

BANCA teams up with communities to protect key wetland birds



Since 2002, BANCA has dedicated itself to identifying, documenting, and conserving endangered species and their habitats across Myanmar, with wetland preservation remaining a vital focus of their efforts.



The Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA) oversees the planning for the water bird census.

THE Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association is working with local communities to identify and conserve critical migratory bird species in wetlands, the BANCA said.

BANCA has been working to identify, document and conserve endangered species and their habitats in Myanmar since 2002, and wetland conservation is a very important sector.

Out of the seven internationally

recognized Ramsar sites in Myanmar, the Gulf of Mottama is the fourth and the largest wetland, and migratory birds in the hundreds of thousands visit it every year to spend the winter. Educational talks and commemorative events are held from time to time to raise conservation awareness among locals.

The theme of World Migratory Bird Day on 10 May 2025 is “Creating Bird-Friendly Cities and Communities”, and the BANCA

organized an event on that day in Zotekali Village, Bilin Township, Mon State, with about 90 attendees, including village elders, villagers and students.

It lectured on migratory day, the benefits of mangrove forests, systematic waste management, the installation of awareness signs on waste disposal, the distribution of garbage bins in schools and villages, and collective garbage cleaning in the village, BANCA said. — MT/ZN

Global aid flows into Myanmar as quake toll reaches 3,723

As of 15 May, a total of 3,723 people died, 5,104 were injured, and 84 remain missing in six regions and states of Myanmar that were severely affected by the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March.

Search and rescue teams from the Myanmar Fire Brigade, along with local and international rescue organizations, have been carrying out emergency operations in the affected areas without delay. So far, 653 people have been rescued alive from collapsed buildings, and the bodies of 802 deceased individuals have been recovered.

Updates will continue to be provided regarding the financial and material donations from both local and foreign philanthropists to support the impacted communities. — MNA/MKKS

Article

Consider the wealth and success of life based on the trust of people

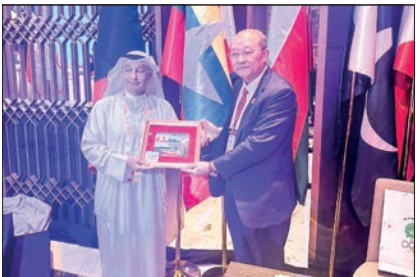
By Aung Kyaw Thant

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MSYA Union Minister attends 45th OCA General Assembly in Kuwait

NATIONAL

Police and Officials Urged to Prioritize Public Welfare and Safety Without Burdening Citizens

MEMBERS of the Myanmar Police Force and administrative officials must prioritize public welfare while ensuring the safety of the people without imposing burdens.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting hall of the Eastern Command Headquarters on 3 September 2024)

His Holiness Patriarch of Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow and across Russia sends message of condolence to Myanmar’s Head of State

DUE to the severe damage, loss of life, and numerous injuries caused by the powerful Mandalay earthquake that struck Myanmar, Kirill, His Holiness Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church in Mos-

cow and across Russia, sent a letter of condolence to Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

The message expresses deep sorrow upon hearing the news of the earthquake in Myanmar. It conveys heartfelt sympathy for the loss of lives and the suffering endured by many people due to the natu-

ral disaster, as well as the damage to the country’s infrastructure. It also extends sincere wishes and prayers for strength and recovery to those affected by the earthquake. — MNA/TTA

**His Excellency,
Mr Min Aung Hlaing,
Prime Minister,
Republic of the Union of Myanmar,**

Your Excellency,
Dear Mr Prime Minister,
It was with sorrow that I learned of the earthquake which had hit Myanmar. The natural disaster resulted in the death and suffering of a great many people and inflicted damage on the country’s infrastructure.
Offering my heartfelt commiseration to you and all the people of the Republic, I pray that those affected by the tragedy may find fortitude and strength.
With condolences,

Kirill
Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia
28 March 2025

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Thursday 15 May 2025

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Eastcentral Bay and Southwest Bay and a few cloud elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 16 May 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Mandalay and Magway Regions and Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Mon, Southern Shan State. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

STATE OF THE SEA: Squall with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and 4-7 feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of advancement of southwest monsoon into the Deltaic areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16 May 2025: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16 May 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

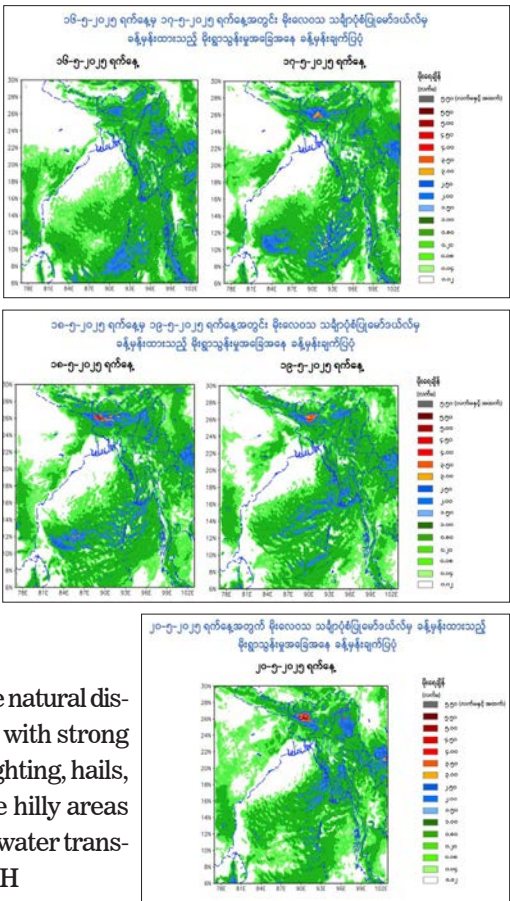
FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16 May 2025: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Heavy Rainfall Warning 9

Issued at 5:30 pm MST on 15 May 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, due to the unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal, continuations of southwest monsoon advancement and development of the convective clouds, rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in some areas from today evening to 20 May 2025.

Advisory
People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strike, lighting, hails, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flights.— DMH



NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

(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)

SAC Member launches school enrolment campaign, inspects livestock farms in Labutta

MEMBER of the State Administration Council Mahn Nyein Maung, Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win and regional ministers attended the ceremony to erect the poster of Ayeyawady Region school enrolment day for the 2025-26 academic year in front of the Regional Education Office in Pathein yesterday morning.

The SAC member unveiled the poster while the regional chief minister cut the ribbon to open the school enrolment day.

The SAC member and the regional chief minister presented cash awards to the band and pom-pom dance troupes of the No 6 Basic Education High School, Pathein. The SAC member urged educational officials to cooperate with teachers, parents and school boards of trustees for a rising pass rate of the matriculation examination.

At the applied research



SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung alongside Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Tin Maung Win and officials is pictured during his inspection tour in Ayeyawady Region.

and buffalo breeding farm in Sanchaung Village of Labutta Township, the SAC member instructed officials to distribute cattle and educate local farmers

to produce feedstuffs for cattle. He viewed a video clip on the production process of soft-shell crabs in Texchem Marine Labutta Ltd in Labutta Township. An

official accepted cash for victims of the Mandalay earthquake donated by businesspersons from cold storage facilities and fisheries from Labutta Township.

While in Labutta, the SAC member observed the production of soft-shell crabs at Super Gold Crab Farm. He inspected the progress of building embankments against seawater and four valves at the Myitkyogyi sluice gate undertaken by the Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department between the Yway and Pyamalok rivers in Labutta Township.

In a meeting with local farmers, the SAC member gave a speech while the Regional Chief Minister explained development undertakings, education and health measures in the region and presented kenaf seeds and drum seeders to local farmers.

The SAC member attended the ceremony to hand over the permit of the land plot for the construction of the Kayin Literature and Culture Association to the association chair. — MNA/TTA

DPM MoFA Union Minister receives UNOPS Country Director & Representative

U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Ms Sara Austin Netzer, Country Director and Representative of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) to Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on matters relating to the provision of relief items to the earthquake victims by the UNOPS and further cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and the UNOPS.

Also, present at the meeting were senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA



The UNOPS Country Director and Representative calls on Deputy Prime Minister, Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

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NATIONAL

Coord meeting held for Post-Quake Economic Recovery Forum

THE coordination meeting for the 'Rebuilding Myanmar: Post-Earthquake Economic Recovery Forum' was held yesterday afternoon at the Ministry of Information's meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn stated that the forum was organized to support Myanmar's economic recovery following the Mandalay earthquake. He noted that a national-level forum, involving both international and local experts, had been successfully held in March, and he expressed confidence that this forum would also produce beneficial outcomes for the country. The forum aims to invite businesspeople and interested citizens to engage in practical discussions and foster further cooperation between the public and the business community. He stated that the forum should facilitate meaningful discussions to help advance the country



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn presides over the coordination meeting for the Rebuilding Myanmar : Post-Earthquake Economic Recovery Forum yesterday.

to a better status with positive outcomes.

Union Minister U Tun Ohn stated that the Mandalay earthquake caused damage to government and private buildings, as well as the agricultural, livestock, and manufacturing sectors, and expressed hope that

the forum's outcomes would aid various sectors, including the economy.

Next, Permanent Secretary U Win Kyaw Aung explained the forum's purpose, the topics to be discussed, the attendees, and the planned programmes.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister U Ye Tint, UMFCCI President U Aye Win, departmental officials, Myanmar Narrative Think Tank Chairman U Ko Ko, Director Dr Zaw Oo, and UMFCCI General Secretary Daw Khine Khine Nwe discussed and provided recommenda-

tions on the arrangements and requirements for the successful organization of the forum, followed by a concluding speech from Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn.

The forum will address three topics: the economic impact of the Mandalay earthquake, the challenges and opportunities in economic recovery, and the development of collective solutions to economic recovery. The forum aims to strengthen the recovery of businesses affected by the Mandalay earthquake, identify emerging domestic and international market opportunities in the post-earthquake period, address challenges and opportunities to enhance the national economy, and leverage Myanmar's geopolitical position and geo-economic potential to expand markets for domestic products and foster collaboration among business owners. The forum is open to anyone interested in participating. — MNA/TH

MSWRR Union Minister meets ICRC Head of Delegation to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win received Mr Arnaud de Baecque, Head of Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to Myanmar, at the ministry yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, the Union minister discussed the government's ongoing efforts

to rehabilitate areas impacted by the recent major earthquake in Mandalay Region, including the need for construction materials and the government's readiness to cooperate with international organizations. The ICRC representative explained the committee's ongoing support in the earthquake-stricken areas, particularly in water

supply, healthcare and medical assistance, as well as its regular humanitarian activities.

Both sides also exchanged views on the current joint initiatives between the Ministry and the ICRC and discussed possibilities for further cooperation.

Also present at the meeting were directors-general from the Department of Disaster Man-



Union Minister Dr Soe Win receives Mr Arnaud de Baecque, Head of Delegation of the ICRC yesterday.

agement and the Department of Rehabilitation, technical officers

and ICRC delegates. — MNA/KZL

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NATIONAL

MSYA Union Minister attends 45th OCA General Assembly in Kuwait

UNION Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Jeng Phang Naw Taung, who is also Chair of the Myanmar Olympic Committee, departed Yangon for Kuwait on the evening of 9 May to attend the 45th General Assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia held in Kuwait on 11 and 12 May.

At the opening of the 45th OCA General Assembly on 11 May, OCA Vice-President Mr Timothy Fok delivered the keynote speech, followed by remarks from Kuwait Olympic Committee Chairman Sheikh Fahad Al Sabah and International Olympic Committee President Mr Thomas Bach.

On 12 May, and the Myanmar Olympic Committee delegation participated in the second day assembly to approve the minutes of the 44th OCA General Assembly. Vice-presidents from five zones: East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, and West Asia

confirmed their annual activity reports. Mr Witold Banka, Chair of the World Anti-Doping Agency, presented a report.

Representatives from the organizing committees of the Hangzhou 2023 Asian Games, Harbin 2025 Asian Winter Games, Bahrain 2025 Asian Youth Games, Aichi Nagoya 2026 Asian Games, and Riyadh 2026 Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games OC gave presentations. Reports and discussions were also provided by officials from the International Olympic Committee, the Olympic Solidarity and National Olympic Committees, and various national Olympic committees. The dates and venue for the next General Assembly were also set, along with general discussions.

Following the assembly, the Union Minister met officials from various Asian sports organizations to discuss the Myanmar Olympic Committee's efforts to



Union Minister Jeng Phang Naw Taung presents the gift during the 45th OCA General Assembly in Kuwait.

improve national sports standards, Myanmar's participation in international competitions and the organization of training courses for referees and coaches. They also discussed Myanmar's preparation for the 33rd Southeast Asian Games, scheduled from 9 to 20 December, including arrangements for athlete participation, training facilities, accommodation and meals with representatives from the SEAGF Council.

The Union minister and his delegation returned to Yangon from Kuwait on the evening of 14 May. — MNA/KZL

MSF to honour children of its members for passing the matriculation exam with flying colours

MYANMAR Seafarers Federation says it will honour award to children of MSF members for passing the matriculation exam with three distinctions and above.

The awarding is added to the agenda of the celebration of the Day of the Seafarers which falls on 25 June, said MSF. MSF members can apply for the award if they have children who passed

the exam with three distinctions and above.

For applying, certificate of exam result and score result, household list, membership card and ID cards of the child and the farther are required for submission.

Applications are to be sent to No 53 ground floor, 37th Street, in Kyauktada Township, by 15 June, said MSF. — MT/ZS



A seafarer family consulting with officials at the MSF office.

Myanmar deports 76 Ethiopians involved in telecom fraud



Immigration processes are underway for the deportation of foreign entrants.

MYANMAR authorities deported 76 Ethiopian nationals found to be involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities. These individuals illegally entered Myanmar through border routes after transiting neighbouring countries, including Thailand. They were active in online gambling and online scam operations in areas such as Myawady-Shwe Kokko, Mahtawthalay (KK Park), and Kyaukkhet in Kayin State.

Following systematic in-

vestigations, these foreign nationals were handed over on humanitarian grounds and in the spirit of bilateral relations to their respective country through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II as per legal procedures. The handover was supervised by Kayin State Social Affairs Minister U Saw Tun Aung and departmental officials, who verified documents, cross-checked personal records and ensured accurate procedures before proceeding with the

transfer.

The formal handover ceremony saw Kayin State Social Affairs Minister U Saw Tun Aung and relevant officials. Myanmar officials transferred all required documentation to the appropriate authorities from the respective country.

Myanmar identified and detained a total of 9,070 foreign nationals who entered the country illegally between 30 January and 15 May 2025. Of these, 8,302 individuals were deported via Thailand to their respective countries under the law, while 768 others are ready to be repatriated and are being kept in proper custody.

The Myanmar government continues to investigate and take effective action against illegal online scam operations, particularly targeting foreign nationals involved in these crimes and their coordinators. It is also actively cooperating to promptly repatriate foreigners who are victims of trafficking or are otherwise in distress. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

Restoration planned for 1,700+ quake-destroyed heritage sites in Mandalay

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, more than 1,700 ancient buildings in areas impacted by the Mandalay earthquake will be prioritized and classified into three categories for restoration, maintenance, and reconstruction.

The damaged ancient buildings and significant pagodas will be assessed based on the extent of damage, and restoration efforts will be carried out according to the prioritized categories.

Among the 1,752 ancient buildings, the priority will be given to those with high cultural heritage value. The second priority will include partially

damaged buildings with limited original features remaining, while the third priority will cover structures that, except for their foundations, have been almost entirely reconstructed.

Furthermore, restoration and maintenance efforts for ancient buildings and heritage sites will be undertaken in collaboration with UNESCO. This process will be closely supervised by the Department of Archaeology and National Museum, with input from historians, archaeologists, the Myanmar Engineering Society, the Myanmar Architects Association, and the Myanmar Earthquake Committee. — ASH/KN



Officials inspecting the damage to revered pagodas and ancient buildings in earthquake-stricken areas.

Global World Insurance compensates quake-hit Mandalay Hotel

OFFICIALS from Global World Insurance (GWI) delivered natural disaster insurance compensation to the owner of the hotel damaged by the Mandalay earthquake, which struck on 28 March. The handover took place yesterday morning at the hotel, located at the corner of 59th Street and Theikpan Road, Mahaaungmyay Township, Mandalay.

During the compensation handover ceremony, a GWI official explained the reason for the payment and presented compensation amounting to K350 million. U Aung Thaw Marn Maung, a representative from GWI, and U Moe Zaw Zaw, the hotel owner, both expressed gratitude for the prompt coordination



GWI officials hand over the compensation to the hotel owner yesterday.

in processing the insurance compensation.

Global World Insurance has stated that, following the Mandalay earthquake, they have been promptly reviewing and processing compensation claims from policyholders af-

ected by the earthquake in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, and some other affected areas, starting approximately one week after the earthquake occurred. — Arkar Linn/MKKS

Shwe Thanlwin Group serves meals to over 2 mln quake victims

SHWE Thanlwin business group, comprising SkyNet, Shwe Bank and Mo Money, donated cooked rice and meals to more than two million people affected by recent earthquakes in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Sagaing. According to the group, the food donation campaign began on 31 March and continued until 14 May. Meals were provided in the form of nutritious rice and curry dishes. The donations were made to monasteries, nunner-

ies, government departments, wards, villages, temporary relief camps and to those involved in rescue and relief efforts in the earthquake-hit regions. In Nay Pyi Taw, a total of 1,488,151 people received meals from 31 March to 14 May. In Mandalay, 374,335 people were served between 4 April and 4 May. In Sagaing, meals were distributed to 163,720 people between 18 April and 14 May. — ASH/KZL



Officials from Shwe Thanlwin Group are seen donating rice and curry to earthquake victims.

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MGMA invites members to join Apparel Sourcing Paris 2025

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) informed member companies to participate in Apparel Sourcing Paris 2025 to showcase Made in Myanmar products.

Apparel Sourcing Paris 2025, organized by Messe Frankfurt France, will take place on 15-17 September 2025 in Paris Le Bourget, France.

This biannual event is the largest in Europe for manufacturers of clothing and accessories from emerging sourcing countries, bringing together exhibitors from the fashion industry, attracting over 1,000 visitors. It is a platform to explore Basic apparel to innovative products for buyers across the country. MGMA has started to partici-

pate in the event as Myanmar Pavilion starting from 2022 to build a network with European buyers. The MGMA invited member companies to exhibit Made in Myanmar products at the event with a cost-sharing system. Those who want to observe the event can also come along with them by paying registration fees.

They must bear expenditures (flight ticket fees, visa fees, hotel and other costs). The MGMA will provide consultation on buying an air ticket and applying for a visa.

Those interested in joining the Apparel Sourcing Paris 2025 can contact Ma Khin Thandar Aung, Event & PR Officer, via 09 758451158 by 31 May. — NN/KK



Workers sew garments at the manufacturing facility.

CBM sells over THB4.3M on 14 May

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over 4.3 million baht on 14 May 2025.

CBM announced on 13 May that it would sell US\$23.67 million to fuel oil traders and 50 million baht to importers. CBM sold over \$1.62 million on 13 May and over \$820,000 and 1.5 million baht on 12 May. CBM also injected over 3.6 million baht on 9 May again into the financial market after over 5.3 million baht and 723,000 yuan on 8 May, and \$710,000 on 7 May into the financial market. CBM announced on 6 May that it would sell \$33 million and 200 million baht to those engaged in the fuel oil industry. CBM sold 397,843 yuan on that day. CBM injected over \$42 million, over 20 million baht and 500,000 yuan in April, over \$126 million, 320 million baht and 3.6 million yuan in March, over \$88 million, 7.5 million yuan



An exchanger counting foreign currencies at the exchange counter.

and 161 million baht in February and over \$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 devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to com-

bat 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

Central Committee updates insurance premium for VFV land use

INSURANCE premium rate for granting the right to utilize vacant, fallow and virgin land has been adjusted, according to notification 1/2025 of the Central Committee on Management of Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands dated 28 March.

Under Section 13 of the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Law, the Central Committee set the insurance premium for vacant, fallow and virgin land utilization permits based on the land-use type. Those who are granted to utilize the vacant, fallow and virgin lands shall pay insurance premiums to Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank (MADB) according to Rule 22 (a) of the law, and they are registered in form 9 before permits are issued under Rule 24.

Those granted rights to use land must pay the insurance premium at the nearest MADB branch, in line with Rule 43 of the Law.

The revised insurance premiums are K5,000 per acre for manageable small-scale farming with less than 50 acres, K50,000 per acre commercial farming with more than 50 acres, K50,000 per acre of livestock farming, K10,000 per acre of mining exploration, feasibility study and production, K30,000 per acre of government, religious and municipal use for authorized businesses, and K50,000 per acre of private and corporate projects.

The revised insurance fees were decided as per the central committee's 15th meeting held on 6 March 2025. This notification cancelled the previous Notification 1/2022. — NN/KK

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OPINION

Peacefully live together,
forgiving faults

LIVING together in peace is all about accepting differences and having the ability to listen to, recognize, respect and appreciate others, as well as living in a peaceful and united way, according to the United Nations.

Humans cannot live alone; they need to exist within families, societies, and countries, cooperating without causing harm to one another. Although conflicts may arise due to differing ideologies and perceptions, it is essential for people to live in peace as part of fostering a harmonious society. Threatening others is one of the most dangerous actions that can break down society, while peaceful coexistence is invaluable in promoting unity among individuals.

The UN General Assembly, in its resolution 72/130, declared 16 May as the International Day of Living Together in Peace. This day aims to regularly mobilize the efforts of the international community to promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, understanding, and solidarity. It seeks to uphold the desire to live and act together, united in our differences and diversity, to build a sustainable world of peace, solidarity, and harmony.

Hence, everyone must cultivate patience, tolerance, consideration, sympathy, and compassion toward others in society, fostering peace. The International Day of Living Together in Peace is not only relevant to the international community but also to the people of Myanmar. They must do their utmost to restore peace in Myanmar by ending the various conflicts. By forgiving the faults of others, they, too, will find their own faults forgiven.

everyone to take swift action to restore it, eliminating conflicts that never benefit society. They have to discard harmful activities against others, but prepare their mindsets to lend a helping hand to others.

Hence, everyone must cultivate patience, tolerance, consideration, sympathy, and compassion toward others in society, fostering peace. The International Day of Living Together in Peace is not only relevant to the international community but also to the people of Myanmar. They must do their utmost to restore peace in Myanmar by ending the various conflicts. By forgiving the faults of others, they, too, will find their own faults forgiven.

AS A matter of society, almost everyone wants to be wealthy in terms of material possessions, including movable and immovable property and assets, jewellery items and precious ornaments in operating their livelihoods as careers. A comfortable life with a decent amount of money can provide a sense of security for oneself and one's family. However, for wealth to be truly fulfilling, everybody needs to notice that they have equipped themselves with wisdom and moral integrity. Moreover, they have to really understand and firmly uphold the concept that the more they become wealthy, the more responsible they become for the trust of the people they have taken.

Hopes of a successful person

In today's world, being a successful person requires not only economic achievement but also social recognition. In the past, someone who earned a lot of money was often automatically considered 'successful.' But nowadays, that mindset has changed in society. People in the current generation consider that success is no longer measured solely by money and property wealth. It also includes how well a person interacts with others in society and how much support or contribution they offer to others through genuine mindsets.

When studying successful individuals who have become well-known, it becomes clear that their achievements are not only due to economic stability in doing business, but also their ability to demonstrate good character, interpersonal skills, and loving-kindness for others. Those individuals are not only capable of recognizing and managing their employees with various forms of respect, but they are also actively engaged in social organizations. Their success impacts not only themselves but also the broader community. This has become a new definition of success in today's world. Moreover, their mindsets must be better than ordinary people, showing systematic activities in their behaviours without assaulting and harming any others, even if they perform meritorious deeds as well as non-criminal activities.

If peace is established in society, all residents will feel confident in their relationships with one another, free from anxieties and worries. Since peace brings happiness and safety, it is essential for everyone to take swift action to restore it, eliminating conflicts that never benefit society. They have to discard harmful activities against others, but prepare their mindsets to lend a helping hand to others.

Invisible public trust

Especially, the building of

Consider the wealth and
success of life based on the
trust of people



Social ethics not only prepare for the future, but also shape the perspectives of people today. For example, a business owner who strives for success by imposing pressure on employees or using deceptive marketing tactics that harm consumers will not be seen as a respected leader. PHOTO: FREEPIK

public trust is an invisible cornerstone of success. For a business, the trust of its customers, the reliability of its workers, and the respect of the community are critically important. Wealth gained without trust is often temporary and will eventually collapse one day. If so, those individuals pretending themselves as trustworthily eminent persons will suffer the impacts of shamefulness.

Social ethics not only prepare for the future, but also shape the perspectives of people today. For example, a business owner who strives for success by imposing pressure on employees or using deceptive marketing tactics that harm consumers will not be seen as a respected leader. However, when they act with responsibility and accountability, they can gain long-term respect from the public.

In today's world, for business success, one needs not only expertise, technology, and market research, but also to develop their own attitude, speech, and actions. To truly assess a person's worth, one must measure not only their financial value but also the value of their words, actions, and the positive impact they contribute to the social environment.

Therefore, in today's success, the concept of "ethics" should no longer be left behind. It has become a fundamental cornerstone that cannot be overlooked on the path to success. For anyone wishing to create success not only for themselves, but also for the benefit of others, it is essential to have trustworthiness, integrity, and high social ethics. It is because the morality of humans can change everything in a short time.

Essence of true and lasting wealth

For example, some people involved in illegal activities in business may survive for a while, but in the long run, they lose trust and may be excluded from society. True and lasting wealth

is not just about having a lot of money. It comes from creating a business that benefits others, managing employees with fairness, and contributing to society. These actions can lead to wealth and, at the same time, build a long-lasting reputation and honour.

Currently, starting a business is not only a personal endeavour but also a responsibility toward the entire community. In the past, businesses were primarily profit-driven, often without considering employees, customers, or environmental issues. However, as times change, there is a growing connection between social responsibility and business practices.

For a business to truly have value, it must bring benefits to others. As an example, a business manufacturing foodstuffs or giving services of food supply services can bring satisfaction to consumers by producing high-quality, health-safe products. If so, the reflection of such business will help polish the integrity of relevant businesspeople. Such a business can not only benefit individual customers but also create jobs for young people, be recognized as a valuable business within the community, and increase its impact through energy and investment initiatives that avoid harm to the natural environment.

Therefore, business leaders today who create value not just for themselves but for others, lead with fairness for their employees, and engage in social assistance, are the ones who can truly achieve comprehensive wealth. These leaders gain not only financial success but also the respect, trust, and admiration of their communities.

Fair management of business leaders

Moreover, managing employees fairly is another key consideration for any business leader. Treating employees with equitable and proper wages and respect in the workplace, and providing opportunities for career development, builds a strong foundation of trust for the business. Fair management practices enhance employee engagement, increase job satisfaction, and support the long-term success of the business. Only when employees are satisfied with the management of businesspeople will they expedite efforts in the workplace in order to boost the business.

Especially in today's world, contributing to society has become an indispensable responsibility of modern businesses. Supporting social enterprises, investing in education, and engaging in long-term sustainable development projects not only earn the respect of the public but also enhance the reputation of a business. Social contributions are essential to creating value with purpose, and through helping others within a community, a business can create "long-term value" beyond just profits.

When all of this is combined, the concept of "wealth" is not only measured by financial gain, but also by honour, integrity, and the place one holds in society. Wealth can be seen through the positive impact on others, responsibility, and such business practices.

By Aung Kyaw Thant

Therefore, business leaders today who create value not just for themselves but for others, lead with fairness for their employees, and engage in social assistance, are the ones who can truly achieve comprehensive wealth. These leaders gain not only financial success but also the respect, trust, and admiration of their communities.

Fundamental necessity for wealth

A person with integrity can be proud of their success while also leading a more stable life with the support of others. In this era where social values are crucial, having ethical conduct has become a fundamental necessity for wealth. All people enjoying the fruits of success should not forget the lives of their started businesses and efforts. They have to understand that the worth and integrity of their lives were built on the pawn employees of their businesses and their trust.

Integrity is one of the most important qualities in a person, and it has a significant impact not only on one's personal beliefs but also on the broader social environment. A person with integrity can live peacefully with others and not only take pride in their success, but also achieve a more stable and prosperous life through the support, cooperation, and efforts of others.

In today's world, business success is no longer measured solely by economic achievements but also increasingly by social impact, and more people are beginning to attain this kind of success.

Greatest attributes with integrity

One of the greatest attributes of a person with integrity is that they can truly take pride in their accomplishments.

SEE PAGE 11

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

A Role Model Who Shaped
My Path to Success

In our journey through life, regardless of our circumstances, continuous learning and effort are vital to progress. Society often judges us not by our past but by our current achievements and perseverance. Striving for a fulfilling life, even if success is still on the horizon, is what truly matters.



To achieve happiness and success, we need role models whose actions and values inspire us. These figures motivate us to push harder and aim higher. I believe that with such inspiration, we can achieve great things. My own experience reflects this truth.

Six years ago, I was assigned as a Staff Officer in a small town. Young and inexperienced, I relied on the guidance of mentors and admired individuals around me. Driven by a passion for learning and a love for reading, I diligently fulfilled my duties, drawing inspiration from those I respected. My hard work paid off when, a year ago, I was transferred to our head office - a milestone that filled me with pride and joy.

At the head office, I found an environment I thrived in, surrounded by respected officers I deeply admired. Among them, Assistant Director U Kyaw Nanda stood out, profoundly shaping my perspective and work ethic. He is a tall, lean man in his early forties, with a sharp mind and a dynamic presence. His precision, speed, and dedication to his work are remarkable, but what sets him apart is his thoughtful approach. He balances efficiency with care, always considering the broader impact of his actions.

Once, I asked him, "Is all this hard work worth it?" His response left a lasting impression. He said he doesn't view his work as a sacrifice but as a source of fulfilment. He emphasized the importance of finding satisfaction in one's own life rather than comparing it to others'. He noted that people fall into three categories: those above, below, or at the same level as us. Instead of comparison, he urged focusing on personal growth and contentment through effort. His words reshaped how I view my career and life.

This esteemed mentor is a master of his craft, deeply knowledgeable about procedures, laws, and regulations. Beyond his expertise, he mentors his team, patiently training subordinates to excel. His team respects and admires him for this. Through his guidance, I learned to categorize essential knowledge, adhere to protocols, and find joy in my work. His encouragement made me proud to be a government servant, transforming my approach to tasks and boosting my success.

This inspiring figure is my role model, a beacon of dedication and wisdom. I encourage readers to find their role models and strive to become dependable contributors to our nation. May we all work towards a brighter future.

Maung Kyaw Ye Aung
(Department of Religious Affairs)

ARTICLE

NATIONAL



This image displays the Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital.

Sitagu's 12th eye treatment donation resumes in May

THE Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital said the 12th round of free eyesight donation will be resumed on 23 May.

“This is the 12th round of free eye treatment provided by Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital, and it will commence at noon on 23 May. New patients are not included yet at this time. More than 200 patients, who were already examined on 28 March when the powerful earthquake hit, are left, and the hospital will provide surgery and treatment for all of them on 23 May. Our doctors urgently went to Sagaing to help with earthquake relief so they could cure the remaining patients in this round,” said the hospital.

Patients who have already underwent examination, patients who were listed in surgical treatment and those who keep their medical records at the hospital during the previous 11th round conducted from 25 to 29 March, will need to come by noon on 24 May, even if they receive no phone calls from the hospital, it said. — MT/ZS

‘Nay Mawin Ywa’ premieres in Yangon before nationwide launch

THE premiere of the film ‘Nay Mawin Ywa’ took place on 14 May at the Thamada Cinema in Dagon Township, Yangon Region.

Academy Tun Tun, who plays a leading role in the film, said that the film was produced by Lotus Film Production, was planned and produced by him.

The film is set to be officially screened in cinemas on 16 May. Academy Tun Tun wrote the story while the shooting script was prepared by Min Ko Soe (Nat Thankwin). The film was produced by Lotus Film Production and directed by Aung Chan Lu.

“I play the leader of youths named Ba Oo in this film. It is about a group of dancers who arrive at the strange



This image depicts the artistes during the premiere show.

village. This film is a story that I wrote around 2013-2014. Since it is a film that I have to produce myself, I have been very busy,” said Academy Tun Tun.

The cast includes Academy Tun Tun, Phyo Ngwe Soe, Academy Kyaw Kyaw Bo, and Tin Maung San Min Win, among others. — ASH/MKKS

Public Notice

THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No “1111” for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via short code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.

Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at short code “1111”. Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

Irrigation resumes at Sinthay Weir following quake damage

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, despite the major Mandalay earthquake, there was no damage to large dams within the Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory. However, the Sinthay diversion weir sustained damage over a length of approximately 150 feet. Temporary repair works were carried out, allowing irrigation to resume on 8 April, providing water to 452 acres of farmland.

However, due to aftershocks, the Sinthay diversion weir was damaged for a second time on 12 April, necessitating the temporary suspension of irrigation. To restore irrigation as quickly as possible, officials supervised the construction of temporary embankments using departmental machinery, working around the clock. Consequently, irrigation resumed

on 17 April for agricultural lands within the right canal irrigation system. By 12 May, the system was able to fully irrigate 2,279 acres of summer paddy fields.

Similarly, efforts were made to quickly resume irrigation from the left main canal. From 21 April onwards, two water pumps were used to supply water. To further enhance the system, a direct water intake canal was constructed from the Sinthay Creek. As a result, on 2 May, irrigation was successfully resumed in the left main canal.

Under the close supervision and guidance of the Union Minister and Deputy Ministers, along with the participation of departmental staff, local administrative bodies, and farmers, water distribution was managed using water rotation and water management techniques. On the evening of 13 May, the left main

canal was able to fully irrigate 6,655 acres of cultivated land.

As of today, 15 May, the Sinthay diversion weir irrigation system has fully supplied water to a total of 8,934 acres of summer paddy fields. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation stated that they will continue to provide the necessary irrigation for paddy cultivation until the harvest season.

— MNA/MKKS

Consider the wealth and success of life based on the trust of people

FROM PAGE 9

Such individuals manage their success responsibly, make good use of natural resources, and often adhere to traditional customs and practices. For example, those who succeed consistently over time demonstrate their accomplishments as a strength. Their ability to interact well with others and to deal with social issues is rooted in the trust they earn from those around them.

In today's era, the social sector has become interconnected with economic matters, and business success has become something that can be practically evaluated. This requires effective management not only of technology, education, and the environment, but also of social issues. In this context, individuals with integrity and ethics gain respect, peace, and admiration from others, and they must also support and contribute to the success of those around them.

A successful entrepreneur, even after their lifetime, leaves behind not only the value of personal integrity but also a respectful perspective on their surroundings, offering new ways to generate positive impact. Responsibilities and outstanding

work that benefit society are built on a foundation of meaningful value. For a business leader, contributing to social welfare brings lasting relevance, celebrates the success of others, and shares in their efforts — actions that are essential to fostering a vibrant and effective society for all humanity.

However, individuals with integrity demonstrate fairness, justice, and development for others. Not only do they achieve wealth, but they also play an exceptional role in society. While recognizing and honouring the contributions and efforts of others, and even when showcasing their own success, true accomplishment lies in also creating value for others. In reality, success is not measured by one's wealth alone, but by how one helps stabilize the lives of others and upholds dignity, laying the foundation for long-term trust and a greater societal success.

Today, personal integrity is becoming an advantage. For those who live life with responsibility, it plays a vital role in enhancing even modest business success. Such individuals must uphold their values and maintain protection against unethical influence.

Israel in Eurovision spotlight at second semifinal

ISRAEL'S participation in the 2025 Eurovision Song Contest has sparked protests, particularly against the backdrop of the ongoing Gaza conflict. Yuval Raphael, a 24-year-old contestant who survived the 7 October Hamas attack by hiding beneath dead bodies, is competing with her song "New Day Will Rise".

She is among 16 contenders vying for 10 spots in the grand final, which is expected to attract 160 to 200 million viewers.

As protests against Israel's involvement grow, including a silent march in Basel, some

broadcasters are calling for discussions on the matter.

Bookmakers favour Israel, Austria, and Finland to advance from the second semifinal, while countries like Montenegro and Georgia may struggle.

In the Thursday semifinal, Austria's JJ performs "Wasted Love," sharing a personal message about resilience, while Finland's Erika Vikman closes the show with "Ich Komme", a song about lust.

Australia's Go-Jo opens with "Milkshake Man," and Ireland is represented by Emmy with "Laika Party". — AFP



Tom Cruise's upcoming film 'Mission: Impossible-The Final Reckoning' earned a five-minute standing ovation after its premiere at the Cannes Film Festival 2025 on Wednesday. PHOTO: ANI

Tom Cruise's 'Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning' premiere gets standing ovation at Cannes 2025

The film features breathless and death-defying practical stunts, which were a key factor in the audience's positive response.

TOM Cruise's upcoming film 'Mission: Impossible — The Final Reckoning' earned a five-minute standing ovation after its premiere at the Cannes Film Festival 2025 on Wednesday.

The final part of the 'Mission: Impossible' franchise received a thunderous standing ovation from the Cannes guests thanks to Cruise's commitment to putting breathless and death-defying practical stunts on the big screen, reported Variety. Cruise expressed his gratitude to the audience and

said that he is very "grateful" for being able to entertain his fans for 30 years with the 'Mission: Impossible' franchise.

"To be here in Cannes and have these moments — I mean, as a kid when we were growing up, I really can't even dream of something like this happening. I think McQ (Director Christopher McQuarrie) said it all, I'm just very grateful for 30 years to be able to entertain you with this franchise," said Tom Cruise in his post-premiere speech as quoted by Variety.

Addressing the director

of 'MI — The Final Reckoning' McQuarrie, Cruise said, "Grateful to you, my friend. Every step of the way, what you've done and how you've expanded it — it just went beyond our expectations. I look forward to making a bunch of other kind of movies with you, I can't wait."

The 'Mission: Impossible' actor was joined by his longtime collaborator and director Christopher McQuarrie as they walked the red carpet at Cannes 2025 on Wednesday. — ANI

Jeremy Allen White, Austin Butler leads Henry Dunham on crime saga 'Enemies'

EMMY Award winner Jeremy Allen White and Oscar-nominated actor Austin Butler have joined Henry Dunham's new crime saga 'Enemies' in the lead roles, reported Deadline.

Apart from direction, Henry Dunham has also written the movie. As per the outlet, the shooting of the film is slated to start during the summer in Chicago on a reported budget of US\$25 million.

In Enemies, a relentless



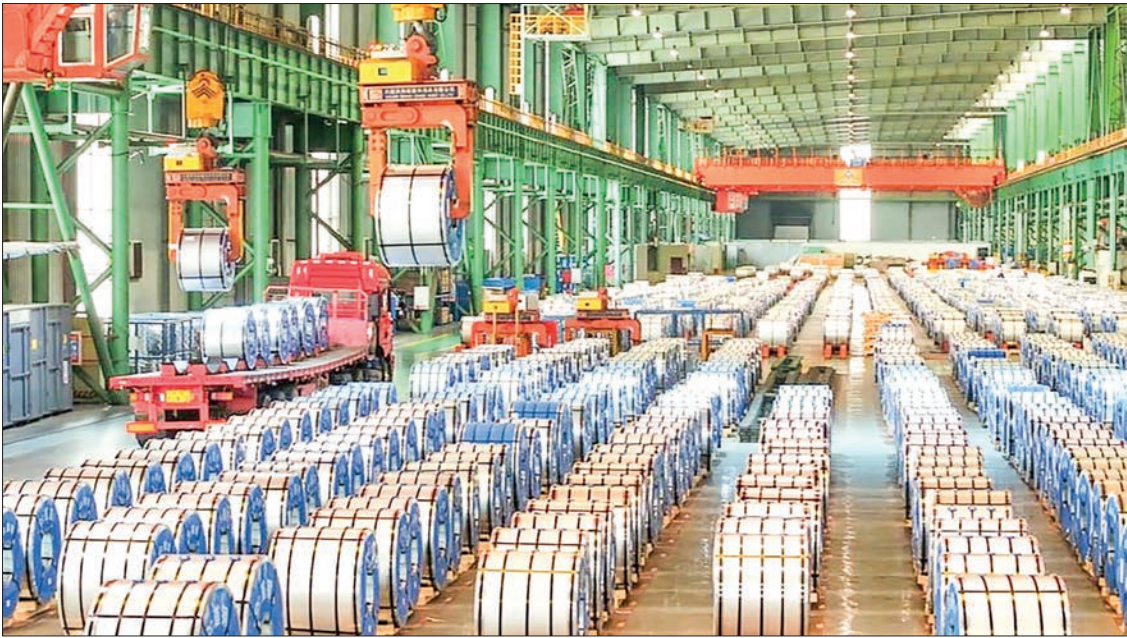
Emmy Award winner Jeremy Allen White and Oscar-nominated actor Austin Butler have joined Henry Dunham's new crime saga 'Enemies' in the lead roles.

PHOTO: ANI

detective and an infamous contract killer collide in a deadly game of cat and mouse, reported Deadline. Dunham previously directed the 2018 crime thriller The Standoff at Sparrow Creek, which follows a former cop-turned-militia man who investigates a shooting at a police funeral.

As for Jeremy Allen White, the actor, earlier this year, emerged as a winner at the Golden Globe Awards. — ANI

China urges US to stop Section 232 tariffs: spokesperson



This aerial photo taken on 22 July 2023 shows a warehouse of Shougang Jingtang United Iron & Steel Co Ltd in Tangshan, north China's Hebei province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

The Section 232 duties on imported automobiles, steel, aluminium, and pharmaceuticals are described as acts of unilateralism and protectionism.

CHINA urges the United States to halt its tariff measures based on the Section 232 investigation as soon as possible, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce said Thursday.

At a regular press conference, Spokesperson He Yongqian said the Section 232 duties imposed on the imported automobiles, steel and aluminium, as well as the Section 232 investigation into pharmaceuticals are “a typical act of unilateralism and protectionism”.

These measures harm the interests of other countries and undermine the rules-based multilateral trading system, but fail to benefit America’s domestic industries, the spokesperson said.

China calls on the US side to immediately end the Section 232 tariff measures and properly address the concerns of all parties through equal-footed dialogue, the spokesperson added. — Xinhua

“No or nil tariff deal was offered by India on a reciprocal basis” says Donald Trump



US President Trump urged Apple CEO Tim Cook not to build in India, citing high tariffs and asserting that India can manage on its own. This picture shows an Apple Inc Headquarters. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

US President Donald Trump on Thursday claimed that India had offered the US a nearly no-tariff deal on a reciprocal basis.

“They have offered us a deal where we’re basically they’re willing to literally charge us no tariff,” President Trump said while addressing a news conference in Doha.

He also mentioned that he encouraged Apple CEO Tim Cook to raise production in the US rather than expanding manufacturing in India.

“I had a little problem with Tim Cook yesterday. I said to him, my friend, I am treating you very good. You are coming up with \$500 billion, but now I hear you are building all over India. I don’t want you building in India. You can build in India, if you want to take care of India because India is one of the highest tariff nations in the world, so it is very hard to sell in India,” Trump said. — ANI

Indonesia implements vessel monitoring system to safeguard marine ecosystem

THE Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries has implemented a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) to support the sustainability of the country’s marine ecosystem, a senior official said on Thursday.

Pung Nugroho Saksono, director general of Marine Resources and Fisheries Supervision at the ministry,

stated that the technology helps maintain the sustainability of fish resources, which is essential for preserving the balance of the marine ecosystem. — Xinhua

Japan weighs doubling stockpiled rice release to rein in price surge

THE Japanese government is considering roughly doubling the supply of stockpiled rice to about 600,000 tonnes, as rice prices remain at near record highs amid a shortfall, sources close to the matter said Thursday.

The government is studying releasing 300,000 tonnes of reserve rice over three months through July, in addition to 321,000 tonnes auctioned in three tranches between March and April.

If the government goes ahead with the additional release, its stockpile will be down to around 300,000 tonnes, about a third of what is generally regarded as the appropriate reserve level. That may raise concerns over how the government will respond if there is another poor harvest due to a natural disaster or bad weather. — Kyodo



As more tourists visit Japan, there is a growing demand for traditional Japanese cuisine, which often features rice as a staple ingredient. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/KYODO**

Japan sets 5-year goal of 1% annual real wage growth via investment

Despite the fastest pay increase in over 30 years last year, real wages have declined for the third consecutive year.



Pedestrians cross a street in Tokyo's Marunouchi business district on 11 January 2019. PHOTO: KYODO/FILE

THE government on Wednesday set a five-year goal of achieving annual inflation-adjusted wage growth of one per cent across Japan through 60 trillion yen (\$408 billion) in public-private investment aimed at improving productivity. The plan mapped out by Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's government

focuses on small and medium-sized enterprises, which account for a large share of Japan's workforce, and comes as many consumers struggle with sharp price hikes that have outpaced pay increases.

With the government and Bank of Japan maintaining a price stability target of around two per cent, the new wage goal would require three per cent nominal growth, even as the economic outlook remains uncertain against a backdrop of higher US tariffs. — Kyodo

Disneyland kicks off 70th anniversary festivities

DISNEYLAND Resort in US California launches its 70th anniversary celebration this week with a host of special events, new attractions, vibrant decorations, themed food and beverages, and commemorative merchandise.

The yearlong celebrations will officially open to the public on Friday, after media preview days on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Located in Anaheim, Southern California, the park is filled with a festive atmosphere, as visitors immerse themselves in the magic of Disney. The entire resort is adorned in bold shades of blue, magenta, and purple, accented with gold — including a regal medallion on Sleeping Beauty Castle.



People pose for selfies at Disney California Adventure Park in Anaheim, California, the United States, on 13 May 2025. PHOTO: QIU CHEN/XINHUA

A new upbeat theme song titled "Celebrate Happy," composed specially for the anniversary, plays throughout various entertainment experiences in the park.

At the gates of the Disneyland park, a floral

arrangement of Mickey Mouse greets visitors, surrounded by vibrant flower beds. Main Street is festooned with colorful banners and bunting, further enhancing the celebratory spirit. — Xinhua

Walmart CEO warns of higher prices due to tariffs

WALMART'S CEO warned Thursday of higher prices due to tariffs, welcoming a de-escalation of US President Donald Trump's trade war with China but saying the levies remain too high for the retailer to absorb.

"We will do our best to keep our prices as low as possible but given the magnitude of the tariffs, even at the reduced levels, we aren't able to absorb all the pressure," Chief Executive Doug McMillon told investors. — AFP

Seeking something new, Airbnb CEO promises 'perfect concierge'

"NOVELTY is cool. It's exciting. I want to be new (and) fresh," Airbnb CEO Brian Chesky told AFP in Los Angeles, where he is presenting a new offering that could bring haircuts and other services into your holiday home.

Alongside accommodation bookings — which are "no longer new", he notes — users will now be able to find beauty and wellness professionals as well as caterers ready to come to their vacation rental or even to their own home.

It marks the most ambitious diversification of Airbnb's business since its birth in 2008 in San Francisco.

"I do want to stay relevant. I do want the company to grow and change. But the world doesn't care about that. That's our problem," said Chesky in a Tuesday interview. "The problem for customers is it's really hard to get these services."

He explained that initially the idea seemed merely interesting but gradually became "essential", with the realization that customers could transform from annual Airbnb users to weekly ones. — AFP

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MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following item in Yuan.

Sr No.	Tender No	Description
1	12(T)1/MR(ML/NPT) Yuan/25-26	Procurement for Remanufacturing of (6) Units of Battery Electric Locomotives from original 1300HP YDM 4 Diesel Electric Locomotives

Closing Date & Time – 16.6.2025(Monday) (2:30)PM

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 16.5.2025 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of 51 Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon, Phone- 95-1-294352, 291994, 291985

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC ZHI VOY.NO. (2507N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC ZHI VOY. NO. (2507N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-5-2025** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2506S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2506S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-5-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Istanbul talks: Russia ready to negotiate, waiting for Western sponsors to push Ukraine forward



The scheduled talks on Thursday in Istanbul will be the first direct negotiations between Russia and Ukraine in three years.

RUSSIA is ready for serious talks in Istanbul on Ukraine, but the results of the talks depend not only on Moscow’s position, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov said on Thursday.

The first direct talks between

Russia and Ukraine in three years are scheduled for Thursday in Istanbul at the suggestion of Russian President Vladimir Putin. The Russian delegation to the talks will be headed by presidential aide Vladimir Medinsky.

“It does not depend on us.

Appropriate impulses are needed from Western sponsors. Our delegation has all the instructions and is working precisely within the framework set by the president. And we are ready for a serious exchange of views,” Ryabkov told reporters. — SPUTNIK

Journalists wait for message on Russia-Ukraine talks outside the Dolmabahce presidential working office in Istanbul, Türkiye, 15 May 2025. On 11 May Russian President Vladimir Putin proposed resuming direct negotiations with Ukraine on 15 May in Istanbul.

PHOTO: LIU LEI/XINHUA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trump says ready to join Russia-Ukraine peace talks in Istanbul

DONALD TRUMP has announced his willingness to travel to Istanbul this Friday to participate in the Russia-Ukraine peace talks.

The first direct talks between Russia and Ukraine in three years are scheduled for Thursday in Istanbul at the suggestion of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The Russian delegation to the talks will be headed by presidential aide Vladimir Medinsky. — SPUTNIK

UN, India discuss efforts to counter use of emerging tech for terrorist purposes

UNITED Nations Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Voronkov of the Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and Assistant Secretary-General Natalia Gherman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) a Government of India delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed efforts to counter the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes, in line with the 2022 Delhi Declaration adopted by the Counter-Terrorism Committee under the Chairmanship of India, UN spokesperson said in response to ANI on the visit of the Indian Technical Team at UN in New York.

This includes developing non-binding guiding principles-prepared with CTED’s support-on threats posed by unmanned aircraft systems and the use of emerging financial technologies for terrorist activities. The discussions with the Indian delegation focused on ongoing collaboration with CTED and UNOCT within their respective mandates, especially in support of implementing key Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions and the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. — ANI

Trump secures US\$1.2 trillion US-Qatar deal spanning aviation, energy and technology

US President Donald Trump announced several agreements with Qatar valued at over US\$ 243.5 billion, alongside a broader economic exchange worth at least US\$1.2 trillion.

Signed during a visit to Qatar, the deals include sectors from aviation and energy to defence and quantum technology. Highlighting a landmark Boeing-GE Aerospace sale to Qatar Airways — Boeing’s largest-ever widebody order — the agreements are expected to support over 1 million US jobs and deepen strategic cooperation between Washington and Doha.

The White House released a statement on Wednesday stating, “Today in Qatar, President Donald J Trump signed an agreement with Qatar to generate an economic exchange worth at least US\$1.2 trillion. President Trump also announced economic deals totalling more than US\$243.5 billion between the United States

and Qatar, including a historic sale of Boeing aircraft and GE Aerospace engines to Qatar Airways.”

The statement added, “The landmark deals celebrated today will drive innovation and prosperity for generations, bolster American manufacturing and technological leadership, and put America on the path to a

new Golden Age. Allies like Qatar are partnering in the United States’ success.” According to the White House, Qatar will invest up to US\$1 billion in state-of-the-art quantum technologies and workforce development provided by the Joint Venture, supporting US and Qatari jobs and leadership in this critical emerging technology. — ANI



The agreement, signed in Doha during Trump’s Middle East tour, includes the purchase of 210 Boeing jets by the state-owned Qatari carrier. PHOTO: ANI

SPORTS



Eddie Howe's Newcastle ended their decades-long trophy drought by winning the League Cup this season. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Premier League top-five hopefuls battle for Champions League riches

THE Premier League race is over and relegation is decided — but the battle for Champions League qualification remains wide open with just two rounds to go.

Only champions Liverpool are so far guaranteed one of the five places up for grabs in Europe's top club competition next season and second-placed Arsenal look almost certain to join them.

But just four points separate third-placed Newcastle from Nottingham Forest in seventh spot.

Newcastle United aims to leapfrog Arsenal in the Premier League standings as they prepare for a crucial match at the Emirates on Sunday. Arsenal, who have been Liverpool's closest challengers, have struggled recently, winning only one of their last six league games.

A victory for Eddie Howe's Newcastle would elevate them a point above the Gunners, who are facing pressure to secure their position. Since winning the League Cup final against Liverpool in mid-March, Newcastle has been in strong form, losing just once in their last eight league matches. Howe remains cautious, stating, "We still have two games to go and lots of twists and turns that could be around the corner."

Meanwhile, Aston Villa and Chelsea are also in contention for top-five finishes, with both teams set to play on Friday against Europa League finalists Tottenham and Manchester United, respectively. Villa's recent success has reignited their Champions League ambitions.

— AFP

South Korea police arrest two over Son Heung-min 'blackmail'

TWO people have been arrested for allegedly blackmailing Spurs and South Korea captain Son Heung-min, police said Thursday.

The accused are a woman in her 20s and a man in his 40s, a spokesperson for the Korean National Police Agency told AFP.

The two allegedly tried to extort money from the 32-year-old forward by falsely claiming that the woman was pregnant with Son's child, Yonhap news agency said. The footballer's agency, Son & Football Limited, said it filed a police complaint for blackmail and will pursue "strong legal action without leniency". The two "threatened the player by saying they would spread false information", the agency alleged in a statement.

— AFP

Haaland eyes FA Cup to save face after Man City's 'horrific' season

ERLING Haaland said Manchester City must deliver in the FA Cup final on Saturday to salvage something from a "horrific" season that saw them deposed as English champions for the first time in five years.

City face Crystal Palace at Wembley aiming to avoid a first trophyless campaign since Pep Guardiola's debut season in charge in 2016/17.

Guardiola's men sit fourth in the Premier League, 18 points adrift of champions Liverpool, and in a battle just to secure a top-five finish and Champions League football next season in their final two league matches.

City were also dumped out of the Champions League before the last 16 for the first time in 12 years by Real Madrid in

the play-off round.

"This season has been tough," Haaland told the BBC. "It is not nice to lose so many games. It is boring and not fun. That's why we need to finish well and get a trophy."

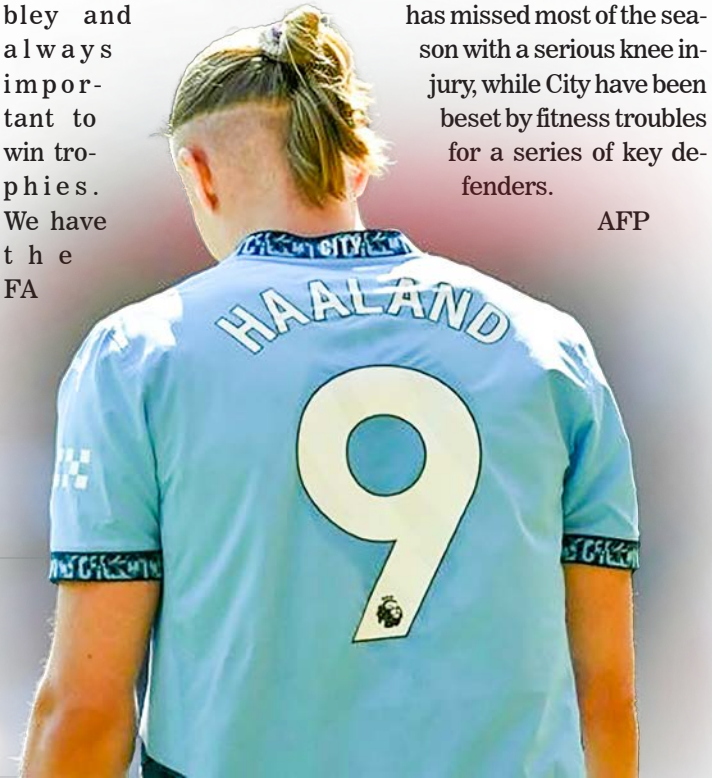
"It is a good habit to reach Wembley and always important to win trophies. We have the FA

Cup final to play for and in a horrific season we still managed to do this."

Haaland is set to start the final after making his comeback from a six-week injury layoff in last weekend's 0-0 draw at Southampton.

Ballon d'Or winner Rodri has missed most of the season with a serious knee injury, while City have been beset by fitness troubles for a series of key defenders.

AFP



Erling Haaland is aiming for FA Cup glory to mitigate a "horrendous" season for Man City. PHOTO: AFP

Maresca 'happy' with pressure of Champions League challenge

CHELSEA boss Enzo Maresca said he welcomes the pressure of potentially having to win their final two Premier League games to secure a place in next season's Champions League.

The Blues sit fifth, which would be enough for a Champions League return after a two-year absence, but are ahead of Aston Villa only on goal difference and are just one point better off than Nottingham Forest, who they travel to on the final day of the campaign.

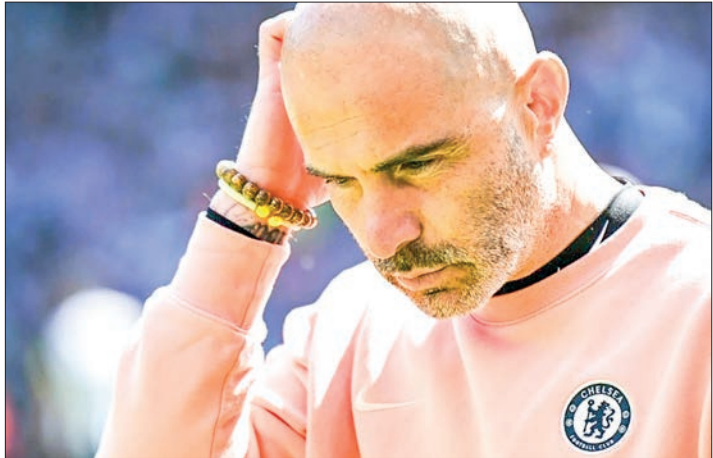
Chelsea were cruising towards a top-five finish as Maresca's reign at Stamford Bridge got off to a flying start before a run of five wins in 16 games between December and April

put them at risk of missing out.

Maresca's men have also reached the Europa Conference League final, where they will face Real Betis on 28 May.

Reports this week have suggested the Italian's job is not at risk even if Chelsea fail to qualify for the Champions League.

— AFP



Enzo Maresca is aiming to return Chelsea to the Champions League. PHOTO: AFP



China, Vietnam open new int'l road transport route

This marks the first time Chinese freight vehicles will reach Vietnam's inland regions directly via the newly opened route under the Greater Mekong Sub-region Cross-border Transport Facilitation Agreement (CBTA).

AT 10:40 am on Wednesday, convoys carrying electronic components, fresh vegetables, and daily necessities departed simultaneously from Nanning in South China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Kunming in southwest China's Yunnan Province, heading for Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam.

This marks the first time that Chinese freight vehicles operating under the Greater Mekong Sub-region Cross-border Transport Facilitation Agreement (CBTA) will reach Vietnam's inland regions directly via the newly opened route. The route represents a significant enhancement in facilitating international road transport between China and Vietnam, resulting in a notable improvement in transport efficiency.



An aerial drone photo taken on 21 March 2025 shows trucks loaded with equipment for export to Vietnam in Guangxi Pingxiang Integrated Free Trade Zone in Pingxiang, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: CAO YIMING/XINHUA**

Compared with previous routes, the new corridor saves each truck approximately one day in transport time and reduces costs up to 1,000 yuan (about US\$138.97). China will work with Vietnam to accelerate infrastructure connectivity, lower

visa fees for drivers, improve Customs clearance efficiency, and advance the implementation of bilateral agreements, said Wang Xiuchun, an official with the Ministry of Transport. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties

between China and Vietnam. Over the years, the two countries have strengthened economic and trade relations. China has been Vietnam's largest trading partner since 2004, while Vietnam has been China's largest trading partner within ASEAN since 2016. — Xinhua

“No radiation leak or release from any nuclear facility in Pakistan”: IAEA

DAYS after India refuted reports that Pakistan's Kirana Hills area, which reportedly houses a nuclear facility, was

hit during one of the airstrikes during Operation Sindoor, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has said

that there has been no radiation leak or release from any nuclear facility in Pakistan. “Based on information available to the IAEA, there has been no radiation leak or release from any nuclear facility in Pakistan,” the IAEA said in an email statement to ANI.

The global nuclear watchdog made the statement in response to ANI's query on reports of a nuclear leak in Pakistan. IAEA's statement comes days after Air Marshal AK Bharti, while addressing a press briefing on Monday, said that the Indian Armed Forces did not target the nuclear facility at Kirana Hills in Pakistan. When asked whether India had struck Kirana Hills, Air Marshal AK Bharti responded, “Thank you for telling us that Kirana Hills houses some nuclear installation, we did not know about it. We have not hit Kirana Hills, whatever is there.” — ANI



A motorcyclist takes a photo of a billboard featuring the heads of Pakistan's navy, air force and army in Peshawar. **PHOTO: AFP**

JOINT VISIT

Israeli, German Presidents revisit Kibbutz Be'eri, highlight rebuilding efforts

PRESIDENT Isaac Herzog and German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier visited Kibbutz Be'eri on Wednesday, their second joint visit there since the 7 October Hamas massacre. The leaders met with survivors and local leaders before attending a ceremony at the site of the destroyed Be'eri Gallery. Germany is supporting its reconstruction as a symbol of cultural resilience. Both presidents planted a tree in tribute to the kibbutz's revival. Steinmeier reaffirmed Germany's commitment to aiding recovery and securing the release of remaining hostages, including German citizens. — ANI