

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the National Economic Development Coordination Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the National Economic Development Coordination Meeting held yesterday afternoon at the meeting hall of the State Administration Council Chairman’s Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister began the meeting with opening remarks, emphasizing that agriculture and livestock are the backbone of the country’s

MSME support aims to boost national economy and exports

Research activities will drive progress in the production of essential crops for the country and will significantly contribute to national economic development.

Salient points from the address delivered by the Senior General at the National Economic Development Coordination Meeting:

ENHANCING agricultural and livestock production will lead to the development of the national economy.

Successfully implementing agricultural and livestock enterprises will greatly contribute to rural development and poverty reduction.

Cotton and bamboo have been prioritized and promoted as key industries to help drive national economic growth.

In supporting MSMEs, priority should be given to using locally sourced raw materials to enhance product quality and increase export capacity.

economy. He stressed the importance of increasing the production of staple food items such as rice, cooking oil, meat, and fish to ensure stable and affordable food prices.

He reiterated the government’s commitment to developing agro-based and livestock-based manufacturing industries and highlighted the need to build on the country’s strong foundations in these sectors to boost productivity. Although oil crops like peanuts, sesame, sunflower, and soybeans are being cultivated, the country still lacks self-sufficiency in edible oil, leading to continued reliance on imports. Therefore, he underscored

the need for sustained efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in oil production.

A country’s economy is typically measured by its GDP. In the 2024-2025 financial year, our GDP was recorded at US\$76.4 billion. For the 2025-2026 financial year, it is projected to reach \$81.6 billion, with a targeted increase of approximately \$5.2 billion. While reviewing these figures, we noted that the World Bank had initially projected Myanmar’s economic growth at 2.5 per cent. However, it has now revised its forecast, predicting a potential contraction of up to -2.5 per cent. He said this revision is based on inaccurate and

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NATIONAL **PAGE 10**



MNHRC and MPC jointly host media awareness seminar

NATIONAL **PAGE 11**



Rare hornbill chick hatched at Yangon Zoo

BUSINESS **PAGE 12**



CBM to inject US\$33M into fuel oil sector

NATIONAL

Boosting domestic production and exports key to food security and equitable economic growth

WE need to place special emphasis on promoting domestic production to ensure food security. Additionally, we must focus on boosting foreign income by increasing the production of export-oriented goods. As the national economy grows, the socioeconomic well-being of the people will improve, leading to equitable development across regions and states, in alignment with the country’s economic policy aspirations.

(An excerpt from the message sent by the Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the ceremony to mark the Kayin New Year Day, which falls on 30 December 2024)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council

Notification 94/2025

8th Waxing of Waso 1387 ME
2 July 2025

THE State Administration Council Chairman has conferred religious titles on the following women who significantly contributed four kinds of objects to the Sasana to develop and progress three types of Buddhism, as a gesture of honouring the Myanmar Women’s Day, which falls on 3 July 2025 –

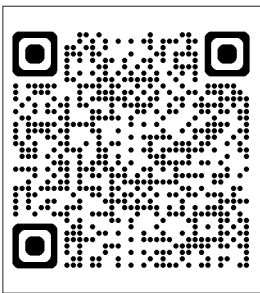
Thiha Thudhamma Theingi Title

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Daw Su Nyunt Oo | Ottarathiri Township | Nay Pyi Taw |
| 2. | Daw Khin Win Yi | Zabuthiri Township | Nay Pyi Taw |
| 3. | Daw Thida Lwin | Zeyathiri Township | Nay Pyi Taw |
| 4. | Daw Khin Lay Myint | Thingangyun Township | Yangon Region |
| 5. | Daw Khin Khin Min | Pobbathiri Township | Nay Pyi Taw |
| 6. | Dr Nanda Hmun | Pobbathiri Township | Nay Pyi Taw |
| 7. | Daw Kyu Kyu Soe | Pobbathiri Township | Nay Pyi Taw |

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman
State Administration Council

Public Notice for Filing
Complaints

1. If a citizen’s fundamental rights and legal rights enshrined in the Constitution, or the human rights provided under international and regional human rights treaties to which the State is a party, are violated, he or she may file a complaint with the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) under Section 30 of the MNHRC Law whether on their behalf, on behalf of another person, or behalf of a group of persons.
2. Complaints can be submitted by addressing the Chairperson, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, 27, 6½ Mile, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, or to any of the Commission’s branch offices located in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sittway, and Patheingyi either by post, in person, via fax at 01 8654678 or through the Commission’s email info@mnhrcc.org.mm.
3. The following particulars must be included in the complaint:
 - (a) Full name of the complainant; permanent address, and full contact details (telephone number, fax, and email if available);
 - (b) A detailed description of how the complainant’s human rights were violated and what harm or loss was suffered, including supporting documents or photographic evidence, if available;
 - (c) A copy of the complainant’s Citizenship Scrutiny Card must be attached;
 - (d) The complaint must be signed by the complainant to certify the correctness of the particulars of the complaint.
4. The Commission will review complaints and conduct investigations under the Commission’s law and its procedures, and will coordinate with the relevant departments and organizations accordingly.



Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council

Notification 95/2025

8th Waxing of Waso 1387 ME
2 July 2025

THE State Administration Council Chairman has conferred honorary titles and medals on the following women for their outstanding performance in relevant arenas in honour of the Myanmar Women’s Day, which falls on 3 July 2025 –

Honorary title for performance

Wunna Kyaw Htin Title

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Saw Mra Raza Lin | Chair | Arakan Liberation Party |
| 2. | Naw Kapaw Htoo | Vice-Chair | Karen National Union,
Karen National Liberation
Army (Peace Council) |
| 3. | Dr Daw Po | Professor/Head of
Department (Rtd) | Ministry of Education |

Honorary Titles for Gallantry of the Myanmar Police Force

Ye Bala Title

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Daw Tin Tin Yi | Township Education Officer | Ministry of Education |
| 2. | Daw Nilar Win | Headmistress of BEMS | Ministry of Education |
| 3. | Daw Su Latt Phyu | Headmistress of BEMS | Ministry of Education |
| 4. | Daw Nyein Nyein Ei | Deputy Staff Officer | Ministry of Home Affairs |
| 5. | Daw Khin Moe Than | Junior Assistant Teacher | Ministry of Education |
| 6. | Daw Than Nyunt | Junior Assistant Teacher | Ministry of Education |
| 7. | Daw Than Than Nwe | Headmistress of BEHS | Ministry of Education |
| 8. | Daw Nang Hla Win | Headmistress of BEPS | Ministry of Education |
| 9. | Daw Yi Yi Htwe | Headmistress of BEPS | Ministry of Education |
| 10. | Daw Zin Wai Lwin | Primary Assistant Teacher | Ministry of Education |
| 11. | Ma-6536 | Sergeant/Midwife | Ministry of Defence |
| | | Honey Pyae Pyae Win | |
| 12. | Daw Thet Haymar Myat | Lower Division Clerk | Ministry of Home Affairs |

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ကမ္ဘာ့ကျေးလက်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးနေ့

၂၀၂၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဇူလိုင်လ (၆) ရက် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)



“Empower Rural Community - transform our world together”

“တို့ကမ္ဘာမြေတိုးတက်ပြောင်းလဲဖို့ ကျေးလက်စွမ်းအားမြှင့်တင်ဖို့”

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)

MSME support aims to boost national economy ...

FROM PAGE 1
incomplete data. What matters most for Myanmar is the need for genuine effort. Regardless of external forecasts, if the people remain committed and hardworking, we can defy these expectations and achieve real GDP growth.

He said that Myanmar has a lower GDP compared to other ASEAN nations and neighbouring countries, we must make every effort to strengthen the manufacturing sector to boost GDP. The Prime Minister noted that he recently attended the Fourth Europe-Asia Economic Forum (EEF 2025) held in Belarus. He highlighted that Belarus is a country with a strong agro-based industry. Its GDP stands at \$73.1 billion, with agricultural exports generating between \$6.8 billion and \$8.2 billion. In contrast, Myanmar's agricultural exports amount to only about \$4.8 billion – roughly half that of Belarus – underscoring the need to modernize our agricultural and livestock sectors.

He explained that beyond attending the forum, the visit provided an opportunity to closely study Belarus and its development strategies. Despite being smaller in both land area and population compared to Myanmar, Belarus has achieved a higher GDP. The country is recognized globally for its production and export of advanced agricultural machinery, a result of adopting modern farming practices and building strong export capacity. In the livestock sector, Belarus also excels. It raises dairy cattle using modern equipment and technologies to produce and export a wide range of dairy products – an area from which Myanmar could

draw valuable lessons. Similarly, during his visit to the Republic of Buryatia in the Russian Federation, It was observed that they are using modern techniques in local livestock farming, including the breeding of purebred animals and the export of high-quality meat. If Myanmar adopt similar production methods and make use of the strong foundations already present in our country, while implementing these practices in a systematic and organized way, it can also achieve success in its agricultural and livestock sectors, just as they have.

Our country currently has a national rice self-sufficiency rate of around 170 per cent. However, there are still some regions and states that have not yet achieved self-sufficiency in rice production. By cultivating systematically and improving crop yields in line with set goals and objectives, it is possible to attain rice self-sufficiency in each region and state.

It has been observed that Chin State, Taninthayi Region, Magway Region, Mandalay Region, Yangon Region, and Shan State are not yet self-sufficient in rice. If the targeted objectives are successfully met in these areas, all regions and states, except for Chin State and Mandalay Region, can reach rice self-sufficiency. Moreover, if the country can produce high-quality rice for export, it would generate increased foreign income. Therefore, we must continue working to enhance agricultural productivity.

In the rice cultivation efforts across various regions and states, authorities have encouraged the use of seed planting and rice transplanters, and

there has been noticeable improvement in these practices. To further enhance productivity, it is important to maintain proper row spacing and ensure grow healthily and increase yields. For this, it is essential to cultivate crops systematically to ensure they thrive and reach their full potential.

In addition to increasing crop yields, it is also important to expand the cultivated area and promote multiple cropping practices. During the 2022-2023 period, the total rice cultivation area was 17 million acres, including 15 million acres of primary cultivation, 2.24 million acres of multi-cropping, and 28,000 acres of intercropping.

Currently, there are 7.33 million acres of farmland where

only a single crop is grown throughout the year. Cultivating rice or other suitable crops on these lands would bring significant benefits. Across the country, there are approximately 20 million acres of farmland used for single-crop cultivation annually.

Regions and states must take concrete steps to ensure the success of agricultural activities. To achieve agricultural goals, it is essential to begin with systematic planting, using high-yielding seed varieties, applying appropriate fertilizers, and improving soil quality. Additionally, measures must be taken to ensure a reliable water supply for agriculture. The government committed to making agricultural activities success-

ful, and also urge the chief ministers of all regions and states to prioritize the development and success of agriculture and livestock-related enterprises during their terms in office, except for cases impacted by natural disasters. He emphasized that ensuring the success of agriculture-based businesses should remain a key priority of the government.

There have been reports indicating a rise in Myanmar's poverty index. Generally, poverty can be caused by two main factors: the failure of businesses and the impact of natural disasters. In our country, around 70 per cent of the population lives in rural areas, while the remaining 30 per cent

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Union Budget Status							
From the 2020-2021 finicial year to the 2025-2026 financial year							
(Kyats in Billion)							
No	content	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
1	Total Revenue	17,585.550	12,601.570	26,725.464	27,892.985	34,553.509	38,242.311
2	Total expense	25,761.044	14,209.266	30,162.644	31,830.158	38,862.347	46,595.231
3	Surplus(+)/Deticit(-)	-8,175.494	-1,607.696	-3,437.180	-3,937.173	-4,308.838	-8,352.920
4	GDP	108,205.724	75,044.663	125,338.951	140,191.000	160,654.827	171,498.125
5	Deficit to GDP ratio	7.56%	2.14%	2.74%	2.81%	2.68%	4.87%

2024-2025 Financila Year Union Budjet status				
(Kyats in Billion)				
No	Content	Original estimate	Revised estimate	Provisional estimate
1	Total amount	31,793.332	35,863.696	34,553.509
	(a) Ordinary	28,876.661	33,152.979	33,296.820
	(b) Capital	461.755	480.969	193.728
	(c) Debt	2,454.916	2,229.748	1,062.961
2	Total expense	39,672.620	42,243.596	38,862.347
	(a) Ordinary	31,443.366	32,918.614	31,064.436
	(b) Capital	5,811.258	7,352.336	6,618.482
	(c) Debt	2,417.996	1,972.619	1,179.429
3	Surplus(+)/Deticit(-)	-7,879.288	-6,379.873	-4,308.838
4	GDP	155,543.534	155,543.534	160,654.827
5	Deficit to GDP ratio	5.07%	4.10%	2.68%

NATIONAL

MSME support aims to boost national economy ...

FROM PAGE 3

reside in urban centres. Of the total population, more than half are engaged in agriculture and forestry in some capacity. Therefore, if the country can successfully implement agriculture and livestock initiatives – the primary livelihoods of rural communities – it will make a significant contribution to poverty reduction. These efforts must be carried out with care and a genuine sense of responsibility to ensure their success. In addition to agriculture, livestock development must also be prioritized. Myanmar has the potential to successfully raise chickens, pigs, goats, sheep, cattle, and fish across all regions of the country. Expanding both agricultural and livestock activities is essential to meet the daily nutritional needs of the population, such as meat, fish, eggs, and fruits, while also boosting local economies.

By doing so, the socio-economic conditions of rural communities will improve. Since agriculture and livestock are primarily rural-based, increasing productivity in these sectors will raise rural incomes and help reduce poverty indicators nationwide.

Since around 2021, we have been providing support for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) based on agricultural and livestock products. At present, it can be observed that many of these enterprises are operating successfully to a certain extent.

Looking globally, it is evident that MSMEs are being encouraged and promoted. When we look at the MSMEs in our own country, we find that the majority are involved in the production of food and beverage products. Therefore, it is necessary to increase the production of goods that can enter wider markets, such as industrial products and agricultural machinery and equipment.

In manufacturing, some products require labour to produce, as well as others can be made using natural resources. For example, with bamboo, which grows naturally in the environment, it is possible to produce a wide variety of goods. If used effectively and profitably, such products could generate substantial national income. Hence, attention should be drawn to this opportunity.

Regarding crops, there are approximately 500,000 acres of cotton plantations. If cotton-based industrial enterprises are

promoted, this could greatly contribute to national economic development. Cotton is a crop with strong potential for supporting the country's development and should be supported and expanded.

Therefore, cotton and bamboo should be prioritized and developed as key industries to boost the national economy.

Support is being provided to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with the objectives of replacing imported goods, strengthening the domestic economy, producing high-quality products for export, and generating foreign income.

In operating MSMEs, access to raw materials is of primary importance. Therefore, priority is being given to MSMEs that are based on regionally produced raw materials. At the same time, it is necessary to ensure the adequate supply of critical imports such as fertilizers, pesticides, fuel for machinery, and electricity.

In addition to financial capital, it is also essential to have sufficient and skilled human resources. During recent visits to MSMEs across the country, reports were received regarding shortages of labour. As a result, in 2024, a request was made to compile a list of the working-age population based on the country's total population.

According to available data, the estimated number of people of working age (those aged between 15 and 65) is approximately 34.806 million. Of these, around 19.141 million are engaged in some form of employment. There are over 1 million civil servants, approximately 140,000 university students, and around 17.13 million people registered and working as labourers domestically and abroad. Although the country possesses a substantial labour force, there is a need to make more effective use of this potential. While Myanmar already has favourable land and conditions for employment, there is still a need to create real job opportunities.

To this end, the government has allocated funds from the National Economic Promotion Fund to regions and states. Additional funding is being provided as necessary. The government will also continue to supply the required investment and technology. What is most important, however, is that people must truly be willing to work.

The World Bank has assessed that Myanmar's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

may decline due to disruptions in production caused by ongoing conflicts within the country, and due to damage sustained by economic activities following the recent major earthquake in Mandalay.

In response, we have included in our post-earthquake recovery plans measures to provide low-interest investment funding to help economic activities resume as quickly as possible.

We are fully committed to making every effort to restore the national economy, which has been adversely affected. We will support the development of manufacturing industries and provide necessary encouragement to those who wish to contribute to the country's economic growth.

It is our firm belief that if such efforts are carried out effectively, the national economy will have the potential to recover and improve.

Following that, in connection with national economic development, the Union Minister for Planning and Finance provided explanations regarding the financial status of the Union Government, including annual budget estimates by financial year, the use of emergency funds in response to natural disasters, and contributions made to the National Disaster Management Fund.

He also discussed the preparation of the Union Budget Estimate for the 2025–2026 financial year; consumer price inflation and monetary inflation rates; the expenditure and remaining balance of the MSME Development Fund; the establishment and additional capital inflow of the National Economic Promotion Fund, and distributions made to regions and states.

The Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation explained the progress in the agricultural and livestock sectors, and the development of manufacturing industries based on those sectors. He also shared findings from the study of export and import volumes, as well as revenue and expenditure figures from financial years 2020–2021 to 2024–2025. Comparative observations regarding the production and export volumes of neighbouring countries were also presented.

The Union Minister for Energy outlined the ministry's ongoing efforts in the energy sector to support national economic development. He explained the current initiatives to reduce reliance on imported

petroleum products, to locally produce and use high-grade fuels, and the benefits of doing so. Measures to reduce imports of fertilizers were also being implemented. In addition, he highlighted key fundamental measures being taken to improve the energy sector.

The Union Minister for Industry presented on the formation of committees and commissions dedicated to the development of the industrial sector and MSME manufacturing businesses. He discussed the organization of MSME product exhibitions, efforts to ensure the local production of high-quality iron and steel for the construction industry, and plans to maximize the output of cement factories.

He further explained ongoing activities for the development of industries and industrial zones, promotion of manufacturing enterprises, the increasing production of pharmaceuticals, and the production performance of state-owned factories by financial year.

Afterwards, those attending the meeting held discussions and presented their views on matters relating to the country's economic development.

In response to the presentations, the Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister stated that it is necessary to ensure sufficient domestic production of the medicines most needed in the country.

He added that in supporting MSMEs, priority should be given to using locally available raw materials to produce improved goods that can also be increasingly exported abroad.

He also stressed that in carrying out manufacturing activities, emphasis should be placed on producing quality products in large quantities that meet market demands, so they can be sold successfully.

Afterwards, in his concluding remarks, the Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister stated that the matters discussed were productive and constructive.

He noted that the government is currently working towards the development of the national economy and the reduction of commodity prices. He emphasized that while there are matters that require long-term efforts, there are also issues that must be addressed and resolved immediately.

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

MSME support aims to boost national economy ...

FROM PAGE 4

He highlighted the need to prioritize economic development in the short term and called for improvements in the manufacturing sector. He added that necessary support should be provided as much as possible to meet the requirements for implementing these activities.

Furthermore, he pointed out that, through conducting research and studies, it would be possible to enhance and improve business operations more effectively.

In carrying out agricultural activities, it is necessary to conduct research aimed at cultivating high-yield and high-quality crop varieties that are suited to the current conditions. Efforts should also be made to achieve wheat sufficiency across all regions and states.

As maize production is also a nation-

al necessity, it is important to produce high-quality maize as a raw material so that value-added maize-based products can be manufactured domestically and exported.

Enhancing the cultivation and production of oil crops such as sunflower will greatly contribute to domestic oil sufficiency.

It is also necessary to research to ensure high-quality cultivation of fruit crops that thrive in Myanmar, such as Myanmar durian and Sein Ta Lone mangoes. Cultivating crops according to zones that match the local conditions will enable the production of large quantities of high-quality produce in concentrated areas.

Furthermore, improving the cultivation of kitchen crops such as onions, garlic, potatoes, and other essential vegetables

will directly benefit farmers.

Research activities will lead to improvements in the cultivation of crops that are essential to the nation and will greatly contribute to national economic development.

Similarly, in the area of livestock breeding, the raising of indigenous poultry already has both domestic and international market potential, and the required animal feed can be sufficiently sourced within the country.

Research should also be carried out concerning the breeding of animals such as chickens, ducks, pigs, goats, cattle, fish, and prawns in order to help improve domestic livestock production. In addition, support should be provided to those engaged in livestock farming.

If we are able to further develop ag-

ricultural and livestock-based production industries to ensure domestic sufficiency and increase exports, this will provide considerable support to national economic growth.

However, it was also noted that illegal trade and unauthorized extraction of natural resources in border areas continue to cause serious harm to the nation. Therefore, regional and state governments must take systematic action to strictly control and prevent such activities.

The meeting concluded in the evening after the discussions. It was attended by members of the Council, Union ministers, the chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, deputy ministers, and departmental officials, while chief ministers from various regions and states joined via videoconference. — MNA/KNN/TH

MoST Union Minister
inspects universities in
Mandalay, Sagaing regions

UNION Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw met the pro-rector, department heads and faculty members of Technological University (Kyaukse) on 30 June.

He heard the report made by the pro-rector regarding the maintenance, learning processes of students, classrooms, departments and computer rooms after the earthquake.

He inspected the maintenance processes and dormitories for students.

On arrival at the University of Computer Studies (Mandalay), he met the students who

are studying at the newly constructed school buildings of the university, and inspected the renovation of computer rooms, administrative offices, as well as repairs and upgrades to the volleyball and futsal courts.

On 1 July, the Union minister inspected the Technological University (Sagaing) together with Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw.

At noon, he proceeded to the Myanmar Institute of Information Technology in Mandalay.

On 2 July, the Union minister visited Technological University (Mandalay) together with



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw hears the reports by an official from the Technological University (Mandalay) on 2 July 2025.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung and relevant officials, and inspected the teaching and learning processes.

During the visit, the Union minister heard the reports made by the relevant officials and gave proper instructions. — MNA/KTZH



Officials visit the displays at the market fair to mark the 103rd International Co-operatives Day in Yangon yesterday.

Yangon hosts pre-Co-op Day market
showcasing local products from
44 townships

IN celebration of the 103rd International Co-operatives Day, which falls on 5 July, a pre-event market festival featuring products from all 44 townships of Yangon Region is being held.

The market opened today at 8 am within the premises of the Yangon Region Co-operative Department Office in Bahan Township.

The event was formally opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by U Zaw Win, Minister for Natural Resources

of the Yangon Region government, the director of the Yangon Region Co-operative Department, and the chairperson of the Yangon Region Co-operative Syndicate.

Following the opening, the regional minister and departmental officials toured the market, where 46 stalls have been set up. These stalls display and sell products from various co-operative associations, basic-level co-operatives, and locally made goods from the townships across Yangon Region. — Arkar Linn/MKKS

NATIONAL

FROM PAGE 2

13.	Daw Thin Thin Aye	Lower Division Clerk	Ministry of Electric Power			Population
14.	La 270155	Police Lance Corporal Laxmi	Myanmar Police Force	3.	Daw Hmon Shwe Yi	Director Ministry of Immigration and Population
15.	Ah-126905	Nurse Aid Daw Thiri Htay	Ministry of Defence	4.	Dr Hla Hla Htay	Deputy Medical Superintendent Ministry of Health
16.	Ah-141840	Private/Mess (Substituted) Daw Thuzar Win	Ministry of Defence	5.	Dr Shwe Sin Hlaing	Director (Laboratory) Ministry of Health
17.	Daw Tin Zar Moe		Ministry of Defence	6.	Daw Lin Lin Mar	Deputy Director Ministry of Immigration and Population
18.	Daw Hnin Hnin Aung		Ministry of Defence	7.	Dr Aye Thu Aung	Medical Superintendent Ministry of Health
19.	Daw Wint Wah Soe		Ministry of Defence	8.	Dr Ei Ei Khin	Head of District Medical Services Ministry of Health
20.	Daw Nyein Nyein Aye		Ministry of Defence	9.	Dr Kyu Kyu Naing	Dept/Medical Superintendent Specialist surgeon (Radiotherapy) Ministry of Health
21.	Daw Zin Mon Kyaw		Ministry of Defence	10.	Daw Nan Ei Thanda Chaw	Township Justice Supreme Court of the Union
22.	Daw Sein Wint Wah Min Oo		Ministry of Defence	11.	Daw Zin Min Khaing	Staff Officer Ministry of Immigration and Population
23.	Daw Mya Yoon Hmi		Ministry of Defence	12.	Daw Nwe Nwe Oo	Headteacher of BEPS Ministry of Education
24.	Daw Myat Noe Wai		Ministry of Defence	13.	Daw Saw Khin Khin Cho	Headteacher of BEPS Ministry of Education
25.	Daw Htoo Mon Swe		Ministry of Defence	14.	Daw Phwa Myaing	Headteacher of BEPS Ministry of Education
26.	Daw San San Wai		Ministry of Defence	15.	Daw Khin Saw Yu Maw	Mandalay Region
27.	Daw May Thu Win		Ministry of Defence		Excellent Performance in Social Field (First Class)	
28.	Daw Nang Kaythi Aung		Ministry of Defence	1.	Daw Khin Cherry Thet	Sports Officer Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs
29.	Daw Nyo Htwe		Ministry of Defence	2.	Daw Mar Si	Senior Assistant Teacher Ministry of Education
30.	Daw Kaing Thang		Ministry of Defence	3.	Daw Khin Min Oo	Senior Assistant Teacher Ministry of Education
31.	Daw Thanda Lin		Ministry of Defence	4.	Daw Phyu Phyu Thin	Senior Assistant Teacher Ministry of Education
32.	Daw Aye Aye Thu		Ministry of Defence	5.	Daw Myint Myint Sein	Headteacher of BEPS Ministry of Education
33.	Daw Myint Myint Htay		Ministry of Defence	6.	Daw Zar Zar Win	Assistant JAT Ministry of Education
34.	Daw Khong Nan		Ministry of Defence	7.	Daw Ei Ei Phyo	Assistant PAT Ministry of Education
35.	Daw Thanda Cho		Ministry of Defence	8.	Daw Soe Myat Thuzar	Artiste
36.	Daw Thin Thida Soe		Ministry of Defence	9.	Daw May Thinza Oo (aka) Daw Thuza Htwe	Artiste
37.	Daw Htay Htay		Ministry of Defence		Excellent Performance in Social Field (Second Class)	
38.	Daw Htar Htar Nwe		Ministry of Defence	1.	Dr Tin Cho Cho Ko	Medical Superintendent Ministry of Health
39.	Daw Waing Sein		Ministry of Defence	2.	Daw Htet Htet Aye	Assistant Director Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
40.	Daw Manan		Ministry of Defence	3.	Daw Hnin Wai Wai Lwin	SAT (Physical Training) Ministry of Education
41.	Daw Ei Phyo Tun		Ministry of Defence	4.	La 274457	Police Sergeant Myanmar Police Force
42.	Daw Swe Sali Nya		Ministry of Defence		Excellent Performance in Social Field (Third Class)	
43.	Daw Moe Moe Win		Ministry of Defence	1.	Daw Theingi Ye Tun	Deputy Director-General Ministry of Labour
44.	Daw Moe Moe Aye		Ministry of Defence	2.	Professor Dr Thanda Win Nwe	Professor/Head of Treatment Medical Department) Emergency Ministry of Health
45.	Daw Khin San Htwe		Ministry of Defence	3.	Professor Dr Thin Thin Win	Professor (Emergency Medicine Dept) Ministry of Health
46.	Daw Chit Su Hlaing		Ministry of Defence	4.	Professor Dr Moe Nwe	Professor (OG) Ministry of Health
47.	Daw May Zin Shine		Ministry of Defence	5.	Professor Dr Cho Cho Win	Professor (Paediatrician) Ministry of Health
48.	Daw Ei Ei Thein		Ministry of Defence	6.	Daw Aye Aye Maw	Deputy Director-General (Admin) Ministry of Construction
49.	Daw Chit Su Wai		Ministry of Defence	7.	Daw Hnin Thanda Aung	Director (Civil) Ministry of Construction
50.	Daw Zargyi Phyo		Ministry of Defence	8.	Daw Naw Chaw Su	Deputy Director Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development
51.	Daw Sein Kyi Htwe		Ministry of Defence	9.	Daw Saw Shwe	Deputy Director Ministry of Health
52.	Daw Pan Ei Phyu		Ministry of Defence	10.	Daw Thein Thein Oo	Regional Department Head Ministry of Health
53.	Daw Tin Tin Htwe		Ministry of Defence	11.	Daw Ni Ni Khaing	Deputy Director Ministry of Health
54.	Daw Tun Nanda Hlaing		Ministry of Defence	12.	Daw Nant Aye Aye Nwe	Deputy Director Ministry of Health
55.	Daw Khin San Win		Ministry of Defence	13.	Dr Khin Htet Htet Tun	Specialist (Anesthetics) Ministry of Health
56.	Daw Khaing Thazin Phyo		Ministry of Defence	14.	Daw Theingi Aung	Deputy Staff Officer Ministry of Home Affairs
57.	Daw Hla Hla Htwe		Ministry of Defence	15.	Daw Khin Myo Thant	Deputy Staff Officer Ministry of Labour
58.	Daw Cherry Myint		Ministry of Defence	16.	Daw Thazin Tun	Deputy Staff Officer Ministry of Labour
59.	Daw Ei Zin Phyo		Ministry of Defence	17.	Daw Thein Than Yi	Headmistress of BEPS Ministry of Education
60.	Daw Theingi Tun		Ministry of Defence	18.	Daw Khin Mar Aye	Primary Assistant Teacher Ministry of Education
61.	Daw Binthara		Ministry of Defence	19.	Daw Moe Moe San	Primary Assistant Teacher Ministry of Education
62.	Daw Nyo Win		Taninthayi Region	20.	Daw Mar Mar Aye	Primary Assistant Teacher Ministry of Education
63.	Daw Thida Yu Mon		Mandalay Region			
64.	Daw Hnin Thida		Yangon Region			
65.	Daw Li Li Naing Soe (aka) Li Li Naing Kyaw		Artiste			
			Honorary Medal for Performance of Myanmar Police Force Ye Kyaw Swa Title			
1.	Police Inspector Hnin Wai Nyein		Myanmar Police Force			
2.	Police Inspector Thin Su Win		Myanmar Police Force			
			Honorary Medals for Performance			
			Excellent Performance in Administrative Field (Second Class)			
1.	Dr Khaing Khaing Soe	Director-General	Immigration and Population Ministry			
2.	Daw Aye Aye Thein	Director	Immigration and Population Ministry			
			Honorary Medals for Performance			
			Excellent Performance in Administrative Field (Third Class)			
1.	Professor Dr Nu Nu May	Professor (Anaesthetics)	Ministry of Health			
2.	Daw Sanda Myint	Director	Ministry of Immigration and			

SEE PAGE 7

NATIONAL

FROM PAGE 6

21. Daw Thuza Nwe	Primary Assistant Teacher	Ministry of Education	42. Daw Su Su Han	Ward Administrator	Magway Region
22. Daw Toe Toe Than	Health Assistant 2	Ministry of Health	43. Daw Phyto Thanda Aung	Ward Administrator	Mandalay Region
23. Daw Khaing Nwe Zaw	Upper Division Clerk	Ministry of Planning and Finance	44. Daw Nyunt Nyunt Swe	Ward Administrator	Mandalay Region
24. Daw Zin Moh Moh Kyaw	Senior Nurse	Ministry of Health	Medals for Economic Outstanding Performance		
25. Daw Yoon Thiri Tun	Upper Division Clerk	Ministry of Hotels and Tourism	Excellent Performance in Agricultural Field (Third Class)		
26. Daw Htay Htay Myint	Lower Division Clerk	Ministry of Home Affairs	1. Daw L Balin	Staff Officer	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
27. Daw Swe Swe Moe	Lower Division Clerk	Ministry of Home Affairs	Excellent Performance in Service Field (Third Class)		
28. Daw Mya Mya Moe	Lower Division Clerk	Ministry of Home Affairs	1. Daw Phu Ngon Wai	Electrician 4	Ministry of Electric Power
29. Daw Sanda Sein	Lower Division Clerk	Ministry of Home Affairs	2. Dr Toe Nanda Tin	Senior Vice-Chair	Myanmar Fisheries Federation
30. Daw Shwe Sin Win	Lower Division Clerk	Ministry of Home Affairs	3. Dr Myat Thida Myint	Chair	Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association
31. Daw Kyawt Kyawt Swe	Industrial Technician4	Ministry of Information	4. Daw Kyway Kyway Zin	Adviser	Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association
32. Daw Htay Nu Wah	Midwife	Ministry of Health	Medals for Outstanding Performance in Professional Field		
33. Daw Mu Mu Win	Midwife	Ministry of Health	Excellent Performance in Fine Arts (First Class)		
34. Daw Nwe Nwe Soe	Midwife	Ministry of Health	1. Daw Swe Zin Htike	Artiste	
35. Daw Aye Aye Maw	Midwife	Ministry of Health	Excellent Performance in Literary Field (First Class)		
36. Daw Phyto Phyto Myat	Cleaner Helper	Ministry of Education	1. Daw Mya Mya Than (aka) Ma Hnin Phwe	Literary Scholar	
37. Daw Thin Thin Kyaw	Chair	Myanmar Young Entrepreneurs Association			
38. Daw Phyu Phyu Myint	Blood donor	Nay Pyi Taw			Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
39. Daw Win Htay	Ward Administrator	Taninthayi Region			Senior General
40. Daw Theint Theint Lwin	Ward Administrator	Bago Region			Chairman
41. Daw Than Shein	Village Administrator	Magway Region			State Administration Council

Rehab efforts beefed up in quake-stricken areas



Rehabilitation efforts are ongoing in Sagaing and Mandalay.

PEOPLE, together with members from relevant organizations, participate in rehabilitation efforts in damaged areas caused by the Mandalay earthquake. Yesterday, Sagaing Region Chief

Minister U Myat Kyaw and Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) observed the clearing of debris at the religious sites in Sagaing, and the land area to reconstruct the Maha Zedihla Pagoda severely destroyed by the quake, and the renovation of Mahiyangana and Laykyun Mahnaung pagodas. They also oversaw other cleaning activities in the compounds of pagodas, monasteries, basic education middle school (branch) and houses in Sagaing. Likewise, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and relevant officials inspected the repair work at the Shwekyatkya Pagoda and removal of damaged parts of collapsed buildings in Amarapura, Channmyathazi and Chanayethazan townships in Mandalay. — MNA/KTZH

Tatmadaw Air Force jet goes missing during training exercise

TATMADAW'S (Air) fighter jet suddenly disappeared from radar and lost communications during a long-distance night training on 1 July 2025, approximately 130 kilometres southeast of Nay Pyi Taw. The initial investigation showed it was caused by a technical malfunction or bad weather. The authority arranged to send rescue teams to that place despite the bad weather. — MNA/KTZH

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AI courses for professionals and developers launching in Aug

THE Myanmar Computer Professionals Association and STI Myanmar College have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to jointly launch AI for professionals (basic and intermediate) and AI for developers courses. The signing ceremony took place at 2 pm on 2 July at the ground floor conference hall of Building 9, MICT Park. Attendees included Chairman U Tun Khine of the Myanmar Computer Professionals Association, General Secretary Dr Myo Myo Naing, Joint Secretary 1 Daw May Thae Win, Managing Director Daw Khin Aye Win of STI Myanmar Col-

lege and Associate Professor Dr Kyawt Kyawt San. The parties signed the MoU to formalize cooperation on the upcoming courses. AI for professionals and AI for developers training programmes are set to commence in August 2025. — Myo Min Thura / KZL



The documentary photo session in progress at the MoU signing event.

OPINION

ARTICLE

Enhance the empowerment of women with gender equality

MYANMAR'S history reflects the significant contributions of women in political, economic, social, and cultural arenas. From past to present, Myanmar women have actively participated in nation-building, development projects, and defence duty alongside men.

Despite these contributions, women have historically faced unequal rights in sectors such as politics, economics, education, healthcare, and social affairs. Discrimination and gender-based violence have further hindered their progress. Recognizing these challenges, efforts to promote gender equality and protect women's rights have been initiated across the country. The UN Charter affirms equal rights for men and women, yet many women around the world, including in Myanmar, still lack access to these rights.

In recognition of women's role in national development, the Myanmar National Committee on Women's Affairs was established on 3 July 1996. Since then, 3 July has been observed annually as Myanmar Women's Day. One of the Committee's primary goals is to empower women and enhance their capabilities to become a reliable force in the country's progress.

The government has taken steps to ensure gender equality, as outlined in the Constitution of the nation. Section 348 declares that the Union shall not discriminate against any citizen of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, based on race, birth, religion, official position, status, culture, sex and wealth. Similarly, Section 350 guarantees that women shall be entitled to the same rights and salaries as those received by men in respect

of similar work. Educational statistics reveal a mixed picture. While 51 per cent of females completed primary education compared to 42.3 per cent of males, only 18.8 per cent of females reached middle school and 11.7 per cent completed high school, trailing their male counterparts. However, a higher percentage of women (12.9 per cent) reached university compared to men (9.7 per cent). This indicates the need to further enhance women's educational opportunities, especially at the secondary level.

Currently, women make up 50.76 per cent of basic education students and 63.60 per cent of those in higher education. They account for 47.19 per cent of the science and technology field and 70.44 per cent of those in related educational sectors. Notably, in the 2023-2024 academic year, girls achieved a 64.31 per cent pass rate in the matriculation exam.

To build on this progress, all ministries and relevant organizations are urged to take active roles in implementing the 12 priority tasks outlined in the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (2023-2032), based on the Beijing Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.



Young Asians are learning to honour their heritage while redefining success on their own terms, merging Eastern endurance with Western individuality. **ILLUSTRATION: STORY.COM**

Roots and Wings: The Quiet Strength of Young Asians in a Noisy World

By Khin Maung Myint

Preamble

This reflection captures the essence of traditional Asian values and their quiet yet powerful form of strength. When placed in the context of the younger generation of Asians growing up in the Western world, it takes on added layers of complexity, resilience, and transformation.

Whispers of Strength in a Louder World

For young Asians raised in the West — children of immigrants or those born into diasporic communities — strength often wears many faces. Yes, it still whispers through discipline, perseverance, and deference, but it also must learn to speak up, to navigate cultures that value expression, autonomy, and visibility.

In Western classrooms, where individuality is often prized over conformity, many young Asians juggle dual expectations: the silent grind expected at home and the confident self-advocacy celebrated at school. The phrase “Dripping water hollows stone” still echoes —

but now, the drip has to find its rhythm between two cultural worlds.

The Silent Curriculum: Discipline and Duty

Asian families in the West continue to carry forward a deep respect for education, but here, it's often interpreted differently. To Western peers, success might seem like overachievement — violin lessons, perfect grades, coding at age 10. But behind this is an unspoken narrative: to honour the sacrifices of parents who came with little, to carry forward centuries of values in a land that often doesn't fully understand them.

Education becomes not just an academic pursuit but a moral mission, where discipline is a birthright, not a burden. This can lead to quiet but fierce resilience — the kind that keeps going when no one's watching, the kind that measures progress in small, daily victories.

Bicultural Brains, Multilingual Minds

Growing up in homes where English blends with Cantonese, Urdu, Tagalog, Tamil, Burmese, or Korean, young Asians develop more than just bilingual skills — they build mental flexibility. This mental code-switching doesn't just help in conversations; it translates to a more adaptive mindset, one that can switch between worldviews, navigate nuance, and read the unspoken, crucial skills in a multi-cultural world.

The Pressure Paradox

High expectations — from family and community — can be both a torch and a weight. Many young Asians in the West feel caught between wanting to meet those expectations and yearning to explore paths less “acceptable” to tradition (like art, activism, or unconventional careers). This creates internal conflict, but also rich soil for growth, where identity is self-forged, not just inherited.

They are learning to blend Eastern endurance with Western self-expression, to be strong not just in silence but also in story, advocacy, and leadership.

Where Growth Truly Happens

So, what happens when bamboo is planted in different soil? It doesn't just bend or break — it adapts. It might grow with new shoots, different leaves, or in unexpected directions, but it still carries the strength of its roots.

For young Asians in the West, success isn't just survival or assimilation. It's synthesis. It's saying: “I carry the quiet strength of my ancestors, but I also find new ways to speak it.”

In Summary

- Hard work, family honour, and persistence are still foundational values — but they must coexist with individualism, freedom of expression, and evolving identity.
- Multilingual and multicultural upbringing sharpen cognitive and emotional flexibility.
- The pressure to excel is real, but it is slowly transforming into a desire to redefine excellence on one's own terms.
- The new Asian generation is learning to nurture intelligence and wisdom, both through heritage and choice.

And in that delicate balance, a new kind of strength is blooming — still quiet at times, but also learning to roar when it needs to.

The Soft Strength That Shapes Humanity

By Laura Htet (UDE)



Considerate individuals prioritize the feelings of others, making small yet impactful choices that nurture relationships. **ILLUSTRATION: FREEPIK**

ation includes restraint. It's about choosing not to boast in front of someone grieving, not to eat lavishly in front of someone who is hungry, not to show off success in front of someone who is going through a rough patch. These are simple yet profound acts of emotional intelligence. They may seem small, but to the one receiving them, they can mean everything.

And then there are moments when kindness flows not from what we hold back, but from what we give. When we eat something delicious and suddenly think, ‘My friend would love this — I should get one for her,’ that simple thought becomes a beautiful act of kindness born from genuine care. Even though it costs us little, the joy it brings to someone else is deeply meaningful. Similarly, when we cook something delicious at home and remember to share with our neighbours, that thoughtfulness doesn't just feed stomachs — it nurtures connections.

The way someone remembers what we love, even the smallest detail, and then acts on it — that kind of thoughtfulness quietly

settles into our memory and never really leaves. It's not the gift that matters, but the thought behind it. That's the magic of consideration. It turns ordinary moments into something tender and unforgettable.

Sometimes, the deepest form of consideration isn't in what we do, but in what we choose not to do. It's about holding back, preserving dignity, and protecting the emotional space of others. For instance, imagine someone who has just faced a personal loss, and someone else is laughing or celebrating loudly in front of them. That lack of emotional awareness can wound more deeply than we realize. Or imagine someone who is struggling financially, and someone brags excessively about their latest purchases in front of them. These things might be unintentional, but they reveal how little we think about others' emotional realities. And yet, when someone chooses silence over showiness, chooses sensitivity over selfishness — that is when their humanity shines.

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NATIONAL



This photo displays the previous major religious day and ceremony held at the Shwedagon Pagoda.

Religious events to mark Buddhist Lent at Shwedagon Pagoda

ACCORDING to U Bo Thin, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Shwedagon Pagoda, a series of Buddhist devotional ceremonies and observances of moral precepts will be held at the sacred site from the full moon day of Waso to the full moon day of Thadingyut, marking the period of Buddhist Lent.

During this period, various

significant religious events will be held grandly and vibrantly. These include the Dhammacakka Day ceremony and the ceremonial offering of Waso robes on the full moon day of Waso, the Metta Day ceremony and the Offering of 84,000 flowers on the full moon day of Wagaung, the Garudhamma Day ceremony on the full moon day of Tawthalin, the Lighting

Festival on the eve of the Thadingyut full moon day, and the Abhidhamma Day ceremony on the Thadingyut full moon day.

In addition, on all full moon days, new moon days, and Sabbath days during the Buddhist Lent, Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the Pagoda's Board of Trustees will deliver Dhamma talks and offer precepts to visiting pilgrims. — ASH/KNN

MNHRC and MPC jointly host media awareness seminar

THE Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and the Myanmar Press Council jointly hosted a media awareness seminar on 1 July at the Commission's office in Hlaing Township, Yangon Region.

At the media awareness seminar, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Chairman U Paw Lwin Sein delivered the opening remarks, highlighting the importance of holding such a seminar. Vice-Chairman U Khin Maung Kyaw Din of the Myanmar Press Council spoke about the role of the State and the media, while Secretary U Aye Chan addressed the topic of digital



This photo showcases the media awareness session on 1 July at the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission's office in Hlaing Township, Yangon Region.

media and its contribution to national development. Chairman U Paw Lwin Sein also reflected on the discussions held during the seminar and expressed his appreciation to

all participants.

Officials from both the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and the Myanmar Press Council were present on the occasion. — ASH/TH

15th homage ceremony for veteran comedians to uphold tradition in Yangon

THE Myanmar Comedians Association will hold its 15th annual homage ceremony for senior veteran comedians as part of its long-standing tradition, according to U Dain Dawng, comedian and chairman of the association's central executive committee.

The event is scheduled to take place on 7 July at the association's Yangon Region office, located within the Mibakyeyzusek Pagoda compound in Ward 48, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region.

"There are challenges with organizing the event this year. To be honest, things haven't gone smoothly. We feel sorry for asking donors for support during a time when much of the country's

focus is on earthquake recovery efforts. The biggest challenge is funding. Organizing in Nay Pyi Taw is difficult due to travel issues, so we decided to host it in Yangon, where transportation and accommodation are easier," U Dain Dawng explained.

He added that this year, the association aims to support the honoured seniors not only through the homage ceremony but also by planting medicinal fund trees and monthly donations. "I plan to contribute as much as I can," he said.

More than 100 senior comedians aged 65 and above from Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, and Ayeyawady regions will be honoured at this year's ceremony. — ASH/KZL



This image depicts the previous year's homage ceremony for senior comedians.

Yangon's Transporter Bar to host 'The Door Is Open' solo show

SINGER Shwe Htoo will perform his solo music show, titled 'The Door Is Open', at 9 pm on 6 July at the Transporter Bar in Tamway Township, Yangon Region, stated the announcement.

The organizer of the event said, "On the Sunday night of 6 July at Transporter Bar, Shwe Htoo will be performing live. Alongside his performance, the resident vocalists of the Transporter Band will also take to the stage, delivering top-quality music. Under the colourful lights, DJ artists are also gearing up with the best beats to make the



This photo showcases an advertisement for singer Shwe Htoo's solo concert.

night unforgettable – so don't miss the energetic evening of 6 July." — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

Visitors flock to Hpa-an as July bookings fill up



Visitors shoot photos and selfies with stunning views in Hpa-an. PHOTO: WAI PYO PAING/ KYAW NYEIN CHAN

THE visitor arrival has increased to Hpa-an, which is popular among local tourists for its natural landscapes, which look stunning, especially in the monsoon, leading most of the well-known hotels to be fully booked for this July.

Under social media posts by travel agencies, many comments express their interest in visiting the city. “Generally, visitors go to Hpa-an through

tour packages. Local tour operators mostly have partnered with well-known hotels, so most of them have been fully booked now. The visitor arrival is always large on weekends,” said a Hpa-an resident.

A comment said, if you have a planned trip to Hpa-an, you will need to book in advance because hotel rooms are usually occupied on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Some said they have made enquiries about whether it is fine to launch their visit in August, as it has been raining a lot.

Mount Zweekabin, Mount Taung Wine, Mount Kyar Inn, Naung Ka Laing, Htun Pa Taing Lake, Thabawa Cave, Rathaepyan Cave, Bayin Nyi Cave, Sadan Cave, Kawgun Cave and the Blue Lake are popular and famous destinations in Hpa-an. — MT/ZS

MAI to shift Singapore flights to Terminal 2

MYANMAR Airways International said its Singapore flights for both arrival and departure will be transferred to Singapore Terminal 2.

For all MAI’s Singapore flights, its check-in counters and other services will be transferred to Terminal 2, Row 12 of Singapore Changi Airport, starting from 5 August 2025, said MAI.

For a smooth check-in and

boarding experience, passengers will need to arrive at least 3 hours early and thoroughly read the terminal signage, it said.

Based in Yangon and Mandalay airports, MAI flies across Myanmar and 41 cities in the ASEAN region, Northeast Asia and the Middle East, with 14 aircraft, as well as three ATR72-600 in cooperation with its new Mingalar airline. — MT/ZS



A notice about MAI’s Singapore flights transferring to Terminal 2.

Actor, director Bago Than Aung passes away

BAGO Than Aung, actor and director, died of kidney failure on 2 July in his hometown of Bago.

He had an acting career, appearing in many black-and-white films, including ‘Thi Kyar Say Thet Thay Nhyun’. His contemporaries included Shwe Ba, Nyunt Win and Win Bo. Bago Than Aung established Bago Film Production Company and also worked as a director. In



The current home of the late Bago Than Aung in Bago.

addition, he was also a famous footballer.

“When we were young, he was the one who rose to fame quickly as Bago Than Aung. May he reach a good destination,” said one of his fans, Hlaing Mon (Shwebo), on social media.

On 7 June, film director U Aung Myint Myat and the Sharing and Helping Brothers group visited ailing Bago Than Aung and donated K700,000 for his healthcare. Daw Than Nwe Aung (aka) Ma Mee Mee, wife of the late actor Kyaw Hein (U Kittisara), to whom Bago Than Aung had provided help in producing Pyi Lone Chan Thar che-roots, also donated K1 million.

Actor Bago Than Aung, father of actress San Pa Pa Aung and singer Tun Tun Aung, was 84 years old at the time of his death. — Htun Htun/ZN

Rare hornbill chick hatched at Yangon Zoo

A baby falcon of the rare hornbill, a precious bird species that is a natural heritage and should be valued and protected, has been successfully born in the Yangon Zoological Garden.

The hornbill is a representative bird of Chin State and is included among the species that should be protected and preserved, according to Yangon Zoo.

The female hornbill entered the nest to give birth on 9 March 2025, and the first sounds of the chick were heard on 10 April. On 17 June, the mother and the chick left the nest and began communicating with the outside world, Yangon Zoo stated.

The birth of the baby bird is a success in line with the zoo’s stated goal. During the breeding period, the male hornbill never left the female, regularly feeding and caring for her. Their habits are so exemplary that humans can learn from them, according to the Yangon Zoo. — MT/ZN



A newly born hornbill was seen at the Yangon Zoological Garden.

Fair-price rice available at Wahdan Centre Tue-Thu

THE Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders' Association (MRPTA) notified that consumers can buy rice at fairer prices at Wahdan Rice Wholesale Centre in Lanmadaw Township on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Earlier, Wahdan depot offered fairer rice schemes only every Wednesday and Thursday. At present, one more day is added to the weekly affordable rice scheme.

Under the guidance of the Myanmar Rice Federation, rice depots have started to offer fairer rice sales at Wahdan Rice Wholesale Centre from 11 am to 3 pm, starting from the second week of June. The Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce stated that reasonable market prices of rice for June 2025 were issued, and non-compliance with the set prices is subject to legal action.

The Ministry of Commerce issued reasonable prices for all varieties; K60,000-K72,000 per 108-pound bag of non-premium rice varieties (Aemahta, Ngasein, Sinthukha, Ngasein Yak-yaw, Kayinma, Yadanatoe, Tunpu, GW-11, 747, Theepu, and Shweman, Nankauk, among others), K68,000-K78,000 per bag of rice varieties (Zeeya, Ngwetoe, Minaya, Nankauk, Shweman) that are consumed locally and exported, K75,000 to K99,000 to Shwethwe, Anyatha, Pakan, Hmawby -2,3, 90-day short matured rice, Manaw Thukha, Sinthuka, Byawtun, Ayeyapadetha, Ayeyamin produced from Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions, K90,000-K155,000 to moderate quality rice including Magyantaw, Ayeyamin and Ayeyapadetha produced from Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw and upper Myanmar regions, and premium Pawsan rice (Ayeyawady Pawsan, Shwebo Pawsan). The retailers are not entitled to make a profit of more than eight per cent of the set reasonable market prices, the ministry announced.

If individuals have difficulty buying rice, they are urged to contact the Myanmar Rice Federation. The buyers can complain about overpricing to the Consumer Affairs Department and MRF.

MRF warned that overpricing, sales with inaccurate measurement and quality and non-compliance with directives are subject to fines and taxation and prosecution under section 5 of the Essential Supplies and Services Law. Thus, rice millers, rice shops, traders and merchants are encouraged to follow the rules. — NN/KK

CBM to inject US\$33M into fuel oil sector



Greenbacks are seen at the foreign exchange counter.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 1 July that it would pump US\$33 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold over \$1.15 million that purchased from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold 643,634.29 to commodities-importing companies and \$377,362.5 to edible oil companies on 30 June after injecting 500,000 baht into the market.

CBM \$500,000 to commodities-importing companies on 27 June, in addition to a 400,000-yuan injection into the market and \$845,000 purchased from CMP companies into the edible oil industry.

CBM sold \$1 million to commodities-importing companies after the injection of 160,000 yuan into the market on 26 June. Furthermore, CBM sold \$400,000 to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM made \$1.479 million injection from foreign currencies purchased from the CMP businesses into the edible oil-importing sector on 25 June.

CBM sold over 700,000 yuan on 24 June. Furthermore, CBM sold \$870,000, which was purchased from the CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 23 June to pump \$30 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold \$464,500 to edible oil-importing companies and over \$496,000 to commodities-importing companies on that day after the injection of over 16,540 yuan into the market.

CBM sold over \$600,000 and 387,000 yuan on 20 June. Furthermore, it sold \$800,000 to edible oil-importing companies and over \$503,000 from its designated injection to commodities-importing companies.

CBM pumped over \$577,000 out of its designated \$10 million injection to commodities-importing companies on 19 June. Moreover, CBM sold \$1.524 million from the companies working on a Cut-Make and Pack basis to edible oil-importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold over \$1 million out of the designated \$10 million injection to commodities-importing companies on 18 June 2025. Furthermore, CBM also sold \$1.68 million from CMP companies to edible oil importing companies on that day.

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

Chemicals & Petrochemicals Expo 2025 invites Myanmar businesses

MYANMAR business entities are invited to take part in Chemicals and Petrochemicals Expo 2025, which is scheduled to be held on 12-14 November 2025 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized the Chemicals & Petrochemicals Expo 2025, India's premier international exhibition and conference focused on chemicals, petrochemicals, process plant machinery, composites, and fibreglass technology and equipment.

Leading suppliers, merchants, traders, exporters and importers and government officials will be present at the expo. It will bring a great platform to explore the latest products, technology and investment opportunities.

It will cost US\$300 per square metre of indoor raw space and \$4,350 per square metre of build-up space.

Interested individuals can contact the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408623 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

Public Notice

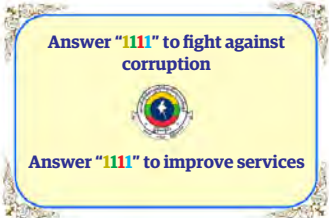
THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

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



Vietnam’s coffee exports reach record high in H1

VIETNAM’S coffee exports reached a record high of 5.5 billion US dollars in the first half of 2025, surpassing the full-year target of 5.4 billion dollars, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment said on Wednesday.

The sharp rise in export value was driven by strong demand from major markets including the United States, the European Union, Japan, South Korea, and China.

The ministry attrib-

uted the record performance to a shift towards high-value coffee products, such as deeply processed coffee, specialty coffee, and instant coffee.

Vietnam’s coffee export revenue is projected to reach 7.5 billion dollars by the end of this year, up around 37 per cent from 2024, marking the highest annual growth on record for the country’s coffee industry, according to the ministry. — Xinhua

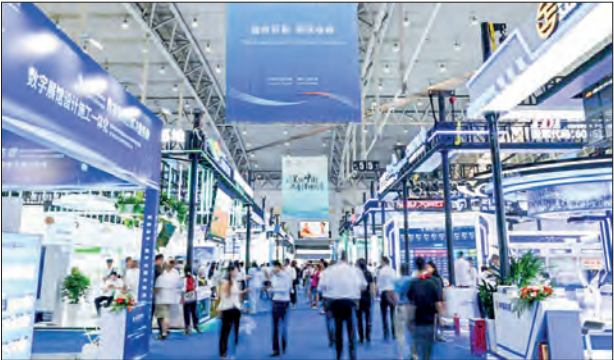
2025 Eurasia commodity expo closes with record scale, expanded trade ties

THE 2025 (China) Eurasia Commodity and Trade Expo concluded in Urumqi, northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, bringing substantial economic results and expanded international reach, said its organizers on Wednesday.

Contracts worth over 417.9 billion yuan (about US\$58.4 billion) were signed, encompassing 365 economic and trade cooperation projects. On-site sales totaled 1.89 billion yuan, with a further 3.25 billion yuan in preliminary

agreements. The expo saw nearly 260,000 visits and featured 65 trade and investment events.

Li Xuan, Party secretary of Xinjiang’s commerce department, highlighted the event’s breakthroughs from its record scale to improved global engagement, and elevated focus on frontier industries. The expo attracted participants from 50 countries and regions, including first-time exhibitors from Ethiopia, Zambia, the Comoros, and Senegal. A total of 27 countries had



People visit the Trade in Services and Cross-border E-commerce sector during the 2025 (China) Eurasia Commodity and Trade Expo in Urumqi, northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, 26 June 2025.
PHOTO: XIN YUEWEI/XINHUA

dedicated pavilions. With more than 10,000 registered buyers and professional attendees, this number surpassed all previous editions combined. — Xinhua

At least 4 die in barge capsizing in Gulf of Suez

At least four people were killed and another 22 injured after a barge capsized in the Gulf of Suez, Egypt’s health ministry said Wednesday.

The injured have been rushed to local hospitals while rescue is still going on, the ministry said in a statement.

Chairman of the Suez Canal Authority (SCA) Osama Rabie said on Wednesday that the capsizing occurred in an area called Gabel El-Zeit, a prominent Egyptian oil production site around 209 kilometres south of the Suez Canal.

He said traffic movement remains regular and has not been impacted as the accident happened outside the course of the Suez Canal, adding that the SCA is prepared to cooperate with concerned agencies to provide necessary help.

The Egyptian Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources confirmed on Tuesday that the offshore barge “Adam Marine 12,” owned by the Offshore Shukheir Oil Company, capsized earlier in the day in the Gulf of Suez. — Xinhua

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 9th July 2025 (Full-moon Day of Waso) & 19th July 2025 (Martyr's Day), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

MYANMA Port Authority
“NOTICE of High Tide”

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.05 feet to 20.18 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of July 13th to July 15th, 2025. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (363N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDA VOY.NO. (363N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-7-2025** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Premium Living Solutions Co., Ltd.
(Company Registration No. 102293797)

Notification under rule 15 of Insolvency Rules 2020 of appointment of liquidator for members voluntary winding up under section 152 of Insolvency Law 2020

1. The shareholders of Premium Living Solutions Co., Ltd. have resolved by way of special resolution, passed at a general meeting held on 30 June 2025, to approve the liquidation of the company by way of a members voluntary winding up under the Insolvency Law 2020.
2. The shareholders have further resolved to appoint U Kyawt Mg (Insolvency Practitioner registration no. 00090) of U Kyawt Mg & Associates Accountancy and Audit Firm, No.3, 105th Street, Mingalar Taung Nyunt Township, Yangon (email: khin.tz.htay@gmail.com; phone: 095176165) as the liquidator of the company.
3. Therefore, any person claiming to be a creditor of Premium Living Solutions Co., Ltd. is requested to submit relevant evidence of such claim(s) to the liquidator at the above address within one month from the date of this notification.

U Kyawt Mg
Liquidator
Certified Public Accountant & Auditor

For Changing Distributor Name of Pesticide

We, **Agro Star Pte., Ltd.** (Singapore), would like to change the distributor of the following products, from **Min Mahaw Co.,Ltd** to **Asian Crops Global Co., Ltd.** If any object or enquiry, please contact the Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Insein from here to next within 14 days.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	4-D Super	2,4-D Amine Salt 86 % SL	P2024-6493
2.	Kayu Killer 70 WP	Niclosamide 70 % WP	P2022-5837

Asian Crops Global Co.,Ltd
(No.49/A), Thiri Mingalar (2) Street, Kamayut Township, Yangon)

Advertise with us/
Hotline:  09 2555 97511
09 4542 37515

ARTICLE/ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

The Soft Strength That Shapes Humanity

FROM PAGE 9

This quality of being considerate is not limited to strangers. It is most beautiful when practised in our closest relationships. Between parents and children, between spouses, among friends and siblings — consideration is the emotional glue that holds these bonds together.

It's often within these familiar relationships that our kindness carries the most weight. When children grow up and begin to notice that their ageing parents are becoming more emotionally sensitive, they realize the importance of being thoughtful. As parents grow older, they may feel lonelier, less strong, and more vulnerable. They need their chil-

dren not just for financial support, but emotional companionship. Listening to them with attention, taking them out to peaceful places like temples or parks, cooking food they love, involving them in simple family rituals — all of these actions say, "I see you. I value you. You still matter."

Consideration within a marriage is just as essential. A spouse who notices what the other needs, who remembers what they love, who offers help without being asked, brings not just comfort, but peace to the home. Imagine a wife who is cooking while her husband quietly helps wash the dishes — not because he was told to, but because he notices she's tired. Imagine a husband who

carries the groceries every time they shop together — not as a duty, but as a natural response to love. These gestures may not make headlines, but they build lifelong bonds.

Even among siblings or close friends, consideration shines through. It's in how we speak. Even if we're close, we should always be mindful of which words to use and which to avoid. Closeness is never a license to be careless. Respect and boundaries matter, even in intimacy. When a friend is going through something, being there in silence can sometimes be more supportive than flooding them with advice. When they don't need us, giving them space is just as valuable as showing up

when they do. These aren't rules written in stone, but principles etched in the heart. Consideration is about emotional alignment — it's about holding space for others, gently and quietly.

The beauty of consideration lies in its subtlety. It's not always about grand gestures. It's in remembering someone's favourite dish. It's about waiting patiently in line. It's in staying quiet when words might wound. It's in speaking up when silence might hurt. It's in all the small choices we make each day to make life just a little more bearable for someone else.

The best part? Anyone can practice it. We don't need wealth, beauty, or brilliance to be considerate. All we need is the willingness to care, the courage to

pause, and the humility to think beyond ourselves.

So, let's carry this gentle power with us. Let's be the person who brings ease into a room. Let's be the one who thinks of others even when we don't have to. Let's teach our children not just to chase success, but to honour kindness. Let's be quiet listeners, warm helpers, and gentle souls in a world that so desperately needs softness. Because in the end, what people remember is not how loud we were, how successful we looked, or how much we had — but how we made them feel. And if we can leave behind a trace of warmth, a ripple of comfort, and the memory of being deeply understood, then we have lived a life not just successful, but meaningful.

Thai veteran politician set for single day as acting PM

Suriya, the transport minister and deputy prime minister, attended a ceremony in Bangkok for the 93rd anniversary of the prime minister's office.



Thai transport minister Suriya Jungrungreangkit is set to be acting prime minister for just one day before being replaced in a cabinet reshuffle. PHOTO: AFP

THAILAND'S acting prime minister is set to helm the country for only one full day Wednesday, standing in for suspended premier Paetongtarn Shinawatra before being replaced himself in a cabinet reshuffle.

Transport minister and deputy prime minister Suriya Jungrungreangkit began his

engagements by attending a ceremony in Bangkok celebrating the longevity of the prime minister's office.

The event marked the 93rd anniversary of an institution Suriya is set to command for far fewer than 93 hours as Thailand reels from the suspension of Paetongtarn, heiress of the country's dominant political dy-

nasty. During a brief ceremony open to media Suriya declined to respond to queries asking how he felt about his ephemeral leadership, which caps a decades-long political career.

He said his most urgent business had been to "sign a paper" ensuring a smooth transition to his successor on Thursday. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Doha hosts UN-led talks to boost Afghan recovery and counter narcotics efforts through global cooperation

AMID ongoing economic and social challenges in Afghanistan, Doha hosted a two-day series of technical working group meetings aimed at enhancing international cooperation and supporting the country's recovery, TOLO News reported.

The meetings, held under the initiative of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), concluded today and brought together representatives from the de facto Afghan authorities, various countries, and international organizations. The agenda focused on two key priority areas: strengthening the private sector and combating narcotics.

These sessions were part of a broader UN-led framework aimed at establishing more coherent, coordinated, and structured engagement with Afghan authorities, in line with recommendations from an Independent Assessment submitted to the UN Security Council.

According to TOLO News, UNAMA described the meetings as a platform to evaluate progress made and to discuss actionable future steps.

Delegations from the Afghan Ministries of Economy, Commerce, Public Health, Agriculture, Interior, and Foreign Affairs, as well as the Central Bank, participated to present practical solutions to pressing issues. — ANI

Trump threatens Musk with deportation amid ongoing feud

US President Donald Trump said Tuesday the White House will have to examine the possibility of deporting Elon Musk, after the billionaire entrepreneur blasted the president's tax and spending bill.

Musk, who originally hails from South Africa and is now a US citizen, posted several posts of criticism over the weekend on social media aimed at Trump's "big, beautiful bill".

The tech titan lambasted the bill for what he said was adding to the US debt. Trump jabbed back on Tuesday, posting on social media that Musk, who is the CEO of electric vehicle company Tesla, was upset that the legislation eliminated tax credits for electric vehicles.

This is the latest in a row between the two billionaires, with the two in a tit-for-tat war of words. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar's AFC hopes dim after 2-1 loss to Bangladesh

MYANMAR'S hopes of qualifying for the 2026 AFC Women's Asian Cup took a heavy blow after a 2-1 defeat to Bangladesh on 2 July at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

The match was crucial for both teams, with only the top team in the group moving forward. Myanmar came in strong after beating Turkmenistan 8-0, while Bangladesh had defeated Bahrain 7-0. But it was Bangladesh who came out on top in this key battle.

Myanmar head coach Yuki Tatsuro made surprising decisions – leaving top striker Win Theingi Htun out of the starting eleven and making few changes even when the team was behind. The line-up was changed from the one that had performed well in the first match, and it showed.

Bangladesh focused their



Myanmar forward Myat Noe Khin attempts a shot as Bangladesh goalkeeper steps in to block.
PHOTO: SOE NYUNT THAW

attacks on both wings, and Myanmar struggled to stop them. Ritu Chakma scored the opener in 19 minutes. In the second half, Myanmar brought on May Htet Lu and Win Win to push forward,

but Bangladesh stayed strong at the back. Ritu Chakma struck again in 72 minutes, making it 2-0. Win Win scored a late goal in 88 minutes, but it was too little, too late. Bangladesh held on for the win.

Myanmar's performance lacked energy and teamwork. They had few chances in the first half, and even their best shot – a free-kick from Khin Moe Moe Htun – went wide. Bangladesh played in good shape and control, making life hard for the home side.

Myanmar still have one match left against Bahrain on 5 July. Bangladesh will play Turkmenistan on the same day. Only if Bangladesh lose or draws, and Myanmar win big, can Myanmar still hope to qualify — but the chances are now very slim. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Gonzalo heads Real Madrid past Juventus and into Club World Cup quarters

GONZALO Garcia's 54th-minute header was enough to give Real Madrid a 1-0 win over Juventus at Hard Rock Stadium on Tuesday and book their place in the quarterfinals of the Club World Cup.

The Spanish giants will face the winner of Tuesday's other game between Borussia Dortmund and Mexico's Monterrey in the last eight.

It was an impressive display from Xabi Alonso's Madrid side and adding to a positive day, Kylian Mbappe made his return from illness, coming on as a 68th-minute substitute for his first

appearance of the tournament.

The first half was a finely-balanced contest with Igor Tudor's Juventus starting brightly before Real ended it on top.

There was an early chance for Juve's Randal Kolo Muani after clever work from Kenan Yildiz to put him through on goal, but the French forward opted for an attempted chip of Thibaut Courtois and his shot floated over the bar.

The impressive Yildiz then burst through the middle and unleashed a fierce effort which deflected off Aurelien Tchouameni and flew wide. — AFP



Spanish forward Gonzalo Garcia scored his third goal of the tournament as Real Madrid beat Juventus to reach the Club World Cup quarterfinals. PHOTO: AFP

Liverpool defender Quansah signs for Bayer Leverkusen

CENTRE-HALF Jarell Quansah has joined Bayer Leverkusen from Premier League champions Liverpool for a reported club record fee, the Bundesliga side announced on Wednesday.

According to British and German press, the transfer fee for the 22-year-old could go up to 40 million euros (\$47 million), including 10 million euros in add-ons. German specialist media Kicker and The Athletic also reported the inclusion of a 60-million-euros buy-back clause in the contract, which Liverpool could activate from summer 2027 to re-sign Quansah.

"We are very happy to be



Jarell Quansah was a key component of England's successful European under-21 championship title defence in June 2025. PHOTO: AFP

able to sign Jarell Quansah, one of the most promising English central defenders," said Leverkusen managing director

of sport Simon Rolfes.

"He made a very impressive contribution to a Liverpool defence full of world-class players. Jarell will give our defence extra dynamism, tempo and strength."

Quansah becomes the most expensive signing in Leverkusen's history, following on from the previous record arrival of midfielder Kerem Demirbay for 32 million euros in 2019.

The 2025 European under-21 champion with England joined Liverpool's academy as a five-year-old, and rose through the ranks before making his first-team debut in 2023. — AFP

Alcaraz aims to avoid giant-killing after Wimbledon seeds tumble

CARLOS Alcaraz will aim to avoid one of Wimbledon's greatest upsets against British amateur Oliver Tarvet on Wednesday after a record-breaking number of seeds crashed out at the All England Club.

Two days of searing temperatures in London were already forgotten as play on the outside courts was delayed by persistent drizzle.

But the rain will not hinder defending champion Alcaraz in his second-round match against Tarvet on the covered Centre Court.

Their contest will follow the match between women's world number one Aryna Sabalenka and Marie Bouzkova of the Czech Republic.

Alcaraz's meeting with the British qualifier is a classic David against Goliath encounter. — AFP



WORLD

INTRA-BRICS
COOPERATION

Settlement in national currencies on BRICS agenda

As anticipation builds for the upcoming BRICS Summit scheduled for 6-7 July, Brazilian academic Lier Pires Ferreira has outlined the forum's key focus areas. Speaking to Toda Palavra, a media partner of TV BRICS, the professor from the BRICS Research Centre at the Federal University of Fluminense described the outlook as "favourable", highlighting that the meeting will address major political, economic, and social priorities shared by member states.

From a political perspective, Ferreira said the summit will underline the importance of safeguarding multilateralism and reforming global governance. He noted that the BRICS bloc is expected to push for broader participation from countries in the Global South in international decision-making forums, an effort aimed at creating a more balanced world order. On the economic front, a significant portion of the agenda will revolve around expanding mutual trade using national currencies. Ferreira observed that this shift away from dollar dependency aligns with long-standing efforts to strengthen intra-BRICS economic cooperation. Sustainable development and deeper energy integration, already embedded in the group's investment roadmap, are also likely to gain renewed momentum, as reported by TV BRICS. — ANI

Hong Kong marks 28th anniversary of return to motherland in unity, joy

Festivities took place across all 18 districts, featuring hundreds of vibrant celebrations that attracted both locals and tourists.



A flag-raising ceremony is held by the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) to celebrate the 28th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland at the Golden Bauhinia Square in Hong Kong, south China, 1 July 2025. **PHOTO: LUI SIU WAI/XINHUA**

HONG Kong was filled with a festive and harmonious atmosphere on Tuesday on the 28th anniversary of its return to the motherland. Throughout the streets, the national flag of the People's Republic of China and the flag of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) fluttered. Festivities unfolded across all 18 districts, featuring hundreds of vibrant

celebrations that attracted both locals and tourists, immersing themselves in the lively spirit of the Pearl of the Orient. At 8 am, the HKSAR government held a flag-raising ceremony at Golden Bauhinia Square in Wan Chai, followed by a reception at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, gathering dignitaries from various sectors. "As long as we are determined to fully seize the opportunities, keep enhancing our value and competitiveness, undertake reforms for progress and foster innovation, I am confident the wisdom and experience of the people of Hong Kong will help our Pearl of the Orient shine brighter than ever on the world stage," HKSAR Chief Executive John Lee said when addressing the reception. — Xinhua

Russia seeks integration into electric power system of Central Asia

RUSSIA intends to become the fifth member of the Coordination Electric Power Council of Central Asia, Fedor Opadchy, the chair of the Russian Unified Energy System's operator, told Sputnik on Wednesday. "Work has begun at Russia's government level on Russia to accede to the agreement on parallel operation of Central Asian energy systems, granting

the System Operator of Russia's Unified Energy System the status of the fifth participant in the Coordination Electric Power Council of Central Asia. Thanks to its practical experience of managing one of the world's largest energy systems as a 'single node', the Russian Unified Energy System's operator can significantly contribute

to the synchronization of energy system plans," Opadchy said. The Russian Unified Energy System's operator carries out operational despatch management, electricity production, transmission, and distribution across Russia, while also planning the long-term development of the nation's power industry. — SPUTNIK



The Russian Unified Energy System's operator is responsible for operational despatch management, electricity production, transmission, and distribution across Russia. **PHOTO: PIXABAY**