

The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**

Mandalay Region secures 49.62% pass rate with more than 16,000 winners in 2025 matriculation exam

THE results of the 2025 matriculation examination held across the nation in March 2025, along with the special exam conducted in June 2025 for regions and states affected by the major Mandalay earthquake, were officially announced nationwide Sunday. In Mandalay Region, out of 33,791 candidates who sat

for the exam, 16,766 passed, resulting in a pass rate of 49.62 per cent.

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Ma Aye Chan Pyae, who passed the metriculation exam with six distinctions this academic year.



Students and people check results of matriculation examination in Yangon. PHOTO: KANU

Mon State ranks first with 57.16% pass rate in 2025 matric exam

A total of 22,320 out of 207,898 candidates from exam centres from abroad and 19 regions and states passed the matriculation examination in 2025 with flying colours.

THE results of the matriculation examination 2025 were officially released in the early morning of Sunday, 27 July, simultaneously at relevant examination centres across Yangon Region. Out of 37,467 candidates who sat for the exam in Yangon Region, 19,366 passed, resulting in a pass rate of 51.69 per cent, which stands as the second-highest pass rate nationwide, according to reports.

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By Augustin

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Study in Germany Event brings learning opportunities

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Myanmar youths join World Youth Peace Summit, China-ASEAN Youth Exchange Festival in China

NATIONAL

Myanmar sets as its ultimate objective to hold multiparty democratic general elections

- ❖ The successful holding of a multiparty democratic general election is our ultimate objective.
- ❖ Chief Ministers of Regions and States, as well as responsible officials, need to thoroughly and comprehensively study the laws related to elections.

(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)

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Sunday 27 July 2025)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 28 July 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be 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 likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Kayin and Mon states and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions and Chin, Rakhine and Shan states. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and 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 and Taninthayi regions and Kayin, Mon and (southern and eastern) Shan states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 July 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 July 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 July 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 7:30 am MST on 27 July 2025)

ACCORDING to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by more than four feet above its danger level. It may rise about 0.5 foot during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

According to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Shwegyin River at Shwegyin has exceeded by more than one foot above its danger level. It may rise about 0.5 foot during the next one day and may remain

above its danger level.

According to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Thanlwin River at Hpa-an has exceeded by about 4.5 feet above its danger level. It may rise about one foot during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Shwegyin, Hpa-an townships and Madauk, to stay away from the flood-prone areas. — DMH

Flood Warning

(Issued at 6:30 pm MST on 27 July 2025)

ACCORDING to the 7:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Bago River at Bago is observed as more than 1.5 feet below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next one day.

According to the 7:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Toungoo is observed as about 2.5 feet below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next two days.

According to the 7:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Thaungyin River at Myawady is observed as more than one foot below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next one Day.

According to the 7:30 am MST observation

today, the water level of the Nanyin Creek at Moenyin is observed as more than 3.5 feet below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next one day.

According to the 5:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of Mae Sai Creek at Tachilek (Loitawkhaw Village) is observed as about 0.5 foot below its danger level. It may exceed above its danger level during the next 12 hours.

It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Bago, Toungoo, Myawady, Moenyin and Tachilek townships, to take precaution measure and to stay away from the flood-prone areas in time if the water level will rise. — DMH

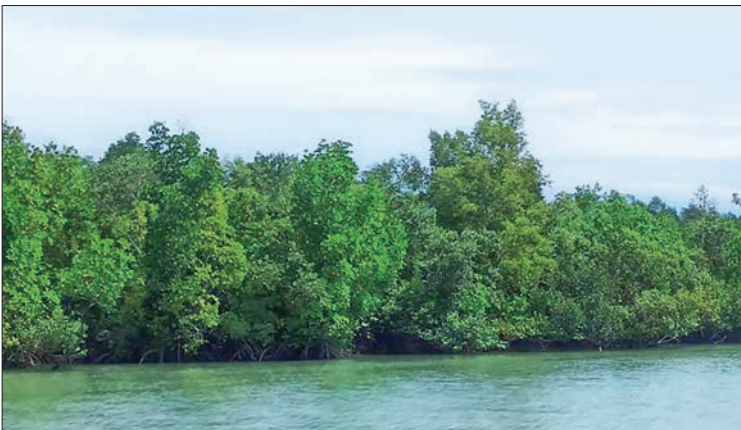
Sinku Island mangrove forest designated protected

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has officially designated a mangrove forest area in Sinku Island as a protected mangrove forest under Notification 73/2025, effective from 22 July 2025 (13th Waning of Waso, 1387 ME). The newly designated “Sinku Island Mangrove Protected Forest” covers a total area of 9,604 acres in Kyunsu Township, Myeik District, Taninthayi Region. The designation was made under Subsection (e) of Section 6

of the Forest Law 2018, 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 Sinku



The scenery of Sinku Island mangrove forest.

Island mangroves, key native tree species, including Bru-

guiera cylindrica, Bruguiera gymnorrhiza, Rhizophora mu-

cronata, Ceriops decandra, and Nypa fruticans, will be conserved, along with important bird species such as herons, egrets, kingfishers, storks, and shorebirds. The forest 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)

MoI Union Minister discusses establishing resilient and strong social community

A discussion on establishing a resilient and strong social community was held yesterday morning at the Y-Mandalay Hotel in Mahaaungmyay Township, Mandalay, attended by Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, who also serves as Vice-Chairman of the Working Committee on the Development of a Resilient and Strong Social Community.

The event was attended by the Mandalay Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs, regional ministers, officials from the Ministry of Information, relevant authorities, youth from the Red Cross Society and social organizations, rectors and principals from universities, colleges, and basic education high schools in Mandalay, as well as students — totalling around 400 participants.

Next, two video clips produced by MRTV — “Overcoming the Severe Earthquake and Rebuilding a Better Future” and “Youth Who Own the Future” — were shown.

During the discussion, Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn



Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn warmly greets attendees at the meeting on establishing a resilient and strong social community in Mandalay yesterday.

noted that Mandalay has regained its security and stability — the foundations of a resilient and strong social community — and urged the locals to cooperate with State government and officials to preserve these gains. He called on all Myanmar citizens to show compassion and

solidarity, take part in state initiatives and election preparations, and collaborate with knowledge, respect, and cooperation to advance peace, development, and a genuine democratic system.

He handed over 50 MRTV DTH sets and 150 MRTV DVB-T2 set-top boxes to the Mandalay

Region Government through Colonel Nay Lin Soe, Mandalay Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs.

Next, 20 MRTV DTH sets and 40 MRTV DVB-T2 set-top boxes were awarded through a lucky draw to departments, social organizations, youth, and stu-

dents who attended the seminar.

In the afternoon, the Union minister visited the construction site of the Myanmar Arts Centre in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay, where Daw Yu Yu Naing, Project Director of Myanmar Land & Development Limited Construction Company, explained the progress of the project in the briefing room.

Construction of the Arts Centre (Mandalay) was initiated by Myanmar Land & Development Limited in March 2025. The work includes clearing the building and construction site, cleaning and painting the steel columns, repairing the third-floor slabs, sealing cracks in the reinforced concrete (RC) walls and finishing them, constructing a 2,070-foot-long fence and wall, building two 30,000-gallon underground water tanks, and drilling two 8-inch diameter tube-wells. A 1,250-kVA transformer and a 33-kV power line are currently being installed. Afterwards, the Union minister inspected the construction site and discussed the necessary matters. — MNA/TH

Mandalay Region secures 49.62% pass rate with more than ...

FROM PAGE 1

Dr Than Htike Soe, the headmaster of Basic Education High School No 16, said, “Our school’s exam results this year are better than last year. Even though Mandalay faced a natural disaster and students had to sit for the exam again for a second time, there were distinctions in six subjects, five subjects, and four subjects. Out of 112 Grade-12 students from

our school, 57 candidates passed. Today is truly a joyful and auspicious day for everyone,” he said.

According to the Mandalay Region Education Office, within the Mandalay Region, 42 students achieved distinctions in six subjects, 180 in five subjects, 542 in four subjects, 2,261 in three subjects, 1,896 in two subjects, and 2,993 in one subject. Mandalay Region ranked eighth nation-

wide in terms of distinction achievements.

The matriculation exam results have been made available for viewing at the respective examination centres and schools. Arrangements have also been made for the results to be accessible on the website of the Department of Myanmar Examinations. For examination centres located in regions and states with poor transportation access, the results were broadcast

and announced through Myanmar Radio and ethnic programmes.

In this year’s matriculation examination, six candidates sat for the exam at the Mandalay Central Prison examination centre. Among them, five earned distinctions in three subjects, and one earned a distinction in two subjects — resulting in a 100 per cent pass rate. — Maung Aye Chan/TTA

NATIONAL

MoI Union Minister inspects air compressor test at Steel Mill (Pangpet)

UNION Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than, accompanied by Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung, attended the ceremony for the test run of Air Compressors installed at the air purification plant of the No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet) in Taunggyi Township of Shan State on 26 July.

The Union minister pressed the button of No 1 Air Compressor to run properly, inspected the operation system of the air compressor, and No 2 Air Compressor.

After the event, the Union minister said the permission was achieved from the State Administration Council to implement the No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet) with three recommendations of TPE, and now recommendation 1 operating air purification plant is initiated. The plant produces oxygen



Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than inspects the test run of air compress at the air purification plant of the No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet) in Taunggyi Township of Shan State on 26 July 2025.

between 20,000 and 40,000 Nm³ (normal cubic metre) and nitrogen between 400 and 1,200 Nm³ per hour, while it just needs 33,000 Nm³ oxygen and 218 Nm³ nitrogen per hour to

run the Romelt plant.

He continued that the materials of the air purification plant were examined and installed by one expert from TPE Co Ltd and nine experts from AGS Co Ltd starting from 12 May 2025, and the main part of the plant Air Compressors were successfully operated.

Mr Senin of TPE Co Ltd, Mr Konev of AGS Co Ltd and Mr Vladislav of Rostec briefed all on successful cooperation and further work plans.

The Union minister presented gifts and handed over a K5 million cash prize for the staff of the No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet) to the mill manager.

The No 2 Steel Mill (Pangpet) project resumed on 4 October 2021, and 19 workshops in the mill are now operating. The project will be finalized in November 2026. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission issues Statement No 8/2025

THE right to education is expressed in sub-section (a) of Section 366 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Articles 28 and 29 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Myanmar acceded on 15 July 1991, Articles 46 and 47 of the 2019 Child Rights Law and Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

During visits to prisons, jails, youth detention centres, and youth training schools under Sections 43 and 44 of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law, the Myanmar National

Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) inspection team found that measures had been taken to exercise the right to education for prisoners and youths. Thereafter the MNHRC inspection team informed its recommendations to the relevant department, in accordance with the procedures of the MNHRC Law, to facilitate arrangements for prisoners who wish to continue their education.

On 27 July 2025, the matriculation examination results for the 2024-2025 academic year were announced. Among the students who

passed the examination, 10 were from Insein Central Prison and six from Mandalay Central Prison, totalling 16 inmate students. Of these, six inmate students obtained three distinctions, four inmate students obtained two distinctions and four inmate students obtained one distinction. Furthermore, one student from the School for the Blind (Kyimyindine), one student from the Kyaikwaing Youth Training School, one student from the Girls Training School in Mandalay, one student from the Labutta Youth Training School, and

one student from the Lashio Youth Training School, totalling five inmate students, under the Department of Social Welfare also passed the exam.

The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission congratulates the prisoners in respective prisons and youth training schools who passed the 2025 matriculation examination and believes that measures will continue to pursue higher education for those who have passed their matriculation examinations to exercise the right to education. — MNHRC

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Two-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K754M

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade are continued effectively by the law.

On 24 and 25 July, the combined teams impounded industrial materials valued at K646.38 million without official documents from 18 containers at the Asia World Port, industrial materials and consumer goods valued at K2.9 million from luggage of two passengers at the Yangon International Airport, industrial materials valued at K9.379 million without official documents at the Yangon International Airport (Import Desk) and a Mitsubishi canter truck (approximately K25 million), heading to Waw from Kyaikto, carrying foodstuffs valued at K2.5 million without official documents at the Nyaungkhashay X-ray station. The action was conducted under Customs pro-

cedures.

Moreover, the combined on-duty teams seized a Toyota Hilux (approximately K25 million), travelling from Myittha to Mandalay, carrying consumer goods worth K15.84 million without official documents at the Myitnge checkpoint, foodstuffs worth K15.65 million without official documents in Mawlamyine Township, industrial materials valued at K11.577 million that were smuggled and piled up by the side of road over Sinphyu checkpoint in Muse Township, 12 unregistered vehicles and 27 unregistered motorbikes. The action was conducted under Customs procedures and related laws.

The Steering Committee reported 12 arrests on 24 and 25 July, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K754 million. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal items across regions and states.

Endorsement of Revised Myanmar Standards Version Adoption

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

No	Myanmar Standards
72.	MMS IEC 60947-3:2020+COR1:2021` Low-voltage switchgear and control gear - Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units
73.	MMS IEC 60969: 2016+COR1:2017 Self-ballasted compact fluorescent lamps for general lighting services - Performance requirements
74.	MMS IEC 61008-1: 2024 Residual current operated circuit-breakers without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCCBs) - Part 1: General rules
75.	MMS IEC 61008-2-1:2024 Residual current operated circuit-breakers without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCCBs). Part 2-1: RCCBs according to classification 4.1.1
76.	MMS IEC 61009-1:2024 Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs) - Part 1: General rules
77.	MMS IEC 61009-2-1:2024 Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs) - Part 2-1: RCBOs according to classification 4.1.1
78.	MMS IEC 61009-2-2:2024 Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs) - Part 2-2: RCBOs according to classification 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5 and 4.1.6
79.	MMS IEC 61049:1991/COR1:1992 Capacitors for use in tubular fluorescent and other discharge lamp circuits-Performance requirements
80.	MMS IEC 61347-1:2024 Controlgear for electric light sources - Safety - Part 1: General requirements
81.	MMS IEC 61347-2-2:2024 Controlgear for electric light sources - Safety - Part 2-2: Particular requirements - Electronic step-down convertors for filament lamps

No	Myanmar Standards
82.	MMS IEC 61347-2-3:2024 Controlgear for electric light sources - Safety - Part 2-3: Particular requirements - AC or DC supplied electronic controlgear for fluorescent lamps
83.	MMS IEC 61347-2-8:2024 Controlgear for electric light sources - Safety - Part 2-8: Particular requirements - Ballasts for fluorescent lamps
84.	MMS IEC 61439-3:2024 Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies - Part 3: Distribution boards intended to be operated by ordinary persons (DBO)
85.	MMS IEC 61439-4:2023 Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies - Part 4: Particular requirements for assemblies for construction sites (ACS)
86.	MMS IEC 61439-5:2023 Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies - Part 5: Assemblies for power distribution in public networks
87.	MMS IEC 61439-7:2022 Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies - Part 7: Assemblies for specific applications such as marinas, camping sites, market squares, electric vehicle charging stations
88.	MMS IEC 61558-2-5:2024 Safety of transformers, reactors, power supply units and combinations thereof - Part 2-5: Particular requirements and tests for transformers for shavers, power supply units for shavers and shaver supply units
89.	MMS IEC 61558-2-6:2021 Safety of transformers, reactors, power supply units and combinations thereof - Part 2-6: Particular requirements and tests for safety isolating transformers and power supply units incorporating safety isolating transformers for general applications
90.	MMS IEC 61851-23:2023 Electric vehicle conductive charging system - Part 23: DC electric vehicle supply equipment
91.	MMS IEC 61851-24:2023 Electric vehicle conductive charging system - Part 24: Digital communication between a DC EV supply equipment and an electric vehicle for control of DC charging

TO BE CONTINUED

NATIONAL

Mon State ranks first with 57.16% pass rate in 2025 ...

FROM PAGE 1

In the morning, the matriculation exam results were announced at 91 examination centres across Yangon Region. Students, along with their parents and relatives, eagerly came to check the results. Due to the high pass rate, students, parents, and teachers were seen expressing happiness and satisfaction.



Dr Cho Cho Myat Aung,
Yangon Region Education
Officer.

“This year, Yangon Region achieved a matriculation exam pass rate of 51.69 per cent, placing it second nationwide. Mon State ranked first with a pass rate of 57.16 per cent. In Yangon Region, the number of exam candidates is typically four to five times higher than those in other states and regions each year, so we are truly proud of this pass rate. We followed the instruction of the Department of Basic Education under the Ministry of Education and thanks to the close supervision and support from the regional government, and we were able to achieve this success. I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who contributed from all sides to help us reach this achievement,” said Dr Cho Cho Myat Aung, the Yangon Region Education Officer.

In the matriculation examination 2025, a total of 37,467 students sat for the exam across Yangon Region. Notably, at the Cocogyun Examination Centre, where no students had passed in the

previous year, 18 students took the exam in 2025, and 12 of them passed — bringing joy and pride to students, parents, and teachers alike.

For those who did not succeed this year, Dr Cho Cho Myat Aung, the Yangon Region Education Officer, shared the message of encouragement: “The path of exams — from KG to Grade 12 and university — is part of a continuous journey. Your results reflect the effort you’ve invested. If, for any reason, your performance fell short this time, do not be disheartened. With persistence and hard work, success will follow. The matriculation exam is a turning point in life, and I encourage all students to give their best in the 2025-2026 academic year so that you can confidently and happily achieve success in the matriculation exam 2026.”

For the 2026 matriculation examination, the Regional Department of Education will continue efforts to achieve strong results. In collaboration with the Yangon Region Government’s supervision and support, and with the co-operation of relevant district and township schools, the department will work to further improve school attendance rates, reduce dropout rates, and enhance matriculation exam pass rates, striving to maintain and build on these standards of success.



Daw Thin Thin Aung,
Headmistress of BEHS No 6,
Botahtaung Township.

“We’re truly delighted to see students and parents so happy with this year’s matriculation exam results. In Botahtaung Township, out of 462 students who sat the

exam, a total of 285 passed, and 60 of them received distinctions. Among them, four students achieved distinctions in all six subjects, and with a pass rate of 61.69 per cent, we are proud and overjoyed to share in their success,” said Daw Thin Thin Aung, the headmistress of Basic Education High School No 6, Botahtaung Township.

A total of 91 examination centres across 45 townships held the matriculation exam. In Lanmadaw Township, a total of 365 out of 470 candidates passed, achieving a pass rate of 77.66 per cent, making it the township with the highest pass rate. In Kamayut Township, out of 820 candidates, 633 passed with a pass rate of 77.20 per cent, ranking as the second highest. In Dagon Township, out of 423 candidates, 308 passed with a pass rate of 72.81 per cent, making it the third highest pass rate township in Yangon Region.

In the 2025 matriculation examination, a total of 207,898 students from abroad and 19 regions and states took the exam. Among them, a total of 22,320 students achieved distinctions, including 196 students with six distinctions, 573 with five distinctions, and 1,529 with four distinctions. Mandalay Region produced the highest number of 7,914 students with flying colours, followed by Yangon Region with 3,674, and Nay Pyi Taw with 2,031, ranking second and third respectively, with many distinction-winning students emerging from these areas.

In Yangon Region, the regional government organized Grade 12 subject-specific discussion sessions and refresher courses to help improve the matriculation examination pass rate. With the collaborative efforts of teachers, parents, and students, further initiatives will continue to be implemented to enhance the success rate in matriculation examinations. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/TTA



Students and people check results of matriculation examination in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: KO HTEIN

5,741 students pass 2025 Matriculation Exam in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area with 46.27% pass rate

The results of the Matriculation Examination held in March 2025, along with the re-sit examination conducted in June 2025 for regions and states affected by the Mandalay earthquake, were announced at the relevant examination centres and on the Department of Myanmar Examinations’ website. Of the 12,407 candidates who took the exam in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, 5,741 passed, resulting in a pass rate of 46.27 per cent.

Regarding the release of the matriculation exam results, U Win Myint Oo, Headmaster of No 5 Basic Education High School, said, “At my examination centre, 339 students sat for the matriculation exam, and 113 of them passed, resulting in a pass rate of 33.33 per cent. Among them, 48 students passed with distinctions. I would like to encourage those who did not pass to keep trying and not be discouraged.”

U Win Khaing, Headmaster of No 6 Basic Education High School, disclosed, “The pass rate for the 2025 matriculation exam at my school is 49.25 per cent. A total of 27

students received distinctions. The matriculation exam is the highest-level exam in basic education. Only through hard work can students achieve their goals, so I encourage them to persevere with determination, diligence, and effort.”

In the 2025 matriculation exam, Pyinmana Township had 1,178 students pass with a pass rate of 51.85 per cent; Zabuthiri Township, 602 students with 41.69 per cent; Lewe Township, 1,169 students with 47.18 per cent; Dekkhinathiri Township, 161 students with 45.61 per cent; Ottarathiri Township, 578 students with 52.88 per cent; Tatkon Township, 841 students with 46.90 per cent; Zeyathiri Township, 610 students with 43.73 per cent; and Pobbathiri Township, 602 students with 38.13 per cent.

The results from examination centres in regions and states with difficult transportation access have been announced on Myanmar Radio and ethnic-language programmes. The public is advised to contact the Department of Myanmar Examinations for any inquiries regarding the results. — Aye Aye Thant, Kyaw Swa Win/TH

NATIONAL

Shwethaungyan Beach welcomes more than 11,000 domestic, overseas visitors in June

SHWETHAUNGYAN Beach in Patheingyi Township, Ayeyawady Region, saw a total of 11,243 visitors, both domestic and international, in June 2025, according to Daw Cherry Myint, an Executive of the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Federation (Shwethaungyan Beach). The beach has a total of 20 hotels and guesthouses offering service to visitors year-round. “Shwethaungyan Beach was visited by 11,243 domestic and foreign tourists in June 2025. In comparison, 19,243 tourists visited in May. Despite the rainy season, Shwethaungyan Beach attracts visitors year-round, with day-trippers being the most frequent. There is



This photo showcases some visitors visiting Shwethaungyan Beach in June.

also the Kyaukmaungnama Elephant Camp nearby, which contributes to the steady flow of visitors,” said Daw Cherry Myint. Each hotel on Shwethaungyan Beach provides services such as cleaning the beach in front of the property, maintaining landscaping within the hotel compound, keeping walkways clean, tidying public areas, and serving local cuisine to guests. In addition, beachgoers are offered safe and peaceful recreational facilities, including bicycle rentals, motorboat rides, and horse rides, as well as markets where they can purchase local food, accessories, and souvenirs. — ASH/TH

Safe Migration announces maximum service fee on sending workers

SAFE Migration has announced a maximum service fee that overseas employment agencies are eligible to ask for per worker, depending on their destinations. According to the announcement, it is US\$2,800 for a technology intern, \$1,500 for a skilled worker, \$1,600 for a worker who would go to a new employer through new agency after working in Japan for 3 years and \$200 for a worker who would go again to former employer through former agency after working in Japan for three years. Under the OE meeting decision on 5 April 2024, it is Singapore \$2,000 for a work permit and S\$4,400 for an S-Pass, and for Malaysia, it is \$850 and K25,500. For Thailand, it is 10,000 Baht for the Myanmar side and

5,390 Baht for the Thai side if the work is Thai SSB registered, and 10,000 Baht for the Myanmar side and 7,600 Baht for the Thai side if the work is not Thai SSB registered. For Korea, it is \$2,100 for the Myanmar side and \$4,200 for the Korea side if it is an E7 (3) Visa, and it must not exceed the minimum wage for four months for other countries. For those who have a job offer, visa and travel documents through a direct connection with the employer, but they are categorized in the basic worker group, so the service fee is \$100 and 5 per cent commercial tax on the service fee shall be paid to the Internal Revenue Department, depending on the country and work type. — MT/ZS



Myanmar workers were sent abroad in 2024.

Tourist arrivals in Mandalay recover this month



Travellers in Mandalay Region.

THE tourism industry in Mandalay Region is now functioning normally after the earthquake, and the number of tourist arrivals has increased this month, according to U Kyaw Myo Htike, Chair of the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association (Mandalay Zone). Mandalay was devastated by a strong earthquake on 28 March, damaging pagodas in Mandalay, Sagaing and Inwa, and the number of pilgrims has decreased due to the post-earthquake fears in

Mandalay Region. Pagodas, hotels and restaurants in Mandalay have been repaired and the tourism sector has seen an increase in arrivals, U Kyaw Myo Htike said at the association’s meeting held at UMFCI on 26 July. “Mandalay Hill is under repair by the trustees board with the donation from local and foreign well-wishers. U Bein Bridge is also being repaired. The Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism has recently inspected these sites and provided necessary as-

sistance. Now, Maha Muni Buddha Image, Mandalay Hill and U Bein Bridge have been open. Visitors are slowly coming back and the number has increased this month,” he said. More tourists are expected in September, during the open season. With tourism industry working together in unison, and synchronized notifications of the marketing and social media sectors for safe and peaceful destinations, it will generate more interest and convenience, he said. — MT/ZN

Cure and prevent Hepatitis through global efforts

WORLD Hepatitis Day, observed annually on 28 July, serves as a global platform to intensify efforts against hepatitis. It encourages action and engagement from individuals, organizations, and governments worldwide, emphasizing the urgent need for a stronger global response as outlined in the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Global Hepatitis Report of 2017.

Despite hepatitis B and C being preventable and treatable, and hepatitis C even curable, low testing and treatment coverage remain major barriers to achieving global elimination goals by 2030. Chronic hepatitis B and C silently damage the liver and can lead to liver cancer if left untreated. To combat this, the current theme highlights the importance of simplifying, scaling up, and integrating hepatitis services such

In Myanmar, the government’s efforts to combat hepatitis include the specific production of the hepatitis B vaccine at the Ywathagyi factory in Yangon Region, which meets local demand and exports surplus doses abroad. Traditional medicine practitioners also offer therapeutic treatments, while private pharmaceutical companies produce reliable hepatitis vaccines under the set standards for the population. These combined efforts support better prevention and care for hepatitis across the country.

ceived the hepatitis B vaccine within 24 hours of birth. That same year, 1.3 million people died from chronic hepatitis B and C-related conditions. The 2025 theme, “Hepatitis: Let’s Break It Down,” calls for urgent action to eliminate financial, social, and systemic barriers, including stigma, that hinder hepatitis elimination and liver cancer prevention.

Some media outlets frequently promote unverified medicines for hepatitis treatment without scientific evidence. Medical professionals strongly advise against using such unproven drugs. It is vital to carefully examine any medication’s ingredients and consult qualified doctors before use to avoid delays in effective treatment. Both those with symptoms and those without should increase their awareness and understanding of hepatitis.

In Myanmar, the government’s efforts to combat hepatitis include the specific production of the hepatitis B vaccine at the Ywathagyi factory in Yangon Region, which meets local demand and exports surplus doses abroad. Traditional medicine practitioners also offer therapeutic treatments, while private pharmaceutical companies produce reliable hepatitis vaccines under the set standards for the population. These combined efforts support better prevention and care for hepatitis across the country.

as vaccination, safe injection practices, harm reduction, testing, and treatment into national healthcare systems. Hepatitis refers to inflammation of the liver caused by damage or infection. This inflammation can impair liver function, affecting overall health. The disease can be acute (short-term) or chronic (long-term), with varying severity. While some forms cause mild symptoms, others result in severe, recurring infections. Causes include excessive alcohol use, toxins, autoimmune diseases, and viral infections. The risks and outcomes differ depending on the hepatitis type.

According to the WHO, in 2022, approximately 304 million people were living with chronic hepatitis B and C worldwide. Alarmingly, only 45 per cent of newborns received the hepatitis B vaccine

Connecting on the Universal Dance of Words

By Augustin

from others. Example: After college, it’s time for him to stand on his own two feet and get a job.

To pull oneself up by one’s bootstraps: To improve one’s situation by one’s own efforts, without help from others.

Example: She came from a challenging background but managed to pull herself up by her bootstraps and build a successful career.

To paddle one’s own canoe: To do something independently and without help.

Example: Since moving to a new city, he’s had to learn to paddle his own canoe.

To be the master of one’s own destiny: To have control over one’s own life and future.

Example: She firmly believes that everyone is the master of their own destiny.

ကိုယ့်ဂုဏ်ကိုယ်ဖော် မသူတော်ခနစ်ပါး “Those who boast of their own virtues are like the seven ignoble creatures.”



“ကိုယ့်ဂုဏ်ကိုယ်ဖော် မသူတော်ခနစ်ပါး” ဆိုတဲ့ စကားပုံက ကိုယ့်ကိုယ်ကိုယ်ရကြားလုံးထုတ်တာ၊ ကိုယ့်ဂုဏ်ကိုယ်ဖော်တာတွေကို ရွတ်ချတဲ့ မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ အဆိုအမိန့်တစ်ခုပါ။ ကိုယ့်ဂုဏ်ပုဒ်ကို ထုတ်ဖော်ဝင်ကြားသူဟာ မသူတော်တွေပဲလို့ ဆိုလိုတယ်။

မသူတော်ခနစ်ပါး ဆိုတာ တကယ်တော့ ကိုယ့်နာမည်ကို ကိုယ်တိုင် အသံဖြုပြီး ခေါ်တတ်တဲ့ တိရစ္ဆာန် (၇) မျိုးကို ရည်ညွှန်းတာပါ။ အဲ့ဒါတွေကတော့ တောက်တဲ့၊ ဇီးကွက်၊ ရွှေပြည်စိုး၊ ယောက်ဖရွေးခေါ်ငှက်၊ တစ်တီတူး၊ ဥဩငှက်၊ ဘုတ်ငှက် တို့ပဲ။

ဒီတိရစ္ဆာန်လေးတွေဟာ သူတို့နာမည်ကို သူတို့ကိုယ်တိုင် ထုတ်ဖော်သလို အသံဖြုတတ်တာကို လူတွေက မြင်ပြီး ကိုယ့်နာမည်ကိုယ်ဖော်တာဟာ လူကောင်းအကျင့်မဟုတ်ဘူး၊ တိရစ္ဆာန်တွေရဲ့ အကျင့်သာ ဖြစ်တယ် လို့ တင်စားပြီး ရွတ်ချပြောဆိုတာပါ။ မာနကြီးတာ၊ ထောင်လွှားဝင်ကြွားတာ မျိုးကို ရွတ်ချလိုရင်းပါ။ သူတော်ကောင်းတွေက ဒီလိုမာနကြီးတဲ့အမူအကျင့်မျိုးကို မနစ်သက်ကြဘူးလို့ ဆိုလိုတာပေါ့။

ခေတ်သစ်လူ့ဘောင်မှာ ဒီစကားပုံကိုပြန်ကြည့်မယ်ဆိုရင်လည်း အဓိပ္ပာယ်ရှိနေတုန်းပဲလို့ ထင်ပါတယ်။ ကိုယ့်မှာ အရည်အချင်းရှိရင်၊ တကယ်တော်ရင် လူတွေက အလိုလို သိသွားမှာပါ။ ကိုယ်တိုင်လိုက်ကြားနေဖို့ မလိုပါဘူး။ တကယ်တော်တဲ့သူတွေက ပိုပြီး နှိမ့်ချတတ်ကြတာမျိုးလည်း တွေ့ရပါတယ်။ ဒါပေမဲ့ တစ်ခါတလေကျတော့လည်း ကိုယ့်အရည်အချင်းကို ဖော်ပြဖို့ လိုအပ်တဲ့အချိန်တွေလည်း ရှိတာပေါ့နော်။ ဥပမာ - အလုပ်လျှောက်တဲ့အခါ ကိုယ့်အစွမ်းအစကို ဖော်ပြတာပါ။

ဒါကြောင့် ကိုယ့်ကိုယ်ကိုယ် မလိုအပ်ဘဲ ထောင်လွှားဝင်ကြွားခြင်းကို ရှောင်ရှားဖို့ သတိပေးတာ၊ ကိုယ့်ကိုယ်ကိုယ် ယုံကြည်မှုရှိတာက ကောင်းပေမယ့်၊ အတ္တမာနတွေ ကြီးမသွားဖို့တော့ သတိထားရမှာပါ။

The Myanmar proverb “ကိုယ့်ဂုဏ်ကိုယ်ဖော် မသူတော်ခနစ်ပါး” directly translates to “Those who boast of their own virtues are like the seven

ignoble creatures.” This saying is a traditional condemnation of self-promotion and arrogance.

The “seven ignoble creatures” mentioned are actually seven animals – the gecko, owl, golden oriole, koel, cuckoo, hoopoe, Indian cuckoo, and brown fish owl – all of which are believed to call out their own names. The proverb metaphorically links human boasting to the calls of these animals, implying that self-praise is an unbecoming, almost animalistic, trait.

The core message is to discourage excessive pride and vanity. It suggests that truly capable individuals don’t need to constantly trumpet their own achievements; their merits will naturally become apparent to others. While it’s important to acknowledge one’s skills when necessary, such as during a job application, this should be a presentation of abilities, not a display of arrogance. Ultimately, the proverb serves as a valuable lesson against unwarranted self-aggrandizement, advocating for humility despite self-confidence.

USAGES:
To toot one’s own horn: To boast about one’s own abilities or achievements.

Example: He’s always tooting his own horn about how well he did on the project

To blow one’s own trumpet: Similar to “toot one’s own horn,” meaning to boast or brag about oneself.

Example: Instead of blowing his own trumpet, he should let his work speak for itself.

To sing one’s own praises: To praise oneself excessively or boastfully.

Example: She’s constantly singing her own praises, even when others have done more work.

Self-praise is no recommendation: This phrase means that praising yourself doesn’t make others think highly of you.

Example: When he started talking about how great he was, I thought, “Self-praise is no recommendation.”

ကြက်တူရွေးက တော်တော် မယ်ဘော်က ကဲ “The parrot is somewhat good, but its owner exaggerates.”



“ကြက်တူရွေးက တော်တော် မယ်ဘော်က ကဲ” ဆိုတဲ့ စကားပုံက တကယ်တော့ မြန်မာ့လူ့ဘောင် လူမှုဆက်ဆံရေး ပုံစံတစ်မျိုးကို ပုံဖော်ထားတာပါ။

ကြက်တူရွေးတစ်ကောင်က စကားပြောတတ်တာ တော်ရုံပဲရှိပေမယ့်၊ သူ့ကိုပိုင်ဆိုင်တဲ့ မယ်ဘော်ကတော့ ကိုယ့်ကြက်တူရွေး အရမ်းတော်ကြောင်း လွန်လွန်ကဲကဲ ချီးမွမ်းပြောဆိုတာ ကို ဆိုလိုတာပါ။ ဒါကို တင်စားပြီး တစ်စုံတစ်ယောက်ရဲ့ အရည်အချင်းက သာမန်ရှိပေမယ့်၊ သူ့ကိုသဘောကျတဲ့သူ (သို့မဟုတ်) သူ့ဘက်ကလူက လွန်လွန်ကဲကဲ မြှောက်ပြောတာ၊ ချီးမွမ်းတာ မျိုးကို ဖော်ပြတာ ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။

တစ်ခါတလေ လူတွေဟာ ကိုယ်ခင်တဲ့သူ့ကိုယ်အားပေးတဲ့သူဆိုရင် သူ့ရဲ့အားနည်းချက်တွေကို မမြင်ချင်ယောင်ဆောင်ပြီး အကောင်းဘက်ချည်းပဲ လိုက်ပြောတတ်ကြတယ်။

လူတစ်ယောက်ရဲ့ အရည်အချင်းကို တခြားလူတွေက သာမန်လို့ မြင်ပေမယ့်၊ သူ့ကို ချစ်ခင်သူကတော့ သူ့အတွက် အသေးအမွှေးလေးတွေကအစ တော်တယ်လို့ မြင်တတ်ပါတယ်။

ဒီဘက်ခေတ်မှာ လူမှုကွန်ရက်တွေပေါ်မှာ ကိုယ့်ကိုယ်ကိုယ် အမြှောက်ကောင်းသူတွေ သူများရဲ့ အားနည်းချက်ကို ဖုံးပြီး အကောင်းချည်းပြောပေးသူတွေ အများကြီး တွေ့ရပါတယ်။ ဒါဟာ “ကြက်တူရွေးက တော်တော် မယ်ဘော်က ကဲ” ဆိုတဲ့ အခြေအနေကို ပိုပြီး ထင်ရှားစေတာပေါ့။ “Like” နဲ့ “Share” တွေအပြင် အကောင်းမြင် comments တွေဟာ တကယ်တမ်းဆိုရင် လွန်ကဲတဲ့ အမွှမ်းတင်မှုတွေ ဖြစ်နေတတ်ပါတယ်။

ဘယ်အရာကိုမဆို လွန်လွန်ကဲကဲ အမွှမ်းတင်တာဟာ တကယ်တမ်းကျတော့ မကောင်းပါဘူး။ ဘယ်လောက်တော်တယ်ဆိုပြီး လိုက်ကြွားနေမယ့်အစား တကယ်လုပ်ပြနိုင်တာက ပိုအရေးကြီးပါတယ်။

The Myanmar proverb “ကြက်တူရွေးက တော်တော် မယ်ဘော်က ကဲ” translates to “The parrot is somewhat good, but its owner exaggerates.” This saying describes a common social dynamic where someone’s abilities are unremarkable, yet their admirer or supporter praises them excessively.

The core message highlights the human tendency to overpraise those we favour or support, often overlooking their flaws. For instance, a friend might sing averagely, but you’d tell them they’re amazing. This exaggeration stems from affection, a biased perspective, or even pride in one’s possessions or group. People tend to see the smallest actions of those they care about as extraordinary, showcasing a difference in perception.

In today’s world, especially on social media, this phenomenon is even more visible. Likes, shares, and overly positive comments can often be excessive praise, detached from reality. The proverb serves as a reminder to be realistic and empathetic, cautioning against excessive flattery. Over-the-top praise can obscure the truth and prevent individuals from recognizing their true capabilities. Ultimately, genuine action and demonstrable skill are more valuable than empty boasting or exaggerated compliments.

USAGES:
To gild the lily: To unnecessarily improve or adorn something that is already beautiful or perfect, often making it worse.

Example: His performance was good, but her constant compliments were just gilding the lily.

To blow smoke: To say things that are intended to make someone or something sound better than they really are; to exaggerate or flatter insincerely.

Example: Don’t believe everything he says about his achievements; he’s just blowing smoke.

To sugarcoat something: To make something unpleasant or difficult seem more acceptable or appealing.

Example: She tried to sugarcoat the bad news about the project, but we all knew the truth.

To paint a rosy picture: To describe a situation in a way that makes it seem better than it actually is.

Example: The sales team always paints a rosy picture of their quotas, even when they’re struggling.

NATIONAL

Myanmar joins 2025 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week in Guizhou

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing attended the opening ceremony of the 2025 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week, held yesterday morning in Guiyang City, Guizhou Province, People’s Republic of China.

The ceremony began with a group photo session featuring senior officials from ASEAN member states and China.

During his speech under the theme “Smart Education Empowering People-to-People Exchanges and Educational Cooperation”, the Deputy Minister expressed Myanmar’s strong belief that education is the cornerstone of long-term sustainable development and regional peace. He highlighted that Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) signed between Chinese and

Myanmar universities serve as a crucial step toward promoting academic exchanges, joint research collaborations, and technological sharing among educators and students.

He noted that over the past five years, 19 MoUs have been signed between universities in China and Myanmar, with more partnerships planned for the future.

Following the speech, the Deputy Minister and delegation members toured exhibition booths at the venue, exploring educational initiatives and innovations.

In the afternoon, the Deputy Minister also participated in a panel discussion under the theme “Industry-Education Integration for Development”.

As part of the ceremony, outstanding students from ASEAN



Deputy Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing visits exhibition booths at the 2025 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week in Guiyang City, Guizhou Province, China yesterday.

universities were awarded by senior education officials in recognition of their achievements.

Later in the event, Dr Ba Han, Rector of Meiktila University represented the Myanmar

delegation in a presentation on “Teacher Exchange and Cooperation”. — MNA/KZL

Study in Germany Event brings learning opportunities

GOETHE-INSTITUT Myanmar said the Study in Germany Event has been scheduled in August first week for those who are preparing to go studying in Germany.

It will help exploring learning opportunities and helpful tips for German scholarships as well as a panel discussion of current students sharing their academic and personal journeys will be included.

With DAAD delegate and



Study in Germany Event is being advertised.

German students led by German language teacher Chan Su Nyein, the event will be held at auditorium of the Goethe-Institut Myanmar from 1:00 pm to 4:05 pm on 2 August. The auditorium will be opened at 12:30 pm.

It opens to all and admission is free, said Goethe-Institut Myanmar which also provides free online advisory service on study in Germany. — MT/ZS

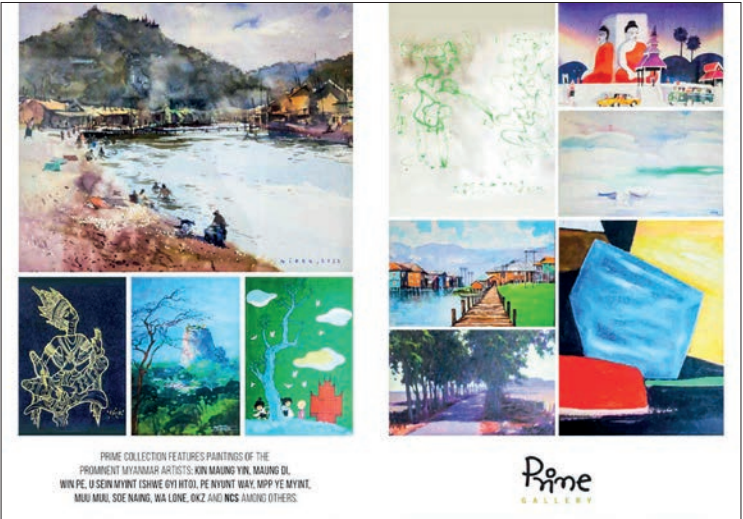
‘Prime’ art exhibition features veteran artists on 26-30 July

THE ‘Prime’ Collection Group Art Exhibition will be held at the Artistic Space Art Gallery in Botahtaung Township, Yangon Region, from 26 to 30 July. The exhibition will feature more than 70 paintings by veteran artists, including Khin Maung Yin, Maung Di, Win Pe, U Sein Myint (Shwe Chi Hto), Pe Nyunt Way, MPP Ye Myint, Muu Muu, Soe Naing, Wa Lone, OKZ and NCS among others.

“Artistic Space Art Gallery is hosting a group art exhibition

titled ‘Prime’. This exhibition showcases a curated selection of works in various genres and styles, chosen by our gallery. It will be open from 26 to 30 July, daily from 10 am to 5 pm. We warmly invite you to come and view the collection,” said the gallery manager.

The paintings on display will vary in size, including 24 by 24 inches, 36 by 24 inches, 18 by 24 inches, and 18 by 18 inches. — ASH/MKKS



This photo showcases the catalogue of the Collection Group Art Exhibition titled ‘Prime’.

Myanmar’s first academy award-winning cinematographer passes away at 92

MYANMAR’S first Academy Award-winning cinematographer and a prominent director in the country’s film industry U Tun Hlaing passed away at his residence in Ahlon Township, Yangon at 7 am on 25 July, according to the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization. He was 92 years old at the time of his passing.

U Tun Hlaing won the Best Cinematography Award

for the film ‘Myat Pan Wut Yi’, produced by Mandalay Films, in the 1957 Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Awards. He was a distinguished figure in the Myanmar film industry.

Beginning his career in 1952, U Tun Hlaing studied cinematography and worked actively to promote film knowledge. During his career, he met Hollywood cinematographer Webster, which further deep-

ened his expertise in the field.

As a director, his debut film was ‘Theinka’, and he went on to direct numerous other films. He also founded the Thun Thiri Film Production Company and contributed many articles about film to magazines. Furthermore, he authored books related to cinematography, enriching the industry’s academic and technical foundation. — ASH/KZL

NATIONAL

Myanmar youths join World Youth Peace Summit, China-ASEAN Youth Exchange Festival in China



The delegation of Myanmar youths is seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for China to attend 11th World Youth Peace Summit.

A Myanmar youth delegation attend the 11th World Youth Peace Summit and the China-ASEAN Youth Exchange Festival which take place in Xi'an City, Shaanxi Province, the People's Republic of China, from 26 to 30 July, according to the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central).
The Myanmar delegation com-

prises five youths pursuing education at universities and colleges under the leadership of Vice-Chair of Myanmar-China Friendship Association U Zaw Weik and Secretary U Min Lwin.
U Min Lwin, Secretary of the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central), said: "We are attending the 11th World Youth Peace Summit and the

China-ASEAN Youth Exchange Festival because we were invited by the People's Republic of China. As this is a youth forum, it is attended by young people aged between 15 and 25 who are proficient in Chinese or English. The exchange programme will focus on discussions under themes such as 'Peace and Cultural Exchange', 'Peace and Economic Cooperation', and 'Peace and Technological Innovation'.
He added: "At the opening ceremony, there will be a performance showcasing Myanmar's traditional culture — a classical Inwa-era royal maiden dance. Since the participating youths are energetic, dynamic, and outstanding, it will surely be a successful trip."
It is reported that the Myanmar youth delegation attending the "11th World Youth Peace Summit" and the China-ASEAN Youth Exchange Festival will visit the AI Innovation Hub in western China, Yuanjia Village, and historical museums in Shaanxi Province. The delegation departed for the People's Republic of China by air from Yangon International Airport at 3 pm on 25 July. — ASH/TTA

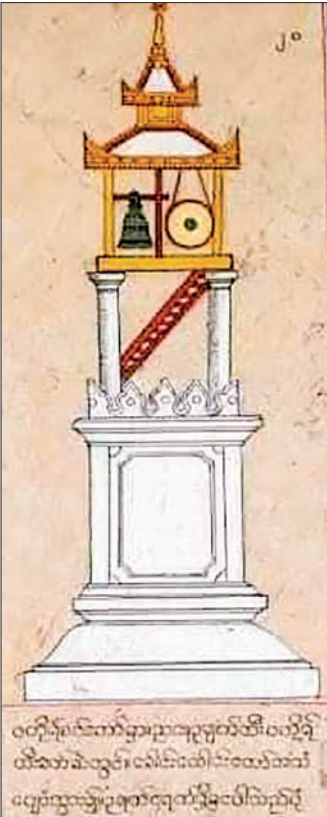
MMPO invites interested participants to movie roundtable discussion

MYANMAR Motion Pictures Organization has invited its members to join the roundtable discussion at Myanmar Motion Pictures Museum which is open to the public on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
MMPO has organized the roundtable discussion which features senior film professionals and artistes and shares knowledge about the film industry.
Interested participants are welcomed, said MMPO.
"The museum is open to the public on weekend and public holidays. There, we have arranged a programme that movie professionals hold a talk about the movie industry and share their experience. Students and the public come to listen," said MMPO joint secretary 2 U Chan Thar Kyi Soe.
The museum was opened on 8 February 2020, the 100th year anniversary of Myanmar motion picture industry. With six exhibition halls, it is now open to the public on weekend and public holidays as of 5 July. — MT/ZS



Myanmar Motion Picture Museum.

Inwa tower, a cultural heritage in decline, in need of restoration



A painting of ancient royal tower on the left of the gate to the Inwa Palace.

RESEARCHER and author Bo Shake (Ratanapura) said that the Inwa tower, a traditional Myanmar royal monument that is disappearing, needs to be restored and preserved.
At the entrance to the Inwa Palace, there is a tooth relic building on the right and a tower on the left. While the former

building already has a donor to rebuild, there is no well-wisher yet for the latter monument.
"At the entrance to the royal gate of the Inwa Palace, we can see the tooth relic building on the right and the tower on the left. The tooth relic building has a donor now, but no donor yet for the tower. We wish another donor. If only these two could be restored, it can be a tourist attraction site," he said.
The reconstruction of the tooth relic building according to the original design in Parabaiks has been commenced with the donation by Dr U Hla Myint. If the Inwa Tower could be restored, a disappearing cultural heritage can be preserved, contributing to becoming a tourist destination.
Although there was a lot of interest from both domestic and foreign tourists last year to visit ancient Inwa City, the number of visitors has recently decreased due to the damage and difficulties in transportation after the earthquake. — MT/ZN

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ECON: WORLD



The sector has experienced steady growth, averaging 6.9 per cent per year from 2016 to 2025. PHOTO: ANI

Indian construction sector to grow by 7-7.5% in financial year 2026: ICRA

Competitive intensity and project execution delays may limit profitability growth despite expected revenue recovery from FY2025 lows.

CONSTRUCTION sector in India is expected to grow by 7.0-7.5 per cent in the financial year 2026, according to rating agency ICRA.

This comes after nearly a decade of steady growth, with the sector expanding at an average rate of 6.9 per cent per year between 2016 and 2025.

The credit rating agency reaffirmed a stable outlook for

India's construction sector for FY2026, supported by a healthy pipeline of infrastructure projects, strong order book visibility, and continued public capex.

However, persistent competitive intensity and delays in project execution are likely to cap profitability growth, even as revenue recovery is expected from FY2025 lows.

Revenue growth, however,

has been revised downward to 6-8 per cent from the earlier 8-10 per cent projection, due to continued headwinds in road-awarding activity and a slowdown in Jal Jeevan Mission-linked project execution.

Urban infrastructure and irrigation are expected to drive a relatively stronger performance in the current fiscal.

— ANI

Uzbekistan sees further drop of poverty level

AS of 1 July 2025, the poverty level in Uzbekistan has fallen further to 6.8 per cent, the presidential press service said in a statement Friday.

By the end of 2024, the poverty rate in Uzbekistan had decreased to 8.9 per cent, according to previous official data.

Friday's statement also said President Shavkat Mirziyoyev reviewed a presentation on new approaches to the employment and vocational education system.

Since the beginning of the year, models based on international experience have been introduced in this area. In particular, the banking system has begun to actively interact with local neighbourhood communities known as mahallas, providing support in ensuring employment, it said. "In the first half of the year alone, more than 3 million people were involved in gainful employment," the statement said.

"The system created to reduce poverty and the funds allocated for this purpose are already yielding results – as of 1 July of this year, the poverty level in the country has fallen to 6.8 per cent," the press service said. — Xinhua

US Fed poised to hold off on rate cuts, defying Trump pressure

THE US central bank is widely expected to hold off slashing interest rates again at its upcoming meeting, as officials gather under the cloud of an intensifying pressure campaign by President Donald Trump.

Policymakers at the independent Federal Reserve have kept the benchmark lending rate steady since the start of the year as they monitor how Trump's sweeping tariffs are impacting the world's biggest economy.

With Trump's on-again, off-again tariff approach – and the levies' lagged effects on inflation – Fed officials want to see economic data from this summer to gauge how prices are being affected.

When mulling changes to interest rates, the central bank – which meets on Tuesday and Wednesday – seeks a balance between reining in inflation and the health of the jobs market. — AFP

EU faces income, consumption reduction per capita first time since 2022

THE European Union experienced a simultaneous reduction in income and consumption per capita in the first quarter of the year for the first time since 2022, according to Sputnik's analysis of data from the European Statistical Office (Eurostat).

Real household consumption per capita in the EU decreased by 0.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2025, following an increase of 0.4 per cent in the previous quarter. Meanwhile, real household incomes per capita dropped by 0.2 per cent, following a 0.3 per cent increase in the fourth quarter of 2024. These figures typically drop simultaneously during difficult economic periods. The last time the EU faced such a crisis was in 2020 during the coronavirus pandemic, and also in the fourth



People walk in to the headquarters of the European Central Bank (ECB) in Frankfurt am Main, western Germany. PHOTO: KIRILL KUDRYAVTSEV/AFP/FILE

quarter of 2022.

One reason for this is the population's desire to save more. The EU's savings rate increased by 0.2 percentage points in the first quarter compared to the previous quarter, although it had been declining for two consecutive quarters before that.

Among the member states for which data were published, the household savings rate increased in seven countries, with the strongest growth in Hungary (by 1.6 percentage points), followed by Belgium and the Netherlands (an increase of 0.7 percentage points each).

Eight countries recorded a decline, with the most serious declines in Greece and Portugal by 3.6 and 3 percentage points, respectively. — SPUTNIK

India’s retail focus returns to malls as high street leasing falls 26% in Q2 2025

INDIA’S retail sector has shifted its focus to malls again as leasing of high streets witnessed a 26 per cent quarter-on-quarter decline in the second quarter of 2025.

According to the latest report by Cushman & Wakefield Malls accounted for 45 per cent of leasing volume in Q2 (1.01 MSF) — a 42 per cent q-o-q rise, and the highest mall share in the past five quarters, signalling growing interest in experience-driven, structured retail formats.

However, even after witnessing a dip in the leasing activities, high streets continued to dominate with 55 per cent (1.23 MSF) of the market, un-



India’s retail sector has shifted its focus to malls again as leasing of high streets witnessed a 26 per cent quarter-on-quarter decline in the second quarter of 2025. PHOTO: ANI

derscoring the persistent undersupply of quality mall stock across cities.

According to the ‘Q2-2025 Retail Market Beat Report’, no new mall supply was added in Q2, and Grade A mall completions for H1 2025 stood at 1.3 million square feet. As a result, mall vacancy levels dropped by around 77 basis points to 8.16 per cent in Q2 2025, with premium Grade-A+ or superior malls witnessing even tighter vacancies at just 4.28 per cent.

This highlights the growing demand for premium retail assets and further strengthens landlord leverage in prime locations. — ANI

Battling tariffs is no trivial pursuit for US games retailer



Scott Serrato, 28, has noticed some price increases in the gaming industry but sees them as understandable for now. PHOTO: AFP

AT a Maryland strip mall, Dash Krempel and his friend engage in a tabletop war game, but their hobby is increasingly burdened by rising costs due to US tariffs. Krempel notes that the price of UK-made figurines has surged from \$60 to \$94.50 over three years, making the hobby unaffordable for many.

To support local retailer Game Kastle College Park, he now rents tables instead of purchasing more products. Store owner Boyd Stephenson fac-

es challenges in stocking new games and supplies, as tariffs have forced some suppliers to delay shipments or raise prices.

Approximately 20 per cent of his products have seen price increases of 5 per cent to 20 per cent. With impending steeper tariffs set to affect imports from the European Union and India, Stephenson anticipates further cost pressures. He highlights the lack of US manufacturing capacity to replace imports, particularly from China, which

is temporarily exempt from tariffs.

The uncertainty surrounding tariff changes complicates inventory management for retailers, leading to strategic purchasing decisions.

Many companies, including the Game Manufacturers Association, are challenging these tariffs, but the impact on small retailers has been significant, with nearly 80 per cent of tabletop games sold in the US produced abroad. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hong Kong’s economy grows for 10th straight quarter: HKSAR financial chief

FINANCIAL Secretary of China’s Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government Paul Chan said on Sunday that the upcoming Q2 GDP estimate, driven by exports, investment and private consumption, is expected to mark the 10th straight quarter of growth.

Chan said in his blog that retail sales in May showed the first year-on-year growth in 14 months, indicating early signs of consumer market stabilization and figures of June are cautiously optimistic. Private consumption, which declined for four consecutive quarters, is expected to rebound in the second quarter.

The HKSAR government has been actively pursuing new growth drivers, especially through support for innovation and technology. At the same time, the HKSAR government is working to expand into overseas markets, seek new partners, and develop supply chain management hubs to capture opportunities, he added. — Xinhua

11 injured at Walmart store stabbing in US state of Michigan

AT least 11 people were injured in a stabbing at a Walmart store in the Midwestern state of Michigan on Saturday, with police saying it appeared to be a random attack.

A 42-year-old male suspect was in custody, Grand Traverse County Sheriff Michael Shea told a press conference.

“Based on the information that we have at this time, it appears they were random acts,” Shea said of the attack in Traverse City, Michigan.

“The victims were not predetermined,” Shea said, adding that the suspect, a Michigan resident, apparently acted alone and used a “folding knife.”

Six victims were in critical condition late Saturday, and five were in serious condition, Munson Healthcare said in a statement.

At least three of the victims were undergoing surgery, according to Shea. The victims included six men and five women. — AFP

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Thailand-Cambodia border clashes: Latest developments

- The armed border clashes between Thailand and Cambodia entered the 4th day on Sunday.
- According to a statement issued by the Thai Foreign Ministry, the first shots were fired into Thai territory by Cambodia early Sunday.
- Cambodian Defence Ministry's Undersecretary of State, Lieutenant General Maly Socheata, stated that the Thai army fired artillery at various locations in the Preah Vihear and Oddar Meanchey provinces.
- Fresh artillery clashes erupted on Sunday morning near two long-contested ancient temples in the frontier region between northern Cambodia and northeast Thailand.
- Thailand said late Saturday it agrees in principle to entering a ceasefire with Cambodia and beginning a "bilateral dialogue" aimed at ending the nations' deadliest fighting



Residents gather at a refuge in Ubon Ratchathani Province, Thailand on 25 July 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

- in more than a decade.
 - Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet on Sunday said his country "agreed with the proposal for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire
- between the two armed forces."
 - The fighting marks a dramatic escalation in a long-running dispute between the neighbours over their shared
- 800-kilometre border where dozens of kilometres are contested.
 - A source from the Lao People's Army told Xinhua on Saturday that reports of an

exchange of fire between Lao forces and Cambodian armed personnel were untrue.

- The Lao People's Army News confirmed that no official reports had been received regarding the incident.
- Cambodia on Saturday rejected a report alleging that some shells that landed on Laotian territory originated from Cambodia.
- The Thai side expressed its deep regret for the damage to the houses and properties of Lao people, yet confirmed that the shells did not come from the Thai army but were fired by Cambodian forces.
- As the fighting related to the border dispute between Thailand and Cambodia enters its fourth day, US President Donald Trump, once again jumping on his trade bandwagon, called for a ceasefire after holding calls with the heads of state of both nations.

— SOURCE: AGENCIES

Trump demands prosecution of Kamala Harris over alleged million-dollar endorsement payments

US President Donald Trump on Saturday (local time) demanded that Kamala Harris and several top American celebrities be prosecuted for allegedly receiving and paying millions of dollars for endorsements during the 2024 presidential election.

Trump called the move "totally illegal" and accused Democrats of breaking campaign finance laws.

In a post on his Truth Social

account, Trump accused Harris of spending millions of dollars to buy endorsements from stars such as singer Beyonce, TV host Oprah Winfrey, and civil rights activist Al Sharpton. He alleged the endorsements were paid for and not genuine, and called for legal action.

Trump's fresh attack comes amid controversy over his own handling of the Jeffrey Epstein case files. — ANI

Urgent need for 'global approach' on AI regulation

THE world urgently needs to find a global approach on regulating artificial intelligence, the United Nations' top tech chief said this week, warning that fragmentation could deepen risks and inequalities.

Doreen Bogdan-Martin, head of the UN's International Telecommunications Union

(ITU) agency, told AFP she hoped that AI "can actually benefit humanity". But as concerns mount over the risks posed by the fast-moving technology — including fears of mass job losses, the spread of deepfakes and disinformation, and society's fabric fraying — she insisted that regulation was key. — AFP



Hanjin Shipping was South Korea's largest container line and one of the world's top ten container carriers in terms of capacity. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

S Korea officials to head to US as trade deal deadline looms

SOUTH Korea's deputy prime minister will meet with US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent next week, ahead of Washington's deadline to reach a trade deal, Seoul's presidential office said Saturday.

US President Donald Trump's administration has threatened South Korea with a 25 per cent tariff if a trade deal is not reached by 1 August.

"Deputy Prime Minister

Koo Yun-cheol and Foreign Minister Cho Hyun are scheduled to meet US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Secretary of State Marco Rubio next week," the presidential office said in a statement.

The statement came during a meeting at the presidential office where Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan reported on the outcome of his talks with US Commerce Secretary Howard

Lutnick on Thursday.

"The government has pledged to devote its full efforts to concluding trade negotiations with Washington before the 1 August deadline," the statement said. The presidential office added that Seoul confirmed Washington's "strong interest in the shipbuilding sector" and agreed to work towards mutual cooperation in the industry. — AFP

SPORTS

Winner Generations FC crowned champions at Carabao Futsal Champion Cup 2025

THE final match and award ceremony of the Carabao Futsal Champion Cup 2025 was held yesterday afternoon at the MFF Futsal Stadium in Thuwunna, Yangon.

The championship match featured MIU FC and Winner Generations FC, drawing a large crowd that included regional authorities, football federation officials, and enthusiastic fans.

Following the match, an official award ceremony was held. Yangon Region ministers and officials presented commemorative prizes to referees and match officials who served during the tournament.

YRG FC received the Fair



Generation FC accepts Championship trophy in Carabao Fustal Champion Cup 2025

Play Award, including a trophy and cash prize. The Top Goal-keeper Award went to Kyaw Ye Thway (jersey No 22) of Winner Generations FC, and the Best Player Award was given to Htut

Htut Lwin (jersey No 4), also from Winner Generations FC.

TG United FC, winners of fourth place were awarded a team cash prize. YRG FC, who placed third received individual medals and cash rewards. MIU FC, the runners-up were also presented with medals and cash awards for each team member.

Winner Generations FC, crowned champions of the Carabao Futsal Champion Cup 2025 received individual medals and cash awards, presented by the AFC Senior Vice President and MFF President, along with the championship trophy, which was awarded by the Yangon Region Chief Minister. — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KZL

Trump's Turnberry visit puts British Open back on agenda

DONALD Trump's visit to Scotland's picturesque Turnberry underlines the US president's long-held desire to host golf's illustrious British Open at the famous course, despite numerous stumbling blocks.

When the golf fanatic purchased the storied resort in 2014, he would have been forgiven for thinking he would finally achieve his dream of seeing a men's major championship played at one of his many courses.

But 2009 remains the last time Turnberry has hosted golf's only non-US major, with organisers the Royal and Ancient (R&A) citing logistical challenges and fears that the event could become the Trump show.

"The players all want to be at Turnberry," Trump told reporters after landing at Prestwick Airport, just north of his course, on Friday night, declaring it "the best course anywhere in the world".

Following the storming of the US Capitol by Trump supporters in January 2021, the R&A said the Open would not return to Turnberry until "the focus will be on the championship" rather than the course's proprietor.

New chief executive Mark Darbon struck a much softer tone earlier this month when he stressed that the R&A had "explicitly not" removed Turnberry's Ailsa course from its rotating pool of venues. — AFP



Turnberry has not hosted a British Open since Donald Trump bought the Scottish course in 2014. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Fernandes double as Man Utd sink West Ham in Premier League US friendly



Bruno Fernandes fires Manchester United into the lead in their Premier League Summer Series clash with West Ham in New Jersey. PHOTO: AFP

BRUNO Fernandes scored twice as Manchester United kicked off their tour of the United States with a 2-1 win over West Ham in the Premier League Summer Series tournament in New Jersey on Saturday.

United skipper Fernandes punished two blunders by West Ham's France international goalkeeper Alphonse Areola to seal victory for Ruben Amorim's side in sweltering conditions at the MetLife Stadium.

Areola was at fault for both of United's goals and although Jarrod Bowen pulled a goal back for the Hammers, the London

club never seriously troubled the 13-time Premier League champions.

Fernandes opened the scoring from the penalty spot in the fifth minute, calmly sending Areola the wrong way after the Frenchman had needlessly shoved Ayden Heaven to the ground after losing possession.

Fernandes doubled United's lead in the 52nd minute with a clever finish after another howler from Areola, whose sloppy pass out from the back went straight to United midfielder Kobbie Mainoo on the edge of the area. —AFP



WORLD

Putin unveils Russia's 2050 Navy blueprint on Navy Day

*The Navy is crucial
for Russia's defence,
security, and global
interests.*

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin congratulated all Russian military sailors on the Navy Day.

"I congratulate all military sailors of Russia on Navy Day. Today, we celebrate all generations of courageous sailors and officers who are devoted to their duty and loyal to the Motherland. On this day, we remember those who have built the glory and might of the Russian Navy over the centuries, asserting Russia as a great naval power through their military achievements, victories, hard daily work and brilliant scientific advancements," Putin said in a video address on the oc-



Russian President Vladimir Putin participated in the annual Navy Day parade held in St Petersburg, Russia, on 28 July 2024.

PHOTO: SPUTNIK/FILE

casion of Navy Day.

The President noted that since the time of Peter the Great, the fleet had been and remained an asset and a source of pride of Russia, and representatives of the naval class deservedly enjoy special honor and sincere respect of the Russian people.

"It is a well-established fact that our

naval personnel have always stood for the Motherland and honour. Your fortitude and courage, knowledge and honesty, integrity and fellowship have been forged through harsh and dangerous naval service and its unique culture, the essence of which is your sincere, heartfelt and unconditional love for the Fatherland," Putin said.

The Navy plays a crucial role in ensuring Russia's defense and security and in protecting its legitimate interests across the globe, the Russian leader stressed. Russia's new Navy Development Strategy has been approved this year, the first such document designed for an extended period, until 2050, Putin recalled. — SPUTNIK

Vietnamese EV maker VinFast opens first showroom in India ahead of plant inauguration



Vietnamese electric vehicle maker VinFast inaugurated its first showroom in India, in Surat, Gujarat ahead of its plant inauguration. PHOTO: ANI

VIETNAMESE electric vehicle maker VinFast inaugurated its first showroom in India, in Surat, Gujarat ahead of its

plant inauguration.

This inauguration marks a significant milestone in the company's retail

journey in the country.

The outlet serves as the brand's physical touchpoint in India, underscoring VinFast's long-term commitment to establishing a strong, customer-centric electric mobility ecosystem.

The dealership, 'VinFast Surat,' is promoted by Chandan Car, a leading name in India's automotive retail sector. VinFast Auto India, the Indian subsidiary, made this announcement in a statement on Sunday.

Located in Piplod in Surat, the dealership will serve as a one-stop destination for VinFast's prospective buyers.

Spread out on 3,000 SqFt the facility will offer product experiences, vehicle purchase journeys, and after-sales support. The Showroom will showcase VinFast's upcoming range of premium electric SUVs — VF 6 and VF 7.

India is also the first market where VinFast is launching the right-hand drive version of the VF 7 and VF 6. — ANI

AI'S GROWING INFLUENCE

DOGE vows to deploy
AI to axe 50% of federal
regulations: Reports

THE US Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) plans to use artificial intelligence to cut the number of federal regulations in half by the first anniversary of Donald Trump's second presidency, the Washington Post reported, citing documents and sources.

According to the publication, the department has developed a special AI-based tool that should analyze about 200,000 federal regulations to identify those that could be repealed because they were no longer required by law.

According to the presentation slides obtained by the newspaper, about 100,000 acts are planned to be repealed in this way. The basic task is to "re-launch America on 20 January 2026." According to the presentation, this will save trillions of dollars in the United States by reducing regulations and the federal budget, as well as attracting external investment. — SPUTNIK