

SAC donates Waso robes, marks second anniversary of successfully consecrating Maravijaya Buddha Image

The State Administration Council organized the Waso robe-offering ceremony in 2025, in conjunction with the second anniversary of the successful consecration of the Maravijaya Buddha Image, held in the precincts of Maravijaya Buddha Park in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife, Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, who donated Waso robes and alms.

A total of 27 invited venerable members of the Sangha, including Ovadacariya Sayadaws from Uppatasanti Pagoda Board of Trustees, led by Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Presiding Patron of Minkyaung Pahtamapyan Buddhism Learning Centre, Aggamaha Pandita, Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa, SSMNC Secretary, Presiding Patron of Mandalay's New Masoeyein Monastery, Dhammatheikdi Monastery Sayadaw Aggamaha Pandita, Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja, Maha Dhammakathika Bahujanahitadhara Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa.

Before the ceremony, the Senior General offered alms,



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla offer Waso robes and alms to Thanlyn Minkyaung Sayadaw at yesterday's event.

fruits, flowers, water and oil lamps to the Maravijaya Naungdawgyi Buddha Image in Agga- dhipati Sasana Beikman Building.

The Senior General and the congregation took the Nine Pre- cepts from the Chairman Sayad- aw while members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta.

Senior General Min Aung

Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla offered Waso robes and alms to Thanlyn Minkyaung Sayadaw.

SAC Vice-Chairman, Dep- uty Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe donated Waso robes and offertories to New Masoeyein Monastery Sayadaw. The Council Secretary and his wife, the Joint Secretary

and his wife, SAC members and their wives and Union-level dig- nitaries presented Waso robes and offerings to members of the Sangha.

New Masoeyein Monastery Sayadaw delivered a sermon, while the congregation shared merits gained.

After the ceremony, the Sen- ior General and all attendees

offered lunch meals to members of the Sangha.

Also, present at the cere- mony were Union ministers and their wives, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Of- fice of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command and officials. — MNA/TTA

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Should Carry a
Smile and Live
Life Joyfully

By Aung Kyaw Thant

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NATIONAL

Economic growth seen as key driver of national progress and public well-being

BOOSTING the country’s economy is the most effective driving force for progress. Encouraging business growth will not only strengthen the economy but also enhance the socioeconomic well-being of the entire population.

(An excerpt from the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the ceremony to mark the 77th Independence Day which falls on 4 January 2025)

Public Notice for Objection Submission

1. Zomi National Party, with its office (temporary) at 110, 4th floor (B), Aungmyingala Street, Kyaukmyaung Gyi Ward, Tamway Township, Yangon Region, applied to register as a political party under Political Parties Registration Law Section 5, on 3-7.2025. The party name, flag and emblem will be used as follows.
2. Under the Political Parties Registration Rule 14 (d), it is hereby announced to the public that those want to object to the name of the party, the flag and the emblem to be used by that organization may submit their objection to the Union Election Commission with valid evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement.

Union Election Commission



Flag of the Zomi National Party.



Emblem of the Zomi National Party.

Southeast Asia’s first Crocodile Tiler X regional tiling contest

JORAKAY Corporation, a comprehensive construction innovation leader, will proudly host Southeast Asia’s first-ever Crocodile Tiler X competition at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon on 12 July 2025, to expand the field of tiling expertise. The Crocodile Tiler X competition aims to elevate the skills of local tilers to international standards, reinforcing Jorakay’s vision of transforming the tiling profession into a modern, highly skilled career. Additionally, it will educate regional professionals on the importance of using high-quality tile adhesive products correctly for durable, internationally standard tile work, addressing a key need in today’s construction industry. Despite the rapid growth of Southeast Asia’s construction sector, it faces challenges such as skilled labour shortages and the need for enhanced training. The Crocodile Tiler X competition directly addresses these challenges by creating significant opportunities for professionals to emerge and advance their careers. Crocodile Tiler X competitors will be assessed based on international professional standards, testing their technique, speed, precision, and safety.

Winners from each country will be invited to an upskilling program at Jorakay Corporation headquarters in Thailand. This programme will allow them to learn about international-standard tiling innovations and exchange techniques, and work standards. Additionally, winners will visit Jorakay factories, stores, and the brand museum, and experience Thai culture during their trip. The Crocodile Tiler X competition will continue across Southeast Asian countries as follows:
2nd Competition: Crocodile Tiler X Vietnam in Ho Chi Minh City on 16 August 2025
3rd Competition: Crocodile Tiler X Vietnam in Hanoi on 13 September 2025
4th Competition: Crocodile Tiler X Laos in Vientiane on 6 September 2025
This competition marks a significant step forward for Myanmar’s construction sector, showcasing the capabilities of local tiling professionals and contributing to their career advancement. Jorakay is offering Thailand’s No 1 crocodile brand, innovative and high-quality products such as tile adhesives and construction materials. — Arkar Linn/GNLM



Myanmar reports 3 new COVID-19 cases

THE Ministry of Health tested 839 samples from 8 pm on 29 June 2025 to 8 pm on 6 July 2025, and three new cases were detected. Therefore, the positivity rate was 0.36 per cent and no new death case was reported.

Currently, there is no need to worry regarding the infection and the deaths of COVID-19, but all need to follow the personal hygiene methods, and the high-risk groups

- Elderly people (aged 60 and above)
- People with diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, cancer
- Pregnant women (especially those beyond the third month of pregnancy) are prioritized to administer COVID-19 booster shots.

More detailed COVID-19 information can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health moh.gov.mm.

Myanmar CDC
Public Health Department, Ministry of Health

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Monday 7 July, 2025)

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

SPECIAL WEATHER: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the low-pressure area over Southwest Gangetic West Bengal, India still persists. It is likely to move slowly west-northwestwards and across Jharkhand and north Chhattisgarh, India during next two days.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 8 JULY 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kayah State, fairly widespread in Magway and Lower Sagaing Regions and widespread in the remaining Regions and States

with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon, and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Yangon, Bago, Upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Chin, 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 seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar

Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 11-13 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Strong monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 JULY 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 JULY 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 JULY 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

(An excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

Egypt celebrates 73rd National Day in Yangon

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw attended the reception to mark the 73rd Anniversary of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt at the Melia Hotel in Yangon yesterday evening.

Egyptian Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Aya Saad Mohamed Abdelkarim and officials welcomed attendees to the reception.

The reception was opened

with the national anthems of Myanmar and Egypt.

The ambassador and the Union minister extended greetings and cut the ceremonial cake to mark the National Day of Egypt.

The ambassador hosted a dinner for all dignitaries.

The reception was also attended by Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Naung, Union Minister for Energy U Ko Ko Lwin,



Egyptian Ambassador Mrs Aya Saad Mohamed Abdelkarim greets Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw at yesterday's celebration in Yangon.

Union Minister for Commerce U Tun Ohn, ambassadors from foreign missions in Yangon, charges d'affaires ad interim, resident representatives of UN agencies, and guests. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar, China, Thailand discuss repatriation of detainees

DEPUTY Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Kyaw Kyaw, who is secretary of the Central Committee on the Supervision of Deportation and Transfer of Detained Foreigners for Illegal Entry into Myanmar, Deputy Director-General Mr Chen Wen Feng of Criminal Investigation Bureau of China and Pol Col Chinakorn Atsawaphum of Tak Province Immigration inspected the detention and personal data collection processes of illegal entrants to Shwe Kokko, KK Park and Kyaukkhet areas in Myawady yesterday morning.



Myanmar, China and Thailand meet on the repatriation of detainees, the preventive system, and further cooperation yesterday in Myawady.

They held a coordination meeting in Myawady, discussing the preventive system for

telecom fraud and further cooperation in the repatriation of those involved in telecom fraud

to their respective countries.

Between 30 January and 7 July 2025, a total of 9,198 un-

documented immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 8,987 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport 211 remaining individuals. These individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is actively exposing telecom fraud and cracking down on online gambling by cooperating with international organizations, including the neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

Relief and recovery efforts continue in quake-hit areas



Lt-Gen Thet Pon and officials are pictured during their inspection of religious sites in Sagaing.

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 and pagodas in Sagaing that had sustained damage. The team inspected damage to religious 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.

Next, Lt-Gen Thet Pon and officials inspected the comprehensive reconstruction of the Basic Education Middle School (Chinsu-branch) and residential buildings, which were destroyed by the earthquake, and coordinated with the officials on the necessary support.

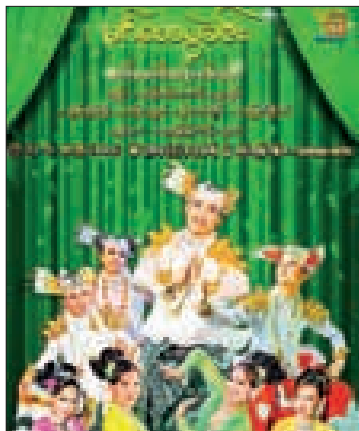
Similarly, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and his team visited Mahaaungmyay and Aungmyaythazan Townships in Mandalay, where earthquake-damaged structures remain. They observed the use of heavy machinery to clear and inspected the process of reconstruction works. — MNA/MKKS

Mingala Pwe Khinn traditional theatre performance to be staged at Sedona Hotel

SEDONA Hotel in Yankin Township, Yangon Region will host a traditionally theatrical performance titled 'Mingala Pwe Khinn', according to lead organizer and actor Tin Maung San Min Win.

Veteran actor Tin Maung San Min Win will lead the performance alongside popular theatrical artistes namely San Min Aung, Boon, Chan Chan Moe, San Shwe Sin, Nobel Hlaing and May Myat Noe Khin. Comedians Myitta Myint Myat Hein and Buu Thee will also join the troupe, presenting the show with the well-known "Ywasa Wakema Sein Mont Lone" ensemble.

"The essence of live theatre lies in the shared experience of artistes and the audience. No matter how much you watch through a screen, the thrill of being there in person is irreplaceable. Every fan of traditional the-



An advert poster for the upcoming traditional theatre performance Mingala Pwe Khinn.

atre knows this well. That is why we are bringing back Mingala Pwe Khinn to fulfill this cultural need. Last year, we successfully staged the performance four times starting in July," said Tin Maung San Min Win.

The performance will take place from 4 pm to 7 pm on 12 July at Mindon Hall of Sedona Hotel. — ASH/KZL

Myanmar detains one Chinese national involved in telecom fraud

THE government strictly takes action against those who enter the country via the border routes and commit on-line gambling, online scams, and other criminal activities, and also transfers offender to their respective countries as per the law and procedures.

Authorities detained one Chinese national who illegally entered the country and conducted online gambling and online scams in the Myawady-Maehtawthalay and KK Park area in Kayin State yesterday. Officials conducted activities to ensure the rapid transfer of the offender.

Between 30 January and 7 July 2025, a total of 9,199 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 8,987 individuals have already been deported through Thailand



Immigration process is underway for the deportation of the undocumented Chinese entrant.

to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 212 individuals. These individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on telecom

fraud, online scams, and gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries, and systematically transferring the foreigners involved in these illegal operations. — MNA/KTZH

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

NATIONAL

THE northernmost part of Myanmar is rich in natural beauty with its snow-capped mountain ranges, while the southernmost part of the country features long coastlines and numerous islands, showcasing both terrestrial and marine splendour. In the southern region lies the Taninthayi Nature Reserve, which remains lush and verdant, home to a diverse range of species, ecosystems, and habitats. This area, where forests meet the sea, supports the survival and development of a wide variety of botanical, zoological and marine life, further highlighting the natural beauty of Myanmar.

The government sets objectives to establish natural land areas to ensure the sustainability of biodiversity and ecosystems. The Taninthayi Nature Reserve was established on 30 March 2005 to conserve the tropical evergreen forest ecosystems and biodiversity in the northern and eastern parts of the Taninthayi Region, which serve as shelters for Asian elephants. It is also the first conservation area in the Taninthayi Region.

The eastern part of the Taninthayi Nature Reserve, which borders Thailand, is a hilly and mountainous area. The mountain ranges run from north to south. The slopes gradually descend from west to east, with elevations ranging from 15 meters to 1,400 metres. Within the reserve area, there are 32 watersheds. The rivers and streams in the northern, western, and southern parts of the reserve flow into the Dawei River, while those in the eastern part flow into the Taninthayi River.

In the Taninthayi Nature Reserve, there are different types of forests such as evergreen forest, mangrove, and hill forest. The area is mostly covered by closed forest (46.67 per cent) and open forest (29.76 per cent). A total of 384 plant species, 90 orchid species, 30 bamboo

Taninthayi Nature Reserve: A Haven for Asian Elephants

By Thitsa (MNA)

species, 17 cane species, and other rare herbal plants have been recorded in the reserve. Many wild animals, plant species, and endangered animal species can survive in the area, while the reserve is proudly known as an important habitat and sanctuary for Asian elephants.

The reserve boasts the endangered Indonesian tiger species and Asian elephants. A total of 244 bird species have been recorded in the area, including three species that are endangered and 10 near-threatened species. Moreover, the reserve also boasts 30 amphibian species and 36 reptile species, and Asian elephants.

There are two main species of elephants in the world — the Asian elephant and the African elephant. In Myanmar, a population of Asian elephants ranging from at least 45 to over 64 has been recorded in the Taninthayi Nature Reserve located in the southern part of the country. A 2011 survey revealed that approximately 90 per cent of the reserve area was home to this number of elephants. However, to date, there is no documented data confirming whether the population has increased or declined. In 2000,

scientists reclassified African elephants into two distinct species: the larger African bush elephant (or savanna elephant) and the smaller African forest elephant.

African Elephant

The African elephant is the largest living land mammal, weighing 8,000 kilograms and standing 10 to 13 feet tall at their shoulders. There are over 150,000 muscles in the trunk alone. Both male and female African elephants have curved ivory tusks that grow throughout their lives. Their tusks are used to fight, dig, and strip bark off trees. Large, thin ears radiate heat to help the elephant stay cool in the intense heat. African elephants can hold up to eight litres of water in their trunks and use their trunks as a snorkel when swimming.

Asian Elephant

The Asian Elephants are found mostly in India, and also in Myanmar, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Laos. The Asian Elephants reach heights of around 10 feet. The Average life expectancy of a Myanmar elephant is approximately 60 years,

and the pregnant period is between 18-22 months. An elephant gives birth about six times in its lifetime, usually having one baby each time. Male elephants have tusks, while female elephants do not. Female elephants have a rounded forehead and smaller ears. In Myanmar, elephants are used for logging and in the tourism industry, and the people have protected elephants since the time of ancient kings up to the present day.

Habits of elephants

Elephants live between 60 to 100 years. Male elephants become fully grown between the ages of 30 and 40. A newborn elephant weighs over 260 pounds. An elephant can grow up to 10 feet tall and can weigh up to 6 tonnes (11,000 pounds), and their size and shape vary depending on the region they live in. The elephant's skin is 0.98 inches thick. Its wrinkled skin can hold 10 times more water than the skin of other animals. An elephant eats about 150 kilograms (around 330 pounds) of food each day. About half of the food it eats is not fully digested and passes out of its body. At the age of two, elephants begin to grow tusks. These tusks help them eat and defend themselves from enemies. However, because of their tusks and thick skin, elephants are often hunted and killed. Elephants usually live in groups of 5 to 20, but some may live alone as solitary males. Male elephants can become aggressive during mating season, and during this time, they may act violently for about two weeks. Elephants search for food during both day and night, and they only sleep for about three hours a day. Even though their eyesight is weak, they have a strong sense of smell and hearing. They also have a memory as good as that of a five-year-old child.

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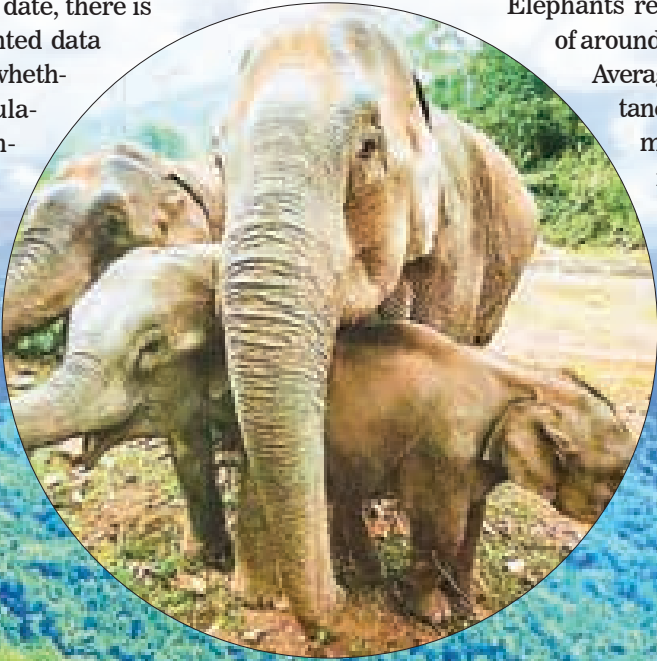


PHOTO: TANINTHAYI NATURE RESERVE

NATIONAL



Officials announce crocodile danger alert near Meinmahla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary.

Public warned of crocodile sightings, attacks near Meinmahla Kyun Sanctuary

OFFICIALS from the Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division and the Meinmahla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary office conducted educational programmes near the vicinity of rivers and creeks of the sanctuary after the death of two civilians eaten by crocodiles on 2 and 3 July in the creek of Hlaylonkwe Village,

Chaungbyegy Village-tract, Bokale Township, Pyapon District in Ayeyawady Region.

They used loudspeakers to announce that June to August is crocodile nesting season and warned that the area around Meinmahla Kyun is dangerous. Residents were advised not to walk pets near the creek, play, swim, or

bathe for extended periods. Fishermen and prawn catchers were also urged to stay alert for crocodiles. Bushes, trees, or grass grown near the banks should be cleaned as crocodiles may hide there and not to scare or attack the crocodile with sticks and stones. — Moe Sett (Bokale)/KTZH

Over K148M in drugs seized in South Okkalapa, Mingala Taungnyunt, and Taunggyi

AUTHORITIES seized drugs worth over K148 million in South Okkalapa, Mingala Taungnyunt and Taunggyi Townships, according to the Myanmar Police Force.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team including members of the Drug Enforcement Division searched Kyaw Thet in Mingala Taungnyunt Township at 5 pm on 5 July and seized 0.45 kilogramme of Happy Water and 1 kilogramme of ketamine.

According to the investigation, Police searched the house of Yan Naing Aung in South Okkalapa Township and captured

0.59 kilogramme of Happy Water valued at K20.65 million, 0.015 kilogramme of Ketamine worth K0.75 million and 10 Ecstasy tablets valued at K0.4 million.

On 5 July afternoon, acting on a tip-off, a combined team including members of the Drug Enforcement Division searched a house of Daw Na in Taunggyi and seized 0.45 kilogramme of Happy Water worth K49.5 million and 1.17 kilogrammes of Ketamine worth K11.7 million.

Those suspects have been charged under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA/MKKS



Offenders are seen alongside seized drugs.

Taninthayi Nature Reserve: A Haven for Asian Elephants

FROM PAGE 5

From 2006 to 2016, researchers counted elephants over two years. They studied a large grassland area of 540,000 square kilometres across 18 African countries. They found that one-third of the elephants, about 144,000, had been killed. They also estimated that the remaining 430,000 elephants in Africa could be killed within the next 10 years. This prediction, made for the years 2016 to 2026, is now proving to be true as the number of wild elephants continues to decrease.

Asian elephants are also facing hunting and killing every year. In countries like India, Myanmar, and other ASEAN nations, people are working together to protect wild Asian elephants from extinction. In Myanmar, elephants live in regions such as Ayeyawady, Bago, Sagaing, Kachin State, and the Shan Yoma area. To reduce

poaching, the Forest Department and NGOs are working together. These efforts help protect not only elephants but also other wild animals and various species.

In 1879, during the Konbong era, the Elephant Preservation Law was enacted and amended in 1883. Elephants are classified as fully protected animals under the Protection of Wildlife and Conservation of Natural Areas Law, enacted in 1994. According to surveys, there were over 10,000 wild elephants in Myanmar in 1941, before the country gained independence. Between 2001 and 2003, a field survey was conducted in cooperation with the Smithsonian Institution (SI), and the estimated number of wild elephants was around 5,000. By 2018, records showed that only about 2,000 wild elephants remained. To protect wild elephants, Myanmar began setting up protected areas start-

ing in 1927. In 2014, six elephant conservation areas were designated, covering a total area of 9,205.51 square miles. From 2010 to 2014, there were 72 criminal cases recorded in Myanmar related to the illegal killing of wild elephants. Among these, 26 cases were due to the demand for tusks, skin, and meat, showing that many elephants were hunted for these body parts.

After India, Myanmar is the country with the second-largest population of elephants. Wild elephants live across the country, from the northern to the southern regions. In the Taninthayi Nature Reserve, Asian elephants continue to survive and thrive through the collaboration of Myanmar and Thailand.

In Myanmar, 22 elephant camps have been established. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has set this goal to involve the public in conser-

vation efforts and raise awareness about the importance of elephants in maintaining healthy ecosystems.

In countries where natural forests thrive, the ability to protect elephants reflects the health of their ecosystems. Protecting wildlife, safe forests, and wetland areas is often recognized as a sign of a healthy environment. In Myanmar, many safe forests and wetlands continue to develop well, creating many opportunities for wild elephants to live and survive. The presence of wild elephants in a natural reserve shows that a forest ecosystem is rich and healthy. Among large mammals, elephants are the strongest and have a wider range of habitats than tigers. They tend to live long-term in a well-protected natural reserve with abundant food. Neighbouring countries earn foreign income from elephant-related tourism. In Myanmar, elephant

conservation supports 22 tourism projects. To help elephant populations grow, it is especially important to stop poaching, and all citizens need to be aware of and follow conservation efforts.

Some of the wild elephants from Bago Yoma enter Okkan and Thonze townships near Yangon, and the departmental officials, NGOs and residents cooperate to reduce human-elephant conflicts. Conservation of wild elephants in Taninthayi Nature Reserve protects the beauty of the reserve, whereas deforestation and impact on wild elephants affect the natural environment.

The forests in 32 watershed areas in Taninthayi Nature Reserve are home to Asian elephants, and the Taninthayi Nature Reserve, covered with mangrove, evergreen forest, and hill forests, is a haven for Asian elephants, promoting the dignity of the country.

Translated by KTZH

Effective Business Strategy Seminar welcomes entrepreneurs

THE Effective Business Strategy Seminar will be held from 9 am to 5 pm on 12 July at the Thamada Family Hotel, in Bayintnaung of Yangon and entrepreneurs are invited to join this free of charge.

Respected and well-known Dr Aung Tun Thet, Patron at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), will deliver insights on specific topics at the seminar. This

seminar is designed to bring together business leaders and entrepreneurs to network and discuss relevant topics.

The speakers of the seminar are Dr Aung Tun Thet (BCom (YUE), Post-doctoral Fellow (University of Marburg), MSc Operations Research (University of Warwick) Post-graduate Diploma Management Sciences (Brighton), PhD Management Sciences (University of Man-

chester)), Saya U Myo Min Thu (aka) Saya Myo, Founder & Principal, MBA (Thesis) (Lincoln University College, KL), BTech (Mechanical Engineering) TU Maubin, ILO (SIYB) Certified Trainer, NLP Master Coach (ABNLP), Professional Leadership & Business Coach, Certified Master Practitioner of Timeline Therapy (ABNLP), Certified Timeline & NLP Trainer (ABNLP), Certified Master Practitioner

of NLP (ABNLP) and Daw Kyi Thar Maw, Lead Trainer/Consultant, MA (Economics), Ritsumeikan University.

Individuals can attend the course through Viber 09 896 924622, WhatsApp 09 896 924622 of MT Education Centre, located at 331 (1/B), Kyimyindine Strand Road, Ahlon, and email mteducationcentre2023@gmail.com and website mte-c4edu.com. — NN/KK

Yangon palm oil reference price indicates downtick

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market dipped to K6,030 per viss for the week ending 13 July from K6,060 per viss in the previous week ending 6 July, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs, and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law. The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department, or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned. The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

CBM sells US\$8.4M, THB13.9M, CNY5.2M in June



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) in Nay Pyi Taw.

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

CBM 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 US\$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 commod-

ities-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-importing 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 to 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 announced on 17 June that it would sell \$33 million to fuel oil importers. Furthermore, CBM injected over 376,400 yuan and 500,000 baht into the financial market on 17 June after sales of over \$913,000 from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies and over \$1.126 million to importers of other goods.

CBM would sell \$10 million to im-

porters as well, according to its notification dated 16 June. CBM sold \$1.37 million from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies and over 1.05 million to importers of other goods on that day.

CBM injected over 1.7 million baht into the financial market on 13 June, in addition to sales of over \$1 million from CMP companies to fuel oil-importing countries.

CBM sold \$1.3 million, which were bought from CMP companies, to fuel oil-importing companies on 12 June 2025.

CBM sold over 290,000 yuan and one million baht on 11 June. Moreover, CBM sold \$1.096 million that were bought from CMP companies, to fuel oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM pumped over 400,000 yuan on 9 June, over \$501,000 on 6 June and 364,400 yuan on 5 June into the foreign exchange market.

CBM announced on 4 June that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil importers. CBM pumped \$422,000, 345,850 yuan and over 2.1 million baht on that day into the foreign exchange market.

CBM injected over 600,000 yuan and 2.6 million baht on 3 June, 579,900 yuan and 4.7 million baht on 2 June into the financial market.

CBM injected over \$7.5 million, over 40 million baht and three million yuan in May and over \$42 million, 20 million baht and 500,000 yuan in April. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

OPINION

ARTICLE

Myanmar rejects distorted figures and baseless accusations

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 in addition to the prevention of underage recruitment.

The Committee on Protection of Underage Recruitment, led by Myanmar’s Ministry of Defence, and the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) have conducted a joint verification process for suspected minors. In 2024, they handed over 93 verified minors to their parents with financial assistance. To date, only 18 suspected minor cases remain pending verification by both sides.

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, the government launched the 4 Digit Helpline (1566) as a national complaint mechanism

The UN’s report presents figures without specifying incidents and downplays grave violations committed by the PDFs by using the term “unidentified perpetrators”. 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.

cases of suspected minors for joint verification, rendering the figures presented in the report entirely misrepresented. However, the distorted report omits the inhumane and brutal acts committed by NUG and PDF terrorist groups and certain EAOs, which are responsible for the deaths of 8,588 unarmed civilians, including 318 children, as well as injuries to 1,219 children during the period from 2021 to 2024.

The UN’s report presents figures without specifying incidents and downplays grave violations committed by the PDFs by using the term “unidentified perpetrators”. 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.

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

Why We Should Carry a Smile and Live Life Joyfully

EVEN just one smile on your face in a day can bring you a sense of relief and comfort. The small act known as a smile can have a profound impact in the human world and serves as a companion that speaks louder than words when it comes to living a joyful life.

In everyone’s life, we gradually face challenges and difficulties that can at times feel overwhelming. However, even during moments of discouragement for various reasons, a simple smile on the face can help ease our emotional state to some extent. A person’s smile can also influence the emotions of others and help reduce their mental stress.

Duo activities

Everyone happy can bring a smile, which represents satisfaction on their faces. No one can bring a smile while facing suffering and unhappiness. Hence, the smiling move and the emotion of happiness and satisfaction are inseparable. That is why individuals have to nurture their souls to be able to bring smiles by overcoming sufferings and challenges, as well as by searching root causes of happiness in life. Everybody needs to consider that if they use smiles as a tool to build a happy society, the entire world can cease unhappiness, sadness and grief.

The power of a smile

A smile is a natural and deeply valuable human behaviour that belongs to everyone. For exam-



Individuals must carry smiles in their relationships to build a happy society daily. PHOTO: FREEPIK

ple, when a mother smiles at her young child, that smile conveys a sense of safety and acceptance to the child. In the same way, in everyday life, a smile serves as a rustproof bridge that builds strong connections between oneself and those around them.

Scientifically speaking, when a person smiles, the body releases natural feel-good chemicals such as serotonin, dopamine, and endorphins. These substances help generate feelings of satisfaction and emotional well-being. Additionally, a smile can even help lower heart rate and reduce

stress levels.

How a Smile can help us live a joyful life

Happiness is an emotion, but it doesn’t always arise automatically. Sometimes, we must make an effort to seek it out. In doing so, smiling becomes one of the simplest and most accessible ways to maintain a sense of joy in our daily lives.

Some fundamental principles underpin happiness. These include self-confidence, self-worth, the capacity to love, and even the ability to forgive those who oppose us. When combined with

a genuine smile, these values play an essential role in building healthy relationships, improving mental well-being, and achieving success in life. Generally, happiness is defined as a state of emotional satisfaction. Efforts to ease social tensions and reduce feelings of loneliness are also key factors in achieving a happy and fulfilling life.

Smiles and External Relationships

In social settings, those who smile often are frequently perceived as trustworthy and

By Aung Kyaw Thant

approachable individuals. If you look at successful people featured in the media, you’ll often notice a bright, consistent smile on their faces. That smile helps strengthen their social relationships and serves as a valuable tool for communication and collaboration.

Someone is smiling warmly and kindly when meeting others not only reflects your attitude but also builds self-confidence. In the professional world, individuals with strong social skills tend to receive more opportunities. Therefore, a smile proves beneficial not just personally, but also in business, education, and organizational environments.

How a Smile Supports One-self

There are times when, looking at one’s own life, a person may feel discouraged or disheartened. Due to losses, dissatisfaction, or the many challenges that arise in daily life, one might feel like giving up. Even in those moments, a simple smile can become a message of hope.

Research has shown that in mirror therapy, where individuals look at their reflection, smiling at oneself can help reduce psychological stress. Loving oneself and accepting one’s life can gradually be restored, and the starting point for that healing often begins with a single smile.

Raising a smiling habit

Smiling can be difficult to do in unwanted situations or to maintain as a habit. However, gradually making a conscious effort to smile even during challenging emotional times can help create a better mental state. Along with the points mentioned above, this can help shift the energy moving within you in a different direction. It supports becoming a person filled with love, compassion, motivation, and fulfilment.

Even during difficult and tiring times, if one can carry a smile, it can bring comfort to everyone around them and fill the entire environment with feelings of peace and happiness. By setting aside one’s pain and suffering to bring joy to others, that happiness will reflect from those people, allowing oneself to experience at least a small measure of calm and joy. This is the principle of kindness’s reciprocal nature.

Victims of unhappiness

The surveys of the World Health Organization stated that more than 300 million of the global population, accounting for 4.4 per cent, are suffering from depression in their lives, adding that a large portion of the population is also lacking happiness based to unknown diseases. As different tensions impact society, the majority of people cannot emphasize

happiness and pleasure while struggling for the daily needs of their lives.

The Lord Buddha preached the Four Noble Truths. They are the first Truth of Suffering (Dukkha) that life inherently involves suffering and dissatisfaction; the second Truth of the Origin of Suffering (Samudaya) that Suffering arises from craving, attachment, and ignorance; the third Truth of the Cessation of Suffering (Nirodha) that Suffering can be overcome and ended; and the fourth Truth of the Path to the Cessation of Suffering (Magga) that the Noble Eightfold Path provides the way to end suffering.

Hence, nobody can avoid the impacts of suffering and dissatisfaction. They are facing different social crises such as a higher rate of unemployment, lower income, rising expenses and increasing commodity prices. So, the majority of people are experiencing something special about depression. It shows basic factors to disappear happiness and pleasure in their minds. Consequently, they do not believe in their future aspirations, and they cannot endure these sufferings.

Research on happiness

Various organizations in global countries released surveys and indices over findings from research on the happiness of people. The happiness of people can be measured by gross domestic product, healthy lifespan, contribution of society for individuals,

rights of independent choosing, generosity, and perspectives on corruption. Especially, people from developed countries are embracing happiness due to their lifestyle, which is better than other countries.

Criteria

Life is short. Instead of feeling upset and running away during that brief time, we should face it with joy. A smile is a gift for your life – something you can use throughout your entire lifetime.

Therefore, dear friends, I encourage you not to forget to smile on your face when you wake up in the morning and to smile when you meet others. A single smile can make not only yourself but also someone else’s entire day extraordinary. A single smile can open a person’s heart. If you truly want to be someone who smiles genuinely, let’s start by sharing words of love and kindness in life.

Smiles based on happiness

The happy life of individuals does not depend on the life possessing money, wealth, educational degrees, taking pride in their lives, and faithful associates. Only when individuals are happy will they bring smiles for a long time due to enjoying the safety of life. Actually, can they be happy and satisfied only if they have sufficient food, clothing and accommodation? Both physical and mental well-being can shape the happy life of people. If so, they can sustain their satisfactory smiles throughout their lives.

Science paints, illuminates cosmos at Beijing pioneering exhibition

AT an exhibition in the heart of China’s capital Beijing, cosmic data becomes tangible art.

Navigating through 10 billion light years with the slide of a finger, confronting the dense, tangled web of space debris now circling the Earth, and listening to music made from data collected by satellites orbiting in space, are all options at the exhibition named “Cosmos Archaeology: Explorations in Time and Space,” which opened to the public on 3 3

July in the National Museum of China. Here, visitors can discover and explore new gateways to the universe.

Jointly hosted by the museum, the Embassy of Switzerland in China, and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), the exhibition is one of the series of events to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Switzerland.

The show, which will run for three months, features many

pieces created from real observational data and transforms abstract cosmic phenomena into immersive encounters.

“Ordinary people often feel distant from the vast datasets of fundamental science,” said the exhibition’s co-curator Long Xingru.

“Art is an excellent vehicle for telling scientific stories. It enriches our expression of science,” Long added.

Her vision materializes through installations at this exhibition.

hibition.

An installation, developed by EPFL’s labs to present the dynamic cosmos, employs a custom graphics rendering engine

to construct an interactive 3D universe model — allowing visitors to traverse cosmic scales spanning 27 orders of magnitude.

Another exhibit nearby, which is an interactive astrophysical visualization system, projects approximately 500 NASA deep-space images onto a domed environment. Optical enhance-

ment modules then transform telescope data into shimmering nebulae and spiraling colliding galaxies.

Notably, this exhibition connects millennia of cosmic inquiry. A prized artifact from the host museum’s own collection, a Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279) stele rubbing, reveals early Chinese astronomical mastery.

Its star map documents 1,434 precisely charted stars, along with the Milky Way boundary, ecliptic path and 28 lunar

constellations — exceeding the systematic accuracy of contemporary European charts.

Modern astronomers confirm that its stellar positions align remarkably well with contemporary catalogs.

Yet, alongside historical wonder lie stark warnings about the future.

With an increasing number of satellites and spacecraft being launched, space debris continues to accumulate. An EPFL lab has managed to create an interactive

data visualization device that dynamically presents tens of thousands of satellites and pieces of space debris.

Visually, it suggests that the Earth is now ensnared by numerous webs made up of a dense layer of space junk.

“This is forcing us to rethink how we will explore and manage space resources in the future,” said Gao Lu, a curator and associate researcher at the National Museum of China.

Beyond visualizing the distant cosmos, the exhibition also probes humanity’s place within it.

The exhibition features a se-

ries of works designed by faculty members and students from Tsinghua University’s Academy of Arts and Design, a co-organizer of the exhibition, envisioning future planetary journeys.

“Science and art part ways at the mountain’s base but reunite at its summit,” said Shi Danding, associate professor at the academy.

“We need students equipped both with scientific thinking and experimental design creativity — merging technology with exploration. This ability becomes crucial in the AI era,” he said.

Source: Xinhua

NATIONAL

MoI to set up certified lab for testing imported iron, steel

THE Ministry of Industry will set up a new laboratory equipped to conduct conformity test activities on imported iron and steel.

In order to perform tests and analysis on domestically produced and imported iron and steel according to established standards, samples of deformed bars (rebar) utilized in the country will be tested. The Ministry of Industry has also discussed with representatives of the Myanmar Iron and Steel Association to draft an iron and steel policy roadmap.

Furthermore, efforts to set three common methods of testing iron and steel materials for local manufacturers and importers are underway. A certified laboratory will be set up in order to



This photo shows a worker unloading rebars that are being imported.

standardize testing methods to ensure quality and competitiveness amid the rising domestic consumption and imports. Technical assistance, ideas and cooperation of the experts

from the relevant industries would be welcome in establishing a laboratory. Before the

new lab, the Myanmar Iron and Steel Association was trying to conduct an assessment of the existing laboratories. Cement plants are also evaluating quality analysis.

At present, the Myanmar Engineering Council and Myanmar Engineering Societies are also drawing up sets of rules and guidelines that define the technical requirements in the construction project to practice safely and effectively.

Domestic demand for iron and steel is growing, with an estimated consumption of one million tonnes. Myanmar brings in about 800,000 tonnes of iron and steel per year, as only 200,000 tonnes can be produced locally.

— ASH/KK

MRF and 17 solar companies sign MoU



This picture shows a signing ceremony for the MRF Rice Export Exchange.

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) and 17 solar companies signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to utilize solar-powered energy in rice mills designated for exports.

A preliminary assessment on the installation of 41.5-megawatt solar power projects at 28 rice mills by 11 solar companies began in March 2025, and installation is being un-

dertaken.

Furthermore, MRF has been planning a project for the paddy farmers to get access to solar-powered irrigation systems with an investment from private solar companies.

MRF has been endeavouring to export three million tonnes of rice in the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, through the collaboration of private companies as per the national export strategy for export-led growth.

MRF Export Exchange is slated to take place monthly to share market insights, sustainability drive, best practices and global trends. — NN/KK

‘Pei Tin Than’ film adaptation of hit novel set for release

A Myanmar movie, which is a successful novel by Ma Sandar, will be released in the third week of July.

The film is based on the novel by Alinka Kyaw Swa Ma Sanda, the script is written by Lwin Min Arnt, and directed by Academy Kaung Zan for Taurus V Production.

Taurus V Production, which won the Best Film Award in 2024, is said to have made the best possible adaptation of the novel.



This photo showcases a poster for the film.

Academy Aye Chan Maung, Academy Min Oo, Academy Myo Thanda Htun, May Mi Ko Ko, Tay Za Lin Yaung, and other actors star in the film. — ASH/MKKS

New TV drama to premiere on Showlike App



THE new Myanmar television drama series ‘Why is the sky blue?’ is set to premiere on 12 July, according to Academy Shein Tin Htoo, who stars in the series.

The novel of the series was written by La Min Mo Mo. The screenplay was written by Shwe Yi Shoon Le, with direction by Pwint Theingi Zaw (Aron Oo).

Speaking about the series, Shein Tin Htoo shared: “This drama is a very good original novel, and it was also released in the video era. The video was also

successful, so we tried a lot in this drama. In this drama, there will be the sacrifice and dedication of a young girl named Moe Hti Aung, and it is a love drama that depicts the love of the characters Moe Hti Aung, Thawta, Nay Min, Paing Soe, Min Zaw, and U Yan Naing.”

The cast includes Academy Thu Htoo San, Academy Chuu Lay, Shein Tin Htoo, Myat Yadana Kyaw, Pecci, Academy Nwet Nwet San and other artistes. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

Public favourite baby elephant Kyaw Pearl dies; Grave to be built at camp

BABY elephant Kyaw Pearl at the Wingabaw elephant camp died on 6 July, said the camp. His backbone was severely injured by his mother elephant's leg as she stood up suddenly, in action to protect her babies when she heard dogs barking after midnight on 3 May. Kyaw Pearl wasn't able to move a few days later. Elephant veterinarians from the Myanmar Timber Enterprise and other local veterinarians had X-ray and blood, serum and stool tests with medicines, to cure his

injury for two months and three days. In addition to breastfeeding, he was given formula milk for complete nutrition. Despite special care given for day and night, he passed away at 5:30 am on 6 July. He was buried well at the camp, camp officials said. "We considered surgery. Kyaw Pearl was just over eight months old when he got the injury. He was under a lot of stress as he got other injuries from being unable to walk. We couldn't do



This image reveals donated items offered to monks in dedication to the dead little elephant.

surgery for his age and endurance. We had a consultation with international experts to help him fully recover, though we had to acknowledge that we couldn't, but chose to give priority to relieve his pain," said the camp. Due to the autopsy result, the

dislocation of the backbones compressed the spinal cord, making him unable to move. In dedication to his death, the camp officials offered donated items to the Wingabaw village monastery, and a merit-sharing donation for his death is sched-

uled for 12 July at the camp. A grave will be constructed as a memorial to him at the camp. Mother elephant Peal Sanda gave birth to twin elephants, female Pearl Sint and male Kyaw Pearl, on 26 August 2024. — MT/ZS

New demand letter suspended if June remittance report late



The Ministry of Labour.

SAFE Migration under the Ministry of Labour said new demand letter proposals will be suspended if agencies fail to submit the submission of family remittance monthly report for June by the deadline of 10 July. There are 97 agencies which have yet to submit documents about family remittance for June 2025, despite the fact that they have operated the sending of workers, said Safe Migration on 7 July, and urged them to do the submission by 10 July, addressing dolmigrationremittance@gmail.com. If they fail, the right to propose new demand letters will be suspended, plus a fine, it said. — MT/ZS

Rom-com 'Lu Pyo Htaung' to hit cinemas in July

THE Myanmar romantic-comedy film 'Lu Pyo Htaung,' targeting young audiences is set to hit cinemas during the third week of July, according to sources. The film is based on a novel by Ei (Aryon Oo), with the screenplay adapted by Yazawin Ko and directed by Ei (Aryon Oo) for TMW Film Production. Described as a naturalistic romantic-comedy, the film weaves together a series of humorous and relatable moments often experienced by young people. Veteran supporting actor Khin Hlaing, who

stars in the film noted that the story reflects everyday comic events that resonate particularly with youth audiences. 'Lu Pyo Htaung' features a star-studded cast including Htoo Aung, Academy Melody, Yu Thandar Tin, Naw Phaw El Htar, May Pachi, Thein Lin Soe, Khin Hlaing, Zaw Win Naing (Mann), Sin Ma, Hlyan Htet Aung, Kyaw Htoo, K Nyi, Thwak Latt, Academy Tekkatho Gwam Bon, Aung Thiha, Maung Kin, Min Lu Nat (Zaw Gyi) and Yan Pyay. Special guest appearances include Academy Myint Myat and



A promotional poster for the film 'Lu Pyo Htaung'. Tyron. — ASH/KZL

Myanmar Lethwei Champions to launch training club



A billboard of the Royal Aya Boxing Club.

MYANMAR'S traditional Lethwei fighter and One Championship player Thant Zin and Tun Lwin Moe will open a boxing training club this month. The name of the club is Royal Aya, and it will be opened in Thakayta Township, Yangon, on 13 July, according to their Facebook page. "We're going through Myanmar's traditional Lethwei, Muay Thai and Kick Boxing. Sharing these tactics and training individuals who can practise in any discipline they like, we are going to teach them to be involved in the future of boxing", he said. Thant Zin is a famous strong Lethwei player, and in addition to traditional Lethwei, he has won the support of many fans in the One Championship as well. His elder brother, Tun Lwin Moe, was also a famous Myanmar Lethwei champion, who retired from boxing at a young age due to eye injury. — Htet Oo Maung/ZN

ECON: WORLD

China's textile sector logs growth in first 4 months



Visitors learn about the products of a local textile company during the 2025 (China) Eurasia Commodity and Trade Expo in Urumqi, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, 26 June 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA'S textile industry posted stable growth in the first four months of the year, official data showed Monday.

The total value-added output of textile companies with an annual main business revenue of at least 20 million yuan (about US\$2.8 million) went up 4.2 per cent year on year during the January-April period, according to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.

Textile companies generated 1.49 trillion yuan in revenue during the period, representing

a 0.5 per cent year-on-year decrease.

Meanwhile, the combined sales of the sector's leading retailers totalled 6.4 trillion yuan, representing a 5.9 per cent increase from the previous year.

During the first four months, the country's textile and garment exports totalled US\$90.5 billion, an increase of 1.1 per cent year on year.

Experts analyze that although international market volatility has intensified and domestic challenges persist, the

textile industry, as a traditional sector, still possesses significant scale, broad market demand, and strong employment capacity. It maintains its role as a vital pillar of the economy and the livelihoods of its people. Many textile enterprises, under the pressure of international circumstances, are increasingly investing in research and development of new materials and are actively moving toward the high end of the international industrial chain, according to an industry insider. — Xinhua

Cambodia approves investment projects worth US\$5.8 bln in H1, up 77%

CAMBODIA attracted fixed-asset investment of US\$5.8 billion in the first half of 2025, a year-on-year increase of 77 per cent, said a Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) report released on Monday.

The Southeast Asian nation approved 373 investment projects during the January-June period this year, up 96 per cent from 190 projects in the same period last year, creating approximately 255,000 jobs, the CDC said.

Major projects included an auto garage equipment factory, a car assembly plant, car tire plants, an electric three-wheeler assembly plant, solar power plants, a solar panel plant, wind power stations, a hydroelectric

plant, metal and aluminium processing plants, a dry port, and tourism resorts.

China was still the top foreign investor in the kingdom, the CDC said, adding that other key foreign investors were from Singapore, Vietnam, the United Kingdom, the United States, Samoa, and South Korea.

Ministry of Commerce's Secretary of State and Spokesperson Penn Sovicheat said the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement and Cambodia's bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs) with China, South Korea, and the United Arab Emirates are major factors in attracting foreign direct investment. — Xinhua

Indonesia raises 2026 rice production target to 33.8M tonnes

THE Indonesian government has raised its rice production projection for 2026 to 33.8 million tonnes, up from the earlier estimate of 32 million tonnes made at the beginning of this year, Minister of Agriculture Andi Amran Sulaiman announced on Monday.

The increased projection reflects the government's continued efforts to improve agricultural productivity, the minister said.

"The Ministry of Agriculture

targets rice production in 2026 at 33.8 million tonnes," Sulaiman said during a working meeting with lawmakers at the parliament building. To achieve this target, the government will prioritize several strategic programs next year, including land optimization, the expansion of rice fields, the preparation of superior seed varieties, and the advancement of downstream agricultural initiatives. — Xinhua

Japan downgrades May economic view to "worsening", signals recession

THE government on Monday downgraded its assessment of Japan's economy for May to "worsening", using the designation for the first time in around five years and signalling the country is likely in a recession.

The Cabinet Office's assessment is the most pessimistic of the five-level evaluation and is due partly to a fall in exports to the United States. The term "worsening" was last used in

July 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The office said its coincident index of business conditions for the reporting month edged down 0.1 point from April to 115.9 against the 2020 base of 100, lower for the first time in two months.

The expression "halting to fall" had been used for 12 straight months through April.

By components, the export volume

index fell 0.2 point to 102.0, although a government official said it remains difficult to assess whether the decline was impacted by higher tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump in his second term.

The leading index of business conditions, which forecasts the situation in the coming months, rose 1.1 points to 105.3, up for the first time in four months. — Kyodo



This photo taken on 8 June 2025 shows people waiting at a level crossing for a train to pass by, along a shopping street at the Nakano ward of Tokyo. **PHOTO: AFP**

Stocks diverge as US tariff deadline looms

STOCK markets diverged while the dollar strengthened Monday as countries fought to hammer out trade deals days before US President Donald Trump's tariff deadline.

Oil prices rose, even if OPEC and its allies agreed over the weekend to increase output more than expected.

"Tariff threats look likely to take centre stage yet again this week, following further developments over the weekend," noted Richard Hunter, head of markets at Interactive Investor.

Trump announced he would send the first tariff letters to various countries on Monday ahead of his deadline Wednesday for trading partners to reach a deal expires.

He warned that US levies on imports will snap back to the high levels he set in April if countries

failed to make agreements.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said, however, that the measures would not be applied until 1 August, instead of the 9 July cut-off that had been set by Trump. Trade Nation analyst David Morrison said added time wasn't calming markets.

"While (Bessent) downplayed the idea of this being a 'new deadline', the market took little comfort, interpreting the remarks as an extension of trade risks," he said.

The White House has said several deals were in the pipeline but only two have been finalized so far with Britain and Vietnam.

Governments from major trading partners including Japan, India, the European Union and South Korea have fought for the past three months to get agreements.

Uncertainty prevails,



A train transports oil tankers in Ajmer on 7 July 2025. Most Asian markets fell on 7 July as countries fought to hammer out trade deals days before Donald Trump's tariff deadline, though investors took heart after he said the levies would not kick in until the start of next month. **PHOTO: AFP**

with Trump declaring that an extra 10 per cent import levy would be added to any country "aligning themselves with the Anti-American policies of BRICS" — an 11-member alliance including Brazil, Russia, India and China.

Despite the tariff uncertainty, official data Monday showed German industrial production rose strongly in May, boosting hopes that Europe's top economy has turned a corner. The news helped to lift German equities more

than in London and Paris.

Asia's main stock markets mostly steadied. Wall Street opened lower after record finishes by the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite on Thursday before the long holiday weekend in the United States. "There

is a little trade uncertainty in the mix today... but it isn't a stretch to think the market is also simply adhering to some consolidation interest after making such a massive run," said Briefing.com analyst Patrick O'Hare.

The oil market was also in focus after Saudi Arabia, Russia and six other key members of the OPEC+ alliance said they would increase oil output in August by 548,000 barrels per day, more than expected.

The group said in a statement that "a steady global economic outlook and current healthy market fundamentals, as reflected in the low oil inventories" led to the decision.

Shares in Shell dropped 2.5 per cent in afternoon trading after the British energy giant posted a weak trading update. — AFP

Iraq launches US\$800-mln oil refinery expansion project

IRAQ launched Monday a US\$800-million dollar expansion project of the al-Diwaniyah Refinery in the southern province of Diwaniyah.

Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani inaugurated the al-Diwaniyah Refinery Expansion Project via video

conference, according to a statement by his media office.

The project involves the addition of new refining units with a capacity of 70,000 barrels per day, bringing the refinery's total refining capacity to 90,000 barrels per day, the statement said. — Xinhua

LG Electronics' preliminary operating profit posts double-digit fall in Q2

SOUTH Korea's tech behemoth LG Electronics posted a double-digit fall in second-quarter operating profit due to the negative effect of the US tariffs imposition and the delayed domestic demand recovery, the company said Monday.

Preliminary operating prof-

it tumbled 46.6 per cent from a year earlier to 639.1 billion won (US\$467.1 million) in the April-June quarter, missing marketing expectations of about 750 billion won (\$548.1 million).

The double-digit reduction was attributed to the delayed

consumer demand at home, the US protectionist moves, and the stiffer competition.

Preliminary revenue decreased 4.4 per cent to 20.74 trillion won (\$15.2 billion) in the second quarter. — Xinhua

ADB approves US\$65.8 mln financing package to support agrifood systems transformation in Laos

THE Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Monday announced that it has approved a financing package of US\$65.8 million for the Sustainable Agrifood Systems Sector Project in Laos.

According to the ADB, the project aims

to enhance climate resilience, food security, nutrition, and incomes of vulnerable households and communities. It will also strengthen agrifood systems geared towards domestic and export markets for high-value commodities. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SERENA VOY.NO. (525W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SERENA VOY.NO. (525W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (X2514E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (X2514E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S TI2 LOGISTICS PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

UNDP-Cambodia, ASEAN mine action centre renew partnership to accelerate knowledge sharing, collaboration

THE United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Cambodia and the Phnom Penh-headquartered ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) have renewed partnership to accelerate knowledge sharing and collaboration on mine action, said a joint press release on Monday.

Alissar Chaker, UNDP resident representative in Cambodia, and Buth Rothna, executive director of ARMAC, signed a new memorandum of understanding (MoU) last Friday to enhance technical cooperation and knowledge sharing on mine action.

“This collaboration aims to support ARMAC’s efforts in promoting peace and security

and reducing casualties from landmines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) in affected ASEAN member states,” the press release said.

Both sides would accelerate regional coordination, partnership building, knowledge sharing, and exchange of good practices in mine action, particularly in advocacy, clearance and land release, victim assistance, and risk education, it added.

Chaker said that over the past 20 years, Cambodia has made remarkable progress in strengthening mine action management, developing policies, legal frameworks, standards, and information systems for land clearance and release, raising



A deminer searches for mines and unexploded ordnance at a minefield in Siem Reap province, Cambodia, 16 January 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

public awareness and promoting risk education on ERW, as well as supporting victim assistance.

“The Kingdom’s hard-earned wealth of knowledge and expertise is invaluable to other

mine-affected ASEAN countries and for strengthening peace and security across the region,” she said.

Rothna said the MoU reflected the spirit of ASEAN solidarity and shared commitment to a mine-free region.

“By combining ARMAC’s regional mandate and technical coordination role with UNDP’s global presence and development expertise, we are poised to elevate cooperation across ASEAN to new heights,” she said.

ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. — Xinhua

Children’s camp confirms 27 dead, with Texas flood toll over 80



Members of a Texas Game Warden look for missing people on the Guadalupe River in Kerrville, Texas, on 6 July 2025, following severe flash flooding that occurred during the 4 July holiday weekend. PHOTO: AFP

RESCUERS in the US state of Texas on Monday searched for bodies swept away by flash floods that killed more than 80 people, including 27 girls and counsellors at a summer camp.

The nation was shocked at the disaster over the Fourth of July holiday weekend, and forecasters warned that thunderstorms threatened more flooding over saturated ground.

“Camp Mystic is grieving the loss of 27 campers and counselors following the catastrophic flooding,” the camp

said in a statement.

“Our hearts are broken alongside our families that are enduring this unimaginable tragedy.”

US President Donald Trump said he may visit Texas later this week, but brushed off concerns his cuts to weather forecasting and related federal agencies had weakened warning systems.

Instead, he described the floods in the early hours of Friday as a “100-year catastrophe” that “nobody expected”.

At least 40 adults and 28 children were killed in the worst-hit Kerr County in central Texas, Sheriff Larry Leitha said Sunday, while at least 13 more people were killed by flooding in nearby areas. The death toll is expected to rise.

Grim search

Trump, who previously said disaster relief should be handled at the state level, signed a major disaster declaration, activating fresh funds and freeing up resources. — AFP

Volcanic eruption of Indonesia’s Mt Lewotobi disrupts flights, threatens public health

LARGE eruptions of Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki in Indonesia’s East Nusa Tenggara province on Monday disrupted air travel and posed serious health risks due to the spread of volcanic ash.

Several international flights bound for I Gusti Ngurah Rai International Airport in Bali were cancelled, while multiple domestic flights were suspended, according to the airport’s official website.

Among the international carriers affected were Malindo Air and Jetstar, which cancelled arrivals, while AirAsia rescheduled its flights. Domestically, Wings Air, Lion Air, and Super Jet Air closed boarding gates for their operations.

Indonesia’s Volcanology and Geology Disaster Mitigation Centre reported that Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki erupted several times, with the tallest ash column reaching up to 18,000 metres into the sky. This triggered the issuance of a red-level Volcano Observatory Notice for Aviation, the highest alert, which prohibits aircraft from flying below 6,000 metres in the affected airspace. Pilots were also advised to exercise caution due to the presence of volcanic ash, which can damage aircraft engines and systems.

Richard Felt, a senior official at the provincial Disaster Management and Mitigation Agency, said the agency had prepared for such risks by distributing face masks to residents to prevent respiratory issues.

“The volcanic ash has reached all parts of the volcano’s slopes. We have distributed masks to the people, as the risks are threatening their health,” he told Xinhua.

Felt added that residents have been advised to temporarily cease outdoor activities due to the continued spread of ash in residential areas. “We have asked the residents to halt their activities if not urgent. This is for their safety,” he said.

However, he confirmed that all residents had already been evacuated to safe zones following the previous strong eruption.

Standing at 1,584 metres, Mount Lewotobi Laki-laki is one of Indonesia’s 127 active volcanoes. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Alcaraz, Sabalenka reach quarterfinals at Wimbledon

DEFENDING champion Carlos Alcaraz staged a thrilling comeback to defeat Andrey Rublev and advance to the Wimbledon quarterfinals, while women's top seed Aryna Sabalenka continued her dominant run with a straight-sets victory over Elise Mertens on Sunday.

Alcaraz dropped the first set against the 14th-seeded Rublev but showcased his trademark resilience, rallying to win 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

The 22-year-old Spaniard converted crucial break points in the second and third sets before sealing the match with another break in the fourth.

"One point can change a match completely. You have to stay there all the time, be strong mentally," said Alcaraz, who remains on track for a third consecutive Wimbledon title.

He will next face Cameron Norrie, after the Briton outlasted Chile's Nicolas Jarry in a five-set

marathon, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-7 (7), 6-7 (5), 6-3. Fifth seed Taylor Fritz matched his best Wimbledon performance by reaching the quarterfinals after opponent Jordan Thompson retired due to injury while trailing 6-1, 3-0.

Fritz will now meet Karen Khachanov, who eased past Poland's Kamil Majchrzak 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.

World No 1 Sabalenka overcame a stubborn challenge from Mertens, winning 6-4, 7-6 (4) to book her place in the last eight.

The Belarusian, the only top-six seed remaining in the women's draw, will next face Laura Siegemund, after the 37-year-old German ended lucky loser Solana Sierra's fairytale run with a 6-3, 6-2 victory.

American Amanda Anisimova bolstered her title credentials with a hard-fought 6-2, 5-7, 6-4 win over Linda Noskova. — Xinhua



Aryna Sabalenka hits a return during the women's singles fourth round match against Elise Mertens at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships on 6 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

Mexico defeat USA 2-1 to retain CONCACAF Gold Cup

MEXICO defeated the United States 2-1 to retain the CONCACAF Gold Cup and lift the title for a record-extending 10th time on Sunday.

A 77th-minute header from Mexico skipper Edson Alvarez completed a come-from-behind victory after a typically hard-fought tussle between the North American arch-rivals and 2026 World Cup co-hosts.

The win was no less than Mexico deserved after dominating for long

periods against Mauricio Pochettino's inexperienced USA side, who went into the tournament missing several first-choice regulars.

Alvarez's winner capped a fairytale return to Houston after he had limped off in tears at the same venue during Mexico's opening game of the Copa America last year.

"It's a very emotional moment for me," the West Ham midfielder said afterwards.



Mexico's players celebrate their victory at the end of the Concacaf Gold Cup final football match between Mexico and USA at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas on 6 July 2025. PHOTO: AFP

"Ever since I got to Houston, I've been thinking about that heartbreak. I just asked life to give me one more joy."

The USA got off to a dream start when centre-back Chris Richards headed the hosts into a fourth-minute lead in front of just under 71,000 fans at NRG Stadium.

Sebastian Berhalter's perfectly flighted free-kick sowed panic in the Mexican defence and Crystal Palace defender Richards stooped for a powerful header which cannoned off the underside of the bar and over the line.

That early effort was to be the USA's best chance of a first half that Mexico controlled for the most part.

Mexico's 16-year-old prodigy Gilberto Mora threatened to grab an equalizer in 24 minutes, but his curling shot was saved by USA goalkeeper Matt Freese.

Three minutes later Mexico drew level.

Marcel Ruiz threaded a superb pass to veteran striker Raul Jimenez, who crashed an unstoppable shot into the roof of the net. — AFP

Big names missing as Man Utd returns to training

THERE were five players missing when Manchester United returned for pre-season training on Monday after the club has given them more time off to try and seal a move elsewhere.

Jadon Sancho, Antony, Marcus Rashford and Tyrell Malacia are not in Ruben Amorim's plans, while Alejandro Garnacho has asked to leave due to his poor relationship with the head coach.

Sancho spent last season on loan with Chelsea, but the south London club opted against signing him on a permanent basis, even paying a penalty clause of five million pounds (US\$6.8 million) for rejecting that option.

Juventus is thought to be interested in Sancho, with United asking for around 25 million pounds for the winger.

Antony had a successful second half to the season on loan at Real Betis, and was a key factor as the club finished sixth in La Liga and reached the UEFA Conference League final, losing to Chelsea. — Xinhua

UNDP-Cambodia, ASEAN mine action centre renew partnership to accelerate knowledge sharing, collaboration

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WORLD

Intl Deep Space Exploration Association launched in China

THE International Deep Space Exploration Association (IDSEA), an international academic organization dedicated to deep space exploration, was officially launched on Monday in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province.

The move marks a key step in global collaboration to advance space technology and build a community with a shared future for humanity in outer space.

This association was jointly initiated by the Hefei-based Deep Space Exploration Laboratory, the Lunar Exploration and Space Programme Centre of the China National Space Administration, the Chinese Society of Astronautics, the Chinese Society of Space Research and the French initiative "Planetary Exploration, Horizon 2061". The founding of the IDSEA was also co-sponsored by 20 academicians from China and 31 international scientists.

Wu Weiren, chief designer of China's lunar exploration programme and an academican of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, was elected as the association's first chairman.

Wu said the association's establishment holds great significance for international exchange and cooperation in China's space programme, as it is a crucial step towards collaborative innovation within the global space community.



Guests unveil the plaque of the International Deep Space Exploration Association during the inauguration ceremony of the association in Hefei, east China's Anhui Province, 7 July 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

He said the association will focus on areas including lunar exploration, planetary exploration and asteroid defence. It will conduct studies on trends in international deep space exploration, host international academic events, foster global talent in space science and

technology, take part in making standards and rules concerning outer space, and advance the peaceful and sustainable use of outer space.

He extended a warm invitation to scientists and engineers worldwide to join the association and contribute to global

exploration of the universe.

Despite being a latecomer to outer space exploration, China has rapidly emerged as a prominent player in this field while also demonstrating its commitment to cooperating with other nations. — Xinhua

Israel, Hamas due to resume indirect talks ahead of Netanyahu-Trump meet

ISRAEL and Hamas were due to resume indirect talks in Qatar on Monday, according to a Palestinian official, ahead of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's meeting in Washington with President Donald Trump, who is pushing for a deal.

The latest round of negotiations on the war in Gaza began on Sunday in Doha, aiming to broker a ceasefire and reach an agreement on the release of hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners.

A Palestinian official familiar with the negotiations told AFP indirect talks were due to resume Monday between Hamas and Israeli delegations.

As of 1230 GMT there was no confirmation the talks had begun, however.

Speaking to AFP on condition of anonymity, the official said the delega-



US President Donald Trump (C) welcomes Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (R) at the White House in Washington, DC, the United States, on 7 April 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

tions had exchanged views on Sunday via mediators, with representatives of the two sides seated in different rooms in the same building. — AFP

Indonesia's weather agency warns of up to 6-metre waves off Bali Island

A branch office of the Indonesian Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) in Bali issued a warning on Monday about potentially dangerous waves reaching up to six metres high that are expected to impact sailing activities in the waters off Bali Island from Tuesday to Friday.

The Regional Centre for Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysics in Bali, a technical implementation unit of the BMKG, said the massive waves could occur across all waters surrounding Bali Island. The largest waves, up to six metres in height, are anticipated in the southern coastal waters, according to local media reports.

The regional centre also urged the public to remain vigilant due to the potential for increased wind speeds in the area, which could generate large waves and pose serious risks to maritime activities. — Xinhua