

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers an inauguration speech at the opening of the International Conference on Intellectual Property (2025) yesterday.

# Universities, research labs, and MSMEs collaborate to drive innovation

Trademarks, creative designs, innovations, and literary and artistic works created by MSME entrepreneurs can all be protected under the intellectual property system, ensuring legal protection for their creations.

Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the opening of the International Conference on Intellectual Property (2025) at the Jasmine Naypyitaw Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Senior General unveiled the ceremony by applying digital technol-

ogy.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that intellectual property (IP) is important and indispensable in the areas of international trade, foreign investment, and scientific and technological collaboration.

He continued that to foster greater innovation and creativity, it is necessary to establish a system that connects

universities, research institutions, and MSME (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise) businesspersons.

He pointed out that a robust intellectual property system plays a crucial role in building a modern and developed nation, significantly supporting industrial development and helping attract greater foreign investment.

**SEE PAGE 3**

**Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the International IP Conference**

1. A robust intellectual property system plays a crucial role in building a modern and developed nation, significantly supporting industrial development and helping attract greater foreign investment.

2. The Trademark Law, Industrial Design Law, and Copyright Law came into force in 2023, while the Patent Law came into effect in 2024 to provide legal protection and promote innovation.

3. Connecting universities and research institutions with MSME businesspersons to help bring innovations and creations to the market is a system commonly practised in economically developed countries.

**NATIONAL** **PAGE 10**



Travel firms gear up for 2025-26 Bodh Gaya pilgrimage

**NATIONAL** **PAGE 11**



Myanmar offers low-interest loans for post-quake business recovery

**BUSINESS** **PAGE 12**



MAPCO exports over 7,000 tonnes of rice to 5 countries in Q1



NATIONAL

Military and citizens urged to unite with patriotism in times of national crisis

EVEN in the face of a national disaster, the military, though primarily responsible for national defence, and the people must work together to safeguard the nation. They should cultivate a spirit of patriotism, loyalty, and unity to ensure the nation's protection and long-term sustainability.

(An excerpt from the New Year's greetings delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the occasion of the New Year, which falls on 1 January 2025)

Myanmar's Response to Report of UN Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict

THE Report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict for 2024, document A/79/878-S/2025/247 incorporating country-specific descriptions of 25 countries and one region, including Myanmar, was released on 17 June 2025, and the Open Debate at the United Nations Security Council was organized from 25 to 26 June 2025.

The Government of Myanmar, as a member of the United Nations, reaffirms its commitment and ongoing efforts to comply with international standards for the prevention of children and armed conflicts.

Regarding the prevention of underage recruitment, a joint verification process for suspected minors has been conducted between the Committee on Protection of Underage Recruitment, led by the Ministry of Defence, and the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR). Additionally, four bilateral meetings were held in 2024. A total of 93 verified minors have been discharged and returned to their guardians/parents, with financial assistance provided to discharged individuals. To date, only 18 suspected minor cases remain pending verification by both sides.

To uphold the protection and welfare of the children, the National Committee on the Prevention of Grave Violations against Children was established in 2019 to prevent and protect the six grave violations against children in armed conflicts. Furthermore, Myanmar launched the 4 Digit Helpline (1566), as a national complaint mechanism to prevent killing, maiming, and sexual violence against children in armed conflicts. As of December 2024, 98 reported incidents have been referred to related departments and organizations. No report or complaint regarding sexual violence against children in armed conflicts has been filed.

In addition, knowledge and awareness training on the prevention and the Six Grave Violations against Children in Armed Conflicts have been provided to military personnel and government officials.

These efforts demonstrate Myanmar's firm commitment to adhering to international standards for the prevention of children and armed conflicts.

Despite these efforts, it has been observed that this year's report includes unverified and unfounded allegations with numerical figures that lack proper substantiation. Despite the government's prior provision of evidence and on-ground information in response to the request by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, the report once again fails to verify, cross-check, or investigate these claims.

Moreover, the Report alleges that 482 minors were recruited and used by the Myanmar armed forces. However, in 2024, UN CTFMR shared only eight cases of suspected minors for joint verification, rendering the figures presented in the report entirely misrepresented.

In addition to this, it is deeply disappointing that the distorted report omits the inhumane and brutal acts committed by terrorist groups such as NUG and PDFs and certain EAOs. These groups have been responsible for the deaths of 8,588 unarmed civilians, including 318 children (198 boys and 120 girls), as well as injuries to 1,219 children since 2021. However, the report downplays the atrocities committed by the said armed groups.

The report presents figures without specifying incidents and downplays grave violations committed by the PDFs by using the term "unidentified perpetrators".

Given these circumstances, the report with biases and a country-specific nature, with the intention to exert undue political pressure on a member state, will only hinder constructive dialogue and progress. Such action raises concerns about objectivity, credibility, neutrality, and data collection methodology of the United Nations.

Myanmar firmly rejects the distorted figures and baseless accusations contained in the report. Myanmar remains committed to exerting its utmost efforts to safeguard the rights and safety of children. Therefore, Myanmar strongly urges the United Nations to adopt a balanced, credible, and constructive approach towards member states while issuing reports.

Committee on Prevention of Grave Violations against Children in Armed Conflict,  
Myanmar  
3 July 2025

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations confirmed

THE State Administration Council has confirmed the appointment of the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names on the expiry of a one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
1. U Zaw Tun Oo	Director-General Protocol Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2. U Kyaw Nyunt Oo	Director-General International Organizations and Economic Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
3. Dr Htein Linn	Director-General Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization Ministry of Commerce

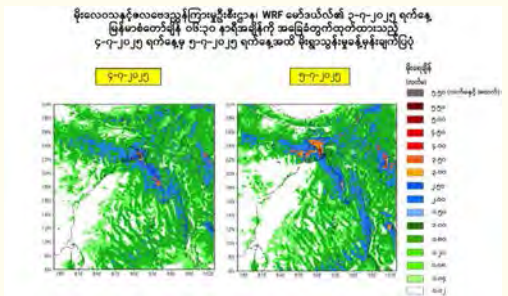
Special Weather News

Issued at 6 pm MST on 3 July 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the easterly waves and westerly waves, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay, Magway, and Lower Sagaing Regions and Kayah State, fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan States with regionally and isolated heavy falls during today evening to 7 July 2025. Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 11-13 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

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



NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(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)

Universities, research labs, and MSMEs collaborate to drive innovation

FROM PAGE 1

He noted that the conference aims to enhance intellectual property (IP) awareness and knowledge, promote innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship, foster greater investment, trade, and commerce, and support the country’s economic development.

The Senior General highlighted that the conference is being organized with the theme of building a strong intellectual property ecosystem that encourages innovation, drives economic growth, and helps preserve cultural heritage in Myanmar.

He emphasized that to effectively protect the interests of the people and their creative innovations, four types of intellectual property laws were enacted in 2019: the Trademark Law, the Industrial Design Law, the Patent Law, and the Copyright Law. The Trademark Law, Industrial Design Law, and Copyright Law came into force in 2023, while the Patent Law came into effect in 2024 to provide

legal protection and promote innovation.

He recounted that Myanmar, being a member of the World Trade Organization-WTO and the World Intellectual Property Organization-WIPO has to follow the Trade-Related Aspect of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement in addition to taking part in the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Intellectual Property Co-operation.

The Senior General explained that Myanmar is currently implementing the ASEAN Regional Intellectual Property Action Plan under the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). The country is also aligning its intellectual property practices with those of other regional and ASEAN member states.

He underscored that Myanmar is also implementing its national-level Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) 2018–2030.

He stressed that as intellectual property (IP) plays a role within this plan, the use of an effective IP system can great-

ly support the promotion of innovation across all sectors, including the establishment of sustainable and long-lasting industrial enterprises.

The Senior General noted that the trademarks used, creative designs produced, innovations developed, and literary and artistic works created by MSME entrepreneurs can all be protected under the intellectual property (IP) system, ensuring legal protection for their creations.

He spotted that connecting universities and research institutions with MSME businesspersons to help bring innovations and creations to the market is a system commonly practised in economically developed countries. Therefore, it is also necessary to promote and strengthen the use of intellectual property in the MSME sector.

By studying and analyzing knowledge and findings from intellectual property research papers, he expressed his firm belief that intellectual property insights capable of addressing challenges

and problems in the IP field will improve and expand. The acquired knowledge can then be effectively shared and applied for mutual benefit.

The Senior General and attendees viewed a documentary on 2025 (International Conference on Intellectual Property-2025) and visited the exhibition to mark the International Conference on Intellectual Property-2025.

Also, present at the ceremony were Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, council members, Union-level dignitaries, Union ministers, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, deputy ministers and officials in addition to internal and external IP experts, rectors from universities, resource persons, legal experts, IP doctorate trainees and guests.

The conference will last till 4 July, and internal and international resource persons will participate in discussions under relevant topics. — MNA/TTA

International Conference on Intellectual Property 2025 kicks off

THE first day of the International Conference on Intellectual Property 2025 took place at the Jasmine Naypyitaw Hotel yesterday with the presence of General Mya Tun Oo, who is also Chairman of the Central Committee on Intellectual Property Rights.

Speaking at the event, the General said the conference aims to strengthen Myanmar’s copyright ecosystem, fostering innovation, economic development, and cultural preservation. Moreover, the conference will provide supportive measures to study the good points and weak points of the country’s copyright system, comparing those of other

countries, adopt a better system and explore further procedures through local and foreign papers.

In countries around the world where intellectual property systems are well-developed, human resources are vital for economic growth. Therefore, it is important to provide intellectual property awareness programmes to students and young people based on their age groups, to encourage creativity and innovation, and to promote a spirit of invention. It is also essential to connect university research departments with micro, small, and medium, enterprises to help bring innovations to the market.



General Mya Tun Oo, in his capacity as the Central Committee on Intellectual Property Rights Chairman, addresses the first day of the International Conference on Intellectual Property 2025 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

To further develop the protection of intellectual property, awareness programmes should be carried out sequentially.

Also present at Session 1 of the conference were Union Minister for Commerce U Tun Ohn, who is also the committee

vice-chair, deputy ministers, directors-general, local and foreign experts, keynote speakers and paper readers. — MNA/KTZH



NATIONAL

Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the SAC Chairman, PM, attends Myanmar Women's Day celebration 2025

A ceremony to mark Myanmar Women's Day 2025 took place at Thiri Yadana Hall of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, attended by Honorary Patron of MWAFF Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the State Administration Council Chairman, Prime Minister.

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sent a video message on the opening speech to the ceremony. (The opening speech of the Senior General is reported on page 5)

Chairman of the Myanmar National Women's Committee, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Dr Soe Win, explained empowerment of women, raising rights of women and Prevention and protection against various forms of violence against women.

A video clip on the development of women was screened for attendees.

In awarding the outstanding women in 2024, Honorary Patron of MWAFF Daw Kyu Kyu Hla presented the honorary medal, certificate and cash award to 2<sup>nd</sup>-Lt Daw Nanda Kyaw from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) for winning the best parade award, Sub-Lt Daw La Pyae Win from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) for winning the best cadet award and Captain Daw Shwe Wutyi from the Office of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) for winning the honorary award of the Commander-in-Chief (Air).

Honorary Patron Daw Khin Thet Htay also presented the honorary medal, certifi-



MWAFF Honorary Patron Daw Kyu Kyu Hla presents the honorary medal, certificate and cash award to 2<sup>nd</sup>-Lt Daw Nanda Kyaw at yesterday's event.

cate and cash award to outstanding female police member Police Lance Corporal Laxmi and outstanding female red cross award winner Daw Lin Lin Htaik while

Honorary Patron Daw Than Than Nwe gave the honorary medal, certificate and cash award to female parasports athlete Ma Htet Htet Aye for 2024 and Pitanque

sports outstanding athlete Ma Khin Cherry Thet for 2024.

The wife of the SAC Secretary presented the honorary medal, certificate and cash award to Daw Cho Cho Maw and Daw Khin Wutyi, on behalf of 2023 National Literary Award winner Daw Mya Mya Than and the wife of the Joint Secretary to outstanding female award winner Dr Thin Myo Myo Aung and female entrepreneurship award winner Daw Kyway Kyway Zin, respectively.

Moreover, wives of SAC members and the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement presented honorary medals, certificates and cash awards to female entrepreneurship award winners.

Also, present at the ceremony were the wife of the Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, Union ministers and their wives, the Auditor-General of the Union, the wife of the Union Civil Service Board, the wife of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, the Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar, wives of the senior Tatmadaw officers, the wife of the Chairman of Union of Myanmar Economic Holding Private Co Ltd, the wife of the Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander, guests, judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, officials, departmental heads, representatives from MEAF and women's organizations.

Honorary Patron Daw Kyu Kyu Hla viewed round products displayed by schools for the women under the Social Welfare Department and women's organizations to mark Myanmar Women's Day 2025. — MNA/TTA

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“Cooperatives Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World”  
“သမဝါယမနည်းလမ်းဖြင့် ပိုမိုကောင်းမွန်သော ကမ္ဘာကြီးကိုတည်ဆောက်ကြပါစို့”

27 groups seek party status;  
19 approved

ACCORDING to the Union Election Commission, a total of 27 groups have so far submitted applications to establish political parties by specifying their proposed party names.

Of these, 19 groups have been approved to form political parties. Among them, the Zomi National Party, led by U Thang Shin Khine, applied yesterday for official party registration under Section 7 of the Political Parties Registration Law within the 30 days allowed after receiving the formation approval.

Out of the approved parties, 14 have already been granted official registration. The Union Election Commission is currently reviewing the remaining applications for further registration approvals. — MNA/KZL

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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

Women unite in peace efforts

Everyone is encouraged to come together to support all women, both in rural and urban areas, to regain livelihoods and improve their economic capacities through sustainable income-generating activities.

The Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, delivered an opening speech as a video message sent to the ceremony to mark Myanmar Women’s Day on 3 July 2025. The following is the full text of the translated video speech as follows: -

Ladies and Gentlemen, Mingalaba.

First of all, I would like to extend my greetings and best wishes for peace of mind, good health, and all kinds of auspicious blessings to all the distinguished guests attending today’s ceremony in honour of the 2025 Myanmar Women’s Day.

Today’s Myanmar Women’s Day is a special and significant day for all Myanmar women living across the country. It is a day to honour outstanding women who are actively contributing to various important sectors of the nation. At the same time, it is also an occasion organized to inspire and empower women from all walks of life. Therefore, I would like to express my heartfelt tribute to all Myanmar women.

Myanmar women are compassionate, resilient, and capable individuals. They have made strong and active contributions not only to fields such as politics, economics, social affairs, education, craftsmanship, and the arts, but also alongside men in national defence, security, and administration. Their dedication to the nation’s development is evident. Today, it is also increasingly apparent that Myanmar women are participating in decision-making roles across various sectors, reflecting their growing leadership and influence.

At a time when the State Administration Council has assumed responsibilities of the State unavoidably, many patriotic and dedicated women have stepped forward to serve bravely in various sectors such as national defence, security, education, health, and administration. Likewise, they have also made remarkable and commendable contributions to the realms of religion, literature, and fine arts. Therefore, as part of honouring Myanmar Women’s Day, the State proudly recognizes these outstanding women by conferring honorary titles and awards in appreciation of their exceptional service.

International Women’s Day, which fell on 8 March, was celebrated around

the world — including in Myanmar under the theme “Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress Towards Equality”. This year also marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. In alignment with this milestone, efforts have been encouraged globally to further enhance the capacity of women and girls across all sectors and ensure they have greater access to opportunities.

In implementing these initiatives, actions are being carried out in alignment with the 12 key areas of the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women. These efforts are also being implemented under the provisions of the 2008 Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Myanmar is actively participating in international commitments aimed at promoting the advancement of women and ensuring gender equality. The country is implementing actions based on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which includes 12 critical areas of concern and was adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, China, in 1995. Myanmar is also working in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), adopted by the United Nations in 1979, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the UN in 2015.

In addition, Myanmar is actively taking part in initiatives of the ASEAN region, including programmes for the prevention of violence against women, the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, the Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework, and action plans promoting women’s political participation and leadership. Similarly, Myanmar is also engaged in implementing gender-related strategic plans in collaboration with Mekong region countries, aiming to promote and enhance the rights of women.

In advancing the role of women, individual capacity is important, but it is



equally essential to ensure that more women can participate in decision-making positions. According to the 2024 Myanmar Statistical Yearbook, as of the end of March 2024, women made up 60.14 per cent of the civil service workforce. Among those in decision-making positions, women accounted for 53.63 per cent of officials at the level of deputy director and above.

According to the 2024 Myanmar Statistical Yearbook, based on birth and death records in the health sector, the average life expectancy in 2022 was about 63 years for men and about 72 years for women, indicating that women live longer than men. Moreover, the rates of infant mortality (under one year), under-five child mortality, and overall birth rates have been declining year by year. This shows that women’s health awareness and healthcare have been improving.

The foundation of a nation’s development lies in the abundance of educated and skilled people. Therefore, it is essential to increase the number of knowledgeable and skilled human resources. The government is committed to promoting higher education levels and well-rounded development for all citizens. We are also actively working to enhance modern education and technology training to empower our youth, who are the future leaders, and striving to improve literacy rates and education completion levels.

According to the 2024 ASEAN Regional Gender Review Report, jointly conducted by the ASEAN Secretariat and UN Women, women’s political participation in ASEAN countries stands at 22 per cent. Annually, nine per cent of women experience violence from intimate partners. Women also spend more than twice the amount of time men do on unpaid

care and household work. Regarding access to technology, 69 per cent of men own mobile phones compared to only 63 per cent of women. There is also a noted gender disparity in land ownership. In Myanmar, the adolescent birth rate is only 0.2 per cent, the lowest among ASEAN countries, indicating progress in reproductive health awareness and education.

According to research surveys, Myanmar is working through national, operational, and regional women’s committees to enhance the capacities and development of women and girls across various sectors. The government urges all relevant ministries and organizations involved in the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (2023-2032), including the steering committee and the 12 working committees, to increase their efforts and collaboration in implementing this plan effectively.

Furthermore, when carrying out reconstruction efforts in disaster-affected areas, it is requested that gender-sensitive plans be implemented. Everyone is encouraged to come together to support all women, both in rural and urban areas, to regain livelihoods and improve their economic capacities through sustainable income-generating activities.

In conclusion, for the success of peace processes and the establishment of a Union based on federalism and a democratic system, the entire women’s community must work together hand in hand with all men in unity and cooperation. Therefore, I urge all citizens, including women, to come together in greater solidarity and active participation than ever before for the development and future of the nation.



# NATIONAL

## Central Body for Summoning People’s Military Servants holds 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting

STATE Administration Council Member, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye, in his capacity as Chairman of the Central Body for Summoning People’s Military Servants, attended the 2/2025 coordination meeting of the central body in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, the General said that a total of 11 batches of the People’s Military Service Training have been completed to date, and the trainees are actively and dutifully serving in national defence and security measures. Moreover, some were awarded honorary medals and certificates for their outstanding performance.

He continued that the offi-



The second coordination meeting of the Central Body for Summoning People’s Military Servants in progress yesterday, chaired by SAC Member, Deputy Prime Minister, and Union Defence Minister General Maung Maung Aye.

cials from different levels should be under the People’s Military Service Law, rules and proce-

dures to be supervised strictly, and instructed the need for the ward and village administrative

bodies, township administrative bodies to supervise against finan-

cial fraud and corruption.

He highlighted the National Service Information Management System (NSIMS) developed by Supporting Task Force for IT Technology and Data Recording related to People’s Military Service, and the need to summon those who received exemption, reduction and temporary suspension permits by the Nay Pyi Taw Council and Region/State Committees for Summoning People’s Military Servants.

Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Kyaw Swa Lin, who is vice-chair of the central body, members of the central body and Nay Pyi Taw, Region/State committees’ chairmen and officials reported on the matters related to the military training. — MNA/KTZH

## MoE Dy Minister joins 53<sup>rd</sup> SEAMEO Council Conference in Brunei

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Myint and Yangon University of Economics Pro-Rector Dr Kyaw Tun Naing attended the 53<sup>rd</sup> Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Council Conference, held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam from 1 to 3 July.

Before official sessions, the delegation visited Universiti Teknologi Brunei on 30 June, where they observed the university’s library, research laboratories, lecture rooms



Deputy Minister Dr Zaw Myint attends the 53<sup>rd</sup> Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Council Conference in Brunei on 1-3 July.

and student dormitories. On the morning of 1 July, the delegation also participated in

the SEAMEO Council’s “In Camera” Session held at The Empire Brunei. — MNA/KZL

## Relief and recovery efforts continue in quake-hit areas



Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing inspects the rubble removal in Mandalay yesterday.

COORDINATED rehabilitation efforts involving various organizations and local communities continue at full strength across the affected regions, following the powerful Mandalay earthquake that caused widespread destruction.

Yesterday, Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), along with responsible officials, visited several religious buildings in Sagaing that had sustained damage. The team inspected damage to residential buildings, monasteries, and pagodas, and coordinated with relevant authorities to help maintain a clean and orderly urban environment. They also

provided refreshments to the workers and discussed necessary support with the responsible personnel.

Similarly, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and his team visited the Sky Villa area, as well as Aungmyaythazan and Mahaaungmyay Townships in Mandalay, where earthquake-damaged structures remain. They observed the use of heavy machinery to clear Building A and inspected the process of sorting and returning recovered materials to their rightful owners through official channels. — MNA/MKKS



လူဝင်မှုကြီးကြပ်ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့အင်အားဝန်ကြီးဌာန



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From Data to Development: Using Census For Socio-Economic Advancement

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NATIONAL

DPM, MoFA Union Minister receives Assistant Minister of Public Security of the People’s Republic of China, Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, separately

U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Liu Zhongyi, Assistant Minister of Public Security of the People’s Republic of China, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

Both sides cordially discussed the matters pertaining to the further consolidating of the existing Pauk-Phaw relations, the promotion of legal cooperation to jointly address transnational crimes, the enhancement of collaboration between the relevant departments to combat online gambling and telecommunication fraud networks along the border areas, the strengthening of tri-lateral cooperation among Myanmar, China and Thailand including cooperation

with regional and international community and the maintenance of peace and stability along the Myanmar-China borders.

Moreover, U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Dusit Manapan, Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

Both sides cordially exchanged views on further enhancing the existing bilateral ties and collaboration across various sectors in areas of mutual interest, enforcing the post-earthquake rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. Moreover, both sides deliberated together on the further enhancement of ongoing



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Than Swe meets Mr Dusit Manapan, Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand yesterday.

ing cooperation and discussed matters pertaining to the advancement of the multi-sectoral cooperation, stability along the border and strengthening people-to-people contacts as well as closer collaboration at both regional and multilateral arenas. — MNA

Myanmar, Thailand hold 26<sup>th</sup> drug control talks

THE 26<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-Thailand Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation took place in Taunggyi yesterday.

Chief of Myanmar Police Force (MPF) Police Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe, Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, said the special operations are being conducted after reviewing the drug seizures and changing transportation routes. A total of 40 special operations were conducted between 2013 and 2024, and a new operation was also launched starting from 1 May this year.

It is essential to prioritize the control of precursor chemicals to reduce drug production. It is necessary to enhance the bilateral efforts in the control of precursor chemicals. To prevent precursor chemicals and related materials used in drug manufacturing from reaching drug production areas, cooperation will be

strengthened with neighbouring countries, including Thailand.

The strict preventive operations are being carried out along the border between the two countries, while conducting awareness programmes for the younger generation is also an important aspect. He expressed gratitude to the Thai government for assisting in projects as per the “MoU on Sustainable Alternative Development and Social Development Cooperation” signed by the two

countries on 10 February 2022.

Only through the successful implementation of these projects will the livelihoods of ethnic communities in opium-cultivating areas improve, leading to a decline in opium cultivation. The alternative development project in Naungtaya Town, Southern Shan State, implemented in cooperation with the Mae Fah Luang Foundation of Thailand, has achieved success.

He pledged to strengthen the bilateral

cooperation in line with “Two Nations, One Vision - Collaborating for Brighter Tomorrows”.

Police Lt-Gen Phanurat Lukboon of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) of Thailand also remarked.

A total of 14 Myanmar delegates, led by Police Lt-Gen Win Zaw Moe, and 11 delegates led by Pol Lt Gen Phanurat Lukboon attended the meeting, and the representatives from both sides discussed the current drug situation between the two countries and ongoing joint efforts in drug suppression, and potential areas for future cooperation. Topics also included drug seizure, the control of precursor chemicals, drug inspection and analysis, collaboration on reducing drug abuse, the implementation of alternative development projects, and the chairmanship of the 27<sup>th</sup> meeting in Thailand. — MNA/KTZH



The 26<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-Thailand Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation in progress yesterday in Taunggyi.

MRCS donates K50M to MSWRR for quake-hit staff



Union Minister Dr Soe Win accepts the donation from the Myanmar Red Cross Society yesterday.

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) yesterday donated K50 million to staff members of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement who were affected by the recent Mandalay earthquake.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win accepted the donation on behalf of the ministry and expressed gratitude. A certificate of honour was presented in return. — MNA/KZL



# Reduce air pollution for public health

AIR pollution is more dangerous than smoking for individuals or drinking alcohol. In this regard, 201 to 300 air quality index can badly affect the health of individuals, while an index between 101 to 150 is not good for vulnerable individuals.

Air pollution can cause biological or chemical changes due to the spread of unclean smog and gases. Especially, people from urban areas are experiencing air pollution based on gases emitted from motor vehicles, generators and factories using fossil fuel for operation. Hence, air pollution becomes a silent killer which can kill some 8.1 million individuals per year.

On 6 February this year, UNICEF issued a press release, saying that some 325 million children live in relevant countries which face over five times of PM2.5 on average yearly. PM2.5 refers to particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less, often called fine particulate matter. These tiny particles are a major component of air pollution and can pose significant health risks when inhaled. Most of these particles come from smoke from fossil fuel, biofuel and setting fire to agricultural waste.

Carbon monoxide in the atmosphere can prevent the human body from receiving sufficient oxygen. If inhaled in large amounts, it can lead to life-threatening consequences. Extremely small particles can cause lung cancer, respiratory failure, and other types of cancer, according to findings of scientists. Therefore, the people are advised to avoid going outdoors as much as possible, and if going out is unavoidable, it is essential to wear a proper mask before going outside.

Sequences. Extremely small particles can cause lung cancer, respiratory failure, and other types of cancer, according to findings of scientists. Therefore, the people are advised to avoid going outdoors as much as possible, and if going out is unavoidable, it is essential to wear a proper mask before going outside.

To create a healthy and harmonious environment for people to live in, everyone should strive to minimize activities that harm the health conditions of people, reduce emissions that pollute the air in their surroundings, and limit the release of harmful particles from economic activities that affect public health. Only then will good and livable environments for the public emerge.

# Environmental Benefits of E-Waste Recycling

By Junior Thin

ABOUT five or six years ago, I opened a computer training centre. My training centre operated with 20 desktop computers. Since I also ran a small English language course, I taught computer skills once a week to the young students who came for English lessons, while also providing dedicated computer training for those who wanted to learn separately. The computers were purchased at affordable prices from the second-hand market in Yangon, so the initial investment wasn't too large. Within about a year of

starting the business, it became quite successful. However, over the next two years, the unreliable electricity supply made it impossible for the desktops to function properly, especially during the day when power was available for only a few hours on a rotational basis, and even then, frequent outages occurred. This created significant challenges in running the computer training centre, so I ended up dismantling and storing the computers.

Since the computers were second-hand to begin with and had been stored for about a year,

they started to break down. Keeping the broken computers at home felt cluttered and took up space, so I sold them to a scrap shop for a negligible price, more like the rate for scrap metal than old computers. Now, I've kept only two good desktops at home and rely on laptops for my needs. I haven't been able to reopen the computer training centre either. One day, I read an article in Reader's Digest about E-Waste, which made me understand the issue and regret selling the old computers. That's why I've written this article to share with readers.

Technology permeates modern life, with smartphones, laptops, tablets, and other devices becoming indispensable. However, when these gadgets become obsolete or malfunction, many are discarded carelessly, contributing to a mounting issue known as electronic waste, or e-waste. This category encompasses discarded electronics like old phones, computers, monitors, keyboards, batteries, and household appliances such as microwaves or refrigerators. Improper disposal, often in regular trash bins, poses significant environmental risks. Recycling e-waste offers a sustainable solution, yielding benefits like reducing toxic pollution, conserving natural resources, cutting greenhouse gas emissions, minimizing landfill waste, and fostering a circular economy. This article explores how recycling e-waste protects the planet.

## Understanding E-Waste

E-waste refers to discarded electronic devices or their com-

ponents. Globally, millions of tons are generated annually, yet much of it is improperly disposed of, ending up in landfills or incinerators, causing environmental and health hazards. Recycling involves dismantling old electronics and reusing their materials or parts to create new products, mitigating these risks. Below are five key environmental benefits of this practice.

### 1. Reducing Toxic Pollution

Electronics often contain hazardous substances like lead, mercury, cadmium, and brominated flame retardants, which pose risks to ecosystems and human health. For instance, lead can impair the brain and nervous system, while mercury contaminates water sources, harming fish and wildlife. Improper disposal, such as landfilling or incineration, allows these toxins to seep into soil and water, polluting rivers, lakes, and groundwater. This contamination affects plants, animals, and communities relying on these resources.

Recycling prevents such pollution by ensuring safe handling of toxic materials. Specialized facilities extract and dispose of these substances properly, preventing environmental contamination. By recycling, ecosystems remain protected, and air, water, and soil stay cleaner, safeguarding biodiversity and public health.

### 2. Conserving Natural Resources

Electronic devices contain valuable materials like gold, silver, copper, and rare earth metals, used in components such as circuit boards, wires, and batteries. Extracting these materials through mining devastates forests, rivers, and wildlife habitats while consuming significant energy and water. Recycling recovers these materials for reuse in new products, reducing the need for virgin resources. For example, gold from an old smartphone can be repurposed for a new device, decreasing reliance on mining.

This process preserves natural landscapes, conserves water and energy, and minimizes environmental degradation. By reusing existing materials, recycling supports sustainable resource management, benefiting the planet's ecosystems and reducing the ecological footprint of electronics production.

### 3. Lowering Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Recycling e-waste combats climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon dioxide, which trap heat and contribute to global warming. Manufacturing new electronics from raw materials is energy-intensive, involving mining, refining, and

production processes that often rely on fossil fuels. These activities release substantial emissions into the atmosphere.

Using recycled materials or refurbishing old devices requires significantly less energy, cutting emissions. For instance, recycling metals for new products consumes less power than mining and processing ores. Additionally, recycling reduces emissions from transporting raw materials globally. By prioritizing recycling, the electronics industry's carbon footprint shrinks, contributing to a healthier planet and supporting global efforts to mitigate climate change.

### 4. Minimizing Landfill Waste

E-waste is among the fastest-growing waste streams worldwide, with millions of discarded devices adding to landfill volumes annually. Overcrowded landfills struggle to accommodate this influx, and many are ill-equipped to handle electronics safely. Toxic substances can leak, exacerbating environmental harm, as discussed earlier. Recycling alleviates this burden by diverting e-waste from landfills. Recycling programs collect and sort electronics, reusing components and safely processing hazardous materials. This reduces landfill waste, lowers the risk of pollution, and helps maintain cleaner, safer communities. By keeping electronics out of landfills,

recycling addresses a critical waste management challenge and supports sustainable urban development.

### 5. Promoting a Circular Economy

E-waste recycling advances a circular economy, a sustainable model that maximizes resource use and minimizes waste. Unlike the traditional "take-make-dispose" approach, which extracts raw materials, produces goods, and discards them, a circular economy emphasizes reuse, repair, and refurbishment. Recycling e-waste enables materials from old devices to be repurposed for new products, reducing the demand for new resources and minimizing waste.

For example, components from a discarded phone can be used in new electronics, extending material lifecycles. This approach conserves resources, reduces landfill and incinerator waste, and promotes sustainability. By embracing recycling, society moves toward a system that prioritizes long-term environmental health and resource efficiency.

### Why E-Waste Recycling Matters

Recycling e-waste transcends simply sorting electronics into designated bins; it's a vital step towards environmental protection and sustainability. It prevents toxic chemicals from contaminating soil and water, conserves valuable resources, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, alleviates landfill pressures, and fosters a circular economy. These efforts collectively safeguard ecosystems, mitigate cli-

mate change, and promote sustainable resource use.

Achieving these benefits requires collective action. Governments can enforce regulations to ensure proper e-waste collection and recycling. Companies can design products for easier recycling and incorporate recycled materials. Individuals play a crucial role by choosing to recycle rather than discard electronics in regular trash.

### How to Contribute

Participating in e-waste recycling is straightforward. Start by locating local recycling programmes or drop-off points, often available through municipalities or electronics retailers. Many manufacturers offer take-back programs for old devices. Before recycling, erase personal data, such as photos or passwords, to protect privacy. Extending device lifecycles through repair, donation, or second-hand sales also reduces e-waste. These actions, though small, significantly impact environmental health.

In brief, e-waste poses a growing challenge, but recycling provides a powerful solution. By reducing toxic pollution, conserving resources, lowering emissions, minimizing landfill waste, and promoting a circular economy, recycling protects the environment and fosters sustainability. Every recycled phone or computer contributes to cleaner ecosystems, reduced climate impact, and efficient resource use. Individuals, governments, and companies must collaborate to ensure responsible e-waste management. The next time you replace an old device, choose recycling — your action can make a meaningful difference for the planet's future.

# A Teacher of Foreign Language

MOST people might all too easily think that it is not difficult for anyone to become a teacher of a foreign language. After all, this is not as easy as they thought. In my experience, many students tend to pay less attention to a foreign language teacher than a native teacher, even though they express an interest in the language. This is because, in my opinion, they are under the illusion that a foreign

language teacher cannot teach the language as well as a native speaker can. Also, some students would like to study a language only from a teacher who speaks it as their first language. Of course, a foreign language teacher or a native teacher will have to teach the same language.

The first language barrier that a foreign language teacher could face is nothing but pronunciation. The pronunciation of a

By Hu Wo  
(Cuckoo's Song)

language will be most correctly uttered by a native speaker only. Even so, not all native speakers can pronounce any word of their language with the exact utterance. That is, they might also do it wrong sometimes. Hence, we can never say that only native speakers' pronunciation is always right. A foreign language

teacher will be able to overcome the difficulty of pronunciation in a language by going and staying in that language-speaking country for a few years, watching or listening to news broadcasts in that language, using a pronunciation dictionary, or learning phonetic symbols. Despite this, inarticulate teachers often run into difficulty while teaching pronunciation to young students. And usually, foreign teachers' pronunciation may not be as excellent as native speakers'.

The second language barrier

for a foreign teacher is vocabulary. As a teacher of a foreign language, it will not be convenient for him or her to have a limited vocabulary in the long run. In other words, a language teacher should have a wide vocabulary.

SEE PAGE 14

To maintain and expand their vocabulary, foreign language teachers should engage in lifelong learning, including reading, attending workshops, and participating in language immersion experiences.  
ILLUSTRATION: FREEPIK





# NATIONAL

## Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden hosts Animal Welfare Auditory Training Workshop

ACCORDING to Htoo Zoos and Gardens, the Zoological Park Organization (ZPOT) of Thailand and Myanmar's Htoo Zoos and Gardens jointly organized an Animal Welfare Audit Training Workshop at Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden from 24 to 26 June.

The workshop featured a presentation on the important role of animal welfare in zoos and aquariums, along with a detailed talk on ethics and the SEAZA standard code of animal welfare, delivered by experts from Thailand's Zoological Park Organization (ZPOT), Dr Visit Arsaithamkul and Dr Sumate Kamolonorrnanath.

At the training workshop,



This photo captures the Animal Welfare Auditory Training Workshop on 24-26 June.

the Animal Welfare Checklist, based on the Southeast Asian Zoos and Aquariums Associa-

tion (SEAZA) guidelines, was explained in detail. The exhibits were divided among four groups,

and inspections were carried out using the SEAZA criteria. Additionally, the findings from each

area were presented in a PowerPoint presentation, and each group discussed in detail the support and resources needed for their respective animal areas.

The workshop was attended by the Deputy Director General (Administration Department) of the Forest Department and accompanying officials, the Deputy General Manager and officials from the Myanma Timber Enterprise, faculty from the University of Veterinary Science (Yezin), administrators from various parks, veterinarians, officials from the Htoo Zoos & Gardens Business Unit, as well as animal care supervisors and staff from multiple parks.

— ASH/TH

## KER condo expansion sparks resident concerns

THERE were no reports of damage, although Yangon Region and other areas faced the impact of the Mandalay earthquake on 28 March. However, some high-rise buildings experienced the impact, and the apartments on every floor of the high-rise Kaba Aye Executive Residence condominium, located on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township, Yangon, faced the cracks due to the impact. Therefore, the residents are now concerned about the natural disaster prevention measures.

A total of 115 rooms of the three-storey basement and 26-storey of KER condominium have been sold out, and the expansion of 10 rooms at car parking of the seventh floor, at the garden area of the eighth floor and the public area of 27<sup>th</sup> floor, totalling 130 rooms, cause huge concern for the residents who faced the impact of earthquake.

“Due to visible cracks appearing in nearly every unit on each floor, the performance of certain structural components has become a cause for concern among the residents. Following the earthquake, there



The damage impacted by the Mandalay earthquake to the Kaba Aye Executive Residence.

is a need for immediate notification and proper inspection, and it is also essential to form a joint condominium management committee that includes unit owners to handle matters related to the condominium. The intention is to ensure that any damage caused by natural disasters can be addressed quickly and efficiently. However, the absence of a reliable seismic inspection and certification has raised safety concerns among those living in the building. The expansion beyond the originally designated number of units has exceeded the condominium's structural capacity, which may have contributed to the damage,”

said U Maung Maung, a KER's resident.

KER includes facilities such as elevators up to the 26<sup>th</sup> floor, a designated helipod, underground car parking (B1-B3), commercial floors and restaurant (1F-5F), parking (6F-7F), residential units (8F-20F), while the 21F is reserved for yoga rooms, a swimming pool, and a fitness centre. Floors 22F to 26F are designated for penthouses and duplex penthouses. The services promised by the developer have not yet been fully provided, and KER's officials need to address the issues resulting from the impact of the recent earthquake. — Ottha/KTZH

## Travel firms gear up for 2025-26 Bodh Gaya pilgrimage



This photo depicts Myanmar pilgrims visiting Bodh Gaya in India in the previous years.

LOCAL travel operators are making preparations for the upcoming 2025-2026 Bodh Gaya pilgrimage season, according to Dhana Thit Bodh Gaya Pilgrimage Transportation and Travel Company.

All existing and new companies planning to organize trips to Bodh Gaya during the 2025-2026 pilgrimage season must register with the Bodh Gaya Pilgrimage Transport Committee between 1 and 21 July. The registration fee is set at K100,000, along with an extra annual fee of K100,000.

“The Bodh Gaya pilgrimage season typically runs from October to early April each year. Our company has already begun planning tour packages and informing new and returning pilgrims. Along with our previous clients, we are also receiving ear-

ly inquiries from new pilgrims. For the upcoming season, hotel-based seven-night pilgrimage packages may cost around US\$1,100 to \$1,200 per person. However, for those staying at monasteries, the cost could be reduced by approximately \$300,” said Daw May Nyo Lwin, Managing Director of Dhana Thit Bodh Gaya Pilgrimage Transportation and Travel Company.

Popular destinations included in the Bodh Gaya pilgrimage itineraries typically cover the Eight Great Sacred Places of Buddhism and other notable sites such as Varanasi, Sarnath, Lumbini, Kushinagar, Vaishali, Rajgir and Nalanda. Travel companies provide both short and long pilgrimage packages, and the places covered vary based on each itinerary. — ASH/KZL



NATIONAL

Sitagu eyesight camp returns on 2 July, 600 patients treated first day

ON the first day of the 13th time of free eyesight donation by the Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital in Yangon resumed on 2 July, medical examination covered 581 patients.

It has been planned to provide medical examination for 600 patients and proceed with surgical procedure for about 100 patients who need to have surgery on the second day, 3 July.

Based on the examination results of patients, the hospital will perform surgery for about 100 patients per day, from 4 to 7 July.

Under the guidance of Sitagu Sayadaw, the 12<sup>th</sup> time of free eyesight donation was completed, and 14,815 patients were covered in the free medical examination, of them, 4,496 were provided surgery and 256 were provided laser treatment, according to the hospital. — MT/ZS



The 13<sup>th</sup> time of free eyesight donation in progress at the Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital in Yangon on 2 July.



The beautiful landscape of Mount Popa.

Mt Popa daytrips resume

IT is safe again around the Mt Popa located in NyaungU District's Kyaukpadaung Township in Mandalay Region, and there are some day trippers going hiking despite overnight stay still being prohibited, said a resident.

Hiking was banned on 28 December for security concerns; however, there are visitors at the Taung Kalat regularly.

An event called Popa Jungle Trail Run 2025 was organized this month at the Mt Popa, and many participants joined.

"It means hiking is allowed for a day trip. But overnight stay is still prohibited. Camping overnight at the summit has been banned since December," he added.

At present, there are just a few hikers to Mount Popa, but visitors have flocked to Kalaw in Shan State and Hpa-an in Kayin State, he said.

"Daytrip has just resumed, so people don't know about it yet," he added. It is expected that the visitor arrival at Mount Popa will rise again in September and October, he said. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS

Myanmar offers low-interest loans for post-quake business recovery

STATE Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing mentioned that among quick business recovery measures of the government after the earthquake, providing capital at low interest rates is also included, at the coordination meeting for the nation's economic growth held on 2 July 2025.

He added that the government will make utmost efforts in its post-quake agenda to recover the economy affected by the natural disaster, and the economy will be enhanced by encouraging the improvement in the manufacturing sector and supporting those who want to contribute



An advertisement of a financial institution to provide capital financing, low-interest loans to micro, small and medium enterprises.

to the economic development.

When measuring a country's economy in terms of GDP, Myanmar's

an increase of \$ 5.2 billion.

"While we were working on the forecast, the World Bank has reduced its previous prediction of 2.5 per cent growth to -2.5 per cent decline. Their forecast data are found to be incorrect and incomplete. Anyway, if the local people strive enough, the GDP will improve despite the negative growth forecast. When compared to the GDPs of neighbouring countries, in addition to ASEAN nations, Myanmar's GDP is still low, so we need to try our best to improve GDP as well as manufacturing activities," Senior General Min Aung Hlaing elaborated.

— Htun Htun/ZN

Star singer-actor announces live concert

SINGER-ACTOR Hlwan Paing will host a live show at Judson Entertainment Bar in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, starting at 6 pm, according to the artiste himself.

"In response to requests from Judson's loyal fans, a second concert will be held on 5 July. We've also coordinated with the Judson Band to deliver a performance different from the first one. We'll select the best songs and put on a great show," said Hlwan Paing.

The live show will feature the Judson Band's skilful performance, alongside appearances by rising vocalists, DJ artistes, and well-known dance troupes.

Hlwan Paing also recently performed at a movie, theatrical, and music fundraising concert held at Phaungdaw Chetma Pagoda in Lewe Township on 25 June. — ASH/MKKS



This photo showcases a poster for Hlwan Paing's live music concert.



# NATIONAL BUSINESS

MYANMAR Agribusiness Public Corporation (MAPCO) shipped 7,302 tonnes of rice to five foreign countries in the first quarter of the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, generating an income of US\$2.4 million.

Exports were delivered to China (3,976 tonnes), Indonesia (2,080 tonnes), Mozambique (780 tonnes), the Czech Republic (416 tonnes) and Estonia (50 tonnes).

MAPCO has completed a small-scale oil mill with cooking oil (peanut, sesame oil and sunflower oil) production capacity of 100 viss per hour, which is an initial trial of the rice bran oil being developed in Nay Pyi Taw, aiming for oil production capacity of 200 tonnes per day. At present, sunflower oil produced by that oil mill is distributed in the market, labelled by the Hnitthak brand.

MAPCO, under the guidance of MRF, has prepared that project since 2014. Myanmar Rice Bran Oil Co Ltd (MRBO) was set up to operate a rice bran oil project in Mezaligon village-tract, Pynmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw.

MRBO is constructing a

## MAPCO exports over 7,000 tonnes of rice to 5 countries in Q1



This photo shows export rice bags being loaded onto an overseas-bound vessel at Yangon Port.

crude rice bran oil factory (200 tonnes) and a refined oil factory (50 tonnes). Crude oil extracted from this will be reused in refined oil production factories.

Defatted bran, a by-product of the crude bran oil production, will be supplied to feed processing factories as a valuable raw material.

Quality bran oil, sunflower oil, and soybean oil produced from the refinery will be distributed in the market, contributing to domestic consumption needs.

Upon the government's approval, they will be placed in the international markets as well.

MRBO received company registration from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) on 9 March 2022, an import licence on 1 June 2023 and a permit from the Myanmar Investment Commission 261/2024 according to a decision of the MIC meeting dated 5 January 2024. Value-added rice bran oil will be produced with the by-product of the surrounding rice mills and parboiled rice mills owned by MAPCO. Under the guidance of MRF, MRBO held the groundbreaking ceremony of the construction project at the MAPCO rice mill complex located in Pynmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw, on 7 February. That plant is aimed at producing 9,000 tonnes of crude bran oil and 6,300 tonnes of cooking oil per year. It will become the first ever refinery for cooking oil. The federation will accelerate rice bran oil and cooking oil production plans. — NN/KK

## CBM to sell CNY10M to importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 2 July that it would sell 10 million yuan to importers. CBM sold over US\$1.593 million to edible oil importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 1 July that it would pump \$33 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold over \$1.15 million, which was purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold 643,634.29 to commodities importing companies and \$377.362.5 to edible oil companies on 30 June after injecting 500,000 baht into the market.

CBM \$500,000 to commodities-importing companies on 27 June, in addition to a 400,000-yuan injection into the market and \$845,000 purchased from CMP companies into the edible oil industry.

CBM sold \$1 million to commodities-importing companies after the injection of 160,000 yuan into the market on 26 June. Furthermore, CBM

sold \$400,000 to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM made \$1.479 million injection from foreign currencies purchased from the CMP businesses into the edible oil-importing sector on 25 June

CBM sold over 700,000 yuan on 24 June. Furthermore, CBM sold \$870,000, which was purchased from the CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 23 June to pump \$30 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold \$464,500 to edible oil-importing companies and over \$496,000 to commodities-importing companies on that day after the injection of over 16,540 yuan into the market.

CBM sold over \$600,000 and 387,000 yuan on 20 June. Furthermore, it sold \$800,000 to edible oil importing companies and over \$503,000 from its designated injection to commodities-importing companies.

CBM pumped over \$577,000 out of its designated \$10 million injection to commodities-im-

porting companies on 19 June.

Moreover, CBM sold \$1.524 million from the companies working on a Cut-Make and Pack basis to edible oil-importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold over \$1 million out of the designated \$10 million injection into commodities-importing companies on 18 June 2025. Furthermore, CBM also sold \$1.68 million from CMP companies to 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, 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

## Tissue-culture techniques help to reduce potato seed import

A group of potato growers and related departments are working together to achieve potato seeds adapted to the hill areas by utilizing tissue-culture techniques, and on-farm trials are underway. Consequently, they will try to reduce potato seed imports, potato growers in southern Shan State. Potatoes are cultivated throughout the year across Kalaw, Aungban, Pindaya, Hopong, Heho, Pinlaung and Naungtaya areas in the southern Shan State. Shan State covers over 50,000 acres. Shan's potato contributes to self-sufficiency.

Those potato varieties originated in the Netherlands and China. About 90,000 tonnes of potato seeds are brought in per year to meet domestic needs for potato cultivation. A group of potato growers set up cold storage to fulfil the needs of potato seeds.

At present, there are six factories in Aungban, Heho, Naungtaya, Hopong and Pindaya town-

ships, with eight refrigerated containers storing 9,000 tonnes of seeds. The cold storages handle the potato stocks and controls the excess supply in the market during the plentiful harvest season. As a result of this, more public companies, including a group of growers, were established. Cold storage in Heho with a processing capacity of 2,000 tonnes and another one with a capacity of 3,000 tonnes in Aungban are being developed. Growers collectively set up cold storage facilities with a view to ensuring food security, market equilibrium, benefiting stakeholders in the potato supply chain, helping preserve potatoes and creating a fair market.

Authorities concerned are also helping to enhance potato cultivation. Shan State's Agriculture Department is providing technical assistance and getting access to pedigree seeds for domestic consumption and business growth. — NN/KK



Microsoft to cut 9,000 jobs in fresh round of layoffs: Report

AMERICAN tech giant Microsoft will lay off nearly 9,000 employees, about four per cent of its workforce — in what is its third round of job cuts in recent months, the company confirmed on Wednesday, according to a CNN report.

The report said this is Microsoft’s largest round of layoffs since 2023, when it cut 10,000 jobs. The move comes amid a broader wave of job cuts in the global tech industry. “We continue to implement organisational changes necessary to best position the company and teams for success in a dynamic marketplace,”

a Microsoft spokesperson said in a statement, quoted by CNN.

The spokesperson also said the company aims to streamline its management structure and improve productivity by leveraging new technologies. Many technology firms, including Microsoft, are turning to artificial intelligence (AI) to boost employee efficiency. Earlier this year, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella said that between 20 and 30 per cent of the company’s code is now written by AI, as Microsoft continues to invest heavily in AI infrastructure. — ANI

French court convicts ex-Ubisoft bosses for workplace harassment

A French court sentenced three former Ubisoft executives on Wednesday to suspended prison terms for enabling a culture of sexual and psychological harassment at the gaming giant.

Thomas Francois, a former editorial vice-president who was also convicted

on a charge of attempted sexual assault, received the heaviest sentence of a suspended three-year term.

Among the three defendants, he faced the most damning allegations, including forcing an employee to do a headstand while in a skirt. — AFP

Indonesia raises crude palm oil benchmark price, cuts cocoa reference rate for July



A worker rides motorbike at a palm oil plantation in Langkat district, North Sumatra, Indonesia. 22 June 2021. PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE

THE Indonesian government has increased the benchmark price of crude palm oil (CPO) in July by US\$21.51 to \$877.89 dollars per metric tonne, and lowered the reference price for cocoa beans by \$152.92 to \$9,438.60 per metric tonne, the Ministry of

Trade said on Wednesday.

The new policy is effective from 1 July to 31 July, according to a statement issued by the ministry.

“The increase in the CPO reference price was due to rising demand, especially from India, which was not matched by an

increase in production,” said Isy Karim, acting director general of foreign trade at the ministry.

The government has imposed an export duty of \$52 per metric tonne on CPO for the period, Karim said in the statement.

Regarding cocoa

beans, the government continues to levy a 15 percent surcharge on exports of the commodity.

“The decline in the cocoa bean reference price was influenced by an increase in supply from major producing countries,” Karim added. — Xinhua

SpiceJet receives first two of 17 overhauled engines from StandardAero



With the receipt of the first two engines, SpiceJet expects a steady flow of additional engines in the coming months. PHOTO: SPICEJET

SPICEJET on Thursday said it has received the first two of its overhauled engines from global MRO provider StandardAero.

These include a CFM LEAP-1B engine that powers the Boeing 737 MAX, overhauled at StandardAero’s Houston, USA fa-

cility, and one Q400 engine, received from StandardAero’s Singapore facility.

The airline in a statement said today it has also

successfully ungrounded another Boeing 737 NG aircraft, which returned to active service last month, reinforcing SpiceJet’s commitment to restoring fleet capacity in a structured and phased manner.

As part of its broader fleet revival plan, a total of 17 engines were sent for overhaul. With the receipt of the first two engines, SpiceJet expects a steady flow of additional engines in the coming months.

Six CFM LEAP-1B engines were sent to StandardAero’s Houston facility, while seven Q400 engines had been sent to its Singapore facility. — ANI

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
M.V MCL 19 VOY.NO. (01)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 19 VOY. NO. (01)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT** 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.  
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ARTICLE/ROLLING UPDATES  
WORLD

China’s 3D-printed mini jet engine triumphs in pioneering flight test

The flight test occurred in Inner Mongolia, reaching a maximum altitude of 4,000 metres, demonstrating the engine’s operational reliability and stability.

CHINA successfully completed the maiden flight of a domestically developed ultra-lightweight miniature jet engine, which was entirely manufactured using 3D printing technology.

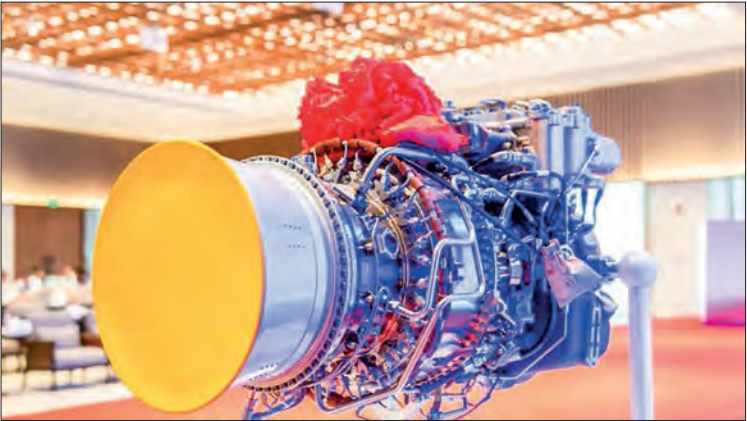
This achievement marks a breakthrough in advanced propulsion design and manufacturing, according to the engine’s

developer.

The flight test took place on Tuesday in north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, reaching a maximum altitude of 4,000 metres. It comprehensively demonstrated the operational reliability and stability of the engine under authentic flight conditions, Aero Engine Corpo-

ration of China (AECC) said in a press release on Wednesday night.

The engine represents China’s first-ever flight-validated turbojet engine in the 160-kilogramme thrust class to be manufactured entirely using multi-disciplinary topology optimization additive manufacturing



This photo taken on 5 June 2025 shows an AES100 engine displayed at the review meeting on the engine’s development work in Zhuzhou City, Central China’s Hunan province. PHOTO: XINHUA

(3D printing) techniques, said AECC.

“This successful inaugural flight lays a more solid technical

foundation for the research and development of future advanced aviation engines in China,” it said. — Xinhua



Nuclear power plants in Switzerland and France have been forced to reduce their activity or shut down completely due to extreme temperatures. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Heatwave forces shut France, Swiss nuclear plants

DUE to a scorching heatwave which has spread across Europe in recent days, a number of nuclear power plants in Switzerland and France have been forced to either reduce activity or shut down completely as extreme temperatures have prevented sites from relying on water from local rivers, Euro News reported.

To cool down, nuclear power plants pump water from local rivers or the sea, which they

then release back into water bodies at a higher temperature. However, this process can threaten local biodiversity if water is released which is too hot.

To cool down, nuclear power plants pump water from local rivers or the sea, which they then release back into water bodies at a higher temperature.

However, Europe’s ongoing heatwave means that the water pumped by nuclear sites is already very hot, impacting

the ability of nuclear plants to use it to cool down. On top of this, nuclear sites run the risk of posing a dangerous threat to local biodiversity, by releasing water which is too hot into rivers and seas, as per Euro News.

In light of the heat, Axpo – which operates the Beznau nuclear power plant in Switzerland – said it had shut down one of its reactors on Tuesday, adding that a second reactor was operating at limited capacity. — ANI

A Teacher of Foreign Language

From Page 9

In spite of this, a foreign language teacher will find it difficult to have a rich vocabulary. Any language teacher must have studied essential vocabulary, core vocabulary, specialized vocabulary, active vocabulary and passive vocabulary in advance to enrich an extensive vocabulary as regards the language. To build vocabulary items, a teacher has to use dictionaries, thesauruses and language activators. Though the dictionary is a bank of vocabulary, daily newspapers can be best seen to look up vocabulary words for such a large vocabulary as common or current usages.

The third language barrier for a teacher is grammar. Grammar can bring accuracy and fluency to the language, we all know. Nevertheless, many foreign language teachers are given to saying a grammatical pattern, whether it is right or wrong, just depending on what they have ever seen or read, if they are asked by their pupils. Thus, their reply to questions on grammar relies too much on a certain extent to which they have read. It is not a good habit for a foreign language teacher at all. For a language teacher, a grammatical structure can be said exactly if it is correct or not with reference to which dictionary, what page, and so on, as needed. As far as I am concerned, grammar looks

boring for most language learners or even language teachers, but nobody can avoid grammar in speaking or writing. Most of all, grammar is the ‘half-life’ of language writing.

A language teacher’s fourth barrier is often found to be speaking the language. As I am aware, most foreign language teachers are unable to speak that language effectively and efficiently. As a result, they are more likely to use the translation method in language teaching and practice instead of the direct method. Here, I do not mean that the translation method is in vain in language instruction, simply because this method is used in many countries where a language is taught as a second language. Nonetheless, almost all students like a foreign language teacher teaching the language, just speaking in that language.

Every foreign language teacher’s linguistic instruction needs to have both validity and reliability in language teaching, as well as accuracy and fluency. And a teacher of a foreign language had better have self-confidence not only in language study but also in language teaching. For language teachers, great writing is their life too. Every foreign language teacher ought to listen to news on TV or the radio and read as much as possible, to say the least.

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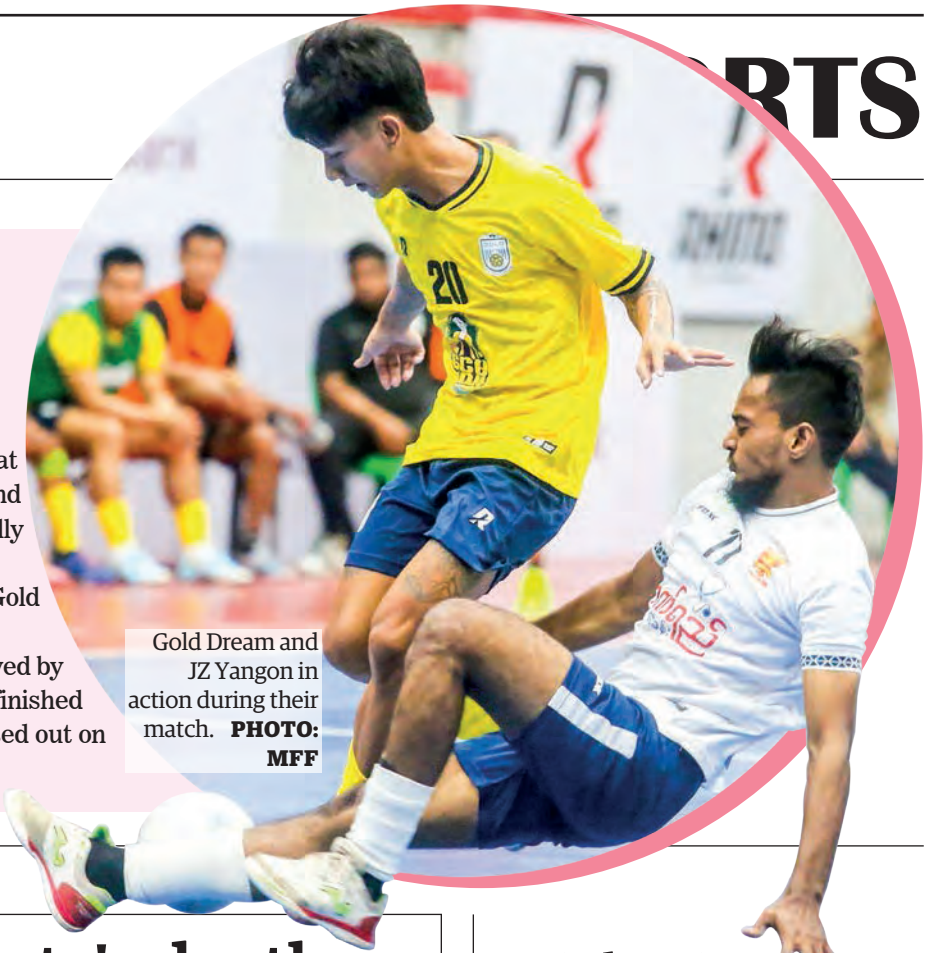


# SGF, Gold Dream clinch Futsal League 1 spots

THE final day of the MFF Futsal League 1 qualifying tournament concluded on 3 July at the MFF Futsal Stadium, located within Thuwunna Football Ground in Yangon. SGF and Gold Dream clubs secured their spots in the upcoming league season after successfully navigating the trial stage.

SGF delivered a dominant performance, defeating Futsal Lovers 4-0. Meanwhile, Gold Dream played out a 1-1 draw with JZ Yangon.

At the end of the qualifying round, SGF topped the group with nine points, followed by Gold Dream with four points. Both clubs earned their places in the league. JZ Yangon finished with two points, while Futsal Lovers earned just one point, and thus both clubs missed out on qualification. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Gold Dream and JZ Yangon in action during their match. PHOTO: MFF

# Klopp 'heartbroken' by Diogo Jota's death



Jurgen Klopp said he is heartbroken by the death of Diogo Jota (R) who he signed when he was Liverpool manager. PHOTO: AFP

FORMER Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said he was "heartbroken" to learn Diogo Jota, who he signed in 2020, had died with his younger brother Andre in a car crash on Thursday.

Diogo Jota, 28, died alongside Andre after their vehicle veered off a motorway in northern Spain before bursting into flames. Klopp, who is Red Bull's "head of global soccer", persuaded the Liverpool

board to pay £45 million (\$62 million) for Diogo Jota after he impressed at Wolves.

"This is a moment where I struggle!" Klopp posted on Instagram.

"There must be a bigger purpose! But I can't see it! I'm heartbroken to hear about the passing of Diogo and his brother Andre.

"Diogo was a not only a fantastic player, but also a great friend, a loving

and caring husband and father!

"We will miss you so much! All my prayers, thoughts and power to Rute, the kids, the family, the friends and everyone who loved them! Rest in peace — Love".

Diogo Jota was labelled an "exceptional player, exceptional boy," by Klopp early on in the player's spell at Liverpool. — AFP

# Djokovic aims to step up history bid at Wimbledon

NOVAK DJOKOVIC takes on British wildcard Dan Evans in the next stage of his quest for a record 25<sup>th</sup> Grand Slam as defending women's champion Barbora Krejcikova seeks to prolong her love affair with Wimbledon.

After three days of stunning up-sets at the All England Club, Djokovic, Krejcikova and world number one Jannik Sinner will bid to avoid becoming the latest stars to crash out in second-round action on Thursday.



Serbia's Novak Djokovic in action at Wimbledon. PHOTO: AFP

Eight top 10 seeds in the men's and women's singles were beaten in the first round, which ranks as the most at a Grand Slam in the Open era.

Italy's Jasmine Paolini, last year's Wimbledon runner-up, was defeated in the second round on Wednesday to leave only one of the top five women's seeds — world number one Aryna Sabalenka — still standing. Djokovic goes into his match against Evans with a losing record against the British wildcard, although they have met only once before. — AFP



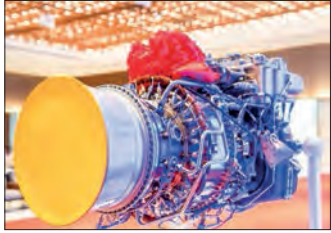
# 'We will all miss you': Cristiano Ronaldo on Diogo Jota's death

PORTUGUESE football superstar Cristiano Ronaldo paid tribute to his international team-mate Diogo Jota, who was killed in a car crash on Thursday, saying "we will all miss you". The Liverpool and Portugal star, 28, died along with his younger brother Andre when their vehicle veered off a motorway and burst into flames shortly after midnight in the municipality of Cernadilla in Zamora province, Spain.

"It makes no sense. We were just together with the national team (they won the Nations League title last month), you had just gotten married," he posted on X. "To your family, your wife, and your children, I send my condolences and wish them all the strength in the world. I know you will always be with them. Rest in Peace, Diogo and Andre. We will all miss you". Jota's death comes only a month after he and Ronaldo were celebrating on the pitch after Portugal won the Nations League title beating Spain on penalties. — AFP

Cristiano Ronaldo (L) celebrates with Diogo Jota after scoring a goal in 2019. PHOTO: AFP/FILE





## Brain research at ISS ahead of cargo mission launch

*As the Expedition 73 and Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) crews kept up their ongoing space biology studies onboard the International Space Station, one of the research included that of brain research.*



NASA astronauts (from left) Anne McClain and Nichole Ayers pose for a portrait inside the cupola while monitoring the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft carrying the Axiom Mission 4 crew as it approached the International Space Station on 26 June 2025. **PHOTO: NASA/ANI**

**A**S the Expedition 73 and Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) crews kept up their ongoing space biology studies onboard the International Space Station, one of the research included that of brain research. Meanwhile, a Progress cargo craft counts down to its launch to resupply the orbital residents this week-end, NASA stated.

NASA Flight Engineer Nichole Ayers took her turn on Wednesday in the Columbus laboratory module wearing neck and chest electrodes measuring oscillations in the blood flow from her brain to the heart for the Drain Brain 2.0 human research experiment. Similarly, Ax-4 private astronaut Tibor Kapu wore a cap that imaged blood flow in his cerebral artery using doppler ultrasound for the Cerebral Hemodynamics investigation.

Veteran astronaut and Ax-4 Commander Peggy Whitson assisted Kapu with the biomedical hardware and meas-

ured his blood pressure inside the Tranquility module. Both studies are supported by different organizations with the first seeking to prevent space-caused blood clots and the second to protect crew visual processing and perception in microgravity, the statement said.

Ayers later joined her station crewmates Commander Takuya Onishi of JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) and NASA Flight Engineer Anne McClain for eye checks using high-resolution, near-infrared medical imaging hardware.

McClain led the B Complex optical investigation in the Harmony Module as Ayers and Onishi peered into the ocular device while doctors on the ground examined their optic nerve at the back of the eye in real time. Researchers are exploring using B vitamin supplements as a method to protect crew vision in microgravity, as per NASA. — ANI

## CARBON-NEUTRAL GROWTH

### Vietnam to join international carbon offsetting scheme for aviation

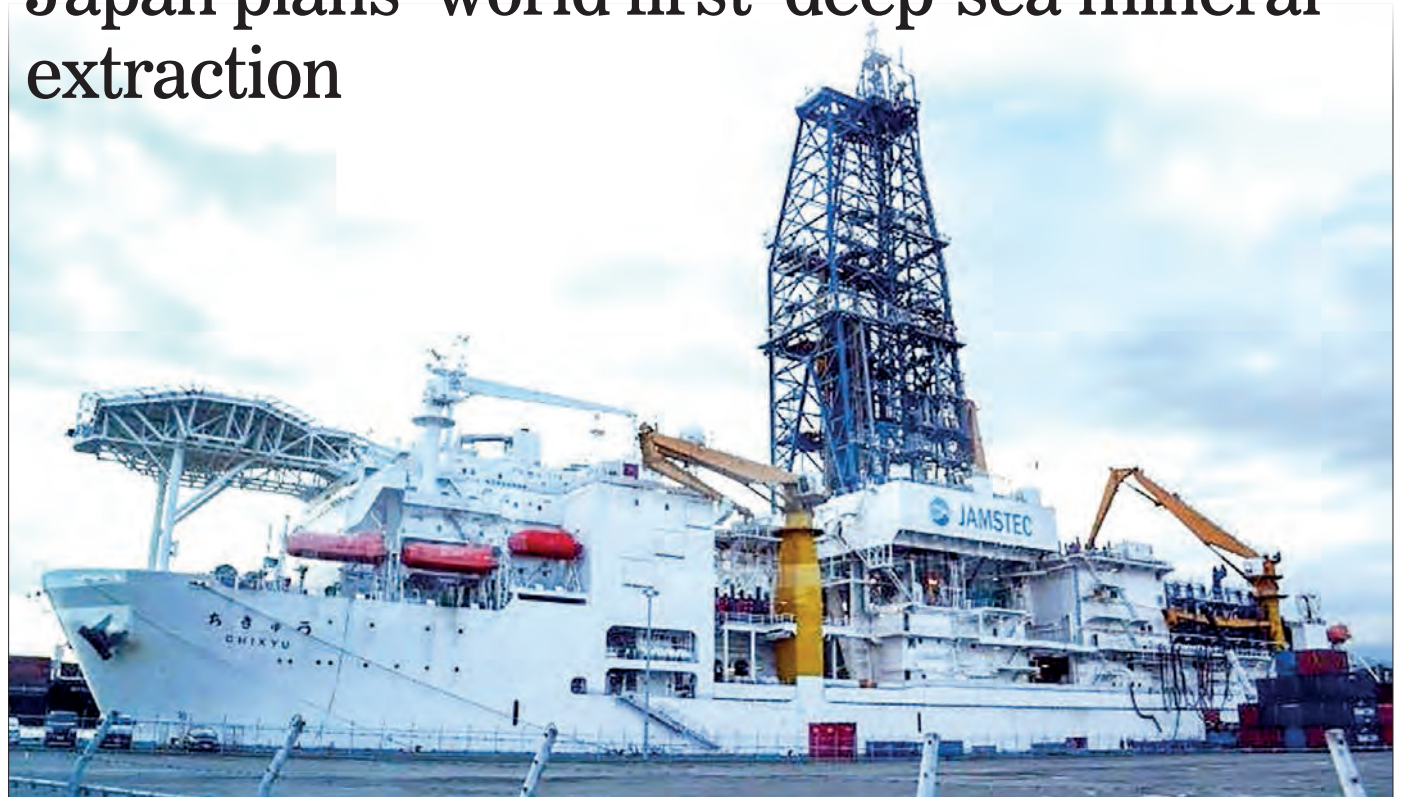
THE International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has officially confirmed that the Civil Aviation Authority of Vietnam (CAAV) will participate in its Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) during its voluntary phase, starting from 1 January 2026.

The statement follows Vietnam's formal registration with ICAO on 30<sup>th</sup> June, according to the Vietnam News Agency (VNA).

Initiated by ICAO, CORSIA aims to achieve carbon-neutral growth in international aviation from 2020 onwards.

Under this mechanism, participating countries are required to monitor, report, and offset CO2 emissions from international flights through the purchase of carbon credits. — ANI

## Japan plans 'world first' deep-sea mineral extraction



The Chikyu, pictured here in 2013, will drill around the remote island of Minami Torishima. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

JAPAN will from January attempt to extract rare earth minerals from the ocean floor in the deepest trial of its kind, the director of a government innovation programme said Thursday.

Earlier this week the country pledged to work with the United States, India and Australia to ensure a stable supply of critical minerals.

Rare earths — 17 metals difficult to extract from the Earth's crust — are used in everything from electric vehicles to hard drives, wind turbines and missiles.

A Japanese deep-sea scientific drilling boat called the Chikyu will from January conduct a "test cruise" to retrieve ocean floor sediments that contain rare earth elements, said Shoichi Ishii, director

of Japan's Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Programme.

"The test to retrieve the sediments from 5,500 metres (3.4 miles) water depth is the first in the world," he told AFP.

Japan's Nikkei business daily reported that the mission aims to extract 35 tonnes of mud from the sea floor over around three weeks. — AFP