

Myanmar, Vietnam Reaffirm Stronger Diplomatic Ties

Myanmar will participate in the Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Cooperation Summit and the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, both to be hosted by Vietnam.

EXTRAORDINARY and Plenipotentiary Ambassador-Designate of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Ngu Anh Duc presented his Credentials to U Min Aung Hlaing, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Vietnamese ambassador saluted the

flags of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the Honorary Hall in the Presidential Palace Reception Hall. The ambassador also returned the salute of the Guard of Honour, and the national anthems of both countries were played.

Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Ngu Anh Duc presented his Credentials to President of the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing.

At the meeting, Myanmar and Vietnam reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening diplomatic relations, fostering friendly ties, and enhancing cooperation. They frankly exchanged views on the successful holding of the free and fair multi-party democratic general election in Myanmar.

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President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing accepts the Credentials of Ambassador-Designate of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Ngu Anh Duc at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Myanmar-Language Snack Labels Mandatory, Violations Face Legal Action

THE Department of Consumer Affairs has announced that under the Consumer Protection Law, all pre-packed snacks must carry labels in the Myanmar language, and failure to provide clear labelling in both the local language and another language will face legal action under Section 73.

“Lack of labelling in the Myanmar language might pose health risks



This image depicts ready-to-eat snacks currently on sale in the market.

to the consumers as the ingredients might be an allergy to some consumers and trigger life-threatening attacks. Therefore, it is necessary

to have product labels in the Myanmar language to ensure food safety for consumers and protect them from harmful things,” said an official of the department.

The Department of Consumer Affairs is monitoring and inspecting whether product labels comply with the Consumer Protection Law by categorizing goods into eight product groups.

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Yangon’s Bogyoke Aung San Market to Celebrate Centenary in Oct

THE Yangon iconic Bogyoke Aung San Market will mark its centenary with celebrations from 7 to 11 October, according to Daw Chaw Su Htwe of the Centenary Festival Organizing Committee.

More than 100 stalls featuring local products, cotton products, textiles, gems and jewellery, and food will operate during the Bogyoke Aung San Market Centenary Festival. The entertainment programme will include a Myanmar Thanaka exhibition, puppet shows, 1970s-style musical performances, and commemorative photo sessions in traditional ethnic costumes.

“We organized this festival to showcase the history of the Bogyoke Aung San Market,

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OPINION

Raise the culture of tax compliance among the people

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Pyithu Hluttaw debates inflation, infrastructure, power supply and conscription during 27th sitting

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Kanyin Dam hydropower project to generate over 35 million units of electricity annually

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Office

Martial Law Order 4/2026
7th Waxing of Second Waso 1388 ME
21 July 2026

THE Martial Law Order 2/2026 and 3/2026 issued by the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Office on 23 April 2026, 8th Waxing of Kason 1388 ME, shall remain in force except for Tonzang and Falam Townships, Chin State, where a normal situation in administration, state stability and the rule of law has been regained.

Sd/Ye Win Oo
General
Defence Services Commander-in-Chief

Public Notice to Electricity Consumers

22 July 2026

THE Ministry of Electricity and Energy has issued the following notice to electricity consumers:

- Consumers who have been obtaining or using electricity illegally through unauthorized or fraudulent means are requested to report their cases to the relevant authorities no later than 31 July 2026. Those who voluntarily come forward within the specified period will be eligible for mitigation measures. After the deadline, any illegal electricity use detected by the Control Centres will face prompt action under the Electricity Law, including fines, suspension or revocation of meter services for a specified period, and cancellation of business licences where applicable, the ministry announced. This public notice was previously announced on 12 July 2026.
- As several individuals using electricity illegally have already begun reporting their cases to the relevant authorities, the ministry is granting the following concessions:
 - Exemption from electricity disconnection.
 - Exemption from the K300,000 penalty.
 - Exemption from prosecution under the 2014 Electricity Law.
 - Compensation for illegal electricity use will be calculated at 50 per cent of the original prescribed amount.
- The ministry stated that reducing illegal electricity consumption will allow more electricity to be distributed to people who do not yet have access to power. It therefore appealed to the public to cooperate in a spirit of mutual understanding and responsibility.

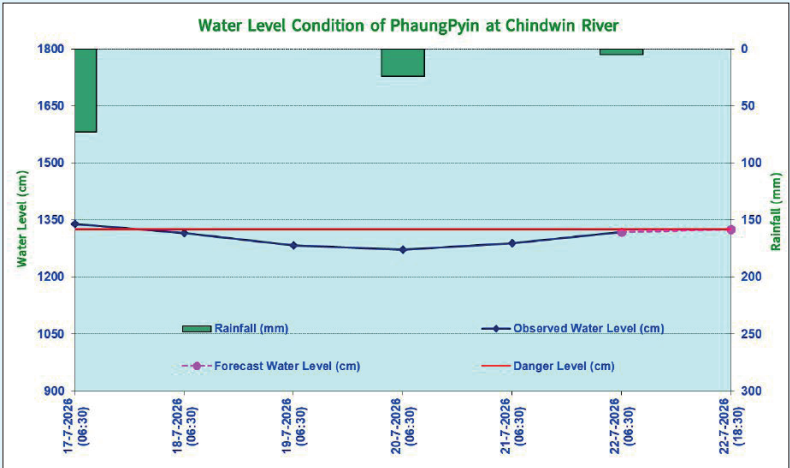
Ministry of Electricity and Energy

Flood Warning

Issued at 8 am MST on 22 July 2026

ACCORDING to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Chindwin River at Phaungpyin is observed as about three inches below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 12 hours.

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



Restoration underway for earthquake-hit pagodas in Sri Ksetra



A glimpse of a cave pagoda in the ancient city of Sri Ksetra.

EARTHQUAKE-DAMAGED pagodas and cave temples in the ancient city of Sri Ksetra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Pyay Township, Bago Region, are being systematically restored, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Sri Ksetra). The Bawbawgyi Stupa and Laymyathna Cave Temple sustained the

most damage. Restoration of the Bawbawgyi Stupa has been completed; work is underway at the Phaya-haung Cave Temple, and Phayagyi and Phayamah pagodas will be restored next.

The three ancient Pyu cities of Hanlin, Beikthano and Sri Ksetra were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2014. Sri Ksetra, an oval-shaped ancient city enclosed by a nine-mile wall, still retains many of its original features, including its moat, palace, religious buildings and pagodas. — ASH/MKKS

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Wednesday 23 July 2026

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Weather has a few clouds over the southwest of the Bay of Bengal and is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 23 July 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing Region and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Magway and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin and (northern and eastern) Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw and isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Bago, Magway, Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Mon and Rakhine States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon and (northern and eastern)Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 July 2026: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 July 2026: Some rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 23 July 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

NATIONAL

Myanmar President accepts Credentials of Kazakhstani Ambassador

EXTRAORDINARY and Plenipotentiary Ambassador-Designate of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Margulan Baimukhan presented his Credentials to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The Kazakhstani ambassador saluted the flags of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Kazakhstan at the honorary hall of the Presidential Palace Reception Hall. The ambassador returned the salute of the Guard of Honour, and the national anthems of both countries were played.

Afterwards, Kazakhstani Ambassador Mr Margulan Baimukhan presented his Credentials to President of the Republic

of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing.

Subsequently, the two sides held cordial discussions on the growing friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between Myanmar and Kazakhstan despite the geographical distance between the two countries, as well as Kazakhstan's congratulations on Myanmar's successful holding of a free and fair multiparty democratic general election and the assumption of State responsibilities by the elected government led by President U Min Aung Hlaing.

The discussions also covered Kazakhstan's upcoming parliamentary elections and its invitation to officials from Myanmar's Union Election Commission to observe the electoral process. In addition, the two sides discussed promoting cooper-



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing accepts the Credentials of Ambassador-Designate of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr Margulan Baimukhan at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

ation in trade, the economy, agriculture, mining, education, health, digital technology, and transport, as well as strengthening

inter-parliamentary ties following the elections in Kazakhstan.

They also explored opportunities for Kazakh-

stan, located in Central Asia, to expand economic exchanges with South Asian and ASEAN countries through China and

Myanmar. The talks concluded with discussions on Myanmar's ongoing efforts to strengthen its international relations, including ties with regional countries and ASEAN member states, and with both sides reaffirming their commitment to further enhancing bilateral diplomatic relations, friendship, and cooperation.

The President and the Kazakhstani ambassador posed for documentary photos.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Thet Tun, and officials.

The Kazakhstani ambassador signed the guests' book at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall. — MNA/TH

Myanmar, DPRK to further strengthen friendly ties, cooperation



President U Min Aung Hlaing receives Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Mr Jong Ho Bom at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

A delegation led by Yangon-based Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Mr Jong Ho Bom, who had completed his tour

of duty, paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in

Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, they discussed the good relations between the two countries, ways to en-

hance the promotion of diplomatic relations, political progress in Myanmar, development of DPRK and plans, DPRK's international relations policies, and further strengthening of friendly ties and cooperation between Myanmar and DPRK.

After the meeting, the President and the DPRK Ambassador had documentary photos taken together with attendees.

The meeting was also attended by Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe and officials. The DPRK Ambassador was accompanied by embassy officials. — MNA/TTA

Yangon's Bogyoke Aung San ...

FROM PAGE 1

one of the heritage landmarks in Yangon, and to strengthen ties among business owners through the event. We also hope visitors will gain a better understanding of the market architecture and that the younger generation will learn about its rich history," said Daw Chaw Su Htwe, a member of the Bogyoke Aung San Market Centenary Festival Organizing Committee.

The Bogyoke Aung San Market is home to more than 1,800 shops

selling gemstones, gold, silver, jewellery, antiques, paintings, silk and cotton fabrics, handicrafts, tailoring services, consumer goods, cosmetics, and food.

Constructed in 1926, the market was originally named Scott Market after Gavin Scott, the Municipal Commissioner at the time. It was renamed Yannaing Market in 1943 and subsequently renamed Bogyoke Aung San Market in 1948. The market celebrates its centenary in 2026. — ASH/TH



This photo features parts of the Yangon iconic Bogyoke Bazaar.

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw debates inflation, infrastructure, power supply and conscription during 27th sitting

THE Pyithu Hluttaw convened on the 27th day of its second regular session in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with lawmakers submitting 12 questions covering a wide range of public concerns, including inflation, transport infrastructure, border trade, electricity development, land ownership, military conscription and security checkpoints. The questions were answered by deputy ministers from relevant ministries at the Hluttaw session chaired by Speaker U Khin Yi and Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn.

Responding to concerns over rising living costs, Deputy Minister



The 27th-day sitting of the second regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw is underway in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, presided over by Speaker U Khin Yi and Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn.

for Finance and Revenue Daw Than Than Lin said authorities are continuing efforts to stabilize prices of essential commodities by ensuring sufficient do-

mestic rice supplies, regulating exports, publishing reference prices for rice and paddy, and working with the Myanmar Rice Federation. She also

said regional edible oil distribution committees are supervising sales at controlled prices, while measures are being taken to stabilize diesel prices

and exempt fertilizer imports from taxes to help lower agricultural production costs. She added that greater cooperation from the private sector would be encouraged to support price stability.

Several lawmakers sought updates on infrastructure projects. Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo said a proposed upgrade of the Namlan-Khamyon-Mwaydawholin Pagoda Road in Shan State could be implemented in phases in future fiscal years, depending on funding availability. On a separate question regarding the proposed Namonlon border gate with Thai-

land, Deputy Minister for Commerce U Min Min said the crossing could only be officially opened after both countries reached an agreement and outstanding border demarcation issues were resolved.

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Aye Kyaw said the ministry outlined plans to expand the country's power sector through hydropower, renewable energy and transmission projects. He said several hydropower projects remain under development, while private investment is being sought for selected projects and renewable energy generation.

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Myanmar, Vietnam Reaffirm ...

FROM PAGE 1

They emphasized Vietnam's appreciation and pride regarding the government led by President U Min Aung Hlaing, which emerged in pursuit of the wishes of the people and is currently undertaking the responsibilities of the State, the prospects for further deepening cooperation between the two countries in trade, investment, and economic development, Vietnam's intention to further expand cooperation with Myanmar in regional collaboration and friendship; and the prospects for Vietnam hosting the Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam Cooper-

ation (CLMV) Summit and the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, with Myanmar participating in these summits.

Their discussions focused on the prospects for promoting the tourism sector through people-to-people friendship and goodwill between the two countries, the exchange of goodwill visits by leaders and senior officials of Myanmar and Vietnam, the possibility of enhancing parliamentary cooperation between the two countries as part of political cooperation, and the prospects for further strengthening mul-

tifaceted cooperation in various sectors between the two countries.

The President and the ambassador posed for documentary photos.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Thet Tun, the Vietnamese ambassador to Myanmar and his wife, and officials.

The Vietnamese ambassador signed the guests' book at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall. — MNA/TTA

110 govt offices reopen in Falam, Tiddim and Tonzang

A total of 110 government department offices have reopened in Falam, Tiddim and Tonzang townships, with 4,003 civil servants, including healthcare and education personnel, currently carrying out official duties.

In Falam Township alone, 38 departmental offices are operating with 1,397 staff members, according to official information.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Myo Myint inspected government offices, staff housing and public facilities in Falam, and met with



Deputy Minister for Construction U Myo Myint warmly greets government employees in Falam yesterday.

civil servants. He also stressed the need to prioritize rehabilitation and reconstruction, including rebuilding of offices, schools and hospitals, while promoting small and medium-sized

enterprises, cooperatives, agriculture and livestock development. Officials also presented progress on reconstruction projects and plans during the visit. — MNA/KZL

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NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Lawmakers continue debates at Amyotha Hluttaw

THE Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the 20th-day meeting at its meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

MP U Thein Myint from the Mon State Constituency 11 asked about plans to upgrade the Mawlamyine (Hinthar roundabout)-Kyaukse road and the Kyaukse-Kyaukse road overflowed by the Attaran River yearly. Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant replied that the inundated segments of Mawlamyine-Kyaukse road and parts of Kyaukse-Kyaukse road will be repaired with the Mon State government fund in the 2027-28 financial year.

MP Daw Marlar Hsan from the Shan State Constituency 2 raised questions about a plan to upgrade the 30-mile road linking Pindaya and Yaksaw townships to an asphalt facility. The Union Minister said that the AC paving task cannot be car-

ried out along the road at present, but the 30-mile-long and 12 feet wide road will be expanded to an 18 feet wide one with the Shan State government fund in 2027-28 FY.

The Union minister also responded to the question submitted by MP U Zaw Myint from the Mon State Constituency 10 about immediately repairing the Attaran Bridge (Chaunghnakhwa) linking Mon and Kayah states, stating that a 240-foot steel frame between P4 and P5 was damaged, and the new design of the frame is being produced at the factory. The bridge will be dissolved in 2026-27 FY, and the new one will be built in 2027-28 FY.

The Union minister also responded to the question raised by MP U Nyan Tun from the Tanintharyi Region Constituency 9, saying that the rural road linking Maungthlaw



The 20th-day sitting of the second regular session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw is underway in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, presided over by Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

and Mingok village-tracts in Kyaukse Township will be upgraded to a concrete facility with the Tanintharyi Region government fund yearly.

Concerning the question presented by MP U Yan Naing Win from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 1, the Union minister stated that the regional government fund has been allocated to upgrade the inter-district road in Pyapon

District. The fund was allocated for repaving asphalt on two sections of the road in the 2027-28 FY, and upgrading of the third section of the road will depend on the budget allocation of the regional government yearly.

The Union minister also answered the questions raised by MP U Myint Than from the Kayah State Constituency 3, saying that the road section leading to

Loikaw will be concreted with the Union budget and the state government fund in 2027-28 FY. The urban sections of the road will be improved in 2026-27 FY and the remaining sections in 2027-28 FY, depending on the budget allocation.

The Amyotha Hluttaw approved the formation of the Myanmar-Thai Parliamentary Friendship Association chaired by MP U Chit Swe from the Ay-

eyawady Region Constituency 10.

Union Election Commission members U Khin Zaw and U Aung Myint Lwin submitted the sections and subsections to be amended for the Seventh Amendment to the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Bill to the Amyotha Hluttaw.

MP P Cein Ngeik Mang from the Chin State Constituency 11 and MP U Aung Kyaw Min from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 4 read out the report of the Bill Committee for the bill. Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe announced that the Hluttaw representatives wishing to discuss the report of the Bill Committee can list at the director-general of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office by signing the detailed discussions over the sections and subsections.

The Amyotha Hluttaw will continue on 24 July. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar-Language Snack Labels Mandatory, Violations Face Legal Action

FROM PAGE 1

The department is also conducting awareness-raising activities, including distributing pamphlets and holding discussions to educate both the public and business owners about

product labelling requirements. Weekly and monthly inspections are being conducted at shopping centres, markets, stores, and school canteens in regions and states.

Consumers who ex-

perience any losses or damages can file complaints at the Consumer Information & Complaint Centre (CICC) in their respective regions and states, or by calling the Consumer Call Centre at 1535. — ASH/KK

Census finds most Myanmar migrant workers abroad have only basic education



Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand in previous years.

ACCORDING to the 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census Union Report, most Myanmar migrant workers employed overseas have only primary or

lower secondary education, while very few have received Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

The report states that 62.3 per cent of all Myanmar migrant workers have completed only basic education at primary or lower secondary level. In contrast, just 0.1 per cent have obtained skills-based TVET qualifications.

Statistics also show that 5.6 per cent of male migrant workers and 8.2 per cent of female migrant workers hold a university degree. — TWA/KNN

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw debates inflation, infrastructure, power supply ...

FROM PAGE 4

The ministry also detailed plans for new high-voltage transmission lines and substations across the country, although many projects will depend on future budget allocations. Separate responses addressed electricity expansion plans for villages in Shan State and the construction of a new substation in Ayeyawady Region.

Lawmakers also questioned the government on land ownership and administrative matters, including the issuance of land grants in Twantay and Dala townships and the recognition of villages and wards in several regions. Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Min Thu said most requests would

require legal procedures, land surveys, presidential approval or additional funding before they could proceed.

One of the session's most closely watched exchanges concerned allegations of unlawful military conscription in Khamti Township. The Home Affairs Ministry rejected claims that local authorities had forcibly recruited civilians outside the provisions of the People's Military Service Law. According to the ministry, four of the nine individuals cited were legally eligible for conscription and are currently attending training, while the remaining five, including students, a caregiver and an overage individual, were returned to their families because they qualified for exemp-

tions under the law. The deputy minister said all recruitment procedures had been carried out in accordance with the law and denied that anyone had been forcibly detained.

The ministry also reported that several security checkpoints had been removed along major highways in Shan State, reducing the number of checkpoints on two key routes. Existing checkpoints have been equipped with narcotics detection devices where available, while authorities said additional X-ray equipment would be installed only when funding becomes available.

The 27th sitting concluded with the announcement that the next session will be held on 23 July. — MNA/ST

NATIONAL

State Economic Development and Industrial Sector Initiatives briefed at capacity-building training for MPs

THE Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) for Parliamentary Development, in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and MSME Development, held a briefing on State economic development and industrial sector initiatives for capacity-building of parliamentarians in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe said the briefing was the second event organized under the JCC's parliamentary development initiative in coordination with the Union Government to help lawmakers better understand the government's implementation of policies and activities related to the country's industrial sector.

The industrial sector is a cornerstone in building a modern and developed nation. Although the country is rich in natural resources and raw materials, stronger industrial capacity is essential to produce high-quality value-added products.

He added that industrial enterprises and MSMEs are key drivers of the national economy by increasing productivity, creating employment opportunities, and reducing imports and foreign currency expenditure. As MSMEs account for about 90 per cent of businesses worldwide and generate around 60 to 70 per cent of global employment, promoting the sector should be regarded as a national task.

Union Minister for Industry and MSME Development Dr Charlie Than briefed the current economic and industrial situation, prioritized industrial development policies, financial support for MSME development, reforms of state-owned factories, prioritized industries, priority programmes.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe delivers a speech at the briefing on the State economic development and industrial sector in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe delivers a speech at the briefing on the State economic development and industrial sector in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

basic requirements for industrial development, human resource development, transition to a modern industrial system, sustainable industrial development, international cooperation, and future

discussed natural disaster conditions affecting their respective residential wards. It was also learned that the Myanmar Earthquake Committee, in co-operation with the Special

discussed natural disaster conditions affecting their respective residential wards. It was also learned that the Myanmar Earthquake Committee, in co-operation with the Special

Township-level training course opens for Dawbon's ten-household leaders

A township-level training course for ten-household leaders was jointly organized by the Dawbon Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and the Township Public Health Department at the township maternity clinic at 1 pm on 20 July.

At the event, Chairperson of the Botahtaung District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khine Khine Shein delivered the opening remarks. Township Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Chairperson Daw May Zin Phyo gave a welcome speech.

Township Public Health Officer Dr Myo Myo Khine explained the purpose of the training. Health education pamphlets were then distributed to the participants by officials. Trainers gave lessons on healthcare knowledge for the ten-household leaders and shared information about traditional medicine.

A total of 70 trainees attended the one-day course. The training aimed to improve their understanding of healthcare so they can apply the knowledge in their communities and pass on health information to locals. — Chit Su Wai (IPRD)/KTZH



A township-level training course for ten-household leaders in progress at the township maternity clinic on 20 July.

Myanmar Earthquake Committee pilots Yangon structural integrity inspection

THE Myanmar Earthquake Committee has announced that it inspected the structural integrity of the Female Teachers' Dormitory building located within the campus of the University for Development of National Races of the Union (Yangon).

"The Myanmar Earthquake Committee, in collaboration with the Yangon City Development Committee and Yangon Technological University, has inspected buildings in Yangon to assess their vulnerability to earthquakes and other natural

disasters, according to reports.

This was carried out as a pilot project covering three wards across three townships in Yangon during the first week of July. During these operations, officials met community elders and responsible personnel to explain the project's objectives.

They also discussed natural disaster conditions affecting their respective residential wards. It was also learned that the Myanmar Earthquake Committee, in co-operation with the Special



The Myanmar Earthquake Committee officials inspecting the structural integrity of the building.

Task Force, assessed the earthquake resilience of the Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in Yangon in accordance with World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines. — MT/ZN

Tourism essay competition opens for World Tourism Day

THE Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture will hold an essay competition to mark World Tourism Day, which falls on 27 September 2026, with submissions accepted until 5 September.

This year's competition will be held under the theme "Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism." Participants are invited to submit essays in accordance with the competition guidelines before the deadline.

Detailed rules, eligibility requirements and submission procedures are available on the ministry's official websites. Enquiries can also be made during office hours through the competition organizing committee. — TWA/KZL



A promotional graphic for World Tourism Day.

NATIONAL

Defence Services Commander-in-Chief receives Chinese Ambassador



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo meets Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia at the hall of the Bayintnaung Villa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

COMMANDER-IN-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo received Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia at the hall of the Bayintnaung Villa in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. At the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on promotion of

Pauk-Phaw relations and strategic cooperation between the two countries, cooperation in peace, stability and regional development in border regions, invitation extended by the government to armed insurgent groups to join peace talks, holding internal peace dialogues, Myanmar's efforts in combatting illicit drug trafficking as a national duty while narcotic drugs pose a threat to all of humanity worldwide, cooperation with regional countries including neighbouring countries to eradicate online scams

and gambling activities, and sectoral cooperation including technology and information between the two armed forces. After the meeting, the General and the Ambassador had documentary photos taken. Also present at the meeting together with the General were senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief. The counselor, the military attaché of China to Myanmar and officials from the embassy accompanied the Chinese ambassador. — MNA/TTA

Yenangyoung's solar-powered water supply project inspected



This photo shows a well-drilling rig at the solar-powered water supply project in Yenangyoung Township.

OFFICIALS inspected the progress of the solar-powered water supply project being implemented in Saltine Village, Sal Village-Tract, Yenangyoung Township, yesterday. The project is being carried out by the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Yenangyoung Township, Chauk District, Magway Region, with funding allocated by the Union Government for the 2026-2027 financial year. During the field inspection, U Aye Htun Min, Head of the Yenangyoung Township Department of Rural Development, together with engineering staff, company officials, and members of the village water supply committee, inspected the ongoing implementation of the solar-powered water supply project in Saltine Village. The township head instructed those responsible to ensure that the project is completed on schedule and in line with the prescribed standards and specifications. The project includes drilling a tube well with a diameter of 4.5 inches and a depth of 400 feet, constructing a 5,000-gallon brick water reservoir, installing a 6.96 kW solar-powered water pumping system, and building a 120-foot perimeter fence. These works are being implemented during the current financial year with a Union Government budget allocation of K68.464 million by Zenith Creative Construction Co Ltd, commencing in the fourth week of June 2026, and approximately 60 per cent of the work has now been completed. Upon completion of the project, a total of 117 households with a population of 662 people from Saltine Village will have sufficient access to safe drinking water throughout the year. — Naw Lu

Chauk MSY village projects inspected



Officials inspect an oil crop farm in Chauk Township.

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday morning of the implementation of activities under the Mya Sein Yaung (Emerald Green) Village Project (Oil Crop) Fund in Chaungtet Village, Chaungtet Village-Tract, Chauk Township. The project is being implemented by the Department of Rural Development, Chauk District, Magway

Region, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development to provide financial support for cultivation costs and agricultural inputs required by farmers for cultivating oil crops, including sunflower. Daw May Thet Nang, Head of the Chauk District Department of Rural Development, together with responsible officials, inspected the implementation of activities underway with the K10 million Mya Sein Yaung Village Project (Oil Crop) Fund in Chaungtet Village. They also checked whether the monthly financial ac-

counting forms required to be completed had been properly prepared. The district head met members of the village project implementation committee and discussed and instructed them on the necessary matters. The Mya Sein Yaung Village Project (Oil Crop) in Chaungtet Village was first implemented during the 2022-2023 financial year. At present, loans totalling K10 million from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project (Oil Crop) Fund have been disbursed to 34 male and female members engaged in agricultural activities. — Set Lu

Kanyin Dam hydropower project to generate over 35 million units of electricity annually

THE 10.5 MW Kanyin Dam Hydropower Project, being implemented in Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Region, is expected to generate 35.774 million units of electricity annually.

The electricity produced by the project will be sufficient to supply around 10,500 households, based on an average monthly consumption of 100 units per household. Ayeyawady Region

Chief Minister U Aye Kyaw inspected the progress of the hydropower project yesterday morning, together with officials. He also inspected the completed construction of the 33/66 kV substation in Htoo

Gyi and the connection to the 66 kV Myanaung-Hinthada No 1 power line. The electricity generated by the Kanyin Dam will be connected to the national grid through Ingapu Township. — IPRD/MKKS



This photo shows the Kanyin Dam Hydropower Project in Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Region.

OPINION

Raise the culture of tax compliance among the people

SUCCESSFULLY and systematically implementing a tax system is not merely a matter of technology; it is a process that requires coordinated and balanced development and changes among all stakeholders, including the tax authorities, taxpayers, those involved in the tax system, and related departments and organizations.

In reforming the tax system, eight strategic plans for ensuring a systematic approach is being implemented, updating laws in line with the modern era, restructuring the organizational framework of the tax authority, modernizing the tax assessment system, making extensive use of ICT technology, effectively supervising

tax compliance, enhancing the capacity of tax officials, promoting the ethical standards and integrity of tax officials, and overseeing and managing tax system reforms.

“Section 389 of the Constitution stipulates that “Every citizen has the duty to pay taxes to be levied according to the law.” In order to ensure the full collection of tax revenues within the State’s tax system, it is necessary to make continuous efforts step by step, in accordance with the Tax System Reform Strategy, to increase tax revenue collection, promote use of information and technology, and enhance the tax awareness and tax culture of both tax officials and taxpayers.

In the 2025-2026 financial year, approximately 75 per cent of the State’s total tax revenue was collected through the implementation of the Self-Assessment System. At these offices, the digital-based Tax Revenue Management System has been implemented for tax administration. The internationally standardized Taxpayer Identification Number registration system has also been introduced. Measures have been taken to enable taxpayers to fulfil their tax obligations online through e-Registration, e-Filing, and e-Payment systems. In addition, linkages have been established with MyCO (DICA), MACCS (Customs), CBM-NET (Central Bank), and TradeNet 2.0 to obtain real-time information.

Enhancing tax compliance requires supervision and management through laws and technology. Furthermore, as it is necessary to widely conduct tax awareness education so that taxpayers understand that paying taxes is a responsibility befitting responsible citizens and a fulfilment of their duties to the State and fellow citizens, arrangements have been made to incorporate tax-related knowledge into basic education curricula in order to promote and strengthen a culture of tax compliance.

As a result of these efforts, in the 2025-2026 FY, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue collected K14,070 billion in various taxes against the revised target of K13,460 billion, achieving 105 per cent of the target. Similarly, the Union’s Tax-to-GDP Ratio increased from only 5.07 per cent in the 2020-2021 FY to 8.55 per cent in the 2025-2026 FY.

“Section 389 of the Constitution stipulates that “Every citizen has the duty to pay taxes to be levied according to the law.” In order to ensure the full collection of tax revenues within the State’s tax system, it is necessary to make continuous efforts step by step, in accordance with the Tax System Reform Strategy, to increase tax revenue collection, promote use of information and technology, and enhance the tax awareness and tax culture of both tax officials and taxpayers.

Myanmar-Owned Process Deserves Due Respect

By Thet Mon Tun

ON 12 July 2026, foreign ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Myanmar’s Foreign Minister U Tin Maung Swe held talks and exchanged views in Bangkok, Thailand. During the meeting, Myanmar FM briefed his counterparts on Myanmar’s efforts to foster national stability, peace and development, and Myanmar’s commitment to regional integrity.

Facilitated by Thai Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow, it was the very first return of face-to-face discussion between Myanmar and ASEAN since 2021. The meeting, despite being an informal talk, went well with frank, candid and constructive exchanges.

The Bloc’s stalled status quo has shifted to a better move

As a matter of fact, it is the responsibility of ASEAN to maintain the regional integrity, peace, stability, human rights and welfare of the people of the member states. However, efforts of the

respect and recognition.

Professor Zhai Kun is a leading scholar on ASEAN and South-East Asian Studies at Peking University of China. He shared his remark on the related issue with the writer as follows -

“The Five-Point Statement was an attempt to give ASEAN a common framework for responding to the crisis. However, its implementation has been limited, and ASEAN member states

have not always shared the same understanding of how it should be applied. This has made ASEAN’s position appear cautious and sometimes inconsistent.”

Nevertheless, the communication deadlock between Myanmar and ASEAN over the past years now appears to be approaching an end. Only two-sided cooperation with mutual under-



Images feature the recent meeting between Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Tin Maung Swe and Foreign Ministers of ASEAN member states.

standing, trust and respect between Myanmar and ASEAN can create a better shared future for the region, and produce a possible solution, which is pragmatic and fits with the national circumstances and specific characteristics of Myanmar.

“The more constructive

interactions are made between Myanmar and ASEAN, the better improvement can be seen in Myanmar-ASEAN relations,” U Ko Ko remarked.

Myanmar’s consistent attitude towards ASEAN

Republic of the Union of

Myanmar – a South-East Asian country that is located on the edge of the Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean, and is adjacent to India, China and ASEAN – has been practising the foreign policy of positive neutrality, non-alignment and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

This year marks the first year of the administration of Myanmar’s newly elected government following the general elections held in late 2025 and early 2026. In fact, regular sessions of the parliaments are currently convening and discussing wider topics.

On 9 July 2026, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (the highest legislative body of Myanmar) urged the union government to review and counter ASEAN’s five-point statement.

This movement was initiated by Pyithu Hluttaw parliamentarian Dr Nanda Hla Myint, who represents Kalaw Constituency. He submitted a proposal to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 26 June, calling on the government to take appropriate measures against ASEAN’s five-point statement, arguing that it undermines Myanmar’s equal status within ASEAN, interferes in the country’s internal affairs, and no longer corresponds to current political realities of Myanmar.

SEE PAGE 13

How Harsh Hardships Shape Mature, Peaceful Lives

By Augustin

MANY of us may have lived through a phase governed by the stubborn mindset of “Nothing can ever change me”. However, when we inevitably face the storms of time and circumstance, that rigid stubbornness only leaves behind painful wounds.

The following two short stories explore this truth, tracing the journeys of a “rough stone” in nature and a young man named “Thit Lwin” in the human world. Together, their paths offer deep insights into how a fierce, hot-headed life – through friction with hardship – can transform into a mature, calm, and beautifully smooth existence that lives in harmony with the world.

The Stone in the Current

At the source of a mountain stream, there once lay a rough, sharp stone with jagged edges. It took great pride in being harder than all the other stones, possessing an ego that refused to yield to anything.

One day, a heavy rainstorm hit, and the mountain waters

rushed down fiercely. The powerful current uprooted the large stone and swept it away into the deep.

“Nothing will ever change me!” the stone shouted, stubbornly resisting the force of the water. However, the current showed no mercy. Swept along by the relentless flow of time and water, the stone scraped against the sandy bottom and crashed violently into massive boulders. Carried away by the sheer speed of the river, it found itself caught in a cycle of severe and endless friction.

Every time a sharp edge broke off its body, the stone felt deep pain. There were moments of pure despair when it found itself trapped, spinning helplessly in violent whirlpools. Yet, it endured – silently anchoring its awareness to avoid sinking into the dark oblivion of the riverbed, surviving the long journey down-

stream.

Many years passed. The fierce, crashing mountain stream eventually opened up, transforming into a wide, tranquil river.

Resting calmly on the sunny, sandy bank lay a beautifully smooth, rounded pebble. This gentle pebble was none other than the once-rough stone with the jagged edges.

The sharp points of anger and pride it once carried were entirely gone, washed away by the current. By enduring the hardships of its journey with quiet maturity – and protecting its core essence amidst endless friction – it had transformed. It was now at peace, perfectly shaped to live in harmony with the world around it.

Life’s Torrents Smooth Rigid Pride

Since his youth, Thit Lwin was a brilliant but highly stubborn and proud young man. Living by the absolute mindset of “I

must get what I want, and I will never yield to anyone”, he operated with rigid defiance. He lived like a rough stone full of jagged edges, rarely considering others’ feelings and firmly believing that only his perspective was correct.

However, the powerful current of life does not allow anyone to remain still. As he stepped into adulthood, he faced a continuous onslaught of life’s storms: the sudden collapse of his family’s business, unexpected setbacks in his career, and painful separations from those he loved. Swept away by the fierce torrent of time and circumstance, he found himself tumbling through countless painful experiences.

When hit hard by these challenges, Thit Lwin initially felt only deep bitterness and pain. But as

the losses mounted, he reached a turning point. He realized a harsh truth: it was his own sharp edges causing the constant, destructive friction in his interactions with the world.

From that moment on, instead of forcefully fighting the current, he chose to let go of his stubborn pride. He began navigating his trials mindfully, learning to adapt without letting his inner self break apart.

After enduring the friction of life’s ups and downs for many years, Thit Lwin eventually reached middle age.

By this stage in his life, his mindset was no longer driven by the sharp edges of anger and pride; instead, he had become deeply peaceful and calm. He had learned to understand and



accept the inevitable changes of the world, choosing to treat others with empathy, forgiveness, and gentleness.

Just like the jagged stone worn smooth by the relentless current of time, Thit Lwin now flows gracefully with the river of life – living as a mature, stable, and beautiful human being with a generous heart.

Lessons Learned

Carrying the sharp edges of pride, anger, and stubbornness ensures we will suffer deeper pain during life’s unavoidable storms. Just as a jagged rock chips away when colliding with the world, a rigid ego causes destructive friction, wounding both ourselves and those around us in our relationships.

True resilience requires yielding to change rather than forcefully resisting it. Like water, adapting our mindset allows us to navigate hardships safely. The painful friction of failures and wounds does not come to destroy us; these trials are simply natural tools, grinding away our rough traits to reveal a mature, beautiful stability.

NATIONAL

Vocational training on consumer goods production opens in Sinbaungwe



Officials and trainees pose for the documentary group photo at the opening event of the vocational training course in Sinbaungwe Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Magway Region, Aunglan District, launched a vocational training course on household consumer goods production technology in Sipinhla Village, Sinbaungwe Township, on 20 July.

The course aims to create job opportunities and nurture a skilled workforce for rural residents during the 2026-2027 financial year. During the opening ceremony, Aunglan District Department of Rural Development Head U Win Naing delivered an opening address. Following this, the Sinbaungwe Township DRD Head explained that the vocational training programme was selected after assessing local products, market demand, labour require-

ments and the vocational training needs of the area. Trainers then outlined the training curriculum and lessons, after which the district DRD head and departmental officials presented training materials to the participants.

The five-day free training course, running from 21 to 25 July, is being attended by 20 trainees from Sipinhla and Kyaukhsaungsan villages. The course covers systematic training on household consumer goods production, including shampoo, liquid hand soap and bar soap, to help participants establish their own businesses. Furthermore, outstanding trainees who genuinely intend to start enterprises will be eligible to access loans from the department's Mya Sein Yaung project funds. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

MNHRC attends SEANF's 2nd Technical Working Group Meeting

THE Second Technical Working Group Meeting of the South-East Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum (SEANF) for 2026, together with its side event, was held in hybrid format from 21 to 22 July 2026, hosted by the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), the alternate chair of the Forum, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Following the meeting, side visits were conducted on 23 July 2026 as part of the Forum's programme.

Representatives from SEANF member National Human Rights Institutions, namely the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP), the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT), and the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice of Timor-Leste (PDHJ), attended the meeting in person. Meanwhile, representatives from the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas HAM) as well as Commission members U Win Hlaing Oo and Dr Swe Swe Aung, along with the Deputy Director-General of the Commission's Office, the Director of the International Relations Division, and staff from the Myanmar National

Human Rights Commission (MNHRC), participated in the meeting via video conferencing.

On the first day of the meeting, participants discussed a range of topics, including updates on major developments and activities since the First Technical Working Group Meeting of the SEANF, as well as the implementation progress of the five priority areas of the 2022-2026 SEANF Strategic Plan by the respective lead commissions. In addition, participants discussed progress on the ASEAN Declaration on the Rights to a Safe, Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment, ongoing efforts towards the development of a legally binding instrument on the rights of older persons, developments in the field of Business and Human Rights, and matters relating to the establishment of the Inter-NHRI Inquiry Mechanism. Following these discussions, representatives from the Indonesia National Commission on Human Rights, the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia, and the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines presented updates on the Joint Research Framework and Terms of Reference on Cross-Border Movement, Statelessness, and



Commissioners of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) participate in the Second Technical Working Group Meeting of SEANF in hybrid format.

Human Rights in Sabah, an initiative being implemented under the Memorandum of Understanding signed among the three National Human Rights Institutions.

At the meeting, U Win Hlaing Oo, Commissioner of the MNHRC, presented the major developments and activities of MNHRC on promotion and protection of human rights since the First Technical Working Group Meeting of the SEANF. Dr Khine Khine Win, Deputy Director General of the Commission's Office, also shared updates on the MNHRC's leadership in Priority No 2 of the SEANF Strategic Plan: "Promoting and Protecting Human Rights in Business."

On the morning of the second day, participants discussed matters relating to cooperation within the Forum, including preparations for the convening of the 23rd SEANF Annual Meeting.

At the meeting, the delegation of the Myanmar National Human

Rights Commission raised for discussion the acceptance of the Forum's rotating chairmanship for the year 2027.

In the afternoon, the Forum convened a related side event entitled "Forum on Refugees and Trafficking in Persons Crisis in the South-East Asia Region – Challenges and Opportunities for Regional Cooperation."

During the side event, interactive discussions were conducted under the themes of "Understanding Refugees and Human Trafficking in South-East Asia: Causes, Trends, and Protection Challenges" and "Protection Gaps and Access to Justice for Refugees and Victims of Trafficking", in which the Commission participated and contributed.

The South-East Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum (SEANF) was established in 2009, and the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission joined as a forum member in 2012. — MNA

Mongyawng's MSY village project loans disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Mongyawng District, Shan State (East), held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Hwehtam Village, Mongyawng Township, yesterday.

At the ceremony, Mongyawng Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Aye Moe Khaing first explained that the revolving funds were provided with the objectives of creating employment opportunities and increasing family incomes for rural residents, as well as implementing village development activities

with the interest earned from the revolving funds. Officials then explained project activities, interest rates, loan periods and rules and regulations to be followed, and handed over K41 million in revolving funds to members of the project implementation committee.

Hwehtam Village is implementing systematic

agricultural activities using K41 million from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project. Under the supervision of township DRD officials, members of the project committee disbursed the 11th round of revolving loans at low interest rates to a total of 37 project members in Hwehtam Village. — Sein Lwin (Rural)



The fund disbursement ceremony is underway in Mongyawng Township, 22 July 2026.

Kalaw’s MSY project multi-purpose hall inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Kalaw District, Shan State (South), conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the completion of a multi-purpose hall constructed with 50 per cent of interest earnings from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Kyaungnauk Village, Peyintaung Village-tract, Kalaw Township.

Kalaw District Department of Rural Development Head U Aung Zaw Lin, Township Department of Rural Development Head U Ko Ko Naing and engineering staff inspected the completed building. They met members of the village Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Management Committee and residents, urging them

to collectively maintain the multi-purpose hall for long-term durability. They also examined whether monthly financial records had been completed accurately in accordance with prescribed procedures.

The multi-purpose hall, measuring 40 feet in length, 30 feet in width and 12 feet in height, was constructed using K40 million allocated from the project’s interest earnings alongside K3.5 million in community contributions, totalling K43.5 million. The construction work was carried out directly by the villagers under the technical assistance and close supervision of district and township DRD officials, and has now been completed fully. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)



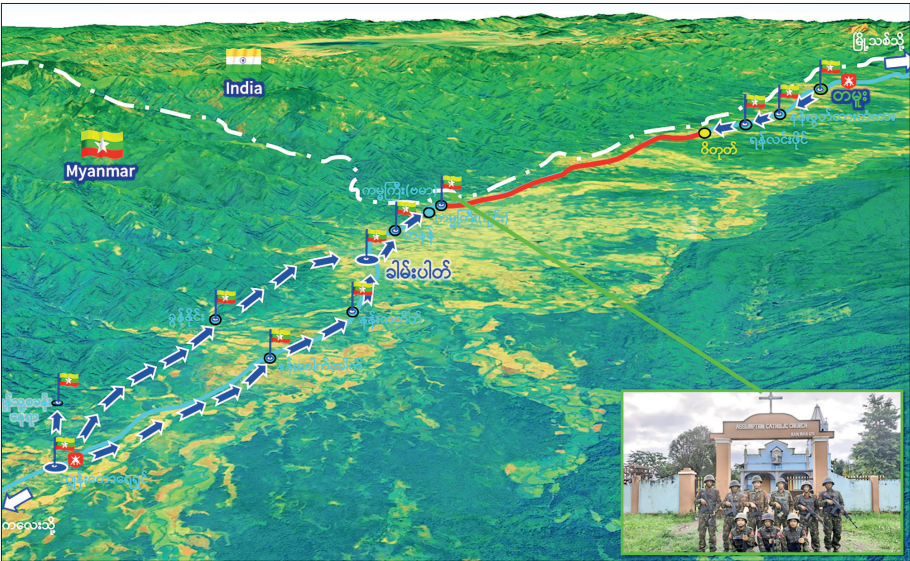
Officials from the Department of Rural Development inspect the completion of a multi-purpose hall in Kalaw Township.

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Tatmadaw retakes Kammagyi villages on Kalay-Tamu road



The map, including inset and image, show the recapture of Kammagyi village on the Kalay-Tamu route.

TATMADAW stated it had recaptured Kammagyi (Chin) Village on 19 July and Kammagyi (Bamar) Village on 21 July in Kham-

pat Township as part of operations to reopen the strategic Kalay-Tamu road linking Myanmar and India.

According to the statement, clashes occurred during the operations, with the Tatmadaw claiming to have seized weapons, ammunition and related equipment, while anti-regime forces withdrew after suffering casualties.

Tatmadaw affirmed that it was continuing security operations to restore control of the Kalay-Tamu route, which it described as vital for cross-border trade and local economic activities. It added that damaged infrastructure along the route would be repaired in cooperation with relevant authorities and residents. — MNA/KZL

17-storey illegal building demolished during Shwe Kokko scam crackdown

AUTHORITIES are systematically demolishing illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko and the KK Park areas of Myawady Township, Kayin State, where online scam and illegal gambling operations were based, while destroying equipment used for these activities. Yesterday, a 17-storey illegal building in the Shwe Kokko area was additionally demolished through controlled

blasting.

Of the 77 buildings used for online scam and gambling activities in Shwe Kokko, 57 were designated for demolition using machinery and 20 for controlled demolition by blasting. The latest 17-storey building was one of the 20 buildings scheduled for blasting.

To date, joint departmental teams have systematically demolished 76



The map shows scam-related facilities in the Shwe Kokko area, Myawady, Kayin State.

illegal buildings used for online scam and gambling operations. The remaining illegal building will also be demolished in due course. — MNA/MKKS

Yaksawk’s VDP project introduced, committee formed

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Taunggyi District, Shan State (South), conducted an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project (VDP) to be implemented and formed a project committee in Kyaunggon Village, Yaksawk Township, yesterday.

Yaksawk Township Department of Rural Development Head U Ye Min Aung met village elders and villagers in Kyaunggon Village and explained the objectives, processes and expected benefits of the Village Development Project (VDP). Project staff then explained the rules and regulations to be followed in selecting and forming the Vil-

lage Development Committee, as well as the tasks to be carried out by the village. The villagers who attended the meeting selected and formed a seven-member Village Development Committee in accordance with the wishes of the majority to effectively lead and implement village development activities.

In Kyaunggon Village, se-

lected village development activities will be implemented by the villagers themselves using K15 million in support funds from the Village Development Project (VDP) and contributions from residents, with technical assistance and close supervision from officials of the Department of Rural Development. — Karan (Rural)



Officials from the Department of Rural Development make an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project in Yaksawk Township yesterday.

NATIONAL

BUSINESS

Fisheries Institute (Twantay) opens applications for Diploma in Fisheries and Aquaculture

THE Fisheries Institute (Twantay) is accepting applications for the three-year Diploma in Fisheries and Aquaculture for the 2026-2027 Academic Year.

Those wishing to enrol in the Diploma in Fisheries and Aquaculture at the Fisheries Institute in Twantay Township, Yangon Region, can apply at the Department of Fisheries at the region/state/district/township level fisheries stations and the Fisheries Institute (Twantay).

Graduates will be awarded a Diploma Certificate. Upon completing the diploma, qualified graduates can sit for the entrance examination to pursue a BSc Fisheries and Aquaculture at Yangon University. Additionally, upon completion of the three-year diploma, graduates will have job opportunities within government departments and private companies.

Applicants must be Myanmar citizens who have passed the University Entrance Examination (KG+12) with science subjects. If they have taken Basic Education Industrial, Agricultural and Livestock Breeding High School, they must have passed Livestock subjects with Grade B. They must not be older than 22 years by 30 September 2026.

Original recommendation from the respective

school principal confirming of the Matriculation Examination, copy of the examination result (original must be presented upon enrollment), recommendation confirming the date of birth from the respective school principal, police clearance certificate and verification of the village/ward administrator confirming good conduct and no criminal record, copies of the citizenship scrutiny cards of the applicant and both parents, and a copy of the household registration, five passport-sized photographs (1.1 by 1.3 inches) with a blue background must be attached with the application form. Applications must be sent directly to the respective Region/State/District/Township Department of Fisheries, fisheries stations, or the Fisheries Institute (Twantay) not later than 30 September. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered in any way.

The list of accepted candidates and the school opening date will be announced by the respective Region/State Department of Fisheries and the Fisheries Institute (Twantay). Students can also receive scholarships or grants from the state, associations, and companies. Individuals can enquire about details at 067 408472 or 067 408473. — NN/KK

No 1 HIE invites tenders for vehicle disposal

THE No 1 Heavy Industries Enterprise called for companies and organizations to submit an open tender for dismantling, scrapping and disposing of 812 vehicles confiscated and entrusted by the Ministry of Planning and Finance and other ministries and organizations.

The companies and organizations that can scrap, transport and deliver those vehicles, motorcycles and machinery seized by Union-level institutions and ministries from various townships in Mandalay and Sagaing regions to the No 1 Steel Mill (Myingyan) are invited to participate in bidding.

Tender forms can be submitted by 3 August. Individuals can enquire about the open tender form and details at the Administration Department of the No 1 Heavy Industries Enterprise in Nay Pyi Taw via 067 3405451. — NN/KK

MFSPEA announces fertilizer reference prices until 31 Aug

THE reference prices set for Yangon Region are K120,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of urea fertilizer (large granular) from 1 July to 31 August and K138,000 per bag of di-ammonium phosphate from 21 June to 31 August, according to Myanmar Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association (MFSPEA).

Under the supervision of the Urea Fertilizer Purchase, Distribution and Sales Steering Committee, MFSPEA has already asked member companies to stick to the reference prices.

MFSPEA has not confirmed the reference price for Complex 15 fertilizer. The prices may vary a bit depending on transport charges in other regions and states, as the aforementioned prices are set for the Yangon Region.

For overcharging, consumers can complain to the committee by contacting the fol-



A farmer is spreading fertilizers on a field.

lowing numbers: 067 09 9665407890, MFSPEA 410035, 09 988539360, and stated. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 22 July 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,653.00~3,669.00	557.00~558.70	125.30~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	9,110,968.02	1,344,056.35	32,326,254.30	
The amount sold by CBM to the market				

THE volume of the foreign currency traded in the market was for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical raw materials, industrial raw materials, wheat, fertilizers, car/motorcycle spare parts, agricultural equipment, packaging materials, consumer goods, animal feed, and asphalt. Of the CMP sector revenue, US\$0.79 million was sold to the edible oil sector and US\$0.01 million to the CMP sector. — MNA

Cargo Drivers Warned: Do Not Exceed Height Limits

THE Myanmar Highway Freight Services Association has issued a warning to cargo entrepreneurs, drivers, and helpers not to exceed the prescribed height limits when transporting goods.

“According to the statement, an incident occurred on 25 May in front of a bean warehouse in Hlinethaya (East) Township, Yangon Region. While a 12-wheeler delivering beans was parked under a utility pole, the helper climbed onto the truck roof to talk on his phone. He came into contact with the 11 kV (B) feeder, resulting in a fatal electrocution.

Similarly, on 24 June, a 12-wheeler approximately 14 feet 6 inches was delivering aluminium sheets in Shwepyitha Township. The vehicle was parked under a transmission line. While removing the roof cover, the helper was electrocuted and died.

Investigations revealed that in both of these incidents, the truck drivers and helpers parked their vehicles and carried out operations underneath power lines, lacking electrical awareness and caution, and acted absent-mindedly, which led to the electrocution accidents. Therefore, the association warned that the 11 kV power line is 19 feet above the ground, and that truck operators must strictly adhere to the height limit rule when carrying loads. — MT/ZN



This image captures certain lorries on the road.

Israeli defence, high-tech firms see sharp rise in funding amid conflict: report

FUNDING for Israeli hi-tech defence, space, and quantum companies surged amid the prolonged regional conflict, reaching a historic peak of 11.6 per cent of total capital raised in the first half of 2026, the Israeli IVC Research Centre said in a statement on Tuesday.

For comparison, the share of investments in this sector stood at just 1.9 per cent of total raised funds in 2021, and three per cent in 2024, according to a report titled “Israel Tech Review,” written by IVC and LeumiTech, a subsidiary of Israel’s Bank Leumi.

Israeli hi-tech companies in all sectors raised a total of US\$7.63 billion from January to June, marking the highest half-



Funding for Israeli hi-tech defence, space, and quantum companies surged amid the prolonged regional conflict. **PHOTO: ASIO**

year funding total in four years.

Funding for traditional sectors such as life sciences and fintech declined to near-record lows, according to the report. Climate-focused sectors also struggled, with energy and cleantech attracting only 1.4 per cent of total capital raised.

Total investment in the second quarter reached 4.23 billion dollars, the highest quarterly amount in four years, the report shows. Despite that, the number of funding deals remained low, indicating that more money is now concentrated into fewer, more mature companies. — Xinhua

Myanmar-Owned Process Deserves Due Respect

FROM PAGE 9

A total of 30 parliamentarians in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discussed the topic with diverse views. All of them denounced and rejected ASEAN’s five-point statement from the perspective of sovereign equality.

It is the legitimate right and interest of a sovereign nation to exercise policies and tactics that are suitable for its own national characteristics when managing its own internal affairs. Thus, Myanmar has constantly been standing on the Myanmar-led/ Myanmar-owned approach, yet respecting the ASEAN Charter and international principles.

Accordingly, Myanmar FM U Tin Maung Swe cordially stressed

during the meeting on 12 July in Bangkok that, “being the democratically elected government, it has the responsibility to implement the decision of the Parliament.”

He also added that it is important to have a thorough understanding of Myanmar’s complex political realities and to take a constructive approach which is consistent with the realities on the ground.

Regional integration demands mutual respect among member states

ASEAN’s regional integration plays a vital role in today’s era of a fluid and turbulent global environment. ASEAN has to remain united, wise and prudent by upholding ASEAN’s role in

balancing the growing global geopolitical competition.

Concerning ASEAN’s regional integrity, Professor Zhai Kun remarked: “ASEAN also needs a clearer and more consistent process for reviewing its policies and responding to changing circumstances. Its credibility will depend not only on maintaining unity among member states, but also on showing that its principles can be applied in a balanced and meaningful way.”

Myanmar, as a member of the ASEAN family, will continue to cooperate with ASEAN and safeguard our legitimate rights and interests in both regional and global governance mechanisms.

Indonesia to redirect EV subsidies to selected firms

THE Indonesian government will continue providing incentives for the electric vehicle (EV) industry, but the subsidies will be redirected to selected companies, the country’s Finance Minister Purbaya Yudhi Sadewa said Tuesday.

He mentioned that he was awaiting input from the Ministry of Industry and state investment agency Danantara, as the two institutions have been tasked with determining which companies will receive the support. The EV incentive programme was previously delayed as the government recalculated its budget and mechanism. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2611N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2611N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **23-7-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD.



PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLICATION AND AVAILABILITY OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Pursuant to Section 86 of the Financial Institutions Law, 2016, Central Bank of Myanmar Order No. Ma Pa Ba (FIS)/(1861/2016) dated 9th December 2016, and Paragraphs 34 and 35 of the Directive on External Auditors of Banks (Directive No. 10/2019), notice is hereby given that the audited financial statements of uab bank PCL for the financial year ended 31st March 2026, together with the External Auditor’s Report, have been published and are available for public access on the Bank’s website at:

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

The audited financial statements and the External Auditor’s Report will remain available digitally throughout the year at all offices and branches of the Bank through the above website. Branch personnel are available to assist customers and members of the public in accessing the documents digitally.

Dated 22nd July 2026

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



Scan to access the audited financial statements

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Trump announces direct US flights to Lebanon after meeting President Aoun

Donald Trump announced the return of direct flights from America to Lebanon.

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday directed his administration to allow American airline carriers to “fly directly” to Lebanon and expressed optimism that other countries would take the same initiative.

He announced in a post on Truth Social shortly after his bilateral meeting with Lebanon’s President Joseph Aoun.

Trump lauded the leadership of Aoun in transforming Lebanon and said that direct flights to the country would see Americans visit the “beautiful land” and



Trump lauded the leadership of Aoun in transforming Lebanon.
PHOTO: ANI

expressed optimism that other countries would follow suit.

He wrote, “After meeting with the President of Lebanon, Joseph Aoun, who has done a remarkable job working to transform his Country, I am hereby directing my Administration to

allow all US airline carriers to fly directly to Lebanon so that Americans can easily visit this beautiful land. Hopefully, other Countries will do the same. Enjoy!”

Meanwhile, during his meeting with President Aoun at the Oval Office, President Trump recalled that the two leaders had been in touch and spoken on several occasions through representatives, as he termed the ties “very good.”

He told the reporters, “I think that Lebanon has been a very mistreated country for a long period of time. It’s an amazing group of people- professors, doctors, lawyers, great intellectuals and it has been hard for many, many decades... We’re going to help it a lot.” — ANI

Canada joins GCAP fighter jet programme as ‘observer’

CANADA has joined an initiative launched by Britain, Italy and Japan to develop a next-generation fighter jet as an “observer”, Britain’s defence ministry announced Tuesday.

The Global Combat Air Programme (GCAP) programme launched in 2022 aims to develop a supersonic sixth-generation stealth fighter by 2035, replacing the Eurofighter Typhoon used by some European countries.

British Prime Minister Andy Burnham said in a statement that Canada would “join the programme as the first observer nation”, which would make it “even stronger”.

Canada will gain “direct insight” into the programme, including into “industrial collaboration” and “long-term delivery plans”, the UK government said.

While Canada gets a non-decision-making role, the move “paves the way for discussions on Canada’s future participation and contribution to GCAP”, it added.

Newly appointed British defence minister Wes Streeting said the agreement would “strengthen the UK’s defence cooperation with Canada”. — AFP

Iran warns US against attacking nuclear, sensitive sites

IRAN’S main military command, Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, warned early Wednesday that if the United States attacks Iran’s nuclear and other sensitive sites, Tehran will expand its strikes and target US and its allies’ interests across the region, Iranian state media reported.

The warning came in a statement carried by Iranian media in response to a threat by US President Donald Trump earlier in the day, in which he said US forces would “pretty soon” strike an Iranian nuclear facility reportedly located beneath a mountain in the central province of Isfahan.

The headquarters said the United States had threatened to attack Iran’s nuclear and sensitive centres, adding that if the US Army enters such a phase, Iran will consider it as an expansion of the war in the West Asia region and launch a “powerful attack” against the interests of the United States, its allies and supporters.

Meanwhile, Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guard Corps announced in a statement published on its official news outlet Sepah News late Tuesday that its forces had destroyed an early warning radar system and a number of tactical radars around



A view of the Natanz nuclear complex facility with damage observed on several buildings near Natanz, Isfahan province, Iran, 2 March 2026.
PHOTO: AFP /FILE

the Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait, as well as another radar system on Bubiyan Island earlier that day. — Xinhua

Hasina vows to return despite death sentence

BANGLADESH’S ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has vowed to return home and appear in court despite the risk of imprisonment or execution, while rejecting her conviction over a 2024 deadly crackdown on student-led protests as “politically motivated”.

“I will return to Bangladesh. I will appear before the court,” said Hasina, 78, in a recent written interview with Kyodo News, without identifying a specific court.

“They may send me to prison. They may even try to hang me. I know those risks,” she said, apparently referring to Bangladesh’s authorities.

After resigning and fleeing Bangladesh in August 2024 amid the protests triggered by a court ruling on the civil servant job quota system, Hasina has lived in India. She was tried in absentia and sentenced to death by Bangladesh’s war crimes tribunal in November 2025 for crimes against humanity connected to the crackdown. — Kyodo

Wildfire in southern France contained

A blaze that raced through wooded hills in southern France, forcing hundreds from their homes and devouring an area twice the size of London’s Heathrow airport, has been brought under control, firefighters said Wednesday.

“For the moment it’s been contained in its perimeter, meaning it’s not spreading much,” regional fire chief Eric Grohin told reporters of the fire that erupted the previous day in the Var region.

“Nevertheless, we still have many hot spots, flames in numerous places, so we are being very vigilant this morning,” he said.

The fire erupted Tuesday in the Var region and spread at an unexpectedly fast pace, forcing some 400 people to evacuate and devouring 2,550 hectares (6,300 acres), an area roughly twice the size of London’s Heathrow airport. Nearly 1,000 firefighters and specialized water aircraft battled to contain the blaze in the region that lies along France’s Mediterranean coast between the cities of Marseille and Nice. — AFP

SPORTS

Man City’s Foden signs four-year contract extension

MANCHESTER City forward Phil Foden gave a boost to new boss Enzo Maresca by signing a four-year contract extension on Wednesday.

Foden’s deal provides the England international with much-needed stability after a turbulent period.

The 26-year-old had struggled for form during an injury-plagued period that included being left out of England’s squad for the recent World Cup.



Manchester City forward Phil Foden.
PHOTO: AFP

He would have been out of contract at the end of the coming season, but his new deal, which contains an option for a further one-year extension, resolves his long-term future.

“Committing my future to City means everything to me. Playing for this club is all I’ve ever wanted to do and it’s always an honour to wear the shirt,” Foden said.

“It’s not lost on me that I’ve been lucky enough to be part of a historic period with so many titles won, but we’re always looking to the future and trying to win more.

“I can only thank the club, staff, teammates and fans who continue to put their faith in me and trust that I give everything I can for City and I hope I’ll be able to repay you for years to come.” Foden has won six Premier League titles, the Champions League, two FA Cups and five League Cups with City since graduating from the club’s youth academy. — AFP

Van Bommel set to take over as Belgium coach: reports

FORMER Netherlands midfielder Mark van Bommel is set to take over as coach of the Belgium national team, local media reported Wednesday.

Van Bommel and the Belgian football federation (RBFA) have come to an

agreement that will see the 49-year-old sign a contract in the coming days to take charge of the Red Devils through to Euro 2028, according to Flemish daily Het Laatste Nieuws. After hanging up his boots in 2013, Van Bommel has cut

his teeth as coach of PSV Eindhoven, Wolfsburg and Antwerp. Van Bommel has been without a team since departing Belgian top-flight club Antwerp in June 2024, a year after having guided them to a first league title in 66 years. — AFP



British boxer Tyson Fury will fight Poland’s Mariusz Wach in a charity bout in the Thai resort town of Pattaya. PHOTO: AFP

Fury says ‘best yet to come’ ahead of Thailand fight

BRITISH boxer Tyson Fury insisted on Wednesday that “the best is yet to come” ahead of a charity fight in Thailand, a warm-up to his long-awaited clash with Anthony Joshua.

“I don’t feel like the world’s seen the best Tyson Fury yet,” said the former two-time world heavyweight champion, who turns 38 next month.

Fury was speaking at an event in the Thai

resort of Pattaya to promote his charity fight on Friday against Mariusz Wach, a 46-year-old Pole dubbed “The Viking”.

The fight in the 1,500-seat Max Muay Thai Stadium is widely viewed as a warm-up to the much-anticipated clash with fellow Briton Joshua expected later this year.

But Fury said he did not want to talk about the Joshua fight, instead fo-

cusing on his presence in Thailand and saying that it left him feeling “rejuvenated”.

“I’ve been over here since December -- beautiful place, beautiful people, great training facilities,” he said.

“I feel at peace with everything, where before I had a lot of pressure on me... the rain wasn’t good, I think I thrive better in obviously warmer climates.” — AFP

Spain midfielder Fabian Ruiz targets Betis comeback to finish career

SPAIN midfielder Fabian Ruiz has admitted he would like to return to his hometown region to play for Real Betis before ending his career.

The 30-year-old, who currently plays for Paris Saint-Germain, began his professional career at Betis and said he hopes to one day wear the club’s colors again. Ruiz made his comments at an event in Los Palacios, near Seville, where he and fellow Spain international Gavi were honored by the local city government on Monday. Both players were born in the town and received a warm reception from residents. While Gavi remains at FC Barcelona, Ruiz is coming off a remarkable season, winning the

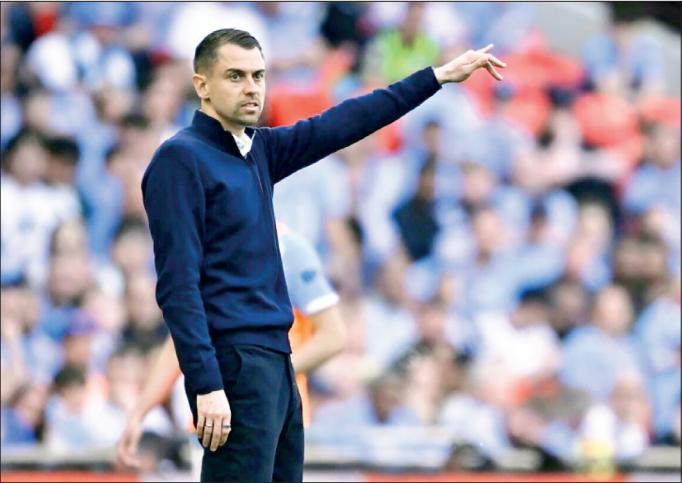
Champions League, Ligue 1, FIFA Intercontinental Cup and UEFA Super Cup with PSG, and lifting the FIFA World Cup with Spain after La Roja beat Argentina 1-0 in Sunday’s final.

Despite being less prominent in the spotlight than some of his teammates, Ruiz is considered a contender for this year’s Ballon d’Or after his success at club and international level.

“Who wouldn’t be happy with a season where I have won the Champions League and World Cup? I can’t ask for more,” Ruiz said.

“Everyone would like to win the Ballon d’Or, and it is an honor to be a candidate,” he added. —Xinhua

Southampton boss Eckert charged over spying scandal



Southampton owner Dragan Solak has stood by manager Tonda Eckert (pictured) despite the spygate scandal. PHOTO: AFP

SOUTHAMPTON manager Tonda Eckert has been charged by the Football Association over the spying scandal that led to his side being kicked

out of the Championship play-offs.

In a stunning controversy that rocked English football last season, South-

ampton admitted spying on a training session held by play-off semi-final opponents Middlesbrough in May.

They also spied on training sessions at fellow Championship clubs Ipswich and Oxford earlier in the season.

After beating Middlesbrough in the semi-finals, Southampton were expelled from the Championship play-off final against Hull and deducted four points for the 2026-27 season. Middlesbrough replaced Southampton in the final and were beaten by Hull. The financial cost to Southampton was huge, with promotion to the Premier League worth an estimated £200 million (\$267 million). — AFP



South Korea promises free homegrown AI chatbot this year

SOUTH Korea plans to launch this year a free artificial intelligence chatbot service powered by domestic technology, Seoul said Tuesday, seeking to reduce reliance on foreign platforms.

Roughly half of South Korea's population of 51 million used generative AI applications in February, according to market research firm Wiseapp-Retail.

The vast majority — nearly 23 million — used ChatGPT, developed by US firm OpenAI.

As the technology has spread, countries have become increasingly concerned with so-called "AI sovereignty" — developing domestic models serving their own security, privacy and business interests.

A spokesperson for South Korea's science

ministry told AFP Tuesday that a government initiative aims to roll out a general-purpose AI chatbot as well as an AI agent capable of more complex tasks by the end of the year.

"To persuade users to move away from foreign AI services they already pay for, we need to provide services that are even better," Science Minister Bae Kyung-hoon told reporters on Monday.

"We want Korea to move quickly into the era of AI agents and compete in that field," he told a news briefing.

The government's first priority under its "AI for All" scheme is to integrate public AI agent services that would provide functions unavailable on existing foreign platforms, the minister said. — AFP



A woman checks her phone as she walks along a street in Seoul on 13 July 2026. PHOTO: AFP

India draft Telecommunications Rules 2026 streamline TV and radio



The draft integrates guidelines for satellite TV, DTH, and HITS broadcasting services. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ANI

THE Ministry of Information and Broadcasting proposes merging six broadcasting guidelines into one rule book.

The Union Government has released the draft Telecommunications (Television, Radio and Associated Services) Rules, 2026, aimed at consolidating existing guidelines for

television and radio services into a unified framework under the Telecommunications Act, 2023.

The proposed regulations seek to merge six separate sets of guidelines into a single rule book to improve ease of doing business and streamline compliance for broadcasting entities, according to in-

formation provided by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

"With this set of rules, the industry will now have a unified and significantly simplified rule book. These rules are designed to harmonize the existing regime while promoting ease of doing business in the Television and Radio broadcasting sector," the Ministry said in a statement.

The draft integrates the Policy Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Satellite Television Channels in India, alongside guidelines governing Direct-to-Home (DTH) broadcasting services and Headend-in-the-Sky (HITS) broadcasting services.

It also incorporates policy guidelines covering the expansion of private

FM radio broadcasting services under Phase III, revised guidelines for setting up Community Radio Stations, and provisions for Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services.

Union Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw outlined the draft measure in a written reply to a starred question in the Lok Sabha, raised by MPs Mukeshkumar Chandrakaant Dalal and Dineshbhai Makwana.

To cushion the impact of the regulatory shift, the proposal incorporates transitional mechanisms for current operators.

"The draft framework addresses regional availability and expansion goals across broadcasting formats. — ANI

US has spent \$37.5 bln on Iran war so far

THE United States has spent \$37.5 billion on the military campaign against Iran as of today, US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth.

"The estimate we have as of today is 37.5 bil-

lion," Hegseth said before the US Senate Appropriations Committee when asked about the costs of the operation.

On the night of June 18, the United States and Iran signed a memoran-

dum of understanding to end the conflict that began on 28 February. However, on the night of 8 July, Washington resumed strikes against Iran, citing Tehran's actions against commercial

shipping in the Strait of Hormuz. Iran called the US attacks a serious violation of the agreements reached and began retaliatory strikes against US bases in the Middle East. — SPUTNIK

Russian scientists create heat-seeking cancer-burning particles

SCIENTISTS from the National University of Science and Technology MISIS (NUST MISIS) have developed a new type of magnetic nanoparticle capable of self-regulating its heating temperature within the therapeutically relevant range of 42-52 °C.

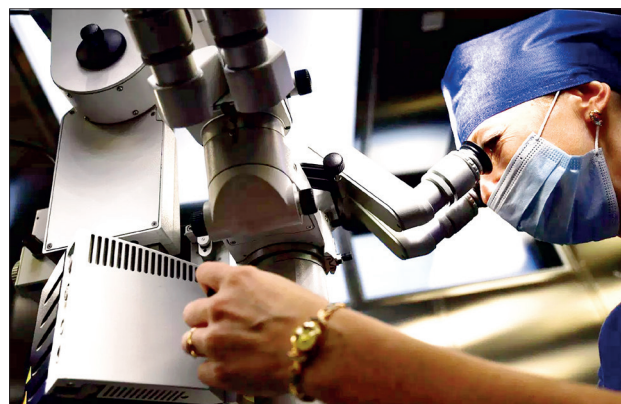
In the future, this ability could eliminate the risk of damage to healthy tissues during magnetic hyperthermia cancer treatment, the university's press service told Sputnik.

Magnetic hyperther-

mia is a promising approach for local treatment of tumor tissues. One of the challenges remains the risk of uncontrolled tissue overheating, which can lead to damage and death of healthy cells. Iron oxide nanoparticles, spinel ferrites, metallic magnetic particles, and self-regulating magnetic materials are currently being studied for hyperthermia applications.

The key innovation by the NUST MISIS research team is the combination of several factors. Built on a

strontium hexaferrite base, this material's temperature response is fine-tuned by indium doping. Its nanoparticles are produced via high-energy ball milling, a simple, scalable technique that is easy to implement. The researchers successfully obtained nanoparticles approximately 10 nanometres in size, which remain stable in liquids thanks to a coating of biocompatible polymer. In laboratory experiments, the temperature threshold ranged from 42 to 52 °C, depending on the



A surgical nurse demonstrates the operation of a microscope at the Centre for Eye Microsurgery in Yekaterinburg. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

material composition.

"The particles we have developed can be thought

of as magnetic 'nano-heat-ers' with a built-in temperature-limiting mechanism.

When exposed to an external magnetic field, they generate heat. However, once the set temperature level is reached, the magnetic properties of the material change, and the particles begin to absorb less energy from the field. As a result, further heating slows down, and the temperature stabilizes at a constant level within the therapeutically significant range," said Igor Shchetinin, head of the Laboratory of Multifunctional Magnetic Nanomaterials at NUST MISIS. — SPUTNIK