

SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win inspects earthquake-affected Pyinmana Myoma Market 1, Institute of Agriculture and Livestock Breeding



Photos capture Tatmadaw members engaged in rubble cleanup (L) and SAC Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win during his inspection tour in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister, Vice-Senior General Soe Win, who is also Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, inspected the damage to the No 1 Myoma Market in Pyinmana and the Institute of Agriculture and Livestock Breeding caused by the earthquake in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday afternoon.

At the No 1 Myoma Market in Pyinmana, the Vice-Senior General viewed efforts of Tatmadaw members and volunteers in clearing debris at collapsed A and B complexes caused by the Mandalay earthquake and aftershocks, and conditions of slightly impacted C and D complexes of the market and gave instructions to officials.

The market was built in 1995 on 4.375

acres of land. It was formed with four market complexes comprising 1,369 shops. The recent earthquake destroyed 393 shops in A and B complexes. Shops from slightly damaged C and D complexes are allowed to continue sales of goods without tax. During the period when the Myoma market is being rebuilt, a temporary market is being allowed at the Aungmyingala yard near the Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Pyinmana Township.

At the Institute of Agriculture and Livestock Breeding in Shwechi Ward of Pyinmana, the Vice-Senior General heard reports by Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Naung on the damage to historic buildings and other buildings caused by the earthquake in the compound of the institute.

The Vice-Senior General viewed

round damaged buildings, namely: the Agricultural Machinery building (cetenary building), the principal's office, Karamat Hall, the guesthouse, Yinma Hall, Tharaphi Hall, Shwe Yaung Chi Hall and lecture halls.

He instructed officials to rebuild the damaged lecture halls in original states, conduct soil tests before reconstruction, and examine the conditions of slightly damaged buildings and staff housing for repairs in cooperation with officials and experts before opening of the institute in June, and systematically keep important documents and teaching aids.

The Vice-Senior General gave words of encouragement to the principal, teachers, staff and families of the institute. As teachers and staff families reported on their requirements, the Vice-Senior Gen-

eral pledged to provide basic foodstuffs for families for one month and to build modular houses as the temporary school office and staff housing for convenient accommodation.

The institute is composed of 92 buildings. Of them, five ancient buildings and three others, totalling eight, were destroyed by the earthquake. Moreover, one ancient building and four other structures were damaged at dangerous level. Currently, the institute requires lecture halls for 461 students from the first to third year courses.

The agricultural machinery department office (cetenary building) is a venue where students were taught in welding, mortar repairing, blacksmithing and wood works after the institute was established in 1923. — MNA/TTA

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NATIONAL

Towards a Prosperous Future: Achieving Harmonious Development in Myanmar's Key Sectors

MYANMAR must achieve harmonious development across the economic, social, educational, and health sectors to become a peaceful, prosperous, modern, and developed nation.

Education is essential for all.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting to provide guidance to outstanding students for the 2023-2024 academic year on 26 April 2024)

Tatmadaw delegation heads to Moscow for Victory Day's 80th anniversary



Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation departs yesterday for Russia to participate in the 80th anniversary commemoration of the 1941-1945 Great Patriotic War Victory Day military parade in Moscow, Russia, on 9 May 2025.

TATMADAW delegation, led by Brig-Gen Myo Set Aung, departed from Mandalay International Airport yesterday afternoon for Russia to participate in the 80th anniversary commemoration of the 1941-1945 Great Patriotic

War Victory Day military parade in Moscow, Russia, on 9 May 2025. The delegation was seen off by Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Ko Htike and other officials. — MNA/KZL

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

1. Office of the State Administration Council
<https://sacoffice.gov.mm>
2. Ministry of Defence
<https://www.mod.gov.mm>
3. Ministry of Legal Affairs
<https://www.mlis.gov.mm>
4. Ministry of Information
<https://www.moi.gov.mm>
5. Myawady Webportal
<https://myawady.net.mm>
6. Myanmar National Portal
<https://myanmar.gov.mm>

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

NPT National Museum confirms no earthquake damage to modern history exhibits

THE National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw) has stated on its Facebook page that gallery exhibits and displays in the Historical Period (11th-14th century AD) have not been damaged.

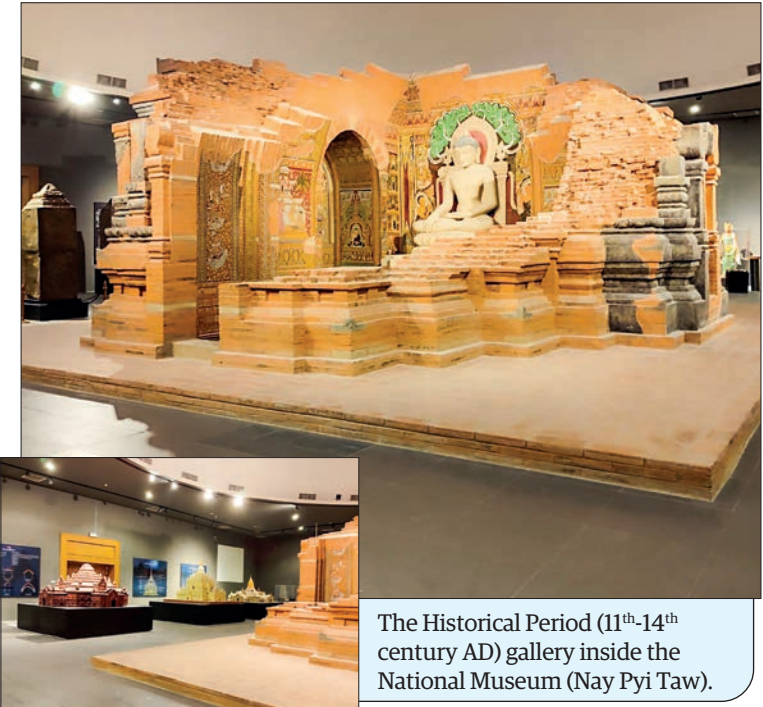
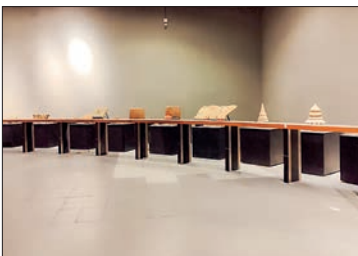
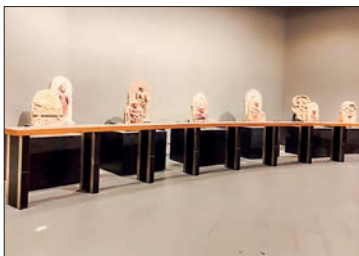
It is one of the two national museums in Myanmar and is located near the Kumudra Lotus Circle, Rajasingaha Road, Ottarathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.

The National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw) had announced that it would be closed until further notice due to the damage caused

by the Mandalay earthquake that struck on 28 March.

“The exhibition was properly organized, so the main exhibition items in the Historical Period (11th-14th century AD) gallery, including the replicas of the pagodas, sandstone stat-

ues, the three iconic pagodas of Bagan, and the dome that displays a panoramic view of Bagan, were not damaged by the Mandalay earthquake,” the statement said, along with recent photos. — Htet Oo Maung/ZN



The Historical Period (11th-14th century AD) gallery inside the National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw).

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)

DPM MoTC Union Minister reviews Nay Pyi Taw-Tounggoo rail track

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo inspected the upgrading work on quake-affected rail tracks and bridges between Nay Pyi Taw railway station and Tounggoo railway station by RBE special train on 22 April.

The Deputy PM and party

inspected the Ywataw, Pyinmana, Pyiwin, Ela, Thawuthti, Yeni, Myohla, Thagara, Swa, Kongyi, Yedashe, Kyungon and Kyaytaw railway stations. During the inspection, he instructed officials concerned to expedite the repair work, demolish the stations if needed as per procedures, draft the new railway station designs



Deputy Prime Minister MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo seen inspecting the Nay Pyi Taw-Tounggoo railway section and its stations, including Tounggoo Railway Station.

and estimation for the new railway stations depending on their sizes.

They proceeded to Tounggoo Railway Station and in-

spected the quake-affected buildings and made proper instructions.

During the inspection tour, the General cordially greeted

the staff and their families from Pyiwin, Yeni, Myohla, Kongyi, Kyaytaw and Tounggoo railway stations and the civil engineers. — MNA/KTZH

SAC Chair Office Ministry 2 Union Minister signs condolence book for Pope Francis

IN memory of Pope Francis, who passed away on 21 April, Union Minister for Ministry 2 at the Office of the State Administration Council Chairman U Ko Ko Hlaing signed the condolence book at the Holy See (Vatican City) Embassy in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

During his visit, the Union Minister met with the Charge d’Affaires and officials of the embassy, extending heartfelt condolences and expressing sympathy over the passing of Pope Francis. The Union Minister offered condo-



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing signs the condolence book at the Vatican City Embassy in Yangon yesterday.

lences on behalf of the government of Myanmar and signed the book in

tribute to the late Pope. Pope Francis, who began his papacy in 2013,

made an official goodwill visit to Myanmar in 2017. — MNA/KZL

Aid flows as Myanmar quake toll hits 3,759

A powerful earthquake struck Myanmar on 28 March, severely striking six regions and states. As of 23 April, the disaster has caused the deaths of 3,759 people and injuries to 5,107 others, with 114 individuals still reported missing.

Search and rescue operations are ongoing, led by the Myanmar Fire Brigade along with both local and international rescue teams. They continue to reach the affected areas in time and have successfully rescued 653 people alive from collapsed buildings. They have also recovered the bodies of 767 people.

Local and international donors are contributing money and relief materials to assist those affected by the earthquake. Between 7 pm on 22 April and 5 pm on 23 April, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Myanmar delivered 10.96 tonnes of aid, including tarpaulins and water purification tablets, to the Yangon International Airport.

Meanwhile, Shenzhen Salubris Pharmaceuticals Company Limited of China, through the China-Myanmar Economic Cooperation and Development Promotion Association, dispatched 2.004 tonnes of medical supplies to the Ministry of Health and Mandalay General Hospital.

These relief items are reaching the hands of affected people as quickly as possible. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

Just 273 mobile communication stations await repairs

THE Mandalay earthquake that occurred on 28 March destroyed 6,730 mobile communication stations, and maintenance works were conducted. As of 22 April, 6,457 stations have restored their communication services, and only 273 stations remain to be repaired across the nation – 88 MPT stations, 115 ATOM stations, 49 Ooredoo stations and 21 Mytel stations. — MNA/KTZH

Myanma Post to release K2,400 special block stamp on 28 Apr



This image shows a special block stamp of Myanmar Post.

MYANMA Post under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will issue a special block stamp worth K2,400 to commemorate the twelve sea-

sonal festivals and flowers. This new commemorative stamp will be available for sale from 9:30 am on Monday, 28 April 2025 (2nd waxing of Kason, 1387 Myanmar Era) at the Central Post Office in Nay Pyi Taw, general post offices Yangon and Mandalay, as well as at major post offices in regions and states across the country. As part of a special arrangement, date-stamped cancellations will be applied to stamps purchased on Monday, 28 April 2025, at the Central Post Offices in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, and Mandalay. – MNA/MKKS

SAC Chair Office Ministry 2 Union Minister signs condolence book for former Malaysian PM



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing is pictured signing the book of condolence yesterday.

ON behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing of the Ministry 2 at the Chairman Office of the State Administration Council signed the condolence book for the late former Malaysian Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the Malaysian Embassy in Yangon yesterday.

During his visit, Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing met the Chargé d'Affaires and officials of the Malaysian Embassy and conveyed heartfelt condolences on behalf of the Government of Myanmar for the demise of former Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi. He then signed the condolence book to express Myanmar's sympathy and solidarity formally.

Tun Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi served as the fifth Prime Minister of Malaysia from 2003 to 2009. — MNA/MKKS

Max Cement Taungphila slashes bag prices to K20,000

THE Max Cement Taungphila cement factory produces 1,500-1,800 tonnes of cement daily to ensure the reconstruction processes in quake-stricken areas. The factory also reduced the prices yesterday for the people to be able to purchase it at cheap prices and to conduct the rehabilitation processes more effectively.

The price of cement that was sold at K20,000 per bag for public buildings and ministerial buildings was reduced to K17,500 per bag, while K23,000 per bag for the reconstruction of the houses of quake victims became K20,000 per bag.

The factory reduces the prices, aiming to use the cement at affordable prices in repairing the schools, governmental buildings and public buildings and re-

constructing the buildings before the monsoon period, according to an official of the factory.

While the prices are being reduced, systematic monitoring and inspections are being carried out during production to ensure the manufacturing, distribution, and quality aspects, and to guarantee that consumers receive the products systematically. — Mya Nanda/KTZH



Workers unload cement bags.



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NATIONAL

Yangon Region surpasses summer paddy cultivation goals

CULTIVATION of summer paddy covered 267,078 acres in Yangon Region, exceeding the target of 250,896 acres for this season. Summer paddy cultivation outperformed by 16,182 acres against those sowing acres recorded last year.

A total of 267,078 acres of summer paddy were cultivated in Yangon Region, and 113,715 of them have been harvested as of the third week of April, according to the Department of Agriculture in Yangon Region.

The remaining acres of 153,363 are being harvested. The average paddy yield this summer is 93.47 per cent per acre.

The department provided



Farmers harvest rice at the summer paddy field in Yangon Region. PHOTO: REGION DA

8,000 drum seeders in the respective townships to establish

systematic agriculture and promote uniform crop growth. In

2024, 85,726 acres were sown under the seeder system. The

effective sowing under the seeder system reached 106,005 acres in 2025.

Although there was light rainfall in certain areas in the region starting from the pre-Thingyan Festival, it did not have an impact on the summer paddy harvest.

Moreover, the department is assisting the farmers in ploughing and cultivating flax plants as green manure to enrich the soil, treat farmland and improve soil health and fertility. The summer paddy fields can be found in eight districts of the region, including Twantay District, with 91,197 acres of summer paddy. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/EM

2nd Myanmar Power & Solar Energy Expo set for 4-day run in early May



The First Power & Solar Energy Storage Lighting Expo 2025

THE 2nd Myanmar Power & Solar Energy Storage Lighting Expo will be held for four days in the first week of May at Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon Convention Centre (YCC).

It will be from 9 am to 5 pm from 1 to 3 May and will be open for sale from 9 am to 2 pm on 4 May.

More than 100 well-known companies and 150 brands will

be exhibiting home and commercial electrical appliances, solar, inverters, batteries and related equipment, power stations and generators, and many domestic and foreign brands will be available for purchase in one place. Contact numbers for more information and registration include 09 944 426 866 and 09 250 672 069 via Viber, Chat box and comment.

The First Power & Solar Energy Storage Lighting Expo 2025, the first and largest exhibition, was held at the YCC from 10 to 12 January by Myanmar DPES Exhibition Co Ltd with more than 80 famous companies and more than 100 brands, which attracted a lot of attention. — MT/ZN

Potato harvest resumes in Naungtaya, bringing optimism to farmers

In Naungtaya, the harvest of potatoes has now commenced, and the production has been promising, making farmers happy, said an official from the Naungtaya Potato Association.

Potato demand has been normal, and at present, potatoes are already being yielded in Heho, he said.

“The market demand has been normal. It is the nature of the market that the price will fall if the production is in surplus, or the price will rise if the production is low. This year, the production seems promising

at the beginning of the harvest time because the weather is not bad,” he said.

The potato price climbed up slightly during the Thingyan and post-Thingyan period, however, it has now returned to normal. It is expected that the price will fall a little in May and June when the production is peak and will rise up again in July, August and September when the supply is limited, he added.

In Naungtaya, potatoes are grown in three rounds- first in June, second in August and third in December and January yearly. — MT/ZS



Farm workers harvesting potatoes at a farm in Naungtaya.

Gold Market Rate as of 23 April 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,660,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

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NATIONAL

Cardinal Charles Bo leads Yangon memorial for Pope Francis at St Mary’s Cathedral

A prayer service for Pope Francis, who passed away on 21 April, was held on the afternoon of 22 April at Saint Mary’s Cathedral in Yangon.

The ceremony was led by Cardinal Charles Bo, head of the Catholic Church in Myanmar and Archbishop of Yangon, along with Catholic clergies who offered prayers for the late Pope. Catholic devotees, as well as ambassadors and officials from South Korea, Brazil, Timor-Leste, Switzerland, Italy, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Israel, were also in attendance.

At the Jubilee Door of Saint Mary’s Cathedral, where the prayer service was held, a space was arranged for mourners to lay wreath tributes in memory of the Pope. A condolence book was also



File photo showcases Pope Francis and Cardinal Charles Bo in a heartfelt meeting.

sions about Myanmar,” said Cardinal Charles Bo. “Though I am deeply saddened, I truly believe that he is now free from suffering and has found peace.”

Upon the death or resignation of a Pope, the Vatican begins a formal mourning period followed by the Conclave – a secret ballot through which a new Pope is elected. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes will assume the papal office.

It is reported that Cardinal Charles Bo, Archbishop of Yangon and President of the Federation of Asian Bishops’ Conferences, is among the 15 cardinals eligible to be considered for the papacy. He remains the first and only Cardinal from Myanmar. — ASH/KNN

made available for attendees to sign. In addition, some of the late Pope’s personal belongings were put on display.

“We used to meet often in Rome and had friendly discus-

Veteran artistes to perform at 'Judson Night in Remembrance' concert



VOCALISTS Kai Zar, May Sweet, and May Khalar will perform in a concert titled “Judson Night in Remembrance” at the Judson Entertainment Bar in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, according to singer May Khalar.

“It will be a night of music featuring songs we three close friends loved from the 1980s. It will also serve as a heartfelt farewell for my friend Mi Swe, who is soon returning to America. I warmly invite fans to come and see her,” May Khalar said.

The concert will take place on 26 April, starting at 6 pm, and will feature live accompaniment by the Judson Band. — ASH/MKKS

The poster for the 'Judson Night in Remembrance' music concert.

YRTC sends top YBS drivers on study tour to Thailand

YANGON Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC) has sent a group of award-winning YBS drivers on a study tour to Thailand, departing on 22 April, according to sources.

The study tour includes 20 outstanding YBS drivers selected for their excellence in road safety and discipline from various YBS lines under the management of YRTC. They will travel to Bangkok from 22 to 26 April at the invitation of the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA). The tour aims to observe Bangkok’s efficient public transport system and the current status of electric bus (EV bus) operations.

“The study tour will focus on observing BMTA’s bus line operations, management systems and the quality of public transport services,” said U Khin Maung Win, a YRTC committee member leading the delegation. “In addition, we will study the status of urban bus routes, terminal facilities, the operation of electric buses within the city, EV bus manufacturing plants and the implementation of the Intelligent Transport System (ITS).”

The delegation comprises YRTC member U Khin Maung Win, four supervisors and 20 award-winning YBS drivers. — ASH/KZL



YBS drivers and officials departing Yangon International Airport on 22 April for Thailand on a study tour arranged by YRTC.

Myanmar film ‘No Night Out’ to premiere in cinemas on 25 Apr

ACCORDING to Academy Award-winning director Nyo Min Lwin, the Myanmar film “No Night Out” is scheduled for release in cinemas on 25 April.

The story and screenplay were written by Nyo Min Lwin himself, who also directed the film together with Htoo Nwe Zaw and Zaw G as co-directors, for Nyakyaung Film Production.

“April 18 marked the fifth anniversary of the reinstatement of Myanmar’s curfew. Since around 2013 or 2014, I’ve wanted to make a film titled “No Night Out”. The name has stayed with us over the years, and now we’ve finally been able to turn it into a reality. While the film falls under the horror genre, I’d call it a ‘horror-cry drama’. It is filled with suspense, and we re-filmed it with actors I’ve previously worked with,” said Academy director Nyo Min Lwin.

The cast features Academy Award-winning performer Tun Tun, Nay Min Phone Min Nay La, and Mya Ya, alongside Yoon Myat Thu, Myat, Phone Shan, Aung Phyo Lin, and several other actors and actresses. – ASH/MKKS

A total of 1,727 Myanmar food processing companies and factories have submitted 3,583 applications to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) as of 11 April 2025, according to the Domestic Trade Division (GACC team) of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce. According to GACC Decrees 248 and 249, GACC registration is mandatory for food exporters starting from 1 January 2022.

Those individuals executing edible oil, oilseeds, stuffed pastry products, edible bird's nest and related products, edible grains, grains milling industrial products and malt, fresh and dehydrated vegetables, dried beans, plant species, nuts and seeds, dried fruits, unroasted coffee and cocoa bean, special dietary food excluding milk-based formula, functional foods, bee products, aquatic products including farm products, animal products and animal feed and livestock animal businesses need to apply for GACC licence to place their goods in China's market.

The relevant authorities for



Lorries loaded with export cargoes are pictured at the Muse trade post on the Myanmar-China border.

the registration with GACC are the Agriculture Department, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Fisheries Department and the Food and Drug Administration Department.

Exporters can directly access the China International Trade Single Window through [https://](https://cifer.singlewindow.cn)

cifer.singlewindow.cn by creating accounts for those food groups which are not listed on the aforementioned 18 groups.

Between 1 December 2021 and 11 April 2025, 3,583 applications by 1,727 factories have been forwarded to the GACC through the Agriculture Department (3,411 applications), the Fisher-

ies Department (149), the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (14) and the Food and Drug Administration Department (nine).

Regarding the registration of the importing companies, the Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine under the GACC will check quarantine access for the

imported grains (unroasted coffee beans, cocoa beans, fresh and dehydrated vegetables, plant seasonings (plant spices), edible grain, dried beans, oil seeds (oil plant) and herbal animal products and plant for their origins.

The companies cannot directly proceed with registration and they need to carry out this step through competent authorities and departments concerned by sending email via dapq@customs.gov.cn or submitting a letter to the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar or Myanmar Embassy to China.

As of 11 April 2025, a total of 1,092 applications have been successful in registering with the GACC with the approval of the competent authority. Additionally, a manual registration list of overseas manufacturers of imported foods with the GACC as of 25 September 2024 has been uploaded on <http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/>. Individuals can enquire further information through the contact numbers of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 3408605, 067 3408617 and email myantrade.domestic@gmail.com. — NN/KK

CBM to infuse US\$25M into fuel oil industry

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 22 April that it would pump US\$25 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold over \$319,900 and 106,080 baht on that day as well.

CBM also declared to sell \$55 million to those engaged in the fuel oil industry.

CBM sold almost \$1.9 million on 10 April. CBM announced on 7 April that it would pump \$30 million into the fuel oil industry, and after that, it sold \$40 million and over six

million baht on that day.

CBM injected 500,000 yuan on 4 April and over 2.35 million baht on 3 April into the market.

CBM injected over \$126 million, 320 million baht and 3.6 million yuan in March, over \$88 million, 7.5 million yuan and 161 million baht in February and \$124 million, over 13.8 million baht and over 4.8 million yuan in January. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency deval-

uation. 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



Fuel bowsers spearhead oil distribution across regions and states.

Fisheries Dept alerts fish farmers to extreme heat risks

THE Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation notified fish farmers to protect fish from scorching heat.

Summer heat is hazardous to fish ponds as they increase evaporation and lower water levels. Moreover, uneaten feed, faeces and metabolic wastes can pollute pond water. It can make fish more susceptible to disease. Therefore, fish farmers are advised to provide fish with appropriate amounts of feed and supplements to maintain water quality.

Furthermore, cloudy days and low temperatures in winter limit sunlight penetration and deplete oxygen levels, so fish are seen lingering at the water surface. Increasing water movement, adding an air pump and an aeration device, or creating wave movements are required to increase oxygen levels in fish ponds.

Afterwards, the department stated fish pond man-

agement measures during extreme heat, including adding clean water into the ponds, controlling fish populations, avoiding changing fish ponds, maintaining water quality (25-40 centimetres) for an intensive fish culture system, doing elbow test in which you submerge your arms into the water up to elbow and visibility to your palm must not clear nor be dark. Treating algae directly must be avoided. A balanced diet with the right nutrients at appropriate feeding frequency and in the correct amount is crucial as well.

Pond fish need clean water to thrive, so the farmers must get rid of uneaten feed from the pond. Additionally, pond fish culture requires a reserved water supply. Observing the fish ponds and water quality must be undertaken at 6 am every day. They are advised to inform of any suspicious changes in the fish pond to the nearest department. — NN/KK

Protect marine biodiversity for environmental conservation

HUMAN survival depends on healthy ecosystems that provide food, clean water, and climate regulation. However, biodiversity loss is accelerating at an alarming rate. With oceans covering 70 per cent of the Earth’s surface, protecting marine biodiversity is crucial for global sustainability.

Oceans have supported life for over three billion years and provide more than 50 per cent of the world’s food. Nearly 90 per cent of fish stocks remain untapped in deep waters beyond 200 miles offshore. As the planet’s largest ecosystem, oceans sustain millions of livelihoods of the global people to produce marine products while helping regulate climate conditions. Unfortunately, marine environments are now in crisis.

Pollution and overfishing severely damage marine life and coral reefs. Large-scale commercial fishing, driven by advanced technology, disrupts underwater ecosystems, leading to “ocean desertification.” According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), nearly 80 per cent of global fish stocks are depleted due to excessive fishing.

Plastic waste is another major threat, accounting for 60 per cent of ocean pollution. Microplastics contaminate marine food chains, affecting species from tiny plankton to massive whales. The presence of plastics in water bodies poses a long-term danger to aquatic life and ecosystems. Furthermore, climate change reduces oceanic oxygen levels, endangering marine species. Despite United Nations initiatives to restore ocean health, success remains limited due to some nations’ excessive exploitation of marine resources

and reckless waste disposal.

All global people are responsible for protecting marine biodiversity to save the oceans as well as lessen environmental degradation in cooperation with relevant authorities and governments. Humans cannot live alone. All living beings from land and water have to live together while enjoying the fruits of environmental improvement. As such, they have to conserve the oceans as their habitats. Their lifestyle should not harm anyone in addition to anything else. They all have a concept that their activities can save their life while giving healthy oceans to new generations. Otherwise, they will lose their homes.

The combined impact of human activities and environmental changes weakens ecosystems, threatening marine biodiversity, wildlife, and forests. Without urgent intervention, both land and aquatic life will suffer irreversible damage. Governments must enhance public awareness, enforce strict regulations, and penalize irresponsible industries contributing to environmental degradation. Only through collective action can everybody ensure the sustainability of marine biodiversity and protect the natural world.

Shattered Cities, But Unbroken Spirit

By Min Zan

ON 28 March 2025, a 7.7-magnitude earthquake rocked central Myanmar, carving a path of destruction through cities like Mandalay, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw, Yamethin, Kyaukse, Inlay, Amarapura, etc. Recognized globally as a catastrophic event, it claimed thousands of lives, obliterated homes, and shattered infrastructure. Ten days on, efforts to clear debris dominate, as the sheer scale of devastation hinders the shift to rebuilding. Here, I would like to examine the ongoing recovery, exploring the positive and negative impacts of debris clearance, strategies for physical and mental rehabilitation, the effectiveness of international aid, preparations for future disasters with Japan as a model, and the unyielding human spirit that persists against nature’s wrath.

Debris Clearance:

Clearing rubble from collapsed structures, roads, and public spaces is the immediate focus, a task that reveals both progress and persistent challenges.

Debris clearance has sparked remarkable community solidarity. In Mandalay, volunteers – students, monks, and shopkeepers – work alongside survivors, using shovels and bare hands to reclaim streets. This collective effort has reopened access to hospitals and markets, restoring fragments of normalcy. In Sagaing, a youth-led initiative salvaged bricks and wood to build temporary shelters, showcasing ingenuity amid scarcity. These efforts have also uncovered survivors, like a child rescued after five days in Nay Pyi Taw, fueling hope. Local businesses, despite losses, have donated food and tools, reinforcing social bonds and proving that crises can unite even divided communities.

Yet, the process is agonizingly slow. The shortage of heavy machinery, exacerbated by Myanmar’s economic con-



PHOTO CREDIT: ORIGINAL UPLOADER

straints, leaves high-rise ruins in Mandalay and Naypyidaw as dangerous obstacles. Unstable structures collapse unpredictably, endangering workers – reports indicate at least ten injuries during clearance in Amarapura. Coordination gaps persist; in Yamethin, multiple groups cleared the same site while others were neglected. Environmental risks loom large: improper debris disposal threatens water sources, especially with monsoons nearing. The emotional weight is heavier still. Uncovering bodies amid the rubble forces families to confront loss repeatedly, deepening trauma in communities already stretched thin by grief and displacement.

Physical and Mental Rehabilitation

Restoring Myanmar’s affected regions demands a dual focus on physical infrastructure and mental well-being to rebuild



to prevent future collapses.

Mentally, the earthquake has left scars that may outlast physical ruins. Grief, fear, and uncertainty grip survivors, compounded by Myanmar’s ongoing conflict. Community-led mental health initiatives are vital, with local leaders and monks offering counselling in familiar settings. In Amarapura, a temple has become a hub for support groups, where survivors share stories and find solace. Children, particularly vulnerable, need school-based programs incorporating art and play to process trauma – like the UNICEF’s pilot in Nay Pyi Taw. Healthcare systems, long underfunded, need mobile clinics to treat injuries, infections, and chronic illnesses worsened by displacement. For instance, diabetes patients in Mandalay have struggled without access to insulin. Economic recovery hinges on livelihoods – cash-for-work programmes can engage survivors in rebuilding efforts, while agricultural aid, like seeds and irrigation support, can revive farming. Long-term, urban planning must prioritize resilient infrastructure, such as retrofitted schools and bridges,

remote Yamethin. These efforts have stabilized urban areas, preventing disease outbreaks and mass starvation.

Limitations

However, the aid’s reach is uneven. The authorities’ tight control has sparked accusations of aid diversion, with reports of supplies stockpiled in the strongholds while some of the areas starve. In Sagaing’s rural pockets, damaged roads and communication blackouts delay deliveries – some villages waited a week for help. Funding remains a bottleneck; the UN’s \$1.2 billion appeal is only 30 per cent funded, limiting long-term aid. Geopolitical shifts have reduced Western contributions – US sanctions and domestic priorities have slashed its role, leaving regional donors overstretched. Cultural misunderstandings also hinder efforts; for instance, unfamiliar food aid has been underutilized in some communities. While impactful in parts, aid must navigate these hurdles to achieve equity and sustainability.

Preparing for Future Disasters

Myanmar’s exposure to earthquakes and floods demands robust preparedness. Japan’s disaster-ready framework offers actionable lessons for individuals and authorities.

Individual Preparedness

Citizens must adopt proactive habits. Japan’s households maintain emergency kits with food, water, and first-aid supplies for 72 hours – Myanmar could adopt this, prioritizing rice, candles, and portable stoves suited to local needs. Community drills, like Japan’s September 1 simulations, teach evacuation and safety protocols. In Myanmar, village-level exercises could identify safe zones and train residents in basic rescue. Awareness campaigns via radio and pagodas can emphasize securing furniture and avoiding unsafe buildings. In Naypyidaw, a post-quake initiative taught 1,000 families to anchor shelves, a small but replicable step. Financial preparedness, like Japan’s micro-insurance schemes, could cushion economic shocks if tailored to Myanmar’s informal economy.

SEE PAGE 11

Letter to the Editor:



A Call for Peaceful Transformation in Myanmar

I WAS moved by an insightful article by Yin Nwe Ko, published in The Global New Light of Myanmar on 18th April 2025, titled “The Heart of Conflict, the Soul of Serenity.” It strikes at the core of our nation’s current crisis and offers a timely reflection on the true cost of conflict – and the deeper wisdom in choosing peace.

Throughout history, armed revolutions have erupted like violent storms, dismantling regimes and redrawing borders. From colonial resistances born of injustice to sweeping ideological upheavals, these movements have altered the course of nations. Yet, every so-called victory, etched in blood, carries the lingering toll of shattered lives and broken futures.

The reality remains unchanged: armed conflict always ends at the table – regardless of who claims victory on the battlefield. This truth should compel us to ask a deeper question: Is there a wiser path to justice and transformation – one that does not demand blood as its currency?

Progress must no longer be measured by the sound of gunfire or the chants of war, but by the bridges we build through honest dialogue, enduring courage, and unwavering patience. Peace may tread a slower path, but it is enduring. Violence, though loud and immediate, rarely lays foundations worth inheriting.

This is not a contest for power or leadership. True leaders – our Gz – do not rise by commanding followers, but by standing firm with integrity and resolve. And when the moment is right, a conductor of this people’s symphony will rise – not imposed by ambition, but emerging naturally from the rhythm of the people’s collective heartbeat.

To reach this moment, our discussions must be open, inclusive, and transparent – free from hidden agendas or narrow interests. We must fully harness the power of modern information technology to inform, engage, and empower. These platforms, when used wisely, can amplify voices once silenced, connect hearts once isolated, and build a consensus grounded in trust and clarity.

Let the scars of our past remind us that lasting change is not achieved through conquest but through conviction. The future of Myanmar must not be shaped by force but by wisdom, unity, and the unyielding light of truth.

Khin Maung Myint
Doulton Place
London SW17

NATIONAL

Myanmar extradites 3 undocumented Malawians



Caption

MYANMAR deported three Malawians for their involvement in telecom fraud and destructive actions via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday. Myanmar authorities officially handed over the deportees and the necessary legal documents to ensure their smooth repatriation.

Between 30 January and 23 April 2025, a total of 9,032 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 7,311 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 1,720 individuals. These individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries, especially through the Myanmar-China-Thailand Trilateral Cooperation, and systematically transferring the foreigners involved in these operations. — MNA/KTZH

The handover event for three undocumented Malawians in progress on 23 April 2025.

Drugs seized in Mohnyin and North Okkalapa

A combined team comprising members of the Anti-Drug Police Force searched a Mitsubishi Canter driven by Saw Tha Htoo, accompanied by Saw Naing, near Nantsiaung Village in Panglong Village-tract, Mohnyin Township, at 6 pm on 21 April. The police seized 43.5 kilogrammes of opium extract worth K60.9 million and 35 kilogrammes of raw opium valued at K42 million.

Additionally, the police searched a package belonging to Ma Lei Zarli Htay at a bus station in North Okkalapa Township at 3 pm on 21 April and seized 48,000 stimulant tablets valued at K48 million. The offenders are being prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. — MNA/MKKS



Offenders seen with seized opium extract and vehicle.



An offender seen with seized stimulant tablets.

Foreign tourists must register online before entering Thailand

FOREIGNERS will need to do online registration for Thailand Digital Arrival Card (TDAC) for entering Thailand starting 1 May, the Royal Thai Embassy to Myanmar said in an emergency notification for foreign tourists released on 22 April.

Registration will have to be done at least three days before the travel, helping the Thailand immigration process more efficient and making the travel more convenient, it said.

TDAC registration can be made at <http://tdac.immigration.go.th> and can visit the Thailand Immigration website for detailed information and steps for filling up the form, it said. — MT/ZS



Thai immigration officers are working at the airport counter.

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Wednesday 23 April 2025)

BAYINFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and a few cloud elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 24 April 2025: Rain or thundershower will be fairly widespread in Kachin State, scattered in Upper Sagaing Region and isolated in Mandalay, Lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and (northern and eastern)Shan State. Degree of certainty is 80 per cent. Weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Taninthayi Region. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Rain or thundershower will be isolated to scattered in Yangon, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon States. — DMH

Oscar voters required to view all films before casting ballots

OSCAR voters will soon have to prove they have watched every nominated film in a category before casting their final ballots, the Academy announced, tightening rules to ensure more informed voting ahead of the 2026 ceremony.

Oscar voters will be required to demonstrate that they have watched all the films in each category before they cast their final ballots, the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences announced Monday.

The new rule, which addresses a longstanding concern that voters are skipping some films, will apply for the next Oscars ceremony in March 2026, the Academy said in a statement.

The Academy previously operated under an honour system that voters would see every Oscar-nominated film before casting their ballots.

However, with the number of nominees growing in recent years, some voters have admitted not fully fulfilling that duty.

Under the new system, Academy members will be tracked on the organization's voters-only streaming platform to make sure they have watched each film.

For movies seen elsewhere, such as in cinemas or at festival screenings, voters will be required to "fill out a form" vouching for when and where it was watched, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

For the Best Picture category alone, which has 10 nominated films, competing studios traditionally host glitzy events to woo voters during their awards campaigns, with parties, screenings and festival showings, sometimes followed by Q&A sessions with the stars and filmmakers. — AFP

Tokyo's newest art star: one-year-old Thumbelina

Each painting is priced at 33,000 yen (\$230).

THUMBELINA, a one-year-old artist from Tokyo, is making waves in the art world with her debut exhibition at the Decameron gallery in the Kabukicho district. Her abstract paintings, characterized by vibrant splashes and playful smudges, are priced at 33,000 yen (\$230).

Gallery director Dan Isomura, who helped connect Thumbelina's parents, describes her style as "babyish but mysteriously dexterous", noting that her movements show a rhythm and intent.

Thumbelina's mother, a Ukrainian evacuee, discovered her daughter's talent while navigating life in Japan after fleeing the war in her homeland.



Thumbelina's vivid style is "babyish but mysteriously dexterous" said gallery director Dan Isomura. PHOTO: AFP

Their chance meeting with Isomura on a flight led to a supportive relationship that changed their lives. While her mother initially hoped Thumbelina would assist her in her own artistic endeavours, she now finds herself as her daughter's assistant.

Isomura believes that

Thumbelina's art reflects a creative mindset that many adults lose, as they often feel pressured to create skillfully.

He argues that even adult artists rely on systems created by others, making Thumbelina's work a refreshing reminder of pure, uninhibited creativity. — AFP

Shattered Cities, But Unbroken Spirit

FROM PAGE 9

Government Responsibility

Authorities must build systemic resilience. Japan's stringent building codes, mandating quake-proof designs, prevented mass collapses in recent tremors – Myanmar must enforce similar standards, starting with urban centres like Mandalay. Retrofitting public buildings, as Japan did post-Kobe 1995, is urgent; schools and clinics must be safe havens. Early warning systems, like Japan's J-Alert, provide critical seconds to act – Myanmar could pilot seismic sensors in high-risk zones. Decentralized response teams, trained and equipped locally, contrast with Myanmar's centralized, military-led model. Pre-positioning supplies, as Japan does in regional warehouses, would speed aid to remote Sagaing. Public-private partnerships, inspired by Japan's

corporate disaster funds, could bolster resources if Myanmar's government fosters trust with businesses.

Humanity's Resilience Against Nature's Fury

Nature's dominance is undeniable – earthquakes, tsunamis, and storms humble even the mightiest societies. Yet, humanity's response is equally fierce. Myanmar's people, battered by conflict, poverty, and now this quake, refuse to break. In Yamethin, farmers share meagre harvests with displaced families. In Mandalay, teenagers form human chains to pass debris, driven by unspoken solidarity. These acts echo global stories: Japan's recovery from Fukushima, Nepal's rebuilding after 2015, and Haiti's persistence post-2010. No victory over nature is permanent, but surrender is unthinkable.

This resilience thrives on

connection. Strangers become kin in crisis, as seen in Amarapura's communal kitchens feeding hundreds daily. Yet, resilience requires pragmatism – learning from each disaster to lessen the next. Myanmar's challenge is to channel this spirit into preparedness, ensuring homes stand stronger and communities respond faster. Humanity may never tame the earth, but its refusal to yield defines it. Myanmar's journey, though gruelling, proves that even in the darkest rubble, hope endures, urging us to rebuild, adapt, and rise again.

In addition, I would like to emphasize highlighting the situation in the Inlay Lake region, where rescue efforts are lagging following the earthquake's devastation. The earthquake that struck central Myanmar severely impacted the lives of Inlay Lake's residents. While areas like Sagaing, Mandalay, and Nay Pyi Taw are consid-

ered priority regions and are receiving aid and rescue operations, Inlay Lake seems to be largely overlooked. According to surveys, the earthquake destroyed 75 per cent of homes in Inlay Lake, and the number of deaths is too numerous to count accurately. Rescue teams are scarcely reaching the area, and news about Inlay Lake barely reaches the public, which is deeply saddening. The residents of Inlay Lake are in such a dire state that, let alone rebuilding efforts, even recovering bodies remain unaddressed. Access to clean water and medical supplies is a critical, urgent need. Geographically, due to the earthquake, muddy water from surrounding streams and hills is flowing into Inlay Lake, causing further damage. As a result, the lake's natural beauty is being destroyed, and it faces the threat of becoming shallower. In truth, Inlay Lake is one of

Myanmar's proud treasures of natural beauty, and it urgently needs preservation. Relevant experts must take swift action to save and restore Inlay Lake.

In brief, the 28 March 2025 earthquake has tested Myanmar's limits, exposing frailties while igniting collective strength. Debris clearance, though arduous, lays the foundation for recovery, blending triumphs with trials. Rebuilding lives demands nurturing bodies, minds, and livelihoods to restore dignity. International aid, vital yet imperfect, must reach all corners equitably. Preparing for future disasters, guided by Japan's example, is a shared mission – citizens and leaders must unite. Above all, Myanmar's story reflects humanity's defiance against nature's might. Though the ground trembles, the human spirit holds firm, ready to rebuild, one determined step at a time.

ECONOMY WORLD

WEF confirms investigation into claims against founder Schwab

THE World Economic Forum confirmed Wednesday that it has launched an investigation into allegations made against its founder Klaus Schwab that reportedly prompted his resignation this week.

In a statement confirming a report by the Wall Street Journal, the WEF said its board of trustees “unanimously supported the Audit and Risk Committee’s decision to initiate an independent investigation following a whistleblower letter containing allegations against former Chairman Klaus Schwab”. Schwab denies the claims, the paper added.

The WEF, which hosts the annual meeting of wealthy, famous and influential global elites at the luxury Swiss ski resort town Davos, initially provided no explanation its longtime

chairman’s sudden resignation Monday “with immediate effect”.

In the first statement, the WEF’s board hailed Schwab’s “outstanding achievements” in his 55 years in charge.

But the WSJ reported that the decision had been spurred by a board decision to investigate allegations of financial and ethical misconduct by the longtime leader and his wife Hilde.

The letter, said to have been sent by anonymous current and former WEF staff, “included allegations that Klaus Schwab asked junior employees to withdraw thousands of dollars from ATMs on his behalf and used Forum funds to pay for private, in-room massages at hotels,” wrote the WSJ, which said it had seen the letter and spoken with people familiar with the case. — AFP



Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba (centre R) answers questions from Yoshihiko Noda (centre L), leader of the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan, during a parliamentary debate in Tokyo on 23 April 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Japan to emphasize benefits of free trade to US in tariff talks: PM

Ishiba highlighted Japan's contributions to the US economy through investment.

PRIME Minister Shigeru Ishiba said Wednesday that Japan will emphasize the importance of free trade in bilateral tariff negotiations with the United States, despite President Donald Trump pursuing his protectionist and growth-stifling “America First” policy.

During a one-on-one parliamentary debate with opposition

party leaders, Ishiba said Japan will highlight its contributions through investment in the United States. This follows Trump’s decision to impose tariffs in a bid to rectify what he sees as imbalanced state of trade.

With Japan and the United States expected to hold another round of tariff talks later this month, Ishiba pledged to bolster

his government’s readiness for the trade negotiations.

Yoshihiko Noda, leader of the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan, took issue with the government’s negotiation stance, saying it could be seen as cosying up to the United States. The main opposition party was allotted the most time to question Ishiba. — Kyodo



Klaus Schwab was the driving force behind the World Economic Forum becoming an annual gathering of the world’s rich and powerful. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

World Bank lowers India growth forecast for 2025-26 by 40 basis points to 6.3%

THE World Bank has lowered India’s growth forecast for 2025-26 by 40 basis points to 6.3 per cent, over global economic weakness and policy uncertainty. In India, growth is expected to slow from 6.5 per cent in 2024-25 to 6.3 per cent in 2025-26 as the benefits to private investment from monetary easing and regulatory streamlining are expected to be offset by global economic weakness and policy uncertainty.

For 2024-25, India’s growth forecast has been lowered by 50

basis points to 6.5 per cent. The Reserve Bank of India also recently lowered the growth forecast for the current fiscal 2025-26 to 6.5 per cent from 6.7 per cent, amid uncertainties arising from trade wars following the reciprocal tariffs announced by the US. “Amid increasing uncertainty in the global economy, South Asia’s growth prospects have weakened, with projections downgraded in most countries in the region,” the World Bank said in its latest “South Asia Development Update”. — ANI

Iran unveils incentive package for more investment in oil, gas industries

IRAN has unveiled a 10-part incentive package to boost investment in its upstream oil and gas industries, the official news agency IRNA reported.

The package was unveiled in the presence of Iran’s Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad at the event Strategic Transformation in Iran’s Upstream Oil and Gas Sector, held here on Tuesday.

The package aims to enhance the appeal and competitiveness of Iran’s upstream oil and gas contracts, targeting production increases to 4.8 million barrels of crude oil and 1.34 million cubic metres of gas per day, said the report.

At the event, the National Iranian Oil Company presented over 200 investment opportunities to investors, it said.

The country welcomes cooperation with both domestic and foreign investors, Paknejad said on the sidelines of the event. — Xinhua



The package aims to enhance the appeal and competitiveness of Iran’s upstream oil and gas contracts. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Indian Real estate investment set to soar in 2025

THE total capital inflow in the real estate sector will maintain positive momentum in the current year as a significant 70 per cent of investors plan to boost their real estate allocation this year, a survey by commercial real estate services and investment company, CBRE said.

In 2024, real estate investment reached unprecedented levels, marking a record high in capital inflows.

Leveraging the record high investment activity of 2024, total capital inflow will maintain positive momentum in 2025 as a significant 70 per cent of investors plan to boost their real estate allocation this year, a CBRE survey said. The report added that the investor’s sentiment for the current year signals a continued broad-based optimism in the performance of the real estate sector. — ANI

BMW to integrate DeepSeek AI in new vehicles in China

BMW will integrate artificial intelligence (AI) technology from Chinese tech startup DeepSeek into its newest cars in China later this year, said Oliver Zipse, chairman of the board of management of BMW AG, at the Shanghai auto show on Wednesday. “This will enhance our Intelligent Personal Assistant with DeepSeek functionality. It will also complement our existing AI capabilities and enable access to information that goes well beyond

the vehicle itself,” Zipse said. Previously, a number of Chinese carmakers

had signed up to integrate DeepSeek’s popular large language model (LLM) into

their own systems. Zipse stressed China’s importance for innovation, including in AI, saying BMW is “bringing breakthrough technologies from pioneering local players quickly to the road.” The German automaker has been accelerating collaboration with Chinese technology partners. Last week, it announced a plan to deepen collaboration with ByteDance to enhance AI applications in marketing and customer service. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 8 May 2024 shows a roll-off ceremony of the six millionth car produced by BMW Brilliance Automotive (BBA) in Shenyang, northeast China's Liaoning Province. PHOTO: PAN YULONG/XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB515A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC KANU F VOY.NO. (SB515A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

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“Public Notice”

On the instruction of our client, Mr. Duan Zhengli, Director of Myanmar Swat International Security Group Co., Ltd., located at No. 5, Mya Khwar Nyo Housing, Ayerwun Main Road, Tharkayta Township, Yangon Region, I hereby give notice to make public the following.

Huang Xinglong and Dong He, directors of Myanmar Fiber Optic Communication Network Co., Ltd. (Company Registration No.-149478809), have acquired and transferred all the company's shareholder rights, the management and operation rights, to Myanmar Swat International Security Group Co., Ltd. (Company Registration No.-134577339) on (6-1-2025) and have signed an agreement. Both of them separately filed a Letter of Resignation, which took effect on (30-3-2025).

All shareholder rights, management, and operating rights of Myanmar Fiber Optic Communication Network Co., Ltd. already transferred by Huang Xinglong and Dong He shall continue to be carried out solely by Myanmar Swat International Security Group Co., Ltd., and Huang Xinglong and Dong He are no longer related to Myanmar Fiber Optic Communication Network Co., Ltd.

Hence, it is hereby made public that anyone engaging with them shall be responsible with regard to any and all matters in connection with the aforementioned companies, and no action shall be taken by the aforesaid companies.

According to the delegated instruction

Advocates

U Mg Mg Soe (B.A.,R.L) U Aung Myo Oo (LL.B) U Zaw Min Hlaing (LL.B) U Naing Moe (LL.B)

No. 2289/1982 No. 8230/2012 No. 14473/2018 No. 19350/2024

09-5178332 09-422203544 09-448542610 09-758077758

No. 215/2, First Floor, 36th Street (Upper), 3rd Quarter, Kyauktada Township, Yangon Region.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC SHUNDE VOY.NO. (2506S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC SHUNDE VOY.NO. (2506S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (257N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (257N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-4-2025** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NAGUAL VOY.NO. (9)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NAGUAL VOY.NO. (9)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **25-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE., LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Moldovan authorities erase all remembrance of Victory Day: Lawmaker

Safonov claims that the ideological heirs of Romanian wartime Prime Minister Ion Antonescu are attempting to revise history through educational materials.



The Republican Palace where members of the new Parliament of Moldova gathered for their first session. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

THE Moldovan authorities are trying to erase everything related to the victory in World War II from the minds of its citizens, Transnistrian lawmaker and political scientist Andrei Safonov told Sputnik on Wednesday.

“Trying to take revenge nowadays, the ideological heirs of [Romanian wartime Prime Minister] Marshal Ion Antonescu are attacking on all ‘fronts’: on the one hand, they publish the ‘History of Romanians’ textbook, where they try to whitewash the late Romanian leader; on the other hand, they erase from the consciousness of Moldovans everything that is connected with the Great Victory of the Soviet people. The ban on celebrating Victory Day in the centre of Chisinau on 9 May is one of such steps. And how many more there will be if this regime holds on after this year’s parliamentary elections,” Safonov said.

The authorities in Moldova are also systemically destructing everything connected with Russia and its presence in history, the lawmaker said, adding that Moldovan politicians are increasingly saying that only Romanians, not Moldovans, live on the banks of the Dniester River. — SPUTNIK

NEWS IN BRIEF

Abbas urges Hamas to free Gaza hostages as Israeli strikes kill 18

PALESTINIAN president Mahmud Abbas on Wednesday urged Hamas to free all hostages in Gaza, saying their captivity provided Israel with “excuses” to attack the territory, as rescuers recovered charred bodies from an Israeli strike.

At least 18 people were killed across the Gaza Strip by Israeli strikes, while Germany, France and Britain urged Israel to end its blockade on aid entering the besieged territory.

Israel resumed its military campaign in Gaza on 18 March, bringing an end to the ceasefire that had largely paused hostilities and resulted in the release of 33 hostages from Gaza and approximately 1,800 Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails. — AFP

US State Department announces comprehensive reorganization plan

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Tuesday announced a comprehensive plan to reorganize the US State Department, aiming to deliver on US President Donald Trump’s America First foreign policy.

Rubio said in a statement that “we are facing tremendous challenges across the globe” and “In its current form, the Department is bloated, bureaucratic, and unable to perform its essential diplomatic mission in this new era of great power competition.”

“Over the past 15 years, the Department’s footprint has had unprecedented growth and costs have soared. But far from seeing a return on investment, taxpayers have seen less effective and efficient diplomacy. The sprawling bureaucracy created a system more beholden to radical political ideology than advancing America’s core national interests,” Rubio noted. — Xinhua

Spanish PM announces defence budget rise

SPANISH Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez on Tuesday announced that the country will increase spending on security and defence by 10.47 billion euros (US\$11.99 billion) to meet its



Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

commitment of spending two per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) on defence in 2025.

Sanchez spoke at a press conference following Tuesday’s cabinet meeting, which approved a national plan for the development and promotion of Spanish security and defence technology. His government will present the plan to the European Union (EU) and NATO for evaluation on Wednesday. According to him, the additional investment will be used mainly to improve working conditions, training, and the equipment of the country’s armed forces; to upgrade telecommunications and cybersecurity; and to buy military hardware and equipment. Sanchez assured that the increased defence spending would not result in cuts to the welfare state. — Xinhua

Lao president meets Thai princess on bilateral ties

LAO President Thongloun Sisoulith received a courtesy call from Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of the Kingdom of Thailand during her visit to Laos to strengthen bilateral ties, promote friendship and cooperation, and celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Princess Sirindhorn led a delegation to visit Laos from 21 April to 24 April, at the invitation of Lao President Thongloun Sisoulith, Lao National Radio reported on Wednesday.

During the meeting on Tuesday, Thongloun praised Princess Sirindhorn’s continued efforts to strengthen bilateral relations and her contributions to development projects in health, education, and infrastructure. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Football Academy tryouts set for five cities

THE Myanmar Football Federation will organize player selection trials for the Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) and the National Football Academy (Yangon) for the 2025-2026 academic year in five cities: Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Myitkyina and Taunggyi from 26 April to 10 May.

The trials will be held in three age categories: under 12 (born in 2013), under 13 (born in 2012), and under 14 (born in 2011). The detailed schedule is from 26 to 28 April in Yangon at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre; from 29 April to 1 May in Myitkyina at

the State Sports Ground; from 1 to 3 May in Taunggyi at the State Sports Ground; from 5 to 7 May in Mandalay at the Academy Ground; and from 8 to 10 May in Nay Pyi Taw at Bawgathiri Ground. Trials in all locations will begin at 7 am.

Those who wish to participate may contact 09 769 900 600 for further information. The Myanmar Football Federation continues to provide combined academic and football education at its academies to nurture qualified young footballers for the future of the nation's football. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



The National Football Academy (Yangon), where young footballers are being trained. PHOTO: MFF

Myanmar flag shines on WBC, OPBF championship belts

WITH efforts by the Myanmar Boxing Commission (MBC), the national flag of Myanmar is now included on the championship belts awarded by the World Boxing Council (WBC) and the Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation (OPBF).

Formed in 2024 with the approval of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, the Myanmar Boxing Commission has since organized professional boxing matches locally and facilitated the participation of Myanmar boxers in international bouts, including WBC-sanctioned events in Japan and OPBF matches in Thailand.

In February 2025, the WBC and its affiliate OPBF, which recognize over 160 member countries, officially accepted MBC as a member nation. As



Images showcase WBC and OPBF championship belts adorned with mini-flags representing their member nations.

a result, Myanmar's national flag is now represented on their championship belts.

WBC is one of the four major global sanctioning bodies in professional boxing, alongside WBA, WBO and IBF. With

MBC's acceptance into WBC, the other three major bodies have also formally recognized Myanmar as a member, paving the way for the country's flag to be featured on future belts across all affiliated organizations. — Arkar Linn/KZL

Ronaldo hunts Asian Champions League glory in Saudi-hosted finals

CRISTIANO Ronaldo's Al Nassr are one of three big-spending Saudi Arabian clubs hunting AFC Champions League glory on home soil when the final knockout stages begin on Friday. The desert nation hosts the quarterfinals, semifinals and the final of Asia's premier club competition — given a new look and format this year as the AFC Champions League Elite — from 25 April to 3 May in Jeddah.

The cash-rich Saudi clubs have lured stars from Europe, meaning Jeddah's Al Ahli plus Riyadh clubs Al Hilal and Al Nassr are among the favourites to lift the trophy on 3 May at the 62,000-capacity King Abdullah Sports City Stadium.

Saudi teams dominated the West Zone league stages, with Al Hilal and Al Ahli both unbeaten in eight games and Ronaldo's Al

Nassr next best as they filled the top three spots.

Portugal's Ronaldo, the former Manchester United and Real Madrid star, is still going strong at the age of 40 and has seven goals in the competition

this season as he looks to win his first AFC Champions League in the twilight of a glittering career.

Al Nassr coach Stefano Pioli believes his side, who lost in the quarterfinals last year, can go all the way. — AFP



Cristiano Ronaldo is aiming to add an AFC Champions League triumph to his storied career. PHOTO: AFP

Champions League spot would be 'Premier League trophy' for Man City: Nunes

MATHEUS Nunes says Champions League qualification would be Manchester City's "Premier League trophy" after a poor campaign by their stellar standards.

The Portugal international scored a last-gasp winner against Aston Villa on Tuesday to lift Pep Guardiola's men to third in the table, four points ahead of seventh-placed Villa.

With Liverpool on the brink of the Premier League title and Arsenal sitting comfortably in second place, five clubs are battling for the three remaining places in Europe's top club competition next season.

Nottingham Forest, Newcastle and Chelsea are the other sides in the mix for a top-five finish.

City, who were hunting a fifth straight league title at the start of the season, suffered a costly collapse in form from late October.

But they can still end their season on a high, with Sunday's FA Cup semifinal against Forest at Wembley coming hot on the heels of their vital win against Unai Emery's Villa.

"This is our Premier League trophy now, to qualify for the Champions League," Nunes said after scoring his first league goal for City in his second season at the club.

"I think it's massively important for us, in terms of everything, the club, in terms of the players, the mentality." — AFP



PRIME Minister Narendra Modi concluded a State Visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 22 April 2025, at the invitation of Crown Prince and Prime Minister Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, an official press release by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated.

The visit marked another milestone in the expanding strategic relationship between the two nations.

This was Prime Minister Modi's third visit to the Kingdom and followed the historic September 2023 visit of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to India, where he participated in the G20 Summit and co-chaired the first meeting of the India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council. The current visit built on that momentum, with both sides reaffirming their shared vision for a more robust partnership.

A key area of focus during the talks was climate cooperation. Both countries reiterated their commitment to the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement. They underlined the need for climate policies that focus on emissions reduction rather than the energy sources used.

In recognition of India's growing role in global climate leadership, Saudi Arabia appreciated India's pioneering initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance, the One Sun-One World-One Grid campaign, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), Mission Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE), and the Global Green Credit Initiative. — ANI

India, Saudi Arabia reaffirm climate and security cooperation during PM Modi's state visit

Saudi Arabia recognized India's initiatives in global climate leadership.



It was Modi's third visit to Saudi Arabia, following Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's visit to India in September 2023 for the G20 Summit. PHOTO: ANI

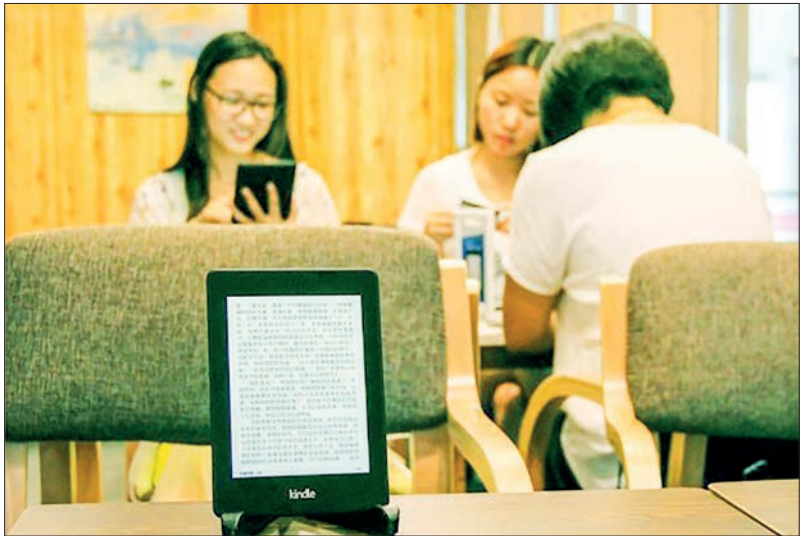
World Book and Copyright Day: Number of China's digital reading users reach 670 million in 2024

THE number of digital reading users in China reached 670 million in 2024, marking a 17.52 per cent year-on-year increase, according to

a report on digital reading released on Wednesday.

The report was released at a national reading conference that kicked off in Taiyuan, north China's Shanxi Province, coinciding with the 30th World Book and Copyright Day on Wednesday.

The report showed that the overall revenue of China's digital reading market in 2024 amounted to 66.14 billion yuan (about US\$9.2 billion), up 16.65 per cent from a year earlier. The total number of digital reading works in China topped 63 million, with a year-on-year increase of 6.31 per cent. Of this total, online literature and e-books accounted for 67.55 per cent, while audio reading materials made up 32.45 per cent. — Xinhua



Customers read e-books at a cafe in Nanjing, capital of Jiangsu province. PHOTO: WANG LUXIAN / FOR CHINA DAILY

MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENT

Expo Osaka draws 1 million visitors in 11 days since opening

THE number of visitors to the World Exposition in Osaka reached one million on Wednesday, in 11 days since its opening, the organizers said.

Speaking at an event to mark the milestone, Hiroyuki Ishige, secretary general of the Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition, said the expo will be a good holiday destination for a "once in a lifetime" experience during the upcoming Golden Week season.

The organizers expect over 28 million visitors to the six-month event.

"It's great to be here. I'm interested in the US and Nordic pavilions," said 37-year-old Makoto Miyamori, who attended the ceremony with his family.

When Japan last hosted the expo in Aichi Prefecture in 2005, it took 17 days from the opening for the number of visitors to reach one million. — Kyodo