

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

- 1. To steadfastly strive for emergence of political forces and the people’s representatives who can implement a genuine, disciplined multi-party democratic system while constantly emphasizing on the national interests of the State.
- 2. To persistently strive for promoting the socio-economic life of the people through the development of agro-based industries in improving the agricultural sector, the vital foundation of the economic growth of the State.
- 3. To put emphasis on enhancing the national education and health sectors for sustainable development of the State.
- 4. To implement multi-party democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of multi-party democratic general election process and successfully moving towards with the multi-party democratic system aspired by the entire people.

Myanmar earns US\$290M from 840,000-tonne rice export in Apr–Jul

Myanmar bagged over US\$1.129 billion from exporting 2.48 million tonnes of rice and broken rice in the 2024-2025 financial year (1 April-31 March), slightly below the Myanmar Rice Federation’s projected target of 2.5 million tonnes.

MYANMAR’S rice and broken rice exports reached over 840,000 tonnes in April-July of the current financial year 2025-2026, bagging US\$290 million, according to Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Myanmar exported over 142,700 tonnes of rice and broken rice worth \$52 million in April, over 529,500 tonnes worth \$91 million in May, over 212,400 tonnes worth \$71 million in June, and 230,671 tonnes valued at \$77 million in July. Rice exports mainly depend on sea trade, while only small volumes were exported to neighbouring countries via border points.

The federation aims to achieve three million tonnes of rice exports in the current FY. Myanmar bagged over US\$1.129 billion from 2.48 million tonnes of rice and broken rice exports in the financial year 2024-2025 (1 April-31 March). The federation projected to export 2.5 million tonnes of rice in the FY 2024-2025, falling short of the target.



SEE PAGE 7 Workers diligently organizing rice bags for export. PHOTO: XINHUA

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By Dr Than Lwin Tun

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# NATIONAL

## Success of MSME businesses reflects domestic economy and production

❖ The purpose of supporting the development and success of MSME businesses is primarily to strengthen the domestic economy — in other words, to promote domestic production.

*(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening ceremony of the Myanmar Foodstuff Development Forum (2025) on 19 February 2025)*

## Myanmar, Nicaraguan Leaders exchange congratulatory messages on 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations

ON the occasion of the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Nicaragua, which falls on 6 August 2025, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, exchanged congratulatory message with Mr Daniel Ortega Saaverdra and Mrs Rosario Murillo, Co-Presidents of the Republic of Nicaragua. — MNA

- Let us encourage production for prosperity of the Nation.
- Let us ensure education sector for the development of the Nation.
- Let us protect our environment for the prosperity of the Nation.

## Statement on health condition of Pro Tem President U Myint Swe

SINCE early 2023, Pro Tem President U Myint Swe began experiencing sluggishness in movement and the ability to consume food and nutrients. As a result, a special medical team comprising specialist doctors conducted medical checkups.

According to the medical test results, it was found that he is suffering from Parkinson's Disease, a neurological disorder characterized by delayed nerve responses, along with other related neurodegenerative conditions. Therefore, he was under medical treatment at Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre in Singapore from 15 to 19 April 2024 and at the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) from 27 May to 18 June.

After he was discharged, he received medical treatments conducted by the special medics led by Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win. As his health condition has not improved yet, he has been receiving close medical treatments at his home after taking a medical leave starting from 18 July 2024.

In July 2025, he experienced weight loss, loss of appetite, fever, and a decline in cognitive function. Then, he took medical treatments at the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) again on 24 July. According to the results, the Pro Tem President U Myint Swe is currently in a critical condition, and he is now receiving intensive care at the Special Intensive Care Unit of the No 2 Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed).

*National Defence and Security Council  
Information Team*

## Weather Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Tuesday 5 August 2025)

**BAY INFERENCE** Monsoon is weak to moderate over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 6 August 2025:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Magway Region and Kayah, Rakhine States, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Sagaing, Ayeyawady Regions and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mandalay, Upper Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Mon, and Shan States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD:** The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady Regions and Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and (southern and eastern) Shan States. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-7 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of increase of rain in Yangon, Bago, Upper Sagaing, Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon, and Shan States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 August 2025:** One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 August 2025:** One or two times of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.— DMH

## Flood Bulletin

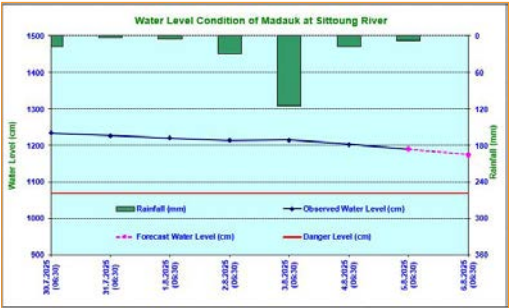
(Issued at 7:30 pm MST on 5 August 2025)

ACCORDING to the 6:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about four feet above its danger level. It may fall about ½ foot during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

According to the 6:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Thantwin River at Hpa-an has exceeded by about 1½ feet above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next one day.

It is noticeably advised to stay to the people

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

Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
National Defence and Security Council  
Order 6/2025

12<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Wagoung 1387 ME

Appointment of National Security Adviser

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed Union Minister for Ministry 1 of the President’s Office, U Tin Aung San, as National Security Adviser, to enable him to provide necessary suggestions and recommendations on national security issues from various perspectives to the Pro Tem President and the National Defence and Security Council.

By order,  
Aung Lin Dwe  
Executive Chief  
National Defence and Security Council

Addendum

PLEASE include the statement, “The Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing instructed that the Bogoyoke Aung San Museum be renovated to a high standard to ensure that it is open to domestic and foreign tourists when the dry season arrives,” in the news story reported by the Global New Light of Myanmar on 5 August regarding Senior General Min Aung Hlaing’s visit to the Bogoyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon) and the Yangon

Region High Court to inspect maintenance and repair work. Please also include the statement, The Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in response to the submissions of officials during the inspection at the Yangon Region High Court, which stated that the colonial-era ancient buildings in Yangon should be restored and maintained as per their original works to make them attractive to domestic and foreign tourists.

Cooperation Agreement on Projects of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund (2025) signed in Nay Pyi Taw

THE signing ceremony of the Agreement of Cooperation on Projects of the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund (2025) was held yesterday morning at the Parkroyal Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw. Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe, Union Minister for Legal Affairs and Union Attorney-General Dr Thida Oo, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Naung, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than, Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein



The exchange of the cooperation agreement on the projects of the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund (2025) in progress in the presence of Union Minister U Than Swe.

Kyaw, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw and U Naing Min Kyaw and senior officials from concerned ministries were present at the ceremony. At the ceremony, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe delivered the opening remarks in which he commended that the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation is one of the most successful mechanisms among other Mekong-related mechanisms and provided 984 projects across the member countries in a nine-year journey, directly benefitting the people of the Mekong River Basin.

SEE PAGE 4



# NATIONAL

## Addendum

PLEASE include the statement that the Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, in response to reports from officials, instructed that evergreen trees be planted within 400 feet along the Yangon-Mandalay

Expressway, windbreak trees be planted in two or three rows spaced 10 feet apart, and that, similarly, trees be planted during this year's rainy season in protected public forests and vacant lands, and also on both sides of the road, with the establishment of small forests of

about 5 to 10 acres," in the news story reported by the Global New Light of Myanmar on 5 August regarding Senior General Min Aung Hlaing's inspection of maintenance work along the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

## MoI Union Minister discusses upgrading of Wazira Cinema



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn speaks at the coordinatin meeting on upgrading the Wazra Cinema yesterday.

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn presided over a coordination meeting on upgrading the Wazira Cinema in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, the Union minister said the original name of the Wazira Cinema was Excelsior, and it was changed into the Yangon Cinema during the Japanese occupation. It was nationalized in 1968 and became the Wazira Cinema. It is an ancient building decorated

with Beaux Arts mixed with French architectural works used between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Therefore, it is being upgraded into a Red Carpet Theatre without affecting its original architectural arts. The air conditioning system, electrical system, and display system will be upgraded to meet modern standards while preserving the original design. As the building represents the image of the nation, renovations will be carried

out in collaboration with the relevant departments.

It is planned to make the Wazira Cinema not only a movie theatre but also a venue where plays, puppet shows, dance, music festivals, international film festivals and Memory Film Festival are held.

Deputy Minister U Ye Tint reported on the upgrading work of the cinema, and the participants coordinated the discussion. — MNA/KTZH

## Cooperation Agreement on Projects of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation ...

### FROM PAGE 3

He expressed his appreciation to the People's Republic of China for their generosity through the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund.

He appreciated the People's Republic of China for providing US\$38.3 million to Myanmar under the MLC mechanism since 2017, and today's ceremony has formalized the transfer of approximately US\$3.3 million from China to Myanmar. He also appreciated China for its 1.1 billion Yuan of Emergency Assistance for Mandalay's earthquake-affected areas and recovery plan.

Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, also delivered the remarks. In her remarks, the Ambassador noted that the MLC demonstrates the common goal of all member countries to remain good neighbours and reliable partners. She mentioned that Myanmar has received 132 projects through the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund since 2018, the highest among Mekong countries. She added that the 14 new projects signed today will continue to help development in multiple fields of Myanmar. In commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic ties between China and Myanmar, she expressed China's commitment to working closely

with Myanmar in implementing the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, and Global Civilization Initiative, to foster a China-Myanmar community with a shared future for mutual benefit.

Afterwards, the Agreement on the Transfer of Funds for MLC Special Fund (2025) Projects for Myanmar was signed and exchanged by U Ko Ko Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China.

Under the Agreement, 14 projects will be implemented in Myanmar by nine Ministries in the fields of agricultural technology, science and technology, cultural exchange, legal cooperation, environmental cooperation, disaster management and commercial navigation.

The Mekong-Lancang Cooperation was initiated by the Chinese Premier Li Keqiang at the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-China Summit held in Myanmar in 2014 to foster cooperation to reduce the development gap and attain sustainable development in the Mekong region. Mekong-Lancang Cooperation was officially launched in 2016 among six Mekong-Lancang countries comprising Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA

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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.



# Thai Air Force delegation visits Myanmar for exchange and cultural tour

The Thai Royal Air Force delegation concluded their visit and departed from Yangon for Thailand yesterday evening by Royal Thai Air Force aircraft. Officials from Tatmadaw (Air) saw them off at the Mingaladon Air Base Headquarters. – MNA/MKKS

# Agencies told to submit July worker reports by 10 Aug

# MCEF, MCIA Yangon to host one-day AI training for construction

elling (BIM), generative design, accounting and cost management, and AI guidance. Furthermore, an AI action plan workshop was conducted after participants were divided into small groups. — MT/ZN



# NATIONAL

## 128<sup>th</sup> Buddha Tooth Relic Festival to be held in Paungde, Bago Region



Photos showcase the sacred Buddha Tooth Relic seen during the previous year's festival.

ACCORDING to U Aye Win, a member of the Buddha Tooth Relic Trustee Committee, the 128<sup>th</sup> annual Buddha Tooth Relic Festival in Paungde Township, Bago Region, will be held with traditional customs and rituals preserved.

The sacred Buddha Tooth Relic, which is enshrined in a glass casket within the Gandakuti Golden Monastery of Cikalamuni Moekaung Pagoda in Paungde Township, will be venerated over three days from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> waxing days of the month of Tawthalin (4 to 6 September), as is customary each year.

The enshrined Buddha Tooth Relic in Paungde is also a revered relic that was once jointly venerated with another sacred tooth relic of the Gautama Buddha from the island of Ceylon (Sri Lanka). — ASH/KNN

## MRCS, DRC jointly hold communication skills training

MYANMAR Red Cross Society (MRCS) and Danish Red Cross (DRC) jointly offered communication skills training for humanitarian activities between 2 and 4 August in Pyin Oo Lwin, covering 50 volunteers from townships in Mandalay Region and universities, MRCS stated.

The objectives behind the training is to realize value of red cross, its activities and duties and responsibilities, earn good reputation in line with basic Red Cross principles and rules and supporting humanitarian activities through communication and community engagement, provide real information and response during crisis, build trust to improve communication, accountability and engagement during its mission for safety, security and well-being of volunteers.

MRCS executive U Kyaw Moe Kyi gave an opening remark during the opening ceremony of the training, while Mandalay Region Red Cross Supervision Committee's chair, Dr Thein Tun Aung, Deputy Cooperation Coordinator U Aung Moe Kyaw of the International Red Cross Committee and Ms Nuria Benitez, Country Manager of Danish Red Cross, also delivered remarks. — ASH/KK



Trainees attending a communication skills training session.

## Myanmar-China Friendship Association donates K20M in medicines, supplies to MGH

THE Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) donated medicines and medical supplies worth K20 million to Mandalay General Hospital on 4 August, according to reports.

The donation was jointly made by the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) and its Mandalay branch. The donated items were intended for the hospital's nephrology department and blood testing laboratory, which require medical equipment and supplies.

Chairman U Kyaw Min of the Mandalay branch of the Myanmar-China Friendship Association and his team personally delivered the donation



Members of the Myanmar-China Friendship Association donating medicines and supplies to the Mandalay General Hospital.

to the hospital, where it was accepted by the hospital superintendent. Words of thanks were expressed, and a certificate of honour was presented in recognition of the donation.

Similarly, on 10 and 11 July, the association donated Waso robes, blank exercise books, and monetary contributions to monastic schools and teaching monasteries in Yangon Region. A total of 1,265 dozen exercise books, writing materials, and over K11.4 million in donations were offered to the monasteries. — ASH/KZL

## ‘Centred on Love’ feature film to start shooting in Yangon this Aug

A new Myanmar feature film titled *Centred on Love* is set to begin filming in Yangon during the month of August, according to reports.

The storyline of the film was written by Myat Myo Myint Marn, who also co-wrote the screenplay with Seven Day. The film will be produced under the Sandar Film Production banner and directed by Academy director Nyunt Myanmar Nyi Nyi Aung.

“It’s a clean, emotional drama based on a love triangle. In this film, audiences will witness May La Than Zin making a strong transition from her singing career to acting. It’s a powerful love story that will be brought to

life with compelling performances,” said director Nyunt Myanmar Nyi Nyi Aung.

The cast of *Centred on Love* includes Academy Shwe Htoo, Sai Si Tom Kham, May La Than Zin, Academy May Than Nu, child actress Mi Kyal Sin Kyaw Kyaw, along with several supporting actors and actresses. — ASH/MKKS



# Myanmar earns US\$290M from 840,000-tonne rice export in Apr–Jul

## FROM PAGE 1

Ministry of Commerce is working together with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Rice Federation, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, Myanmar Industries Association, Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association, Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association to meet monthly export targets and facilitate exports. — NN/KK

# Women and Construction Programme urges more skilled female workers in industry

THE Doh Eain community organization has relaunched its Women and Construction Programme to empower women to enter the construction industry as skilled workers.

The project is currently in its fifth batch, intending to break down barriers and make changes in the environment. During the four months of training, students will be able to learn the basic skills of construction and gain practical work experience, and they can apply via [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLS-fVb0Wk9Y4Q\\_VxMoWVD7fH-PQA7RM5GEihOSg1gM9PJm-Br4y9w/viewform?id=2](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLS-fVb0Wk9Y4Q_VxMoWVD7fH-PQA7RM5GEihOSg1gM9PJm-Br4y9w/viewform?id=2) Used by usp=header.

Throughout the programme, health insurance and stipends will be provided, and all job-seeking women between the ages of 18 and 40, including undergraduates and graduates, are encouraged to apply. The programme is described as a platform for women to share skills in the construction industry as well as life skills and to help them establish themselves as professionals on an equal footing with men in the construction industry.

After learning life skills for three months, trainees will be provided with consultations on job opportunities by experts, including working as an apprentice for one month. – MT/ZN



Women diligently working in the construction industry.

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.



Export and import lorries await crossing at the Myanmar-China border.

# Rice stakeholders discuss SPS protocol for exports to China

THE Sanitary and Phytosanitary Protocol (SPS Protocol) workshop was held at the end of July at the Mingala Hall of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

The SPS protocol is a must for legitimate rice export to China. The SPS Protocol measures include all relevant laws, decrees, regulations, requirements and procedures.

Officials of Agriculture Department and Consumer Affairs Department, representatives of Myanmar Inspection and Testing Services Limited, chair of Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) and rice exporting companies attended the workshop, emphasizing SPS Protocol procedures, registration with The General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China,

online registration process for legal rice export, and potential markets in Europe, Africa and Asia beyond China.

Representatives of the companies elaborated a purchasing plan, an export plan, repatriation of export revenues and registration on MyRO. Officials concerned coordinated the matters discussed by the companies. — NN/KK

# CBM to sell CNY10M, THB50M to importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 4 August that it would sell 10 million yuan and 50 million baht to importers.

CBM also sold over \$1.08 million to edible oil importing companies and \$620,200 to fuel oil importing companies on that day.

CBM also pumped over \$1.04 million into edible oil-importing companies and over \$434,400 into fuel oil-importing companies on 1 August.

CBM sold \$36.5 million purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis, in addition to an injection of \$8.8 million, 13.3 million baht, 10.5 million yuan and 500,000 rupees in July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$2.3 million to other commodities-importing companies as per its initial announcement of selling \$10 million.

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

CBM aims to curb the instability in the



Greenbacks are seen at the exchange counter.

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



Take earthquake-resistant measures to shape a safe society

THERE are many countries around the world that are affected by earthquakes. Among them, Asian countries such as Japan, China, and Indonesia have demonstrated the ability to construct high-rise and advanced buildings, including skyscrapers, by using high-quality construction materials and advanced technology. Myanmar sits atop multiple seismic fault lines, some of which experience frequent minor tremors, while others produce major earthquakes only once every few centuries. For residents living near these faults, it is crucial to research and develop building designs tailored to local conditions, ensuring construction methods

Therefore, it is essential not only to recover and rebuild from the damage caused by the Mandalay earthquake, but also for Myanmar – as a country situated along active fault lines—to proactively prepare for future seismic threats. Experts have a historical responsibility to conduct in-depth research and take all possible measures to develop and implement effective prevention strategies aimed at minimizing future losses when earthquakes strike.

To support the reconstruction of homes and residences damaged by the earthquake, the government initially provided K500 billion in emergency funding. In addition, it is continuing to support recovery and reconstruction efforts with a further allocation of K2 trillion.

Preparing for an earthquake – a natural disaster – requires more than just ensuring timely rescue operations and swift reconstruction efforts. It also involves planning to minimize loss of life and damage to homes when disaster strikes. A vital part of this preparedness lies in building essential infrastructure that meets earthquake-resistant standards and quality benchmarks. Only by doing so can we effectively safeguard the lives and properties of our people against the devastating impacts of earthquakes.

Therefore, it is essential not only to recover and rebuild from the damage caused by the Mandalay earthquake, but also for Myanmar – as a country situated along active fault lines—to proactively prepare for future seismic threats. Experts have a historical responsibility to conduct in-depth research and take all possible measures to develop and implement effective prevention strategies aimed at minimizing future losses when earthquakes strike.

align closely with the country's unique environment. Like other earthquake-prone nations, Myanmar must prioritize the construction of earthquake-resistant buildings. Experts and professionals must collaborate diligently to create safe and resilient living spaces for their people.

A recent significant earthquake occurred on 28 March 2025, when a magnitude 7.7 tremor struck Mandalay. This quake caused extensive damage across five regions and states, including Mandalay, Sagaing, and Nay Pyi Taw. It is now widely acknowledged that this earthquake originated along the Sagaing Fault.

As a result of the Mandalay earthquake, more than 3,700 monks and civilians lost their lives. It was nonetheless a deeply tragic event for the nation. In terms of infrastructure damage, more than 50,000 homes were destroyed, along with roads, bridges, transmission towers, schools, hospitals, religious buildings, and numerous factories and workplaces.

IN a world increasingly characterized by diversity, complexity, and rapid change, unity has become more important than ever before. Unity is the state of being joined together in harmony, working towards common goals despite differences in background, opinion, or identity. In the modern world marked by globalization, technological advancement, political polarization, and environmental challenges, unity is not just a desirable ideal but a vital necessity. It serves as the foundation for peace, progress, and stability in societies across the globe.

❖ Unity as a Source of Strength: The modern world faces numerous challenges climate change, economic inequality, global pandemics, terrorism, and social injustice, to name a few. These are not problems that can be solved by isolated individuals or nations acting alone. Instead, they require cooperation, mutual understanding, and collective action. Unity brings together people from different walks of life, combining their ideas, skills, and resources to address problems on a larger scale. As the saying goes, “United we stand, divided we fall.” When people are united, their collective strength is far greater than the sum of their individual capabilities.

❖ Unity in Diversity: One of the most striking features of the modern world is its diversity. Never before have people of different races, religions, cultures, and languages lived and interacted so closely. While this diversity can be a tremendous source of innovation and creativity, it can also lead to misunderstandings, conflict, and division if not managed wisely. Unity does not mean uniformity; it means respecting differences while finding common ground. In multicultural societies, unity ensures social cohesion and helps prevent the rise of discrimination, hatred,

The Importance of Unity in the Modern World

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

and violence. Countries that embrace unity in diversity, such as Canada, Singapore, and South Africa, serve as examples of how peaceful coexistence and national development can go hand in hand.

❖ Unity in the Face of Global Crises: Recent global events have shown how interconnected our lives are. The COVID-19 pandemic was a wake-up call for humanity. It crossed borders, affected millions of lives, and disrupted economies around the world. In response, unity became essential as nations shared medical knowledge, scientists from different countries collaborated on vaccines, and communities came together to support one another. Likewise, the fight against climate change requires global unity. No single country can protect the planet alone.
 ❖ Political and Social Unity: In many parts of the world today, political polarization and social fragmentation are growing concerns. When societies are divided along political, religious, or ideological lines, progress is delayed, and
 ❖

mistrust prevails. Unity, in this context, involves open dialogue, compromise, and the ability to work toward shared goals despite differences. Political unity can ensure effective governance, protect democratic values, and create a sense of national identity. Social unity, on the other hand, strengthens communities, reduces crime and conflict, and fosters a culture of empathy and mutual support.

❖ Unity in the Digital Age: The internet and social media have transformed how people communicate and connect. While these tools have the power to unite people across continents, they also have the potential to create echo chambers, spread misinformation, and fuel division. In the digital age, unity means using technology responsibly to promote understanding, share accurate information, and build online communities based on respect and truth. The importance of digital unity lies in building a virtual world that supports real-world harmony and cooperation.
 ❖ The Role of Education Leadership: Unity must

be nurtured, and this starts with education. Schools and universities should teach values such as respect, tolerance, teamwork, and civic responsibility. When young people are raised to value unity, they grow into adults who build inclusive societies. Moreover, effective leadership is essential in fostering unity. Leaders who rise above personal or political gain to bring people together, whether in government, business, or civil society, can inspire hope and drive meaningful change.

❖ From Unity to Success: Unity is the cornerstone of success. It is the invisible force that binds individuals into a team, communities into nations, and dreams into achievements. Whether in a family, a workplace, or an entire country, unity creates strength, inspires action, and drives progress. The path from unity to success is not always easy, but it is always powerful and transformational. For example, in a workplace, a united team is more likely to meet its goals, innovate, and grow. In a classroom, students who help each other learn more and perform better. In a country, citizens who work together can build a better future for the next generation.
 ❖ The Power of Unity: Unity means working together toward a common goal with shared values and mutual respect. When people are united, they support each other through challenges and celebrate achievements together. This sense of togetherness builds trust, reduces conflict, and brings out the best in everyone. In nature, we see unity in the flight of birds moving in harmony or the teamwork of ants building their colony. In human society, unity can be even more impactful. History is full of examples where unity

has led to extraordinary success, whether in freedom movements, humanitarian missions, or scientific breakthroughs.

❖ Unity in Action: In daily life, unity can be seen in families where love and cooperation create a strong foundation. In schools, unity among students and teachers fosters a positive learning environment. In communities, unity helps solve problems such as poverty, disease, and disaster response more effectively. When people stand together, even the most difficult situations can be overcome. At the national level, unity is essential for peace, development, and resilience. A nation divided by conflict or hatred cannot progress. But when its people are united across different backgrounds, religions, or beliefs, success becomes achievable not just economically, but socially and culturally.

❖ Challenges to Unity: Achieving unity is not without its challenges. Differences in opinions, selfish interests, and prejudice can divide people. But through communication, empathy, and a shared vision, unity can be preserved. Leadership also plays a key role. True leaders unite people, not divide them.

As our challenges grow more complex and our societies more diverse, unity offers the only sustainable path forward. Unity is not just a feeling; it is a powerful force that leads to real, meaningful success. From the smallest team to the largest nation, unity creates the foundation for achievement, growth, and peace. If we want to move from where we are to where we dream to be, we must walk the path of unity. In an age of uncertainty, unity remains our greatest strength and perhaps our only hope for a better future.

I Say What I See: Love, Peace, and Joy

By @Editor

IN a time when songs were stitched into the rhythm of our lives and dreams hummed through bamboo speakers, a band named *Love, Peace, and Joy* carried our hearts beyond the static. Their name, simple yet profound, became a soft emblem of hope in 1980s Myanmar – a decade when laws were light but sentiments ran deep. Though the group dissolved into the shadows of history, their echoes remain, undiminished and untraded.

I borrow their name, knowingly but with reverence, not to claim ownership but to honour the essence they gifted to our sonic memory. What follows is not a chronicle of their music, nor a reimagining of their legacy. It is my own meditation – a tapestry of what these three words mean today, in lives tangled with longing, in moments stitched with grace,

and in a country still learning to sing its truth.

**The Pulse of Love: Felt, Not Defined**

“Love” isn’t just a word for dictionaries. It’s the quiet devotion of a son kneeling beside ageing parents, tucking silver hair away from a tired brow. It’s the laughter shared with a life partner – moments that endure even when chapters end in separation. It’s the gentle pride of a father watching his son grow, the protective warmth cocooning his daughter’s dreams.

Love is found in reunions with childhood friends, now aged but still spirited. It stirs in moments with colleagues whose trust and friendship make work feel like kinship. It lingers even in virtual spaces like Facebook – a thumbs-up, a heart, a simple comment under a shared memory. The true story of

this author is not just about sentiment; it’s a testament to being present, fully and sincerely, in each relationship that shaped him.

But look around today. The social fabric is fraying under the weight of indifference. Mistrust creeps into conversations; hostility drowns out harmony. What once bloomed in neighbourhoods and among colleagues now often wilts behind screens or sealed hearts.

Yet, the essence of “Love” in Love, Peace, and Joy reminds us: remember what it is to feel deeply. To love not only romantically or familiarly, but platonically, communally, even digitally – with sincerity. It urges us to recount our stories, to reawaken the gestures that connect us.

*Love isn’t gone. It simply needs reminding.*

**The Breath of Peace: Born**

belief is clear – if we nurture love earnestly, peace cannot help but follow.

To renounce violence is not weakness; it is courage. To build a society rooted in shared respect, where one’s identity is not a threat but a thread in a larger weave, is the truest act of strength. In these times, when discord feels louder than harmony, “peace” must be the song we choose to sing, together.

Peace, as seen through the lens of history, often comes wrapped in global symbols: the two-finger salute of anti-war protesters, the nuclear disarmament circle split by three lines, a gentle olive branch lifted in truce, or the soft flutter of a white dove rising into open skies. Each has echoed across generations, continents, and ideologies, representing a universal yearning for nonviolence and harmony. Yet, these emblems, beautiful as they are, float somewhat above the lived soil of Myanmar.

In Myanmar, where hills and plains carry the histories of many ethnicities, peace is not a distant wish; it’s an urgent necessity. This author writes not from a textbook of diplomacy but from lived experience: a tapestry of love for parents, partners, children, friends, coworkers, and countrymen. His

to craft language that speaks with a local heartbeat. What if we reimagined the peacemaker not as an abstract ideal, but as a *PeaceWeaver*, threading understanding between diverse ethnic threads? Or a *TruceTeller*, courageous in confronting legacies of mistrust with open dialogue? Myanmar could be fertile ground for a *HarmonySower*, gently scattering seeds of mutual respect, or a *HeartBuilder*, piecing together fractured communities with empathy as mortar.

A journalist does what a journalist does – but what if the pen redefines peace not by what it looks like, but by who lives it?

**The Spark of Joy: When Love and Peace Hold Hands**

Joy is not a possession – it is an emergence. It comes not because we chase it, but because we cultivate the soil where it naturally grows. And that soil is rich with love and peace.

When a society embraces love, not selectively, but inclusively – and when peace breathes freely among neighbours, colleagues,

and strangers, joy tiptoes in like morning sunlight. It dances in children’s laughter, glows in shared meals, and hums in songs sung across generations. It is a feeling made possible by the absence of fear and the presence of care.

@Editor reminds us: we cannot grasp full joy in fragmented surroundings. Our hearts may yearn for delight, but without love’s embrace and peace’s stillness, joy remains a distant echo. It is not a luxury reserved for the privileged – it is a rightful rhythm of everyday life. A rhythm we must choose to restore.

To rebuild a Myanmar where joy is not rare – but recognized – is an effort worth every heartbeat. It calls on all of us, regardless of ethnicity, age, or vocation, to exert our love, protect our peace, and share our joy. For joy is not selfish; it is contagious. And when felt deeply, it becomes the anthem of a society made whole.

**In Conclusion: A Prayer for Every Soul**

May our collective journey towards Love, Peace, and Joy bloom

into a landscape where every individual becomes a peaceholder – a *Chanthathu* (ချစ်သဘာဝ), not in the worldly grasp of wealth alone, but in the quiet possession of inner harmony and serenity. In Buddhist thought, *Chanthathu* refers to one who has attained sublime peace, the liberation beyond worldly tumult. But even in our temporal world, the meaning expands: it is one whose mind and body are at ease, whose life radiates tranquility.

Perhaps even *Chanthathu*, a name born from the blend of Burmese syllables – peace personified with local soul – could be the word that carries our hopes forward. It is not a title reserved for the enlightened, but a vision we hold for everyone, regardless of creed or circumstance. A society built by *Chanthathus* will not tremble – it will thrive.

This is my prayer. This is our mission. May the people of Myanmar find not only love and peace, but the ultimate joy of becoming Chanthathu in spirit, as well as in practice.



# NATIONAL

## Seawater product arrivals boost local supply

IN the first week of August, the fishing boats carrying various fish from the sea enter the Yangon jetties and the products are stored at the cold storage facilities for foreign export.

There are over 500 fishing boats in Yangon, and over 350 capture fish and prawns in the sea. The fishing boats sheltered for one week at the islands while the sea got rough during the stormy period. The fish and prawn captured from 28 July to date arrive at 10 jetties in Yangon.

“Currently, there are over 350 fishing boats from Yangon in the sea, and they return to normal condition. The fishing boats enter the jetty daily. The consumption of freshwater for the entry of saltwater products is a supportive action for the local marine product security. Then, it earns foreign income from the



Fishery workers at the port await catches from arriving fishing vessels. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

foreign export sector,” said U Tin Tun, staff officer of Yangon VMS Sub-Control Centre.

The saltwater products arriving in Yangon are entering cold storage facilities as foreign

exports and are being sent to Shaw Padauk and Kyimyindine fish markets for local consump-

tion.

“Due to the arrival of large offshore fishing vessels in the first week of this month, the supply of marine products has resumed as usual. Even today, vessels are continuing to arrive, and tomorrow, large fishing trawlers carrying various kinds of fish are expected to arrive. In addition to domestic consumption, some of the fish are for export, so they will be transported to cold storage factories and exported overseas. When marine products begin to enter the market, the prices of freshwater fish, which are currently high, usually decline. The entry of export-class products is beneficial both to the country by earning foreign income and to business owners,” said Daw Tin Nwe, entrepreneur at Kyimyindine MNG jetty. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

## Magway to host joint sale of GAP sesame, peanuts on 19 Aug

A collective sale of sesame and peanuts grown under the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) system in Magway Region will take place on 19 August, according to the Magway Region Farmers Development Association.

This annual joint sale is held at the Myint Myat Taw Win Company warehouse on Teaching Hospital Road in Magway Township, Magway

Region.

“The collective sale of sesame and peanuts grown under Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) has been held since 2017. This event has proven convenient for farmers, so in addition to GAP-certified sesame and peanuts, we’ve also started organizing collective sales for other crops such as pigeon peas, mung beans, broad beans, and green peas,”

said U Han Nyunt, chairman of the Magway Region Farmers Development Association.

As agricultural products continue to fetch good market prices, farmers in the Magway Region are showing increasing interest in adopting GAP practices each year. As a result, the number of farmers growing under the GAP system is steadily rising. — ASH/TH



This photo features a collaborative sale of sesame and peanuts grown under the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) system.

## C of I for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand to be provided at four stations



Certificate of Identity services provided at four stations.

CERTIFICATE of Identity (C of I) replacement service will be provided for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand by setting up four stations, said the Office of the Labour Attache in Bangkok.

In cooperation between Myanmar and Thai labour ministries, C of I replacement will be provided at four stations: Samut Sakhon, Samut Prakan, Surat Thani and Chiang Mai, starting from 6 August, for C of I holders

with no or less than six months' validity.

In addition, a passport for Thailand only and an overseas worker identification card (OWIC) will be issued for those who have an original Citizenship Scrutiny Card, household list and C of I book, said the labour attaché office on 5 August. On every Monday and the Myanmar Embassy's off-days, it will be off. — MT/ZS



# Night economy recharging urban life in coastal city

AS night fell, coffee vendors prepared their stalls to soft melodies while young office workers queued up, bringing the fourth Tianjin Coffee Culture Festival to its pinnacle.

“It’s my time to unwind,” said Wang Chen, a local resident at the bustling night market. “The vibe here is fantastic, well worth the trip.”

“Today’s youth are redefining how and when they spend. We designed this space for both comfort and engagement,” said Xia Lanying, general manager of Palm Tianjin, an organizer of the coffee festival featuring stalls showcasing crafts, art, and lifestyle products.

A young entrepreneur sur-named Tian saw the festival as more than a sales opportunity. “It’s our gateway to the city’s nightlife and nighttime consumers,” he noted. “Young people gather here for coffee, cold drinks, and music on summer nights.”

In recent years, Tianjin



This aerial drone image taken on 3 August 2025 shows an ancient cultural street in north China’s Tianjin Municipality. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

has expanded its night economy through upgraded streets, displays of intangible cultural heritage, pop-up art, and immersive cultural experiences.

Citywide “bridge concerts,” Italian opera flash mobs, and traditional folk performances now

turn urban areas into nighttime stages across Tianjin.

On the Haihe River, tourist Liu Hao from northwest China’s Xi’an marvelled at waterfront lights. “Like stepping into a 3D painting,” Liu said.

Demand for night cruises

has surged with the arrival of the summer peak tourist season. According to the cruise operator, 29 boats operate over 70 nightly trips every night. Themed “performance cruises” featuring comedy or opera transform sightseeing into memorable ex-

periences.

“Our boats are mobile cultural spaces,” said Zhang Shifang, deputy manager of Tianjin Jinlv Haihe Cruises Co Ltd.

At Tianjin’s Dongli Lake, an immersive lakeside show captivated audiences. “With the breeze, water, and storytelling, it’s a comfort,” tourist Feng Nan said. Many linger afterward to explore nearby scenic areas.

Tianjin’s vibrancy mirrors China’s nighttime economy boom, with regions including Jiangsu, Sichuan and Chongqing enhancing offerings.

“Nighttime cultural consumption has entered regional development strategies,” said Dai Bin, head of the China Tourism Academy.

A report from the academy indicates that 63 per cent of China’s 5A-level scenic spots operated at night in 2024, up from 23 per cent in 2020, with over one-third of national museums hosting after-dark events during summer. — Xinhua

## US to require \$15,000 bond for some visitors

THE US State Department said Monday some visa applicants will soon be required to pay bonds of up to \$15,000 to discourage visa overstays as part of President Donald Trump’s crackdown on migration.

Starting later this month, the pilot programme will require applicants from certain countries to pay a sum of “no less than \$5,000” as collateral for the issuance of their visa.

The funds will be returned if the applicant complies with all visa terms. If the applicant remains in the United States past the deadline, the funds will be forfeited.

“Consular officers may require covered nonimmigrant visa applicants to post a bond of up to \$15,000 as a condition of visa issuance,” the agency said in a notice to be published Tuesday in the US Federal Register.

The 12-month programme would only affect foreign nationals from countries considered to

have “high visa overstay rates” based on a 2023 Department of Homeland Security report, the notice said.

Bond payments will also be required by applicants from countries “where screening and vetting information is deemed deficient,” the notice added, as well as those who were granted citizenship without a residency requirement. “The pilot reinforces the Trump Administration’s commitment to enforcing US immigration laws and safeguarding US national security,” a State Department spokesperson said in response to an AFP inquiry.

Neither the notice nor the spokesperson specified which countries would be impacted by the new rule.

The programme, which will begin on 20 August, will apply to B-1 or B-2 nonimmigrant visas, and those asked to pay bonds will have to enter and depart from the United States from a list of pre-selected airports. — AFP

## Millennia-old “mud skyscrapers” in Yemen’s Sanaa undergo urgent restoration after monsoon damage

YEMEN’S UNESCO-listed Old City of Sanaa, home to over 6,000 unique multi-storey mud-brick structures dating back 2,500 years, is undergoing urgent restoration after monsoon damage to its historic fabric, according to local residents and authorities.

Dubbed one of the world’s first “skyscrapers,” these six-to-nine-storey buildings now face a critical preservation race as heavy rains threaten their survival and residents’ safety.

“Rain is a major cause of the damage to some houses, and most of the problems and emergencies occur during the rainy season. Many homes were damaged on the roofs, which led to disasters (collapses) and the suffering of their residents,” Abdul Wahab Al-Mahdi, head of Sanaa’s General Authority for the Preservation of Cities

and Historic and Archaeological Monuments, told Xinhua.

“We have purchased the necessary equipment in preparation for emergency rescue intervention in case any problem or disaster occurs during this rainy season,” Al-Mahdi said.

Recent years saw many

residents in Yemen perish in extreme weather-triggered collapses. For example, severe flooding hitting several provinces of Yemen since mid-July 2024 left over 150 people dead and thousands more displaced as of September last year. — Xinhua



A man works on restoration of old buildings in the Old City of Sanaa, Yemen, 30 July 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**



ECONOMY  
WORLD

South Africa pushes for resolution on  
looming US trade tariffs

WITH a 30-per-cent US tariff on South African exports set to take effect on Friday, the South African government said Monday it would continue engaging with Washington to secure a trade deal that serves both nations' interests.

Speaking at a media briefing in Johannesburg, International Relations and Cooperation Minister Ronald Lamola and Trade, Industry, and Competition Minister Parks Tau said that no agreement had yet been reached, despite South Africa submitting its trade framework proposal in May.

"South Africa seeks to conclude deals that promote value addition and industrialization, rather than extractive relations that deprive the country of the ability to benefit from our mineral wealth by mimicking extractive colonial era trade relations,"



This aerial photo taken on 22 October 2024 shows blooming jacaranda trees in Johannesburg, South Africa.  
PHOTO: XINHUA

Lamola said, noting that geopolitical tensions have complicated negotiations with the United States. Lamola warned that the proposed tariff could reduce South Africa's gross domestic product by 0.2 percentage points. The United States is South Africa's third-largest trading partner, making up 7.5 per cent of total trade, with agricultural exports most vulnerable to the looming tariff.

"South African exports do not compete with US producers and do not pose a threat to the US industry. On the contrary, our exports are crucial inputs that support America's industrial base," Lamola said, adding that agricultural goods from South Africa to the United States are seasonal and are not "replacing" US agricultural products. — Xinhua

Saudi Aramco profit drops for  
10<sup>th</sup> straight quarter

OIL giant Saudi Aramco announced its 10<sup>th</sup> straight drop in quarterly profits on Tuesday as a slump in prices hit revenues, putting more pressure on the key driver of the Saudi economy.

Second-quarter profits slid 22 per cent year-on-year to 85 billion riyals (\$22.67 billion), extending a decline that stretches back to late 2022.

"The decrease in revenue was mainly due to lower crude

oil prices and lower refined and chemical products prices," Aramco said in its quarterly report.

Aramco's falling revenues come as Saudi Arabia pursues a costly revamp aimed at reducing its reliance on oil and pivoting towards tourism and business.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030 project includes flashy resorts, sprawling entertainment complexes

and NEOM, a futuristic \$500 billion new city in the desert.

Aramco was trading at 23.97 riyals on Tuesday, 12 per cent below the 27.35 riyals price of its secondary share offering last year.

Since a high point of nearly \$2.4 trillion in 2022, when oil prices soared following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Aramco has lost more than \$800 billion in market value.

Oil prices, currently around \$70 a barrel, have remained low despite tensions roiling the Middle East, including the short-lived Israel-Iran war in June.

However, Aramco president and CEO Amin H Nasser remained optimistic, predicting higher demand in the rest of the year.

"Market fundamentals remain strong and we anticipate oil demand in the second half of 2025 to be more than two million barrels per day higher than the first half," he said in the report. — AFP



(FILES) The logo of the Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco) is pictured atop the Aramco tower at the King Abdullah Financial District (KAFD) in Riyadh on 16 April 2023  
PHOTO: AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vietnam posts US\$9.7 bln trade surplus in  
first 7 months

VIETNAM recorded a trade surplus of US\$9.7 billion in the first seven months of 2025, according to data released by the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade on Monday.

The country's export turnover was estimated at \$261.8 billion, marking a 14.6 per cent year-on-year increase and surpassing the annual export growth targets.

Imports during the same period rose 17.9 per cent to \$252.1 billion, driven by rising demand for raw materials used in export production. The average monthly export value stood at \$37.4 billion, with July alone reaching a record-high estimate of over \$41.6 billion. — Xinhua

Indonesia's economy grows by 5.12% in Q2

INDONESIA'S economy grew by 5.12 per cent year-on-year in the second quarter of 2025, up from 4.87 per cent in the previous quarter, according to Statistics Indonesia (BPS) on Tuesday.

"The Indonesian economy, based on the gross domestic product at current prices in the second quarter of 2025, reached 5,947.0 trillion rupiahs," said Edy Mahmud, deputy for balance sheet and statistical analysis at BPS, during a press conference.

On the production side, the other services sector saw the greatest rise at 11.31 per cent, followed by corporate services (9.31 per cent), transport and warehousing (8.52 per cent), and lodging and food and beverage services (8.04 per cent).

Exports of goods and services increased the most (10.67 per cent) from the expenditure side, followed by household-serving non-profit institution spending (7.82 per cent) and gross fixed capital formation (6.99 per cent). — Xinhua



# Oil giant BP surprises with better than expected earnings

OIL giant BP, which recently pivoted away from green energy, posted Tuesday better-than-expected quarterly earnings and announced a fresh review of costs. The British group's return to profit in the second quarter contrasted with weaker results from energy rivals, as lower exceptional charges offset falling oil prices.

Profit after tax came in at \$1.63 billion in the April-June period, compared with a net loss of \$129 million in the second quarter of 2024, BP said in an earnings statement.

Stripping out excep-



(FILES) A photograph taken on 30 April 2022 shows the logo of the multi-national oil and gas company BP (British Petroleum) at a petrol station in Tonbridge, south east of London. **PHOTO: AFP**

tional items, underlying net profit was down nearly 15 per cent.

"This has been another strong quarter for BP

operationally and strategically," chief executive Murray Auchincloss said in the earnings statement. — AFP

# Japan PM makes major policy shift to boost rice production

PRIME Minister Shigeru Ishiba announced Tuesday a major shift in rice policy — from curbing output to boosting it — as Japan continues to grapple with shortages and associated high prices.

Japan has already abolished its explicit policy of reducing rice production, which encouraged farmers not to cultivate some paddy fields. It has paid subsidies to farmers who grow other crops to keep total rice output in

check and create price stability. As Cabinet ministers gathered at his office to review the findings of a government investigation into the recent surge in rice prices, Ishiba acknowledged a misjudgement in the demand outlook, saying the government had underestimated factors such as the surge in foreign tourists.

"We will change course toward more rice production," Ishiba told the meeting. — Kyodo

## NAME CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT TO PUBLIC

I, PHOO ZAY YAR TINT @ MAY KHUN CHO THAR, daughter of (father) MYO MIN (12/Ou Ka Ta (naing) 000999) and (mother) KHIN SOE SOE (12/Ka Ma Ta (naing) 000713) residing at North Dagon Township, Yangon Region, do sincerely and expressly request all persons at all times to designate and address me by the adopted name of **MAY KHUN CHO THAR**, under deed of Adoption as Kittima Daughter No.5131 / 2022.

MAY KHUN CHO THAR

## CHANGING DISTRIBUTOR OF REGISTERED PESTICIDE

This is a notification of the change of distributor of below herbicide, registered by **Bayer AG**, under the Myanma Pesticide Registration Board, from **Wi Sar Ra International Co., Ltd.** to **Charoen Pokphand Produce Myanmar Co., Ltd.** Any objection to this change can notify to Joint Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein, within 14 days.

Trade Name	A.I	Reg. Type	Reg. No.
Laudis 420 SC	Tembotrione 420g/l SC	Provisional	P2020-3354

Bayer Thai Co., Ltd. (Myanmar Branch)- PH : 01-8382710 (Ext. 40110)

## In the matter of the Financial Institution Law, 2016 In the matter of uab bank PCL

[Under Paragraph 34 of the Directive on External Auditors of Banks of the Central Bank of Myanmar (10/2019)]

### Public Notice regarding Publication and Exhibition of Financial Statements

Pursuant to Paragraph 34 of the CBM Directive (10/2019), notice is hereby given that the Audited Financial Statement of the uab bank PCL for the Financial Period ended 31st March 2025, and the External Auditors' Report had been published on the website of the bank at

<https://www.uab.com.mm/investors/our-reports/>

on the date of 5<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Sd/- Moe Hay Marn Phoo  
Legal & Secretariat  
uab bank PCL

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (802N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (802N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB530A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB530A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (25026)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (25026)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-8-2025** 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 CONNEXT SHIPPING PTE LTD

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2510S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2510S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD



ROLLING UPDATES  
WORLD

Russia, US can successfully cooperate in Arctic, Putin’s envoy believes

RUSSIA and the United States can successfully cooperate in the Arctic, Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) CEO Kirill Dmitriev, who is also the Russian president’s special representative for investment and economic cooperation with foreign countries, believes.

“Russia and the US can successfully cooperate in the Arctic,” Dmitriev said on X, commenting on an analysis in the Foreign Policy magazine, where the authors, in particular, suggested that the US policy aimed at further isolating Russia could potentially accelerate cooperation between Russia and China



Iceberg in the waters of the Franz Josef Land archipelago.  
PHOTO: SPUTNIK

in the Arctic.

According to the publication, in order to protect the long-term influence of the United States in the region and combat the growing influence of China there, the administration of US President Donald Trump is more effective in pursuing a strategy of “selective cooperation” with Moscow.

The authors also pointed out that, in the long term, the Arctic remains one of the few areas where “strategic ambiguity is not a weakness”. They note that it is an increasingly critical region “where diplomacy and deterrence can and do coexist”.

— SPUTNIK

Rostec surpasses targets, fully fulfils Russian army’s defence needs



A view shows the Rostec Corporation’s stand during the World Defence Show exhibition, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

RUSSIAN state tech corporation Rostec fully meets needs of the Russian army, CEO Sergei Chemezov said on Tuesday at a meeting with Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin.

“We meet the needs of our army 100 per cent, and even

ahead of schedule,” Chemezov said, adding that Rostec fulfilled the state defence order for the first half of the year by 65 per cent in terms of weapons supplies, and by 50 per cent in terms of means of destruction.

Rostec plays a vital role in achieving Russia’s technological and industrial sovereignty and is actively involved in solving problems of national scale, Mishustin said during the meeting. Mishustin added that Russian President Vladimir Putin has repeatedly highlighted Rostec’s role, including in ensuring Russia’s defence capability. — SPUTNIK

Japan record-high temperature of 41.8 C reported in Gunma Pref

JAPAN on Tuesday logged a new national record temperature of 41.8 C in Isesaki, Gunma Prefecture, exceeding the previous high of 41.2 C, as a wide swath of the country experienced sweltering heat.

The Japan Meteorological Agency initially reported a new record of 41.6 C in the same eastern Japan city, before issuing a higher reading. Authorities are urging people to take steps to prevent heat-related illnesses, such as making appropriate use of air conditioning and staying hydrated. The conditions come as warm air has flowed in to-

wards a low-pressure system moving east near the country’s northernmost main island of Hokkaido. The Kanto region, covering Tokyo and surrounding prefectures, was also likely affected by warm winds blowing down from mountains in a phenomenon called Foehn winds, the weather agency said.

Temperatures exceeded 40 C in around 10 locations in Kanto, itself a record number. The agency and the Environment Ministry have issued heatstroke alerts for 44 of Japan’s 47 prefectures, the most since the 2021 introduction of the national system. — Kyodo



A temperature display board in Isesaki, Gunma Prefecture, shows a 41 C reading on 5 August 2025. PHOTO: KYODO

Flash flood washes out India Himalayan town, killing four

A flash flood driving a torrent of mud smashed into a town in India’s Himalayan region on Tuesday, tearing down a mountain valley before demolishing buildings and killing at least four people.

Videos broadcast on Indian media showed a terrifying surge of muddy water sweeping away multi-storey apartment blocks in the tourist region of Dharali in Uttarakhand state.

Several people could be seen running before being engulfed by the dark waves of debris that uprooted entire buildings.

Uttarakhand State Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said rescue teams had been

deployed “on a war footing”.

Senior local official Prashant Arya said four people had been killed, with other officials warning that the number could rise.

India’s army said 150 troops had reached the town, helping rescue around 20 people who had survived the wall of freezing sludge. — AFP



SPORTS

Coaches share tactics ahead of AFC U20 Women's Group D opener in Yangon

THE pre-match press conference for Group D of the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers 2026 to be hosted by Myanmar was held on 5 August at the press conference hall of Thuwunna Football Stadium in Yangon.

Head coaches and team captains from Myanmar, India, Indonesia, and Turkmenistan attended the event.

Myanmar U20 Women's National Team Head Coach Daw Thet Thet Win said, "I am thankful for the opportunity to continue leading the team. We are mentally preparing ourselves and our players in the best possible way to enter the tournament. I believe in my team's ability to achieve strong results. I would also like to ask our fans to come and support us during the matches."

Turkmenistan Head Coach Boris said, "This is our second time participating in a competition in Myanmar, so we are not unfamiliar with the country. Many players from our senior national team who played here before are now in our U-20 squad. I believe there is not much difference between Myanmar's senior and youth teams in terms of playing style and physicality. As we have faced the senior team before, we are preparing to focus on defence and hope to achieve a good result."

Indonesia Head Coach Higashiyama said, "Every team has a chance to win the qualifiers. We have already faced Myanmar during the previous ASEAN tournament, so we know their style. We will treat all our opponents with respect, but for now, we are fully focused on our opening match against India."

India Head Coach Alexander Zain said, "We have spent nearly two months preparing for this tournament. We hope to succeed in the qualifiers, though we know it will be challenging. That is why we have done our best to prepare thoroughly."

As part of the Group D fixtures of the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers, hosts Myanmar will face Turkmenistan at 4 pm, followed by the match between India and Indonesia at 7 pm. Both matches will be held today at Thuwunna Stadium. — Chit Ko Ko/KZL



Myanmar U20 Women's National Team Head Coach Daw Thet Thet Win. PHOTO: MFF



Lethwei World Championship to feature fighters from Myanmar, Iran, USA, and Cambodia

THE Myanmar Lethwei Federation will oversee the upcoming Myanmar Traditional Lethwei World Championship, which is set to be organized by the Myanmar Martial Arts Group. The event will be held at 2 pm on 17 August 2025 at Theinbyu Indoor Stadium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon.

The tournament will feature a total of six bouts, including three international and three domestic fights. Fighters from Myanmar, Iran, the United States, and Cambodia are set to compete, highlighting the

international scope of the event.

In the domestic bouts, Thein Soe (Nine Lethwei) will take on Saline Htan Khweeshane (Kyarmanaing) in the 54-kilogramme five-round traditional system. In the 64-kilogramme category, Nang Win Htun (Nine Lethwei) will face Thet Win Aung (Doh Yoe Yar). In the 61-kilogramme division, Saw Min Min (Doh Yoe Yar) will fight against Thway Thit Maung (Aphyu Yaung Thway Thit).

For the international matchups, Htun Min Naing

of Myanmar will challenge Phan Khay Yeng from Cambodia in the 64-kilogramme five-round system. Super Ye Chan will meet Mark Antonbutt of the United States in the 66-kilogramme category. In the 80-kilogramme headlining bout, Myanmar national champion Htun Htun Min will go up against K One from Iran.

The championship aims to promote Myanmar's traditional Lethwei on a global stage while strengthening sporting ties with international athletes. — Arkar Linn/KZL

Barcelona-Ter Stegen rift deepens amid medical report controversy

THE relationship between FC Barcelona and goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen continues to worsen, with the club opening disciplinary proceedings against the goalkeeper.

Barca has taken the move after Ter Stegen reportedly refused to sign a medical report the club was going to send to La Liga's Medical Commission over the 33-year-old's back injury.

Ter Stegen had an operation on his back last week, with the goalkeeper posting on social media that he expected to be out of action for around three months. However, Barcelona's medical report estimates he will be sidelined for five months.

The difference is vital to Barcelona, because if La Liga accepts Ter Stegen will be out of action for over four months, the club would be able to drop him

from its first-team squad and use 80 per cent of his salary to register new players under La Liga's financial fair play rules.

Currently, Barcelona is unable to register new signings Joan Garcia, Rooney Bardghji and Marcus Rashford in its squad. Wojciech Szczesny and Gerard Martin are also unregistered following new contracts, with Martin promoted from the B-team. — Xinhua



Russia, US can successfully  
cooperate in Arctic, Putin's  
envoy believes  
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# WORLD

## Israel approves limited entry of goods to Gaza as famine unfolds

ISRAEL said on Tuesday it will allow the entry of certain goods into the Gaza Strip through local private merchants, as the United Nations warned that famine is spreading in the enclave of Palestine.

"A mechanism was approved for the gradual and controlled renewal of the entry of goods through the private sector in Gaza," said a statement from the office of the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT), the Israeli Defence Ministry unit responsible for civilian affairs in the occupied Palestinian territories.

The move was approved by the Israeli cabinet.

"As part of formulating this mechanism, a limited number of local merchants were approved, subject to specific criteria and security screening," said the statement.

The goods to be allowed into Gaza include basic food products, baby food, fruits and vegetables, and hygiene supplies. Payments for these goods will be conducted only via bank transfers and be subject to a monitoring mechanism, the COGAT said, adding that "all goods will undergo thorough inspection". — Xinhua

## Hong Kong issues top rainstorm warning

THE Hong Kong Observatory on Tuesday morning issued the black rainstorm warning signal, the fourth time within eight days.

This is the highest level in the observatory's three-tier heavy rain alert system. This indicates that heavy rain has fallen or is expected to fall generally over Hong Kong, exceeding 70 millimetres in an hour, and is likely to continue. Due to seriously flooded roads and inclement weather conditions, people are advised to take shelter in a safe place. An emergency coordination centre of the Home Affairs Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government is in operation. The department has opened temporary shelters for needy people. In light of the severe rainstorm, some public services and activities in the HKSAR have been suspended. — Xinhua



The chairman of the negotiations, Ecuadorian ambassador Luis Vayas Valdivieso (5<sup>th</sup>-L) is displayed on a screen (Top-L) as he delivers a speech during the plastics treaty negotiations at the United Nations Offices in Geneva on 5 August 2025.

PHOTO: AFP

## UN starts new bid to forge plastics treaty amid 'global crisis'

**N**ATIONS must resolve the global plastics crisis, the head of UN talks told negotiators from 180 countries gathered in Geneva on Tuesday to forge a landmark treaty on eliminating the life-threatening waste.

"We are facing a global crisis," Ecuadorian diplomat Luis Vayas Valdivieso said at the start of 10 days of negotiations.

"Plastic pollution is damaging ecosystems, polluting our oceans and rivers, threatening biodiversity, harming human health, and unfairly impacting the most vulnerable," he said.

"The urgency is real, the evidence is clear, and the responsibility is on us."

Three years of negotiations hit the wall in Busan, South Korea in December when oil-producing states blocked a consensus.

Key figures steering the negotiations at this new attempt said they were not expecting an easy ride this time, but insisted a deal remained within reach.

"There's been extensive diplomacy from Busan till now," UN Environment Programme executive director Inger Andersen told AFP.

UNEP is hosting the talks,

and Andersen said conversations between different regions and interest groups had generated momentum.

"Most countries, actually, that I have spoken with have said: 'We're coming to Geneva to strike the deal'.

"Will it be easy? No. Will it be straightforward? No. Is there a pathway for a deal? Absolutely."

Plastic pollution is so ubiquitous that microplastics have been found on the highest mountain peaks, in the deepest ocean trench and scattered throughout almost every part of the human body. — AFP



Thai and Cambodian officials pose for photos in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 4 August 2025. PHOTO: MALAYSIAN NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA

## Thailand-Cambodia talks on positive track, says Malaysian defence chief

THAILAND and Cambodia have expressed strong commitments to end conflict in secretariat-level discussions, Malaysia's Chief of

Defence Forces General Mohd Nizam Jaffar said here on Monday. The talks, scheduled from 4 to 6 August ahead of an extraordinary General Border Committee (GBC) meeting on 7 August, will also cover the terms of reference for establishing an ASEAN defence attaché monitoring team,

Mohd Nizam said.

"They (Thailand and Cambodia) are now discussing the prerequisites for the team's deployment. If all goes well, we are expecting a very positive resolution by this Thursday," he told reporters after meeting with both secretariat heads. — Xinhua