling coalition, which suffered significant losses in the recent upper house election, leaving them without a majority. The deal also involves Japan purchasing \$8 billion in US agricultural products and increasing orders for US commercial aircraft. — Kyodo

India's real estate sales expand for 1st time in June in last 12 months

INDIA'S residential real estate market saw a notable turnaround in June 2025, as housing sales (absorption) across the top eight tier-1 cities rose two per cent year-on-year—the first annual growth in 12 months.

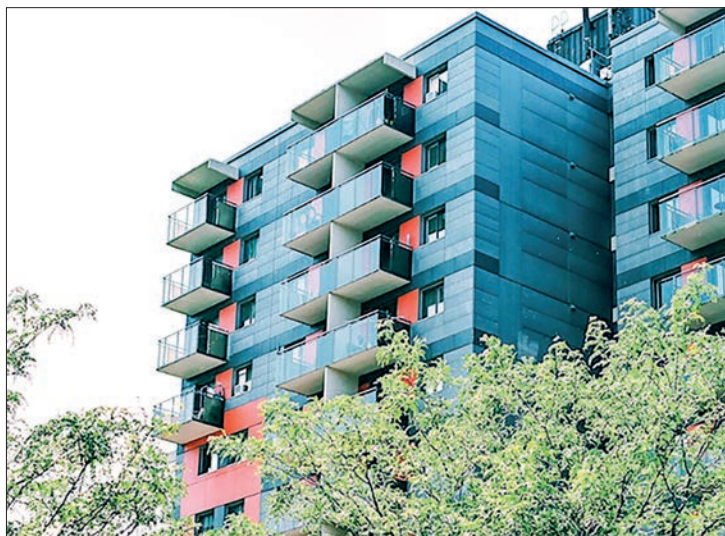
This uptick comes after declines of 11 per cent and two per cent in April and May, respectively, and is largely attributed to the base effect fading from the high absorption seen in April-May 2024. However, every quarter, sales were still down four per cent YoY.

According to a UBS report, city-wise sales trends were mixed. Delhi-NCR's prominent

realty market Gurugram led the recovery with a 68 per cent YoY jump in volumes, followed by Chennai (24 per cent) and Hyderabad (15 per cent).

On the other hand, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) saw a 29 per cent decline in volumes, while Pune and Bengaluru recorded drops of 27 per cent and six per cent, respectively.

According to the analysis, despite volume moderation in some cities, housing prices continued to rise robustly. In June 2025, average absorption prices in top-tier cities surged 20 per cent YoY, compared to 10 per cent in May. — ANI



India's residential real estate market saw a notable turnaround in June 2025, as housing sales (absorption) across the top eight tier-1 cities rose two per cent year-on-year—the first annual growth in 12 months. **PHOTO: ANI**

IMF praises Sri Lanka's economic rebound, urges continued reforms

THE Sri Lankan authorities' economic reform programme is yielding commendable outcomes with real GDP growing by 4.8 per cent year-on-year in the first quarter of 2025, outperforming expectations, Evan Papageorgiou, mission chief of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for Sri Lanka, said on Friday.

He said headline inflation was at -1.1 per cent year-on-year in the second quarter of 2025 and is gradually returning to target. Gross international reserves stood at US\$6 billion at the end of June, while tax revenue collection continued improving, supported by strong performance in VAT and taxes on imported motor vehicles. — Xinhua

170 overseas companies participate in all 8 editions of CIIE

A total of 170 overseas companies and 27 institutions have participated in all eight editions of the China International Import Expo (CIIE), according to a Friday press conference held by the expo's organizer.

More than 50 countries and international organizations have confirmed their presence in the comprehensive national exhibition area of this year's expo, with Sweden and the United Arab Emirates serving as guest countries of honor, and with Kyrgyzstan participating for the first time, the expo's organizer has said. This year, the contracted exhibition area for corporate businesses exceeds 330,000 square meters, the organizer noted. Notably, the scale of participating enterprises from Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and other countries has reached a record high, fully reflecting the confidence of all parties in China's economy and their enthusiasm for the CIIE, Wu Zhengping, deputy director general of the CIIE Bureau, said at the press conference.

Wu added that this year's CIIE will for the first time include a special area for products from the least-developed participating countries. It will also include an expanded and upgraded area showcasing African products, as well as a cross-border e-commerce selection platform to help small and medium-sized foreign enterprises enter the Chinese market smoothly. — Xinhua

Vietnam unveils NDACHain: National blockchain platform

IN a significant step toward building a secure, transparent, and scalable national digital ecosystem, Vietnam has officially announced the deployment of NDACHain, its national blockchain platform. Developed by the National Data Association and operated by the Data Innovation and Exploitation Center (under the National Data Centre, Ministry of Public Security), NDACHain is positioned as the foundational layer of data verification for government and private sector systems.

NDACHain addresses long-standing challenges of centralized data models such as vulnerability to cyberattacks, poor scalability, and limited global integration by offering a decentralized layer of trust for critical national systems, including e-governance, finance, healthcare, logistics, and education. "Vietnam has chosen a hybrid data architecture that blends centralized and decentralized components. NDACHain acts as a protective layer for the nation's live data, critical to our digital society and economy," said Mr. Nguyen Huy, Head of Technology at the National Data Association. — ANI

Indian automobile industry welcomes landmark India-UK Free Trade Agreement



Maruti Suzuki India Limited is a publicly listed Indian subsidiary of Japanese automaker Suzuki Motor Corporation. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ANI

THE Indian automobile industry has warmly welcomed the recently signed India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA), terming it as a landmark and transformative development in the global economic landscape.

Commenting on the agreement, Anish Shah, Group CEO & MD, Mahindra Group said, "It's not just a win for trade, but a blueprint for a modern, values-led partnership that puts innovation, sustainability, and inclusive growth at the heart of global collaboration."

Expressing Mahindra's strong support, Shah said, "At Mahindra, we believe deeply in the power of such cross-border partnerships to unlock economic potential, create high-quality jobs, and accelerate progress in future-facing sectors from green mobility and clean energy to digital technologies and advanced manufacturing."

The much-awaited landmark India-UK Free Trade Agreement was signed on Thursday, in the presence of Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Keir Starmer, providing greater access to goods and services between the two countries.

Shailesh Chandra, President of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) and Managing Director-Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles, echoed industry-wide optimism, "SIAM remains committed to working closely with the Government of India to ensure the benefits of the agreement translate into greater growth, global competitiveness, and technological progress for the Indian automotive industry." He further emphasised the broader significance of the deal and said, "We view this agreement as part of a wider strategic engagement and believe it opens new avenues for collaboration and opportunity with a key global partner." — ANI

First half net profit plunges 22% at French luxury group LVMH



LVMH makes Hennessy cognac. PHOTO: PIXABAY

FRENCH luxury group LVMH saw net profit plummet 22 per cent in the first half of 2025, the company announced Friday, blaming the plunge on an "unsettled economic and geopolitical" backdrop.

Though sales fell four per cent to just under 40 billion euros (47 billion dollars), chairman and CEO Bernard Arnault insisted that LVMH "is demonstrating its resilience in the current context".

The producer of Louis Vuitton bags and Dom Perignon champagne has been hit especially hard by US President Donald Trump's threat of tariffs, as it generates a quarter of its revenue in the United States.

In the wake of the US president's 2 April "Liberation Day" tariff

announcements, Arnault, Europe's richest man, saw Hermes overtake LVMH as the world's most valuable luxury company.

Trump imposed a 10-percent tariff on imports from around the world that month, but he delayed higher duties on dozens of other countries, with an 1 August deadline to strike trade deals or face tougher levies looming. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (372N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (372N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MPT** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST

JULY 26

Photo exhibit in Moscow recalls China-Russia friendship in World Anti-Fascist War

A PHOTO exhibition held here Thursday brought the audience back to the history of the joint fight against Fascism by China and Russia 80 years ago.

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, Xinhua News Agency presented the photo show at the Chinese Embassy in Russia, which drew around 600 distinguished guests from China, Russia and other countries. These historical photos showcased the bravery of the Chinese people in resisting Japanese aggression, stories of the Soviet Volunteer Group fighting alongside the Chinese people, and wartime friendship forged between the peoples of China and Russia. Chinese Ambassador praises China and Soviet Union's contributions to defeating Fascism. — Xinhua



Guests visit the photo exhibition commemorating the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, in Moscow, Russia, 24 July 2025. **PHOTO: CAO YANG/XINHUA**

JULY 25

Sri Lanka to waive visa fees for 40 more countries

THE Sri Lankan government has decided to waive visa fees for 40 additional countries to boost tourism, a senior minister said on Friday.

Speaking at the "Hotel Show Colombo 2025" exhibition, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment, and Tourism Vijitha Herath stated that the decision was made at the recent cabinet meeting.

Sri Lanka currently allows tourists from seven countries to visit the country without paying visa fees. The minister said the Treasury will lose about US\$66 million in direct revenue by waiving these fees. However, the government expects greater indirect income through increased tourism.

Tourism is one of Sri Lanka's main sources of foreign revenue. The country earned approximately 3.17 billion dollars from tourism in 2024. — Xinhua

JULY 24

Elderly woman plotting Netanyahu's assassination

A **TERMINALLY** ill 73-year-old Israeli woman has been charged with plotting to assassinate Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with a rocket launcher, prosecutors said on Thursday.

According to the indictment, the woman, an anti-government activist from Tel Aviv whose identity has not been released, decided to kill Netanyahu after she learned of her diagnosis. She consequently decided to "sacrifice" her life in order to "save" the State of Israel from the current government, the prosecutor quoted her saying.

She reportedly shared her plan with another activist and asked him to help her purchase a rocket-propelled grenade to carry out the assassination.

She also asked him for his assistance in collecting information on the prime minister's agenda, movements, and security arrangements, the prosecutor said. — AFP

JULY 23

Saudi delegation aims to invest in Syria

A **SAUDI** delegation of over 100 investors arrived in Damascus on Wednesday ahead of a conference aimed at securing billions of dollars in deals to help rebuild war-battered Syria.

The oil-rich Gulf kingdom has been one of the major backers of the new Syrian government that seized power after Islamist-led rebels toppled longtime ruler Bashar al-Assad in December, after 14 years of civil war.

Saudi state broadcaster Al-Ekhbariya said the country's investment minister, Khalid Al-Falih, was leading the delegation, which included 120 investors, aiming to ink agreements worth 15 billion riyals (\$4 billion). On Tuesday, Saudi's investment ministry said the forum aimed to "explore cooperation opportunities and sign agreements that enhance sustainable development and serve the interests of the two brotherly peoples".

Earlier this month, President Donald Trump formally dismantled US sanctions targeting Syria, hoping to reintegrate the country into the global economy as Israel mulls ties with its new leadership. — AFP

JULY 22

US announces leaving UNESCO

THE UNITED STATES on Tuesday announced its withdrawal from UNESCO, citing the agency's bias against Israel and its promotion of "divisive" causes.

State Department spokeswoman Tammy Bruce stated that continued involvement in UNESCO is not in the national interest. UNESCO expressed regret over the decision, which will take effect in December 2026, but noted that its financial impact would be limited.

This marks a repeat of a previous withdrawal ordered by President Trump in 2017, which was reversed by President Biden. UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay criticized the US decision, arguing it contradicts multilateralism principles and highlighted the organization's efforts in Holocaust education and combatting antisemitism.

The US currently contributes eight per cent of UNESCO's budget, down from nearly 20 per cent a decade ago. Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar welcomed the US decision, while French President Emmanuel Macron reaffirmed his support for UNESCO. — AFP

JULY 21

Iceland engulfed by volcanic cloud

ICELAND experts on Monday blamed a lack of wind for a volcanic cloud that has lingered over much of the island since an eruption last week.

Two craters of a volcano on the Reykjanes peninsula spewed out the sulphur-packed cloud on Wednesday.

The thick haze has left the capital Reykjavik and the southwest of the country in a pollution red alert, the highest level in Iceland's monitoring system.

Hlynur Arnason of the Icelandic Energy and Environment Agency said that volcanic eruptions normally cause air pollution, mainly from the sulphur dioxide that is emitted. The gas becomes sulfate in the atmosphere, creating a volcanic fog.

Arnason said the gas was not toxic but could be an "irritant". — AFP

JULY 20

Fukushima soil delivered to Japan PM office

DOZENS of bags of mildly radioactive soil collected from near the stricken Fukushima nuclear plant were delivered to the Japanese prime minister's office, in an effort to show it is safe for reuse.

Soon after the March 2011 tsunami and nuclear disaster, authorities scraped a layer of contaminated soil from swathes of land in Fukushima to reduce radiation levels.

A vast quantity of soil — 14 million cubic metres — has since been stored at facilities near the Fukushima Daiichi plant.

Most of the stored soil contains low levels of radiation equivalent to or less than one X-ray per year for people who directly stand on or work with it. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar clinch 2 silvers & 2 bronzes at Sepak Takraw tourney in Thailand

THE Myanmar team secured two silver medals and two bronze medals at the 38th Thai King's Cup 2025 Sepak Takraw Tournament, being held in Thailand, according to tournament sources.

In the mix quadrant event final, Myanmar gave a determined performance against hosts Thailand but narrowly lost, finishing with the silver medal. Myanmar had been grouped with Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam in the early stage. They lost to Thailand but beat both Malaysia and Vietnam to progress.

In the semifinals, Myanmar overcame Laos to earn a place in the final, where they again faced Thailand and ended



The Myanmar Sepak Takraw team seen during the 38th Thai King's Cup 2025 Sepak Takraw Tournament in Thailand.

ed the tournament with the runner-up trophy.

Also, the Myanmar women's team won silver in the Women's hoop event and bronze medals in both the

women's quadrant event and the women's team regu event. The women's team secured medals in all three events they entered. — Arkar Lin/KZL

Top footballers afraid to speak out against playing too many games: FIFPro chief

TOP footballers are afraid to speak out against playing too many matches for fear of the impact it could have on their careers, the general secretary of global players' union FIFPro said on Friday.

Alex Phillips was speaking after FIFPro held a meeting in Amsterdam with 58 national player unions from around the world to discuss concerns over the way the sport's world governing body FIFA is managing global football.

The meeting came less than two weeks after the end of the first 32-team Club World Cup in the United States, a tournament hailed as a huge success by FIFA president Gianni Infantino but criticised by FIFPro for the demands it has placed on players already faced with a crowded schedule.

"Before the Club World Cup, I was speaking to some of the top stars and they were saying they hadn't had a rest



Chelsea coach Enzo Maresca lifts the trophy after his team beat Paris Saint-Germain in Sunday's Club World Cup final. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

for 'X' amount of time", Phillips said.

"One of them even said, 'I'll only get a rest when I get injured'. Others were resigned actually, and cynical about speaking up.

"Then you see some of the same players two weeks later having to record social media videos saying 'We think the Club World Cup is great,' because their employers are

telling them to do it. "You have this contradictory situation where players can't speak up. They are in an invidious position. They can speak up but it might have consequences".

FIFPro said that FIFA's recent focus on the Club World Cup in the United States was an example of the body ignoring many fundamentally more important issues facing players around the world. — AFP

Liverpool beaten 4-2 by AC Milan in Hong Kong pre-season friendly

FORMER Chelsea midfielder Ruben Loftus-Cheek scored as Premier League champions Liverpool were beaten 4-2 by AC Milan on Saturday in a pre-season friendly in Hong Kong.

Liverpool, with record signing Florian Wirtz making his first start, dominated possession under the closed roof at Kai Tak Stadium but a shaky defence was punished for all four Milan goals.

Rafael Leao opened the scoring for the Italian side on 10 minutes with Dominik Szoboszlai's superb strike equalizing

16 minutes later to make it 1-1 at half-time

But Loftus-Cheek, six minutes after the break, and two goals from substitute Noah Okafor, either side of Cody Gakpo's late header, gave AC Milan the victory.

Liverpool's Hong Kong fans vastly outnumbered those supporting AC Milan in the 49,704 sellout crowd.

They paid a heartfelt tribute to Diogo Jota, who passed away earlier this month in a car crash. — AFP



Liverpool's Harvey Elliott (L) defends against AC Milan during their friendly at the Kai Tak Stadium in Hong Kong. PHOTO: AFP

Liverpool to remember Jota with permanent tribute

LIVERPOOL are to create a permanent tribute to remember former player Diogo Jota and his brother Andre Silva who died in a car crash earlier this month, the Premier League champions announced on Saturday.

Father of three Jota died alongside his brother on 3 July 11 days after marrying his long-term partner Rute Cardoso, after their car came off the road and burst into flames in northern Spain.

A large number of tributes in the shape of flowers, scarves, cards and jerseys have been left at Anfield which Liverpool said would form the basis for the permanent monument.

"The thousands of physical

tributes outside Anfield have been gradually removed over the course of the last week and carefully separated and safely stored," the club said in a statement.

"Floral tributes will then be composted and used in flower beds across all club sites.

"The remaining artefacts will be recycled by a specialist company and used to help create a permanent memorial sculpture that will become a future focal point of remembrance at Anfield".

The club also said that players will have a "Forever 20" emblem - referencing Jota's now-retired shirt number - printed on their shirts and stadium jackets for the season. — AFP

World's smallest snake makes big comeback

The Barbados threadsnake has been rediscovered nearly two decades after being thought lost.

THE Barbados threadsnake (*Tetracheilostoma carlae*), a species thought to be “lost” for nearly two decades, has been rediscovered in central Barbados during an ecological survey conducted by the Ministry of the Environment and conservation group Re:wild. Measuring just three to four inches long, this tiny snake is the world’s smallest and can easily be mistaken for a worm. It is characterized by orange stripes, small eyes on the sides of its head, and a scale on its snout.



The rare species is tiny enough to almost fit on a US quarter coin. **PHOTO: AFP**

The discovery, made by Connor Blades and Justin Springer, followed over a year of searching and was a surprise given the snake’s rarity, with only a handful of confirmed sightings since 1889. The snake was found hiding under a rock alongside an earthworm and was examined at the University of the West Indies to confirm its identity, as it closely resembles the invasive Brahminy blind snake.

With only two per cent of Barbados’ primary forest remaining, the threadsnake is particularly vulnerable due to its low reproductive rate. The rediscovery highlights the importance of protecting the island’s forests for the survival of this species and other native flora and fauna. — AFP

Notre-Dame gets back St Thomas statue adorning spire base

Notre-Dame underwent a five-year renovation following the fire.

A statue of the apostle Saint Thomas was on Thursday returned to Notre-Dame in Paris, which has now recovered all 16 statues that adorned the base of its spire before a 2019 devastating fire.

The statue, three metres (10 feet) tall and weighing 100 kilogrammes (220 pounds), was unaffected by the blaze, having been removed from the cathedral just days before for routine restoration, along with the other 15.

“It’s almost a miracle,” said Marie-Helene Didier, in charge of historic buildings in the Paris region.

“It’s a very powerful symbol to see all the statues up there,” she told AFP.

After receiving a blessing from the archbishop of Paris, Laurent Ulrich, it was heaved on the spire’s base by crane.

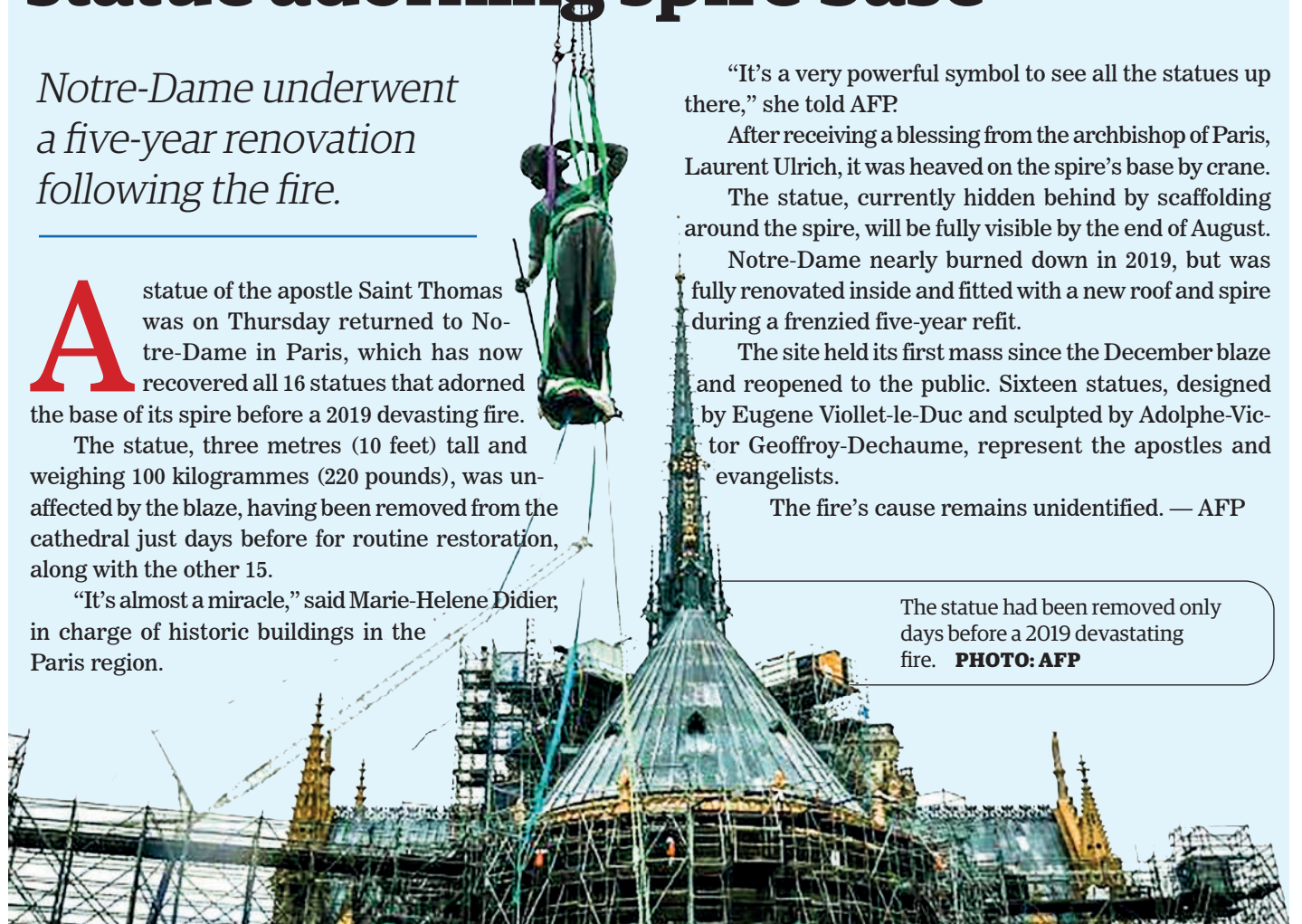
The statue, currently hidden behind by scaffolding around the spire, will be fully visible by the end of August.

Notre-Dame nearly burned down in 2019, but was fully renovated inside and fitted with a new roof and spire during a frenzied five-year refit.

The site held its first mass since the December blaze and reopened to the public. Sixteen statues, designed by Eugene Viollet-le-Duc and sculpted by Adolphe-Victor Geoffroy-Dechaume, represent the apostles and evangelists.

The fire’s cause remains unidentified. — AFP

The statue had been removed only days before a 2019 devastating fire. **PHOTO: AFP**



National Ballet of Japan to make UK debut

THE National Ballet of Japan is set to make its debut at the London Royal Opera House, filling the void left by the cancellation of the Bolshoi Ballet’s tour due to the war in Ukraine.

Performing from Thursday to Sunday, the company will present “Giselle”, a classic romantic ballet that premiered

in 1841.

Artistic director Miyako Yoshida, a former principal dancer at the Royal Bal-

Artistic director Miyako Yoshida leads the production with eleven Japanese dancers.

let, leads the production, which features eleven Japanese dancers, including three principals.

Yoshida expressed that returning to the prestigious stage is both a dream come true and a source of pressure.

The opportunity arose when Royal Ballet director Kevin O’Hare approached Yoshida after the Bolshoi’s cancellation. Although the Japanese company has performed in the US and at the Bolshoi Theatre, this marks its first classic Western ballet performance in Europe.

Yoshida aims to make the ballet accessible to younger audiences, emphasizing a modern interpretation of the romantic story of forbidden love.

Supported by choreographer Alistair Marriott, she hopes the production will showcase the National Ballet of Japan and help its 75 dancers evolve alongside other international companies, ultimately raising the company’s global profile. — AFP



Founded in 1997, Japan’s resident ballet company will perform in London for the first time this week. **PHOTO: AFP**