

# Poor waste management fuels environmental pollution

Myanmar is implementing the National Waste Management Strategy and Master Plan for Myanmar (2018-2030) in urban areas and industries.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed that Myanmar is implementing the 2019 Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Region, joining hands with other ASEAN states.

A ceremony to mark World Environment Day 2025 was held at the Yezin University of Forestry and Environmental Conservation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with an address by State Administration Council Chairman, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

In his address, the Senior General highlighted that, as urban areas and factories do not have systematic management of waste, all global countries including Myanmar are facing environmental pollution problems at present.

He noted that among varieties of waste, plastic waste is larger day by day, and it becomes a main challenge of environmental pollution, threatening the daily life of living beings, the health of all humans and sustainable development.

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**Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General in the ceremony to mark 2025 World Environment Day**

- 1. Lack of control and undisciplined disposing of plastic waste has become a serious danger of plastic pollution across the world at present.
- 2. Plastic production worldwide, the statistics in 2023 mentioned more than 400 million tonnes of plastic products, which rose to a double volume rather than last two decades.
- 3. If the production still increases so, the world's plastic production will reach 1,100 million tonnes in 2050.



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presents the good environmental management award at yesterday's event.

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Tourists return to Inlay as recovery from earthquake continues

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Maxride launches three-wheeler service in Thanlyin

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Customs duty cut for SKD and CKD fuel vehicle imports

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Combat illegal trade to be stronger and legitimate trade

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# NATIONAL

## Empowering education to build a peaceful, stable nation

THE education sector is encouraged to help build a peaceful, stable, and progressive future for the nation.

*(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the State Administration Council meeting on 19 November 2024)*

### Health Alert: Guard Against Flu & COVID-19

DURING the rainy season, respiratory infectious diseases such as seasonal influenza and COVID-19 are more likely to spread.

Although COVID-19 is no longer considered a global pandemic, it is now recognized as a locally circulating disease similar to seasonal influenza. At present, there is no cause for public concern regarding outbreaks or deaths due to these diseases in Myanmar. However, to prevent potential spread, the public is strongly urged to observe the necessary preventive measures.

- To prevent the spread of the virus to others, people with current respiratory symptoms such as fever, runny nose, sneezing, cough, and sore throat should
  - (a) Avoid going to crowded places, and if necessary, wear a mask properly.
  - (b) Cover the mouth and nose with a tissue or elbow when sneezing or coughing, while not wearing a face mask.
  - (c) Promptly seek medical treatment at the nearest hospital or health centre if symptoms are severe.
- Practice good personal hygiene like frequent and thorough handwashing with soap and water, or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer regularly.
- As COVID-19 vaccines are effective in reducing the risk of infection, severe illness, and death caused by emerging variants of the virus, the high-risk groups comprising of elderly, people with chronic illnesses such as diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, or cancer and pregnant women are urged to receive booster doses.

Ministry of Health  
4 June 2025

### Myanmar Gazette

## Head of Service Organization appointed

THE State Administration Council has appointed U Thant Zin Tun, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Alternative Education and Lifelong Learning under the Ministry of Education, as Director-General of the same organization on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

## Weather

### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Thursday 5 June 2025)

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 6 June 2025:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay, Magway and Lower Sagaing Regions and Kayah and northern Shan States, fairly widespread in Bago, and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, (southern and eastern) Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 June 2025:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 June 2025:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6 June 2025:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80 per cent. — DMH



## Tourists return to Inlay as recovery from earthquake continues

AFTER the flood and earthquake, rehabilitation has been in progress in Inlay, but visitor arrival has been seen again, said an official from Thitsar Mandine Social Association, which helps in relief efforts in the area.

The Inlay area, one of the well-known tourist destinations in Myanmar, was affected

by the flood and devastated again by the earthquake when visitor arrivals resumed during recovery from the former disaster.

“Not only donors, we have seen now a few visitors, both foreigners and locals,” he said.

At present, 80 per cent of rehabilitation efforts have been completed in Inlay, how-

ever, private hotels are still under restoration.

“Hotels have still been under restoration, and some have been under demolition. For now, hotels on the lake can’t provide accommodation, but some foreigners come to research in Inlay by staying in Nyaungshwe or Shwenyaung,” he said. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS

This image displays visitors exploring Inlay Lake in mid-May.

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NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Poor waste management fuels ...

FROM PAGE 1

The Senior General emphasized that, in assessing the plastic production world-wide, the statistics in 2023 mentioned more than 400 million tonnes of plastic products, which rose to a double volume rather than last two decades. If the production still increases so, the world’s plastic production will reach 1,100 million tonnes in 2050, he added.

On the other hand, he continued that lack of control and undisciplined disposal of plastic waste become a serious danger of plastic pollution across the world at present.

He stressed that microplastics spread all parts of oceans, rivers and creeks, atmospheric areas and daily foods, penetrating the body organs of humans as very dangerous possibilities.

The Senior General underscored that Myanmar has issued the National Waste Management Strategy and Master Plan for Myanmar (2018-2030). Such a plan is being implemented in urban areas and industries. In order to collaboratively implement plastic waste control as a priority, efforts are being made to issue the National Plastic Management Action Plan.

The Senior General urged all to follow the standard operating procedure (SOP) of the Coastal Industries and Urban Waste Management Procedure to reduce plastic pollution in Myanmar, boom plastic recycling industries at home and contribute to the prevention of marine environmental pollution due to plastic waste.

Moreover, he added that, as Myanmar is a member of the Basel Convention

on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, it is necessary to systematically restrict the illegal import of plastic waste into the country under the convention.

The Senior General unveiled that Myanmar is implementing the 2019 Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Region, joining hands with other ASEAN states.

After the speech, the video clips of the message sent by the UN Secretary-General for the 2025 World Environment Day and the message of the Executive Director of UNESCO were screened.

The Senior General presented good environmental management city, village and factory awards to Kengtung in Shan State (East), Myinkaba Village of NyaungU Township and the 30-mega-

watt solar-powered generation industry of Great Success Energy Co Ltd from Thazi Township through officials, respectively.

Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo and Council Member Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister Admiral Tin Aung San presented prizes to winners in the National Clean and Green School Award-winning schools and winners in the article contest to mark the World Environment Day.

A video clip on 2025 World Environment Day and another video clip titled Unseen Killer PM 2.5 sent by the Thai Embassy to Myanmar were screened.

The Senior General and attendees viewed the exhibition booths of the World Environment Day 2025. — MNA/TTA

China-Myanmar NGOs mark 75 years of diplomatic ties

HEARTEDLY commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, China-Myanmar Non-Governmental Organizations held a cultural dialogue and an international day event at Hotel Ru Yi in Mayangon Township, Yangon, on 5 June.

It was attended by Chinese Ambassador Ma Jia, U Nu Daw Myayi Foundation President Daw Than Than Nu, Myanmar-China Friendship Association Chairman U Tin Oo, Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies Chairman U Thant Kyaw, Myanmar Music Association Chairman U Lwin Myint, and Myanmar Theatrical Association Chairman U Phoe Chit, among others.

“Just as we have stood together through thick and thin for 75 years, the friendship between China and Myanmar has



This photo showcases the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Myanmar by non-governmental organizations.

sung a proud and joyful song. In today’s changing international community, China and Myanmar have built a common destiny by supporting each other, standing

together, and walking hand in hand into the future,” said Ambassador Ma Jia.

Pauk-Phaw is a word that truly reflects the family friend-

ship between China and Myanmar, and civil organizations have played an indispensable role in the great cause of bilateral friendship. On the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversa-

ry of diplomatic relations, continuously using our advantages and promoting cultural exchanges as well as mutual learning, the ambassador hoped that the Pauk-Phaw concept could be deeply rooted in everyone’s hearts.

“Although bilateral diplomatic relations have been established for 75 years amidst challenges and requirements, the cultural, mutual respect and cooperation between the two countries have been growing at a rapid pace. In the future, may the friendship between the two countries continue to be strong as long as the world exists,” said U Tin Oo.

The ceremony featured performances by a Myanmar Zawgyi puppet show, Myanmar folk dance, and a China-Myanmar orchestra, and prizes were awarded to the winning works of the CITIC Star short story competition with displays. — MT/ZN



NATIONAL

Myanmar Sepak Takraw Team returns with double gold



Triumphant Myanmar Sepak Takraw Team welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and officials.

THE Myanmar Sepak Takraw team, which won two gold and two bronze medals at the China-ASEAN Sepak Takraw Invitational Tournament held in China from 1 to 4 June, returned to Yangon yesterday at around 1:30 pm. The team was led by U Sai Zaw Tun Lin, team leader, along with two administrators, two

coaches, and both the men's and women's teams. The team was welcomed back by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers, senior officials from the Department of Sports and Physical Education, officials from the Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation, members of

the Sports and Youth Affairs Supporting Committee and students from the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon). Following the reception, the Chief Minister and committee members presented cash awards to the victorious players in recognition of their success. Teams from Myanmar, Thailand, Vi-

etnam, Malaysia, Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines and China participated in the China-ASEAN Invitational Sepak Takraw Tournament. Myanmar's national men's team claimed gold medals in both the regu and quadrant events, while the women's team secured bronze medals in the same two events. — Arkar Linn/KZL

MNHRC inspects Pyapon Police Lock-up, Pyapon Prison

AN inspection team, led by Members of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission U Kyaw Soe and U Than Win, inspected the Pyapon Police Lock-up and the Pyapon Prison in Pyapon Township, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday under Sections 43 and 44 of the Commission Law. At the Pyapon Police Lock-up, the MNHRC team inspected the conditions of detainees during the remand period, any torture that occurred during the investigation and whether there were opportunities to meet with family members, as well as the provision of food and drinking



MNHRC Commissioners are pictured during their inspection tour in Pyapon Prison yesterday.

water, the handling of sewage, and the overall cleanliness of the facilities. They checked whether prisoners accessed their fundamental rights, including an appropriate food supply, access to healthcare, and the provision of sufficient purified water. Furthermore, the team enquired whether prisoners had received items issued by the prison and items sent by their families and whether they were permitted family visits. Additionally, the team evaluated the conditions of physical activities, the right to freedom of religion, access to education and vocational training,

and whether there were instances of human rights violations and torture by prison officials and fellow prisoners. MNHRC also donated knowledge books for the benefit of prisoners. Afterwards, the inspection team looked over various facilities within the prison, including dormitories, the prison clinic, the library, the kitchen, the food warehouse, water purifiers, and water sanitation systems of the Pyapon Prison. The inspection team will send its findings and recommendations to the relevant department for necessary actions under the MNHRC law. — MNHRC

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NATIONAL

MYANMAR people have preserved and passed down the traditional sport Chinlone, or artistic cane ball playing, from generation to generation. In order to keep this tradition alive without fading or disappearing, Chinlone playing demonstrations and competitions are being organized.

Chinlone has been played since ancient times as a form of traditional physical exercise, believed to have originated during the time of ancestors. In Myanmar, the discovery of a Chinlone ball made of silver at the shrine of the Bawbawgyi Pagoda in the ancient city of Sri Ksetra, a city established during the reign of King Duttabaung, shows that the practice of playing Chinlone already existed during that era.

During the reign of King Bagan, a sculptor from Ayutthaya presented a Chinlone carved from ivory to the King. The King was so impressed and pleased with it, and he ordered to craft a similar cane ball and the young men to play it. At that time, only the team style of chinlone, which is called ‘Waing chin’ (a circular group of players kicking the cane ball), was played, and it was believed to promote harmony and mutual understanding among players. Therefore, a motto emerged: ‘Apay Ayu Seik Kyi Pyu Chinmu Saga Hmya Saitta’.

Chinlone or Chin is played in two main styles: ‘Chinthatay’

Chinlone showdown: Preserving art of ‘Waing Chin’ (circular kick)



(unlive Chin) and ‘Chinshin’ (live Chin). The style known as Chinthatay is also referred to as ‘Nhyat Chin’ (squeezing Chin). In Hnyet Chin, players skilfully control the cane ball using various parts of the body and display their skills using anywhere from one to six Chinlone balls.

The Chinshin style refers to the group-based way of playing Chinlone, where four to five players form a circle and skilfully pass a single ball around without letting it touch the ground. In more recent times, this traditional style has evolved to include a variety of creative techniques such as striking the ball with the elbow, shoulder, or head. Players now perform graceful and culturally refined moves in harmony with the ball’s motion, incorporating actions such as rising, passing, lowering, controlling, blocking, reversing, receiving, exiting, supporting, striking, slicing, delivering, grounding, spinning and so on.

Today, traditional Chinlone techniques include not only basic moves such as

using the knee, toe, instep, sole, heel, ankle, and side of the foot but also techniques like using the shoulder, head, back, plain knee, double knee, circular knee and Maha knee, and Salwe (circling body), among others. The performance show of Chinlone is organized in pagoda festivals, school funfairs and sports competitions, and the region, district and township level players compete in 10 kinds of Chingyi (large), 10 kinds of Chinlat (medium) and 10 selected Chin.

The Department of Sports and Physical Education organizes this traditional Chinlone demonstration and competitions annually with several key objectives: to promote the widespread popularity of this graceful traditional sport among the younger generation, to gain international interest and recognition for Myanmar’s traditional Chinlone as a sport originating from Myanmar, to establish it proudly on the global stage, to encourage deep appreciation and value for this traditional Chinlone demonstration and to ensure the preservation of Myanmar’s traditional Chinlone techniques not to fade or disappear over time. — Zeyar Naing (Shwe Kan Myay)/KTZH

Luxury Acheik Taungshay reborn as affordable fashion

MYAT Taw Win (Royal Collection) has now worked on re-making the Myanmar traditional Acheik Taungshay Paso (sarong for males) available at an affordable price.

Traditionally, Taungshay Paso is expensive, but they have now tried to make it affordable for people who love to revive Myanmar traditions

and culture.

“For those who cherish Myanmar tradition and culture, we have now re-made Acheik-printed Taungshay Paso, not expensive but affordable and traditional style,” said the founder, Myat Thinkha Nge.

Recently, many young people in Myanmar have been interested in costumes from

the Yadanabon era, and they even ordered tailor-made ones. “They wear a set of Yinbon (covered-front) blouses (a modest Burmese traditional attire) and Taungshay Paso in the Yadanabon era, and some wear a set of the Yadanabon era Acheik Longyi and present-time Yinbon blouse,” he said on his Facebook. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS



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# NATIONAL

## Rescue and recovery efforts ramped up in earthquake-hit areas

RESCUE and recovery efforts are carried out intensively in areas affected by the strong Mandalay earthquake. Various organizations are cooperating with local communities to assist.

Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials inspected collapsed religious buildings in Sagaing yesterday, including Thatkyadhita nunnery, Shwe Kyataung Pagoda, Shwehintha Monastery, and Khema Thiwunchaung Monastery, and coordinated support for clearing debris before the monsoon.

They also attended a ceremony at Ywathoung Ward affiliated Basic Education Middle School, where the Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association had donated repaired school buildings and uniforms. Officials handed over certificates of honour, took group photos, and inspected the renovated school buildings.

Lt-Gen Thet Pon and team later visited sites allocated for rebuilding monasteries and nunneries in the southern part of Sagaing and inspected the ongoing work at Rajamanisular Pagoda, where



Lt-Gen Myo Thant Naing looks into the SAR equipment during his inspection tour in Kyaukse.

Tatmadaw members were repairing religious buildings. They also viewed the removal of furniture at Sagaing Technological University damaged by the quake and coordinated necessary support.

Likewise, Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials inspected damaged residential buildings in Mandalay's Aungmyaythazan

Township and surrounding wards. They reviewed both cleared and pending demolitions and coordinated with responsible personnel.

In Maha Aungmyay Township, they examined buildings awaiting demolition or already cleared in Mahamyine 1 and Seinpan wards.

Meanwhile, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief

(Army) visited the Sweltawmyat Pagoda in Amarapura's Nat Yay Kan village tract. He inspected the cleaning efforts and repairs of cracked structures around the pagoda and gardens and monitored ongoing foundation work, which certified engineers had verified. Officials are also documenting sacred relics such as diamond buds and bird-shaped ornaments. They then visited

the Maha Suddhara Rama monastic school in Tagon Taing ward, Pyigyidagun Township, to assess earthquake damage.

Lt-Gen Myo Thant Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials inspected rescue training activities at Minye Dam in Kyaukse, where fire brigade members and Kyaukse Rescue team were practising speed boat operations and water rescue drills for natural disaster response. The visit aimed to ensure practical preparedness, and the team provided refreshments and coordinated necessary support.

They also visited Shwekyina Monastery in Ywanaing Ward to observe earthquake damage repairs and donated religious items to the presiding monk. In Sintgaing, they checked earthquake impacts and recovery efforts at the Bawga Bala Plastics factory. The team further inspected the supply of construction materials at special prices to support the rebuilding of damaged religious buildings and homes in Kyaukse and facilitated coordination for ongoing needs.

— MNA/KZL

## Collapsed Kachin suspension bridge rebuilt after heavy rains

DUE to heavy rainfall in Kachin State, the Nagmon-Pannandin Maykha River crossing suspension bridge (for pedestrian use), measuring 340 feet in length and six feet in width, was swept away on 31 May as a result of a sudden rise in the water level of the Maykha River in Nagmon Township.

According to reports, officials promptly carried out the reconstruction of the Pannandin suspension bridge. The rebuilding work was completed on 4 June, and local residents are now able to use the bridge again.

In addition, Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan, together with relevant



Photos showcase Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan providing foodstuffs and financial aid to flood victims (left) and the rebuilt suspension bridge.

officials, inspected five trucks loaded with rice, cooking oil, salt, pulses, and other foodstuffs, which were prepared

for flood-affected residents of Pannandin and Htalathu village in Nagmon Township. Officials also provided financial

support to those responsible for the aid effort. The relief trucks departed from PutaO yesterday morning to deliver

supplies to the affected communities. — MNA/MKKS





NATIONAL

Golden Valley Warrior terrorist group members arrested

ON 22 May 2025, two armed terrorists (still investigating) shot U Cho Tun Aung, Ambassador (Rtd), while he was walking with his grandchild in front of his house in Ward 5 in Mayangon Township. After the shot, the retired ambassador died on the spot.

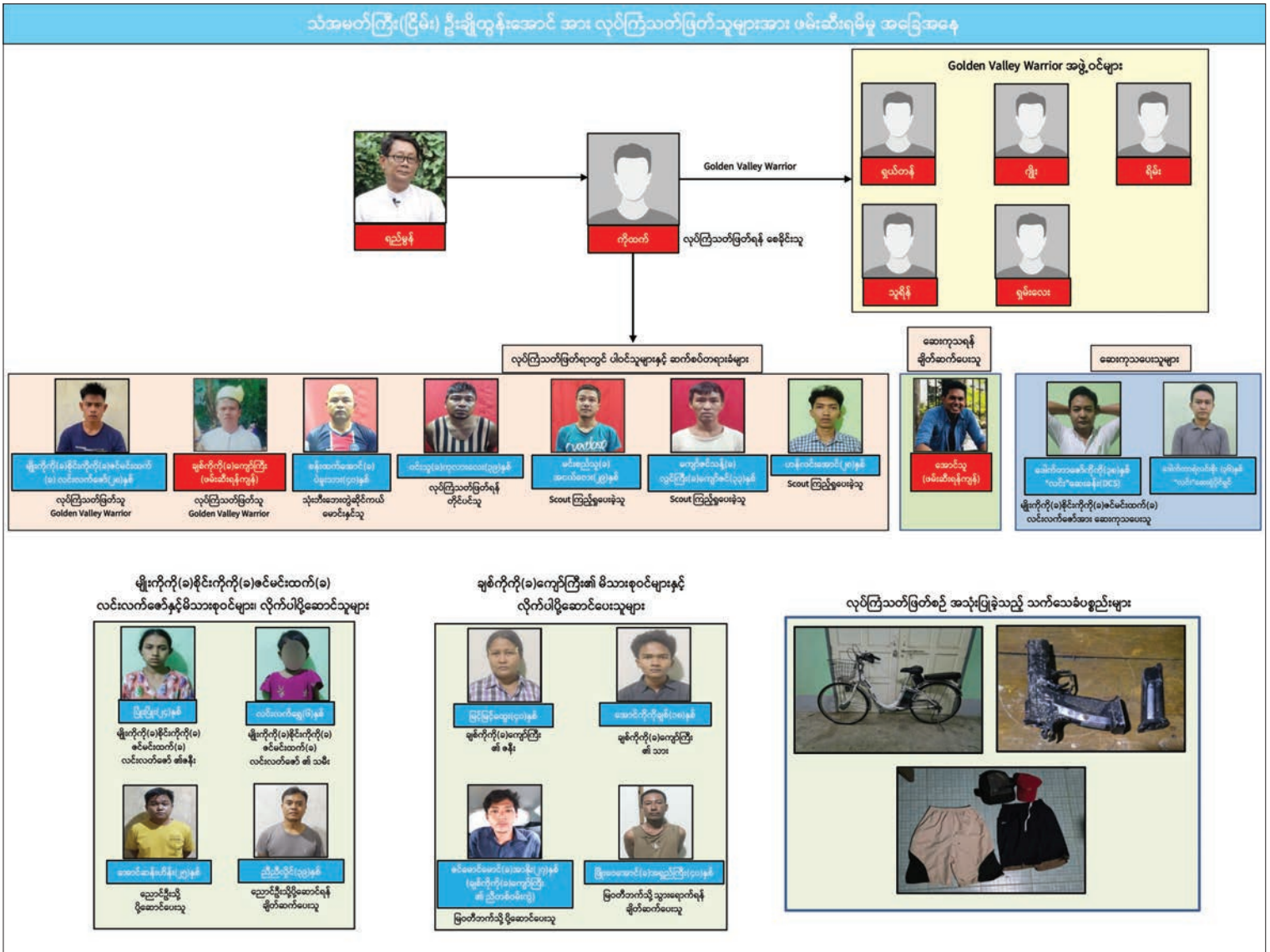
According to the investigation, security forces received information that the bicycle used by the offenders was carried on a three-wheeled vehicle. On 23 May, the authority arrested San Htet Aung (aka) Bago Thar, driver of a three-wheeled vehicle in North Okkalapa township, together with the bicycle. Moreover, another offender, Win Thu (aka) Kalar Lay served as a supporter of terrorist attacks in North Okkalapa Township.

On 25 May, offender Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw, who is accused of murdering U Cho Tun Aung, his wife Pyone Pyone, and daughter Lin Latt Shwe, were arrested in Nyaung-U township, and driver Aung San Hein and communicator Nyi Nyi Hlaing were also arrested in Mudon Township, Mon State.

According to offender Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw, the security forces received information that Chit Ko Ko (aka) Kyaw Gyi (still at large) arranged to run away to Myawady and they blocked the way. On 26 May, Myint Myint Htwe, wife of Chit Ko Ko (aka) Kyaw Gyi (still at large), Aung Ko Ko Chit, Zin Maung Maung (aka) Ar Noe, Phyo Wai Aung (aka) Ashay Gyi were arrested at the inspection camp at the entrance to Bago.

Other suspects, Min Sithu (aka) Ange Lay and Kyaw Zin Thant (aka) Lwin Gyi (aka) Kyaw Zin and Han Lin Aung were arrested in Kyimyindine Township on 29 May.

According to Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw, he had got a gunshot wound while shooting U Cho Tun Aung, and he secretly received medical treatment at “Linn” Clinic in Thakayta Township. On 26 May,



This diagram reveals the Golden Valley Warrior terrorist network, including arrested members and those still at large, and related evidence.

DCS Dr Zaw Ko Ko and Dr Ye Lin Soe, owner of Linn Clinic, were arrested.

A total of 16 offenders — 13 males and three females — were arrested together with evidence in this case.

According to the confession of the offenders, the Golden Valley Warrior terrorist group was formed with the support of Yee Mon (fugitive) from Thailand, and the group with eight members was led by Ko Htet (still at large).

On 15 May, Ko Htet (still at large) sent the Google Map and photo of U Cho Tun Aung via Telegram to them to kill. Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw, Min Sithu (aka) Ange Lay, Kyaw Zin Thant (aka) Lwin Gyi (aka) Kyaw Zin and Chit Ko Ko (aka) Kyaw Gyi (still at large) watched the environmental conditions near the house of U Cho Tun Aung six times. On 21 May, Ko Htet (still at large) sent two

pistols to Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw.

On 22 May, Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw and Chit Ko Ko (aka) Kyaw Gyi (still at large) left the Safe House rented by Ko Htet(still at large) in Shwepaukkan Myothit by bicycle. When they arrived in front of the house of U Cho Tun Aung, Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw shot to U Cho Tun Aung. Meanwhile, he also got a gunshot wound. They returned to Safe House by bicycle and San Htet Aung (aka) Bago Thar and Win Thu (aka) Kalar Lay hid their clothes.

According to Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw, he took medical treatment at Linn clinic with DCS Dr Zaw Ko Ko whom Aung Thu (still at large) made a connection for them. He was arrested in Old Bagan while he

and his family were moving to Pakokku township.

Fugitive Yee Mon from the NUG terrorist group instructed the Golden Valley Warriors to commit four murder cases.

- (a) On 24 March 2023, Chit Ko Ko (aka) Kyaw Gyi (still at large) watched the situation, and Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw shot a legal consultant from Thanlyin township.
- (b) On 16 August 2023, Han Lin Aung scouted the situation and Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw and Chit Ko Ko (aka) Kyaw Gyi (still at large) shot a security forces member in Shwepyitha township.
- (c) On 1 December 2023, Min Sithu (aka) Ange Lay and Kyaw Zin Thant (aka) Lwin Gyi

- (aka) Kyaw Zin scouted the situation and Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw shot New National Democracy Party Chairman U Than Tun from Thingangyun.
- (d) on 13 October 2024, Kyaw Zin That (aka) Lwin Gyi (aka) Kyaw Zin scouted the situation and Myo Ko Ko (aka) Sai Ko Ko (aka) Zin Min Htet (aka) Lin Latt Zaw shot member (2) of the township administrative body in Hlinethaya Township (West), and driver U Thant Zin got wounds.

According to the confession of the offenders, the Golden Valley Warrior terrorist group committed murder cases in Yangon, and the NUG transferred K200,000 per murderer case via NUG Pay. — MNA/KTZH



# Combat illegal trade to be stronger and legitimate trade

IF ILLEGAL trade expands significantly, it can harm legitimate trade and also cause losses and damage to small, micro, and medium-sized businesses within the country in general. However, in situations where there are armed terrorist attacks within the country and some regions lack peace and stability, illegal trade can further worsen armed conflicts, acting like a gust of wind that fuels the flames of violence and unrest.

Illegal trade causes harm to territorial peace and security, including supporting criminal activities and terrorist groups financially. Relevant ministries, regions, and state governments must take decisive actions to thoroughly eradicate illegal trade. Our country shares borders with five neighbouring countries, and due to

During the past April, the estimated value of seized goods reached approximately K15,928.854 million. Of this, 20 per cent, amounting to K2,118.570 million, was awarded as a reward to the informants. Everyone must participate in combatting illegal trade, which not only causes multi-faceted losses to the nation but also undermines domestic peace, stability, and security.

its geographical location and border security conditions, it is difficult to completely prevent illegal trade. However, drug trafficking and arms smuggling also occur along these illegal trade routes, so effective inspection, detection, arrest, and prevention are necessary. According to the values of seizures of illegal trade by year, in 2022, the value amounted to K65 billion; over K135 billion in 2023; and K223 billion in 2024, showing an increasing trend in seizures year by year. However, it is understood that, based on the differences in exports and imports from neighbouring countries, much larger amounts still need to be seized.

Myanmar ranked 117th out of 158 countries in the 2025 Illicit Trade Index published by the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT). In comparison, in the 2018 Global Illicit Trade Environment Index, Myanmar ranked 81st out of 84 countries. Among the 10 ASEAN member countries, Myanmar is ranked only 9th in terms of combating illicit trade. It is necessary to continue strengthening efforts to combat illicit trade with greater momentum. Hence, combating illegal trade, which harms national economic development, security, and peace, as well as national dignity, must be successfully undertaken as a national responsibility.

In combatting illegal trade, gathering intelligence is crucial. The relevant authorities have to gather accurate and reliable information in a timely manner. Citizens who provide information and lead to arrests are rewarded by the state with benefits such as financial support and honours, depending on the significance of the case.

During the past April, the estimated value of seized goods reached approximately K15,928.854 million. Of this, 20 per cent, amounting to K2,118.570 million, was awarded as a reward to the informants. Everyone must participate in combatting illegal trade, which not only causes multi-faceted losses to the nation but also undermines domestic peace, stability, and security.

ON 2 April 2025, the US introduced so-called reciprocal tariffs, imposing disproportionate rates on all global trading partners, including China. Despite the impact of the 28 March Mandalay earthquake, the US imposed a steep tariff of 44 per cent on Myanmar, affecting textiles, clothing, agriculture, timber, minerals, and many other sectors. This action seriously violates international trade rules, undermines the multilateral trading system, and destabilizes the global economic order. Amid widespread international opposition, the US has since announced delays in implementing tariffs for certain trading partners and exemptions for specific products. On 8 May, the United Kingdom agreed with the US to withdraw tariffs in particular sectors. On 12 May, China and the US issued the Joint Statement on the China-US Economic and Trade Meeting in Geneva, substantially reducing bilateral tariff levels. What does this tariff war launched by the US against the world really mean? I would like to share my perspective.

## I. What Are Reciprocal Tariffs?

The US has repeatedly claimed that implementing reciprocal tariffs aims to reduce trade deficits, increase fiscal revenue, protect American industries, and achieve “manufacturing reshoring”. While this appears fair and reasonable, it actually defies economic principles and common sense in business trade, representing typical economic and trade bullying. Under the banner of pursuing “reciprocity” and “fairness”, the US is essentially following an “America First” policy and seeking “American exceptionalism”, adopting an attitude of selective application to overturn the post-war trade order and rules system that it helped establish.

The core premise of reciprocal tariffs is based on viewing trade deficits as “foreign countries taking advantage of America”, propagating the “America is losing” theory, which is completely inconsistent with facts. First, America is not at a disadvantage; on the contrary, it is the primary beneficiary of the current international trade system. In 2024, among the Global 500 companies, 136 American enterprises made the list, ranking first in number. Second, the US trade deficit results from combined market forces, influenced by economic structure, the international division of labour, the dollar’s currency status, and various other factors. Moreover, the essence of trade is mutual benefit; a trade deficit does not equal a trade disadvantage. Third, the

US consistently maintains a surplus in services trade, with a surplus of approximately US\$300 billion in 2024. The US only discusses goods trade deficits while never mentioning trade surpluses in services, obviously presenting a one-sided perspective.

Reciprocal tariffs harm the global economic recovery and backfire on the US. Shortly after implementation, the tariffs triggered severe global market turbulence, with major stock indices plummeting and the dollar and US Treasury indices weakening continuously. On 30 April, the US Department of Commerce announced that in the first quarter of 2025, the US GDP contracted by 0.3 per cent quarter-on-quarter, marking the worst quarterly performance for the US economy since 2022. The Budget Lab at Yale predicts that these tariffs will cost the average US household over \$4,000 annually and impose more than \$400 billion in additional costs on American businesses annually. The International Monetary Fund stated that US tariff measures represent a critical negative shock to the global economy, revising the 2025 world economic growth forecast from January’s 3.3 per cent to April’s 2.8 per cent. The World Trade Organization’s latest report shows that US tariff policies have caused a dramatic deterioration in global trade prospects, with global merchandise trade volume expected to contract by 0.2 per cent in 2025.

The US government’s unilateral actions have sparked enormous domestic opposition. Protesters have taken to the streets in many areas, and 13 states, including California and Oregon, have sued the federal government. Top US economists and former government advisors have initiated an Anti-Tariff Declaration, garnering signatures from over 1,000 prominent individuals. Former US Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers directly criticized the actions of the US gov-

# Standing on the Right Side of History and Justice

(Ouyang Daobing, Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar)

ernment as the biggest self-inflicted wound to the American economy in US history.

## II. Why China Had to Implement Countermeasures

In response to the US raising reciprocal tariffs on China to 34 per cent, 84 per cent, and 125 per cent in three successive rounds since April, China has implemented firm and justified countermeasures, imposing equivalent percentage tariffs on US goods three times, while taking multiple additional measures, including filing cases under the WTO dispute settlement mechanism and implementing export controls on medium and heavy rare earth-related items.

As the world’s largest developing country and a dignified, responsible major power, China’s countermeasures aim not only to protect its legitimate rights but also to safeguard the common interests of the international community, including the vast number of developing countries, and to defend international fairness and justice. China has always believed that upholding the authority of the United Nations, firmly maintaining the international system with the UN at its core, the international order based on international law, and the basic norms of international relations founded on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter are the prerequisites and guarantees for maintaining world peace and promoting common development.

Since the US initiated the trade war against China in 2018, the Chinese economy has increasingly demonstrated resilience, continuously striving under pressure. China remains the world’s largest trading nation in goods, serving as the main trading partner for over 150 countries and regions, having signed 22 free trade agreements with 30 countries and regions, and contributing

30 per cent to global economic growth. China remains a fertile ground for investment and business and a trustworthy trading partner. We will continue to focus on managing our own affairs, undisturbed by external interference, undaunted by threats or extortion, and uninterrupted in our pace, providing the world with greater certainty, future prospects, and opportunities through concrete actions.

## III. Where Does the Direction of World Development and Progress Lie?

Since World War II, economic globalization has optimized the allocation of production factors such as capital, information, technology, labour, and management worldwide, forming an interdependent and closely connected global economic pattern. The latest report from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development shows that international trade reached \$33 trillion in 2024, setting a new historical record. This fully demonstrates that economic globalization is not artificially created and will not be reversed by the will of certain countries. Regardless of which country promotes “country-first” policies, these are unilateral actions serving hegemonic interests at the expense of the legitimate interests of countries worldwide, running counter to the historical tide of economic globalization and continuing to face collective opposition from the international community.

Currently, the world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a century, facing deficits in peace, development, security, and governance. In addressing these deficit crises, it is crucial for us to clearly identify those responsible for causing destruction and those who are actively contributing. What the world needs is openness, not barriers; justice, not hegemony; unity, not

confrontation. Countries, regardless of size, strength, or wealth, should all be equal members of the international community. All nations should integrate their own development with world development and combine the interests of their own people with the common interests of all peoples, jointly advocating for an equal and orderly multi-polar world and inclusive economic globalization, while collectively opposing self-centred hegemonism and jungle law where the strong prey on the weak. Only then can we advance global governance and economic order in a more just and reasonable direction.

UN Secretary-General Ant ónio Guterres stated, “The impacts of trade wars are extremely negative; no one can win, and everyone will lose.” At a critical moment, the China-US Geneva trade talks achieved substantial progress, with the US eliminating 91 per cent of additional tariffs and China correspondingly removing 91 per cent of countermeasures; the US suspended 24 per cent of reciprocal tariffs, and China similarly suspended 24 per cent of countermeasures. After the joint statement was released, global markets generally rallied, with many stock markets rebounding to pre-reciprocal tariff levels. This again demonstrates that closing one’s own doors will not make oneself stronger; blocking others’ paths will not help oneself go further; and waging tariffs and trade wars does not win hearts and minds.

The China-US Economic and Trade Meeting in Geneva represents an important step towards resolving differences through equal dialogue and consultation. However, fundamentally solving the problem requires the United States to completely correct its erroneous practice of unilateral tariff increases and calls for just support from the international community. We firmly believe that people worldwide will choose to stand on the right side of history and justice. This year marks the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Myanmar. China will continue to uphold the principles of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit, inclusiveness and a shared future for humanity in its neighbourhood diplomacy, sharing weal and woe with Myanmar and helping each other. Together, we will defend the multilateral trading system, resist unilateralism and trade bullying, and join hands to create a beautiful future of peace, cooperation, openness, and inclusiveness.

(The opinions, beliefs, or perspectives presented in the article are solely those of the author).

# The Oath

By ex-seafarer Maung Thar Nyan  
Commercial Marine R/O

IN THE Oxford English Dictionary, the oath is a solemn promise to do something or that

something is true. It results in quite a reliable one.

Once our ship, MV Lilly Venture, a general cargo vessel, 22,000 tonnes, owned by an actress from

Hong Kong, chartered by Mitsui OSK Lines, Yokohama, Japan, made regular runs from Japan to the USA. I signed a one-year contract aboard as the Commercial Marine Radio Officer.

During the voyage, we sailed from Yokohama, Japan, to the US via Australian ports:



“In the face of danger, a solemn promise to the deity-God of the Sea brings unexpected relief and safety.”  
ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

Adelaide, Bunbury, and Fremantle. Parth was the last port in Australia. Then, we crossed the Indian Ocean, entered the Red Sea Canal, sailed along the Mediterranean Sea, and did loading and unloading at a few ports on the left and right sides of Spain. We estimated the WX F/C (Weather Forecast) of the Spain Gulf and along the Atlantic Ocean was unfavourable. So, I checked the Anted and Aerial-Strand to be strong enough to withstand bad weather in rough seas. We confronted and proceeded sailing under the guidance of the Great Circle and taking careful watch throughout our voyage in the Atlantic Ocean.

Soon after we passed the Spanish Gulf and entered the mouth of the Atlantic and Spain, the condition of the sea became worse, and the ship rolled side by side, swaying badly. Later on, it changed direction, and the ship was pitching fore and aft. The front high sea wave passed over the vessel, covering the whole body from the fore-peak to the stern.

The worst situation of our ship was that we were steaming just in the centre of the low-pressure area. It was possible to have the storm on our ship sooner or later, depending on the high-pressure wind over Spain and the oth-

er developed high-pressure system found to be over the Mexico Gulf in the Southwestern Atlantic Ocean.

Naturally, the flow of storm wind shall be blown from a high-pressure area to a low-pressure area. Therefore, I did not doubt that our ship would have sunk if the storm wind from both pressure areas came in as we were in the low-pressure area at that mean while unfortunately.

In the meantime, I decided my mind to overcome this acute moment by swearing an oath just to be free from this threatening danger.

SEE PAGE 11



# NATIONAL

## Elite urban rescue teams formed for national and global emergencies

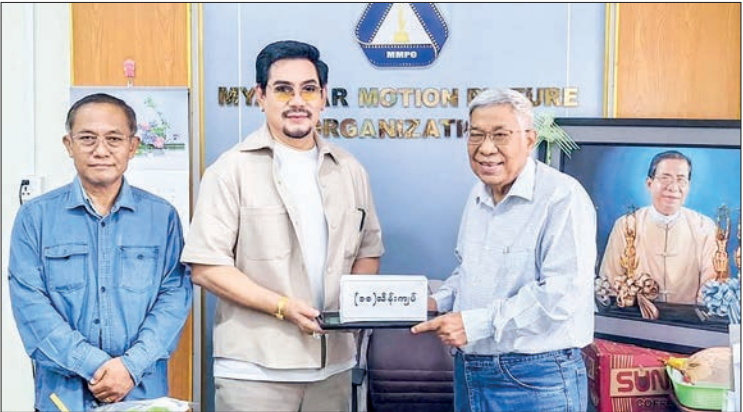


This photo depicts a Medium Urban Search and Rescue Team during training drills.

ACCORDING to the Fire Services Department, two Medium Urban Search and Rescue Teams (MUSRT), consisting of specially trained personnel, have been established and will carry out search and rescue operations. Each MUSRT team comprises 42 specially trained members. These team members will be responsible for locating people who are trapped, buried, or missing in disaster-

affected areas, using both trained search dogs and technological equipment. Medical units within each team will also be equipped to provide necessary medical care to team members during operations. “The MUSRT teams are formed to systematically conduct search and rescue operations on land and water within the country, and to enable Myanmar to participate in inter-

national humanitarian rescue missions,” said U Thein Htun Oo, Director of the Fire Services Department. Initially, MUSRT teams will be established at the Myanmar Fire Brigade Headquarters in Yangon and in Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory. Plans are also underway to expand the formation of MUSRT teams to major cities in other states and regions. — ASH/KNN



Academy Yan Aung donates K1 million to Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization Chairman U Kyi Soe Tun for the school uniform and stationery support programme.

## Academy actor donates K1M for film community children’s education

ACADEMY Yan Aung has donated K1 million to the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO) to support school uniforms and stationery for the children of film community members. The donation was made on 3 June, according to MMPO Vice-Chairman U Aye Kyu Lay. The programme aims to assist children of film professionals who are members of the organization. Eligible parents are invited to apply during June by submitting copies of their membership card, household list and recommendation letters from the relevant basic education schools. U Aye Kyu Lay stated, “This

initiative has been a tradition of ours for many years. As in previous years, we are planning to support the school-going children of film industry members with contributions from both the organization and donors. The support will include full sets of school uniforms, exercise books, pencils, pens and other stationery items. So far, we have received generous donations from members of the film industry, including Academy Yan Aung”. He added that the assistance will be arranged to reach all those in need, and all eligible members of the film community are welcome to apply. — ASH/KZL

## Filming begins for drama series ‘How Should I Tell Ma Jo?’

THE opening ceremony for the filming of the drama series ‘How Should I Tell Ma Jo?’ was held on 3 June at the Maha Wizaya Pagoda in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, according to Win Htun Htun, who will be responsible for directing the series for Shwe Nadi Shwe Yi Film Production. The drama series is adapted from the well-known and acclaimed novel ‘How Should I Tell Ma Jo?’ by Khin Hlaing Kyu, with the screenplay written by Shwe Pyae. “This is my very first drama series. The title, ‘How Should I Tell Ma Jo?’, is taken directly from the name of Khin Hlaing Kyu’s novel. I loved this story since my bachelor’s. Back then, I even imagined directing it one day. As I’ve previously directed films, turning

it into a movie wouldn’t be much of a challenge for me. That’s why I decided to produce it as a drama series instead,” said Director Win Htun Htun. How Should I Tell Ma Jo? was originally published as a magazine novel in the November 1982 issue of the Ngwe Tar Yi magazine. The story is based on true events and centres on a love triangle involving a cultured and kind-hearted young man, a cheerful, free-spirited youth, and a young woman caught between the two. The 16-episode drama series will feature many actors and actresses, including Nyi Htut Khaung, Htoo Aung, Hmue Hteik Htar, and Thazin Nwe Win. Filming is scheduled to begin in early June. — ASH/MKKS

## Maxride launches three-wheeler service in Thanlyin



This image showcases three-wheelers that can be booked via the Maxride app. MAXRIDE, a pioneering ride-hailing application, offers comfortable and affordable transportation services for residents in Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region, with a fleet of 98 three-wheelers, said U Nang Oo Wai, a representative of

Maxride Application. “Residents can enjoy safe, comfortable and convenient three-wheeler rides by booking through the Maxride Application. The app ensures the safety of the passengers by providing the personal information of the drivers through the app. Passengers can also retrieve lost items by contacting the driver through the app. Maxride redefined tricycle travel by making it safe, comfortable and accessible through a hailing app and promoting the socio-development of the township”, he elaborated. The Maxride will extend its service to 13 more townships in Yangon Region beyond Thanlyin. — ASH/KK



ARTICLE/NATIONAL  
BUSINESS

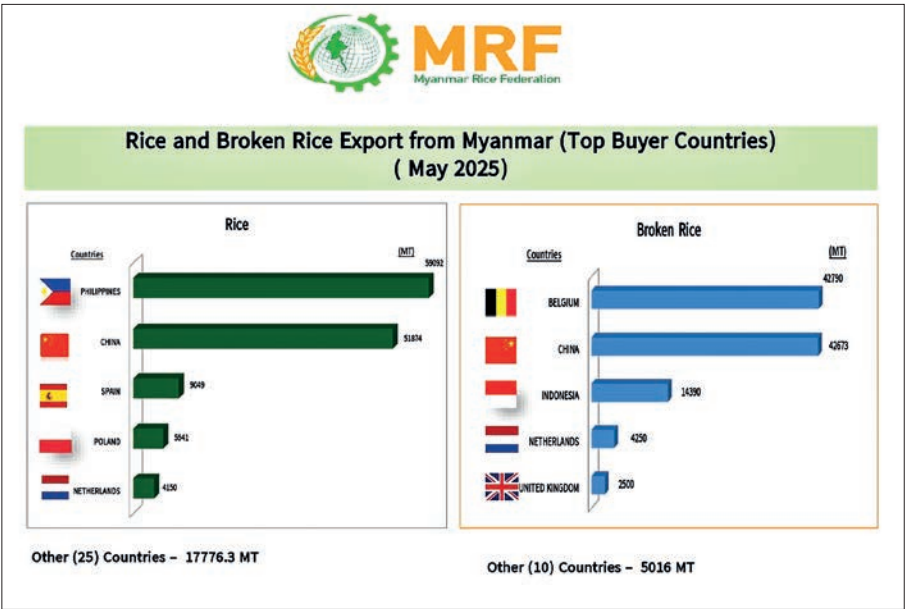
Myanmar ships over 400,000 tonnes of rice in 2 months

MYANMAR conveyed over 400,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice to foreign trade partners in the past two months of the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, comprising over 217,070 tonnes of rice and 185,213 tonnes of broken rice, Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF)’s trade chart showed.

Myanmar sent over 402,000 tonnes of rice and broken rice to international markets by sea, while 280 tonnes were exported to neighbouring countries via land borders.

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

Ministry of Commerce is working together with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Rice Federa-



tion, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, Myanmar Industries Association, Myanmar Rubber Planters

and Producers Association, Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association to meet monthly export targets and facilitate exports. — NN/KK

CBM to sell US\$30M to fuel oil importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 4 June that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil importers.

CBM injected over 600,000 yuan and 2.6 million baht on 3 June, 579,900 yuan and 4.7 million baht on 2 June, over 610,000 yuan and 2.4 million baht on 30 May after sales of 4.3 million baht on 28 May into the financial market.

CBM announced on 27 May that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil importers.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

Customs duty cut for SKD and CKD fuel vehicle imports

IMPORTS of fuel vehicles that are to be domestically assembled under the semi-knockdown system and entirely built-up (completely knockdown) system are eligible for relief of the Customs tariff, according to Notification 39/2025 of the Ministry of Planning and Finance released on 4 June.

In the exercise of the power entrusted by Subsection (D) of Section 3 of the Customs Law, the ministry released that notification to support economic recovery and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

According to the Myanmar Customs Tariff 2022, the previous Customs duty for personal vehicles under 2000 CC was set at 30 per cent for completely built-up vehicles, 7.5 per cent for SKD vehicles and five per cent for CKD vehicles. The reduced amounts are zero tariff for CBU, five per cent for SKD vehicles and three per cent for CKD. For personal cars above 2001 CC, tariffs

were cut to zero tariff for CBU, five per cent for SKD and three per cent for CKD from 40 per cent for CBU, 7.5 per cent for SKD and five per cent for CKD. The tariffs for personal three-wheelers were reduced to exemption for CBU, three per cent for SKD and 1.5 per cent for CKD from 20 per cent for CBU, 7.5 per cent for SKD and five per cent for CKD.

Moreover, auto parts for trucks, body and building, commercial three-wheelers, and buses were set at 10 per cent for CBU, 7.5 per cent for SKD and five per cent for CKD. They are now at zero per cent for CBU, and three per cent for SKD and CKD, respectively. The tariff for motorcycles was also reduced to 1.5 per cent for SKD and CKD compared

to the previous duties of five per cent for CBU and three per cent for SKD and CKD.

This notification is effective from 1 June 2025 to 31 May 2026, the Ministry of Planning and Finance stated. — NN/KK



The Oath

FROM PAGE 9

It was the only way I could do or strive to help all the crew aboard, including myself. So, after thinking like that, I sat down on my feet in a sitting position, raised my two palms, putting them together and touching my forehead, and paid respect to the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha, witnessing the deity-God of the Sea, guardian and king of the deity-God.

“Now, I say the truth that I had already supported my parents and the whole family

for over ten years kindly with all my heart. It is true indeed. If this oath is true, may our ship, including the crew and myself, get rid of this threatening danger of the storm, Reverend Sirs.”

Then, so saying, I bowed down and paid respect heartily. After a few minutes, the ship shook and trembled for a moment as if it had gone aground on the sandbank of the seabed. At that excitable moment, the Captain and Chief Officer came down to my office and asked for a copy of the fax-wax chart (fax-mail weather report). I handed it over to them for the check, and they did so and said, “Ok, sparkie! We

are very lucky. The coming storm is now already diverted. No worry now. You’d better go to bed. Good night. Sparkie.” I said, “Okay, sir. Goodnight.” The two went back to their cabins happily.

It is very wonderful. Believe it or not, saying ‘oath’ for an aim can be gainful. It was a practical incident where I faced the trouble of high seas. Then suddenly our ship entered the nearest seaport called Portland in the northeastern American continent for a necessary survey and repairs. The foul weather conditions were favourable only after we had entered the seaport the next morning. According to the

surveyor’s remarks, our ship was so lucky to have shelter in this port; otherwise, we might have been delayed for a day, and the ship would have sunk. We found about a 150-foot crack from the ship’s bow to the rear at the bottom. We found some seawater leaking into the water tanks.

“Now the ship needs to go onto the dock and necessary repairs for a few days. Well, how helpful the ‘oath’ is. We had a heaven-sent opportunity, and God or the Lord blessed us to save our lives.

I pray that all the seafaring crew be ever saved or rescued from harm or danger at sea in future.



ECONOMY  
WORLD

# Laos targets 5% annual economic growth for 2026-2030



Tourism has played a key role in economic recovery. Tourists take photos in front of the Patuxay monument in Vientiane, Laos, 1 May 2024. **PHOTO: KAIKEO SAIYASANE/XINHUA/FILE**

*Recent economic indicators suggest recovery, with inflation dropping to 8.3 per cent in May 2025, the first single-digit rate since May 2022.*

THE Lao government has set a target of achieving an annual economic growth of at least five per cent from 2026 to 2030, as the economy shows signs of recovery despite ongoing challenges and global economic fluctuations.

This target is outlined in the draft 10th five-year national socioeconomic development plan for 2026-2030, reflecting the Lao government's confidence in the nation's economic recovery, Lao News Agency reported on Thursday.

After years of economic

hardship caused by domestic challenges, the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and global conflicts, Laos has seen several economic indicators pointing to recovery.

In May 2025, inflation dropped to 8.3 per cent, marking the first single-digit rate since May 2022. Additionally, improved revenues, growth in agriculture, processing, and mining, along with a rebound in tourism and rising exports and services, are all positive signs of further economic recovery.

— Xinhua

## EU antiques import clampdown could gut trade, warn dealers

NEW European rules designed to crack down on the trafficking of stolen antiques and art are causing alarm among gallery owners, with some dealers warning of suffocating red tape that will affect trade.

The sector is bracing for the implementation of Regulation 2019/880 on 28 June which will introduce strict new requirements for imports into the European Union from non-EU

countries.

Dealers wishing to import goods such as archaeological treasures will have to provide documentation and proof that they have been exported from their country of origin legally.

Other items including artworks, coins or books that are worth more than 18,000 euros (\$20,500) and are more than 200 years old will also be subject to the restrictions.

“We’ll end up buying nothing outside the European Union,” warned Antonia Eberwein, vice-president of the National Union of Antiques Dealers (SNA) in France.

She warned that the markets for archaeological items, as well as pre-Columbian, Chinese or Indian art “risk being depleted, without putting an end to illicit trafficking, which by nature is invisible and undeclared”.

Pierre Valentin, an art and heritage specialist at London-based law firm Fieldfisher, believes the aim of the regulation is “laudable” but that implementing it could lead to an “evidential nightmare for collectors”.

In some cases, goods will have left their country of origin centuries ago before changing hands several times among collectors, with today’s owners left needing to prove their property was exported legally. — AFP



Major auction houses such as Drouot in Paris fear the consequences. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Brunei seasoning market attracts Indian FDI

INDIA is strengthening cooperation with Brunei in the food seasoning market, according to a local media report.

Atoll Agro & Cold Storage Sdn Bhd, a foreign direct investment (FDI) initiative led by an Indian entrepreneur, aims to reduce Brunei's reliance on imports and contribute to regional exports, news website Biz Brunei reported on Tuesday.

The project has reached a production capacity of two tonnes per day, and further investment and market expansion in Brunei will be pursued in the future, the report said.

Rajendrasinh A. Jadav, technical director of Atoll Group, said food security has become very important for all countries, and Brunei also wants to ensure self-sufficiency within the country to meet the population's needs. — Xinhua

## British economy shows slight improvement amid lingering challenges

THE British economy is showing signs of slight improvement with recent data pointing to moderate growth, but lingering challenges such as domestic policy shocks and trade uncertainties continue to cloud the outlook.

Data released by S&P Global on Monday showed that the United Kingdom's (UK) Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose from 45.4 in April to 46.4 in May. Although the sector remains in contraction, the index has improved compared to April, reaching a nearly three-month high.

Rob Dobson, director at S&P Global Market Intelligence, pointed out that the May PMI data shows the UK manufacturing sector continues to face significant challenges, including market volatility, trade uncertainty, weak customer confidence and rising input costs driven by increased taxes and wages. However, there are also signs of recovery. — Xinhua



# Govt to revoke Japan Post licence for lax driver alcohol tests



If Japan Post loses its general cargo vehicle licence, it would be barred from reapplying for a new one for five years. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE government on Thursday notified Japan Post Co of its plan to revoke the company's licence to operate some 2,500 of its freight delivery vans and trucks after many post offices failed to properly check if drivers had consumed alcohol.

Licence revocation is the most serious administrative penalty available to authorities under the motor truck transport business law.

It is rare for a major operator to face such a severe punishment and it means Japan Post will not be able to reacquire the licence for five years. The notification came after the Tokyo-based operator said in April that 75 per cent

of its 3,188 post offices nationwide had failed to properly conduct mandatory roll calls to check whether delivery drivers had alcohol in their system.

A special audit conducted by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism found many post offices subject to the probe were found to have falsified roll call records, according to sources familiar with the matter.

The ministry's Kanto District Transport Bureau will hear opinions regarding the penalty from Japan Post on 18 June. "It is a serious incident concerning the future existence (of our service). — Kyodo

# India's Kerala imposes annual 52-day trawling ban starting 9 June

KERALA Government has issued a notification imposing a 52-day trawling ban along the state's coastal waters. The ban will be in effect from midnight 9 June to midnight 31 July 2025, as part of marine conservation and fishery resource management measures.

The decision was made during today's cabinet meeting. Mechanized fishing is prohibited during this period; however, traditional fishing, using inboard boats, will be allowed.

The authorities also decided that the Coastal Police and district Collectors must make sure all out-of-state boats depart Kerala's coast before the trawling ban begins.

According to the Fisheries Department, inboard boats must be equipped with all necessary safety gear.

To safeguard fish populations and avoid overfishing during their critical breeding season, the ban is implemented.

The ban on trawling seeks to conserve marine ecosystems and fish stocks by stopping bottom trawling, a harmful method that harms the ocean floor and captures young fish. — ANI

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Changing Trade Name For Registered Pesticide

The pesticide manufactured by Anhui Byter Agriculture Technology Co.,Ltd and distributed by Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd is changing trade Name as follow,

No	Previous Name	New Name	Registration No
1	Chlorfensu (Chlorfenapyr 10% SC)	Byter Chlorfen (Chlorfenapyr 10% SC)	P2020-4869

Any Objection regarding to this changing can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd.  
No.125-127, Kha 11<sup>st</sup>, Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.

DECLARING OBJECTION TO CHANGE OF TRADE NAME

The distributor of the following four agricultural chemicals regstered by Hangzhou Xinlong Industrial Co.,Ltd has been changed from A.T Phone Myint Kyaw Co.,Ltd to Anawrahta Production Co.,Ltd in Myanmar Market.

If you would like to object to the change in trade name for the following four modified drugs,you can come to the Myanmar Pesticides Registration Board within two weeks.

No	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration No
1.	Poung Nagar	K-4 Pyrazo	Pyrazosulfuron-ethyl 10 % WP	Provisional	P2024-6332
2.	Quiza Nagar	K-4 Quiza Plus	Quizalofop-P-ethyl 10.8 % EW	Provisional	P2024-6334
3.	Fenorzar Nagar	K-4 Fenoxa	Fenoxaprop-P-ethyl 69 g/ l EW	Provisional	P2024-6322
4.	Poe Nagar	K-4 Chlorfen	Chlorfenapyr 240 g/l SC	Provisional	P2024-6270

Anawrahta Production Co.,Ltd

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0QM40E1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0QM40E1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

Changing Manufacturer Name for Registered Pesticides

Manufacturer Name of following Pesticides, registered by Corteva Agriscience (Myanmar) Co., Ltd at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, is changing to respective manufacturer name as below. Any objection to this name change can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, West Gyogone, Insein, Yangon within 14 days.

Sr.	Products	Manufacturer Name (Old)	Manufacturer Name (New)	Active Ingredient	Registration Type/Number
1	Ricer™ 60 OD	PT.Dow AgroSciences Indonesia	PT.Corteva Agriscience Manufacturing Indonesia	Cyhalofop-butyl 5.13% + Penoxsulam 1.03% w/w OD	Provisional P2022-5666
2	Curzate M® 8	Corteva Agriscience Taiwan Co., Ltd	Corteva Agriscience India Private Ltd	Cymoxanil 80g/kg + Mancozeb 640g/kg WP	Full F2022-3340

Corteva Agriscience (Myanmar) Co., Ltd



ROLLING UPDATES  
WORLD

Germany’s Merz heads for delicate talks with Trump

Merz’s spokesman highlighted Germany’s position as the third-largest economy in the world, emphasizing the potential for strong economic partnership with the US.



Friedrich Merz, left, wants to maintain good ties with what he has called Germany’s ‘indispensable’ ally, despite Donald Trump’s disruptive ‘America First’ policies. PHOTO: POOL/AFP/FILE

GERMAN Chancellor Friedrich Merz is set to meet US President Donald Trump on Thursday.

A month into his job, the conservative Merz, 69, is a staunch transatlanticist at pains to maintain good ties with what he considers post-war Germany’s “indispensable” ally, despite Trump’s unyielding “America First” stance.

Merz will hope that his pledges to sharply increase Germany’s NATO defence

spending will please Trump.

On Trump’s threat to hammer the European Union with sharply higher tariffs, Merz, leader of the bloc’s biggest economy, has argued that it must be self-confident in its negotiations with Washington, saying that “we’re not supplicants”.

Despite the tensions, Merz said he was “looking forward” to his first face-to-face meeting with Trump.

“Our alliance with America was, is, and remains of par-

amount importance for the security, freedom, and prosperity of Europe,” he posted on X late Wednesday.

Merz is looking ahead to his first in-person meeting with Trump “with great calmness and joy”, his spokesman Stefan Kornelius said, pointing to their “very good relationship” so far.

“Germany is the third-largest economy in the world, and we have a lot to offer as an economic partner of the USA,” Kornelius said. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Railway track in Russia’s Voronezh Region damaged as a result of an explosion

A railway track in the Voronezh Region of Russia was damaged as a result of the detonation of an explosive device immediately before the train passed, Russia’s Federal Security Service (FSB) said on Thursday.

“The Federal Security Service of Russia says that this morning, as a result of the detonation of an explosive device immediately before the passage of a train, a railway track in the Voronezh Region was damaged,” the FSB said in a statement.

As a result of the professional actions of the driver and the train crew, who noticed the destruction of the track and applied emergency braking, damage to the train was prevented, which helped to avoid human casualties, the statement read. — SPUTNIK

New Zealand parliament gives record bans to Maori MPs over haka

NEW ZEALAND’S parliament on Thursday handed record-long suspensions to three Indigenous Maori lawmakers who last year staged a protest haka on the debating floor.

Maori Party co-leaders Rawiri Waititi and Debbie Ngarewa-Packer were banished from parliament for 21 days, the longest-ever suspension. Fellow Maori Party lawmaker Hana-Rawhiti Maipi-Clarke, New Zealand’s youngest current MP, was suspended for seven days.

The bans stem from a haka performed during voting in November on the contentious Treaty Principles Bill, which sought to redefine the principles of a key pact between Maori and the government. — AFP

Afghanistan frees over 1,500 inmates, reduces sentences for 950 ahead of Eid al-Adha

IN a gesture of clemency and goodwill on the eve of the Eid al-Adha festival, Afghanistan has released a total of 1,559 inmates and reduced the sentences of 950 others, the country’s Supreme Court announced on Wednesday.

According to the Supreme Court, the order was issued by Chief Justice and Head of the Supreme Court Sheikh Abdul Hakim Haqqani as part of a nationwide initiative to mark the occasion of Eid al-Adha with acts of compassion and forgiveness. The prisoners were pardoned and released from facilities across the provinces of Kabul, Nangarhar, Laghman, Panjshir, Parwan, Paktia, Khost, and Nimroz, it said. — Xinhua

Bengaluru offer cash help after deadly India cricket stampede

ROYAL Challengers Bengaluru said Thursday they stood “united” with fans as the Indian Premier League champions announced financial aid to families of those crushed to death during their title celebrations.

Hundreds of thousands had packed the streets in the southern Indian city of Bengaluru on Wednesday to welcome home their hero Virat Kohli and his RCB team-mates after they beat

Punjab Kings in a thrilling IPL final.

But the euphoria of the vast crowds ended in disaster when 11 fans died in a stampede near the city’s M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, where the players were parading the trophy.

Most of the dead were young fans aged between 14 and 29 who had gone out just to catch a glimpse of their heroes.

Dozens of abandoned shoes

and flip-flops littered the site in the aftermath.

RCB offered financial aid of \$11,655 to each family of those killed.

Indian media have widely reported the team earned \$2.3 million in prize money alone for taking the title on Wednesday.

“Our fans will always remain at the heart of everything that we do,” RCB said. “We remain united in grief.” — AFP



Abandoned shoes and a fallen barrier outside the Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru after a crush killed 11 people celebrating their team’s IPL victory. PHOTO: AFP



SPORTS



PHOTO: ONE CHAMPIONSHIP

Myanmar fighter Moe Htet Aung to compete in ONE Friday Fights 112

MYANMAR fighter Moe Htet Aung is set to feature in the upcoming ONE Friday Fights 112, which will take place in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13 June.

He is scheduled to take on Thai fighter Khunponnoi, who has previously faced other Myanmar athletes. This will mark Moe Htet Aung's fourth fight under the ONE Championship banner, having secured two wins and one loss in his previous three bouts.

Khunponnoi has competed in seven fights for ONE, with a record of five wins and two losses. In his most recent match, he earned a decision victory over Myanmar's Sonrak.

In recent ONE Friday Fights events, Myanmar fighters have continued to appear consistently by maintaining strong representation on the international stage. — Htun Thway Eain/ KZL

Australia on brink of World Cup after dramatic late winner

AUSTRALIA moved to the brink of the World Cup after beating already qualified Japan 1-0 in Perth on Thursday thanks to Aziz Behich's 90<sup>th</sup>-minute winner.

In front of a sell-out crowd of 57,226 at Optus Stadium, the Socceroos were outplayed for long periods by an inexperienced Japan side.

But then Riley McGree cut the ball back to defender Behich, who rifled a bullet into the corner for his first international goal in 13 years and trigger scenes of jubilation.

After beating Japan for the first time since 2009, Australia are all but assured of a berth at next year's World Cup in North America.

Before the game the Socceroos had a three-point lead and a significantly better goal

difference over Saudi Arabia with two matches left.

The win does not totally guarantee Australia's passage, with Saudi Arabia at Bahrain later on Thursday.

Australia face Saudi Arabia

in Jeddah on 10 June in their final Group C match in the battle for second behind Japan.

Teams that finish in the top two of the six-team group guarantee their automatic spot at the World Cup. — AFP



Japan's Yu Hirakawa and Aziz Behich of Australia battle for the ball. PHOTO: AFP

Osaka, Pegula pull out of historic women's event at Queen's

FOUR-TIME Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka and world number three Jessica Pegula have pulled out of the new women's tournament at Queen's Club.

Pegula, the runner-up at last year's US Open, was set to be the highest-ranked player at the WTA 500 event, but the American withdrew alongside

Japanese star Osaka on Thursday.

The Wimbledon warm-up event starts on Monday, with female players returning to Queen's for the first time in 52 years. Pegula lost in the French Open fourth round to wild card Lois Boisson earlier this week and on Wednesday posted images on her Instagram page of

the social media abuse she has suffered since the shock loss.

Osaka, who has won both the Australian Open and US Open twice, received a wild card from Queen's organizers. But she expressed frustration with her form last week after enduring a dismal French Open exit against Paula Badosa. — AFP

'Floating village' to house thousands of Asian Games athletes

ATHLETES at next year's Asian Games in Japan will stay on a "floating village" cruise ship and in converted shipping containers, an organizing official told AFP, defending the cost-cutting move.

The plan will see 4,600 athletes and officials housed on the ship for the duration of the Games, which are being held in Nagoya and the wider Aichi area from 19 September to 4 October 2026.

Organizers will lease a luxury cruise liner that will be docked at Nagoya's port.

A further 2,400 people will stay in temporary shelters made from shipping containers a short bus ride away, with the two locations accommodating about half of the 15,000 athletes and officials expected at the Games.

The rest will be in other accommodation, including in Tokyo where the swimming competition will take place.

Local organizers were keen to avoid the cost of building a traditional athletes' village, but Asian Olympic chiefs warned that any alternative must make sure athletes can meet and min-

gle together.

Kazuhiro Yagi, vice-secretary general of the Aichi-Nagoya Games organizing committee, told AFP that they had listened to athletes' opinions and wanted to "provide a service that satisfies them".

"The cruise ship and container houses are in different locations, but they are only about 10 minutes apart by shuttle bus," he said.

"I don't think it will be a problem at all with regards to being able to interact with other athletes. — AFP



Performers representing Japan at the closing ceremony of the Hangzhou Asian Games. PHOTO: AFP





WORLD  
ENVIRONMENT DAY  
CELEBRATION

Brunei  
launches  
environment  
platform for  
youth

BRUNEI'S Department of Environment, Parks and Recreation launched a platform on Thursday designed to empower youth to participate in activities contributing to the country's environmental sustainability.

The department emphasized youth involvement in environmental conservation through the launch of the BELIA BRUNEI programme and a youth environmental leader recognition ceremony on Thursday.

The global community, including Brunei, celebrates World Environment Day annually on 5 June to raise public awareness about environmental conservation and encourage collective action across all societal levels to protect and sustain the natural environment.

Hajah Martinah Tamit, director of environment, parks and recreation at the Ministry of Development, urged the adoption of more responsible and sustainable practices in plastic use and management. The programme was officially launched by Muhammad Juanda Rashid, Brunei's minister of development. — Xinhua

China urges US to abandon  
excessive use of national  
security concept

*China's remarks reflect a commitment to fostering stability in global trade amidst rising tensions and protectionist measures.*



The US decision to raise tariffs on imported steel and aluminum from 25 per cent to 50 per cent aims to bolster domestic industries and address national security concerns. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

CHINA has urged the United States to abandon its generalized and excessive use of the national security concept, and to collaborate with all parties in maintaining a rules-based multilateral trading system, the Ministry of Commerce said on Thursday.

At a regular press conference, He Yongqian, spokesperson for the ministry, made the remarks when asked to comment on the US decision to raise tariffs on imported steel, aluminium and their derivative products from 25 per cent to 50 per cent.

He said that such US moves not only harm others and itself, but also will severely disrupt the stability of global industrial and supply chains.

The United States should abandon the zero-sum mentality, address respective concerns through equal dialogue, and jointly maintain the stability of global industrial and supply chains, He said. — Xinhua



Photo taken on 5 June 2025, shows the Water Plaza at the World Exposition in Osaka, where water shows were suspended due to the detection of legionella bacteria in stored seawater. PHOTO: KYODO

World Expo water shows halted  
after detection of legionella bacteria

WATER shows at the World Exposition in Osaka have been suspended through Friday after high levels of legionella bacteria were detected in seawater at the venue.

Expo organizers said at a press conference on Thursday that the level of legionella detected in water from the Water Plaza in a test on Wednesday was 20 times higher than the allowable limit under their guideline, prompting them to cancel shows from Wednesday.

The shows' resumption depends on the results of measures they have implemented to improve water quality, including sanitization, pipe cleaning and increased circulation of seawater around the area, they said.

While an examination conducted by a local public health centre on 29 May detected the bacteria in seawater, the show was not suspended as a thorough test conducted on Monday showed the level was negligible.

The Water Plaza, a large seawater reservoir, is the source of another problem as midges emerging from the area have been swarming the venue, raising concerns about possible health issues. — Kyodo