


The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**

SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sends condolences to the Indian President and Prime Minister over the AI-171 crash tragedy



Chairman
State Administration Council
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Dated, 12 June 2025


Excellency,

It is with great sorrow to learn of the tragic news of the crash of Air India flight AI-171 near Ahmedabad, India on 12 June 2025 which claimed the loss of many lives.

On behalf of the people of Myanmar and on my own behalf, I wish to express our deepest sympathies and condolences to Your Excellency and the people of India in this time of immense grief.


Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones, and we stand in solidarity with India.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing

Her Excellency Smt. Droupadi Murmu
President
Republic of India
New Delhi



Prime Minister
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Dated, 12 June 2025


Excellency,

I was deeply saddened to learn of the tragic crash of Air India flight AI-171 near Ahmedabad, India on 12 June 2025, that resulted in massive loss of lives.

On behalf of the Government and people of Myanmar, and on my own behalf, I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to Your Excellency, and the people of India during this time of great sorrow.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims, their families, and all those affected by this immense tragedy. Myanmar stands in solidarity with India in this moment of profound grief.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing

His Excellency Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister
Republic of India
New Delhi

Mahagita takes first steps towards UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage status

UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) programme was established in 2003, and Myanmar became a signatory to the convention in 2013.

CHAIR DAW SANDA KHIN of the Myanmar Cultural Heritage Trust, stated that efforts are underway to include Mahagita (traditional Myanmar classic music) in UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The Traditional Myanmar Ata Thingyan Festival, also known as the Traditional Myanmar New Year Water Festival, was first included in UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2024, and the Myanmar Thanaka cultural tradition was submitted in 2025. **SEE PAGE 6**



This photo captures artistes performing Mahagita, Myanmar's traditional classic music.

BUSINESS **PAGE 7**



CBM sells over CNY290K, THB1M on 11 June

NATIONAL **PAGE 10**



YGEA warns against online gold trading, saving books & lucky draw sales

NATIONAL

Success must be achieved on the ground

IT is not enough to be satisfied with statistical data indicating success and good yields in agricultural and livestock businesses; there needs to be real, practical success on the ground.

(An excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on his inspection tour of implementing the Twantay Livestock Breeding Zone on 30 November 2024)

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations

THE State Administration Council has appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names, on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) Dr May San Yi Pro-Rector Yangon University of Foreign Languages Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education	Rector Yangon University of Foreign Languages Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education
(2) U Zaw Zaw Aye Deputy Director-General (Urban and Rural) Department of Urban and Housing Development Ministry of Construction	Director-General Department of Buildings Ministry of Construction

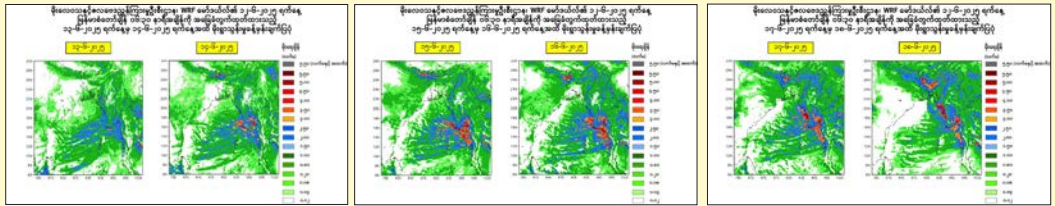
Special Weather News

Issued at 6 pm MST on 12 June 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, monsoon will be strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and due to the easterly waves, 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 regionally and isolated heavy falls during today evening to 18 June 2025. Occassional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

Advisory

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



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Thursday 12 June 2025)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and weak to moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

SPECIAL Features: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Troipical Storm“(WUTIP)” over the South China Sea has been moved slowly northwestwards. It is likely to move nearly Northwards and cross to the Hainan Island, China, on 13 June 2025.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 13 June 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kachin and northern Shan States, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Upper Sagaing Region and Kayah and eastern Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon and southern Shan States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin and (southern and eastern)Shan States. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such

as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Occassional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 6-8 feet off and along the Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 June 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 June 2025: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 June 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

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

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)

Mol Union
Minister inspects
private media
services in Yangon

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspected the broadcasting services of Canal+DTH, a joint venture with MRTV-4 and Channel 7 of Forever Group Company and M Channel of Media N Company in Yangon yesterday.

On arrival at the Canal+DTH, the joint venture of Forever Company and a foreign company, the Union minister heard the report made by the CEO regarding the own creation

and procurement of content, plans to purchase and expand the broadcast of English Premier League football matches starting from this July, matters related to management, and the challenges encountered in the workplace.

The Union minister stressed the need to follow the permitted media ethics, laws and updated directives.

He then inspected the MRTV-4 and Channel 7 pro-



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn is pictured during his inspection tour of private media services yesterday.

grammes of Forever company being broadcast by the studio at Yayku Amplified Broadcast Station compound in Mayangon township, filming and editing progress and sports events using Live streaming vehicles.

He proceeded to the work-site of M Channel of Media N, which rented a studio in the same Yayku Amplified Broadcast Station and watched the maintenance of the studio and filming processes at Studio 2. — MNA/KTZH

MIFER Dy Minister attends 2nd ASEAN Geoeconomics Task Force Meeting

DEPUTY Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, ASEAN Geoeconomics Task Force Leader of Myanmar, Dr Wah Wah Maung, attended the 2nd ASEAN Geoeconomics Task Force Meeting, which was held virtually on 11 June 2025.

The meeting discussed the outcomes of the latest high-level meetings, including the 46th ASEAN Summit, the 25th ASEAN Economic Community Council Meeting, the Special ASEAN Economic Ministers and Dialogue Partners Consultations, the development of the ASEAN Integration Report in response to emerging geoeconomics challenges and



The second ASEAN Geoeconomic Task Force Meeting in progress online on 11 June, participated by Deputy Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung.



the plans of the Task Force.

The deputy minister highlighted the importance of resilience and inclusive economic integration in responding to the geoeconomic challenges. She also pointed out that to increase the intra-ASEAN trade and to prioritize the trade diversion as well as investment diversion to reduce the impacts of the trade tension. The deputy minister underscored the necessity of linking the new initiatives with ASEAN's priorities as well as the long-term measures with the ASEAN Economic Community Strategic Plan 2026-2030, and reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to collaborate with other ASEAN Member States in

drafting the ASEAN Integration Report (AIR).

The ASEAN Geoeconomics Task Force was established based on the consensus of the Special ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting, which was held virtually on 10 April 2025 to provide real-time analysis, strategic foresight, to assess the potential benefits and vulnerability arising from current global trade changes, and provide actionable policy recommendations to the ASEAN Economic Ministers. The Task Force is composed of two representatives from each member state, at the deputy minister level and a senior economic expert level. — MIFER

NATIONAL

MoST Union Minister attends 2nd BRI Science & Technology Exchange Conference

UNION Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw, who is currently in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, to attend the 2nd Belt and Road Initiative Science and Technology Exchange Conference, received Chinese Vice-Minister of Science and Technology Mr Chen Jiachang on 10 June.

They cordially discussed bilateral cooperation in the science and technology sectors, human resources development, joint research, application of AI in different fields and signing of MoUs between the universities of the two countries.

The Union minister also

observed the technological booths at the 2nd Belt and Road Initiative Science and Technology Exchange Conference.

On 11 June morning, the Union minister attended the opening ceremony of the 2nd Belt and Road Initiative Science and Technology Exchange Conference.

At noon, the Union minister delivered a remark at the Goals and Practice of Poverty Alleviation Through Science and Technology Forum and attended the Belt and Road Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology Exchange. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw delivers the remark at the second BRI Science and Technology Exchange Conference on 10 June in China.

Rebuilding continues in Mandalay quake-hit areas

VARIOUS organizations are energetically cooperating with local people in the reconstruction works in the areas affected by the strong Mandalay earthquake in Myanmar.

On 11 June, Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and relevant officials visited the shelters for earthquake victims at the 700th Anniversary Sports Ground, the staff housing compound and at Sakumaw in Sagaing, where a total of 797 households are currently staying. They met the displaced families and coordinated with responsible personnel to assist, including clearing the debris of collapsed houses and enabling them to return to their original locations.

Following this, Lt-Gen Thet Pon and his team inspected the ongoing reconstruction of school buildings at the University of Co-Operative, which were damaged by the earthquake. They also checked the cleaning and beautification work being carried out on campus, the status of newly installed drinking water purification systems and temporary classrooms at the Basic Education High School No 1, and the soil levelling and ground compaction being done with heavy machinery under the Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) on the Sagaing side.



Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung and officials inspect the removal of rubble in quake-hit areas in Mandalay.

They also visited the Yan Aung Myin Hsu Taungpyae Pagoda and the Thakyardhita nunnery, where they inspected efforts by security personnel and heavy machinery crews to clear religious structures damaged by the earthquake and coordinated further required actions with responsible officials.

Similarly, on the morning of 12 June, Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials visited areas in Mahaaungmyay Township, Mandalay, to inspect the remaining unsafe buildings that were damaged in the earthquake and are scheduled for demolition. They checked

the condition of sites where debris had already been cleared. They also visited Kinwun Mingyi Monastery in East Daewon Ward, Mahaaungmyay, to examine the removal of earthquake-damaged structures such as the main monastery building and the meditation hall using heavy machinery, and coordinated necessary support with responsible officials.

Meanwhile, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials visited Maha Thekyaranti Pagoda in Taungthaman Village, Amarapura Township. They inspected the storage condition of collapsed relics and consecrat-

ed items, and the initial clearing efforts underway. They also observed ongoing reconstruction work within the pagoda precinct and visited the Manijotadhamma Yeiktha Monastery in Hmantan Ward to inspect the extensive clearing of religious buildings damaged in the earthquake using heavy machinery. They paid respects to the presiding abbot and coordinated further assistance based on the reports of responsible personnel.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing and his team visited Dakkhinayama Monastery in Kyunhlone Ushuang Ward, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay,

where they inspected the clearing of damaged religious buildings using heavy machinery, the status of efforts to restore the main pagoda and the active participation of Tatmadaw personnel in clearing the debris of pagodas and other religious structures. They offered encouragement, instructed that safety procedures be strictly followed and called for the timely completion of all work. They also coordinated additional support as necessary.

Likewise, Lt-Gen Myo Thant Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials visited the Nann Bagan Monastery in Ashe Village, part of the Kala Kyaung village tract in Kyaukse to assess the damage to religious buildings such as pagodas. They paid homage to the presiding monk and donated alms and supplies.

They then proceeded to inspect the planned restoration of the NannU Pagoda in Myinsaing Old Town (Ward G), Kyaukse, as well as the damage at YwaOo Monastery in Patta village-tract. At the Basic Education Primary School No 6, they observed the donation of school supplies to G-1 and G-2 students by the Rotary Club. They also coordinated with relevant authorities to address the concerns raised by local people. — MNA/KZL

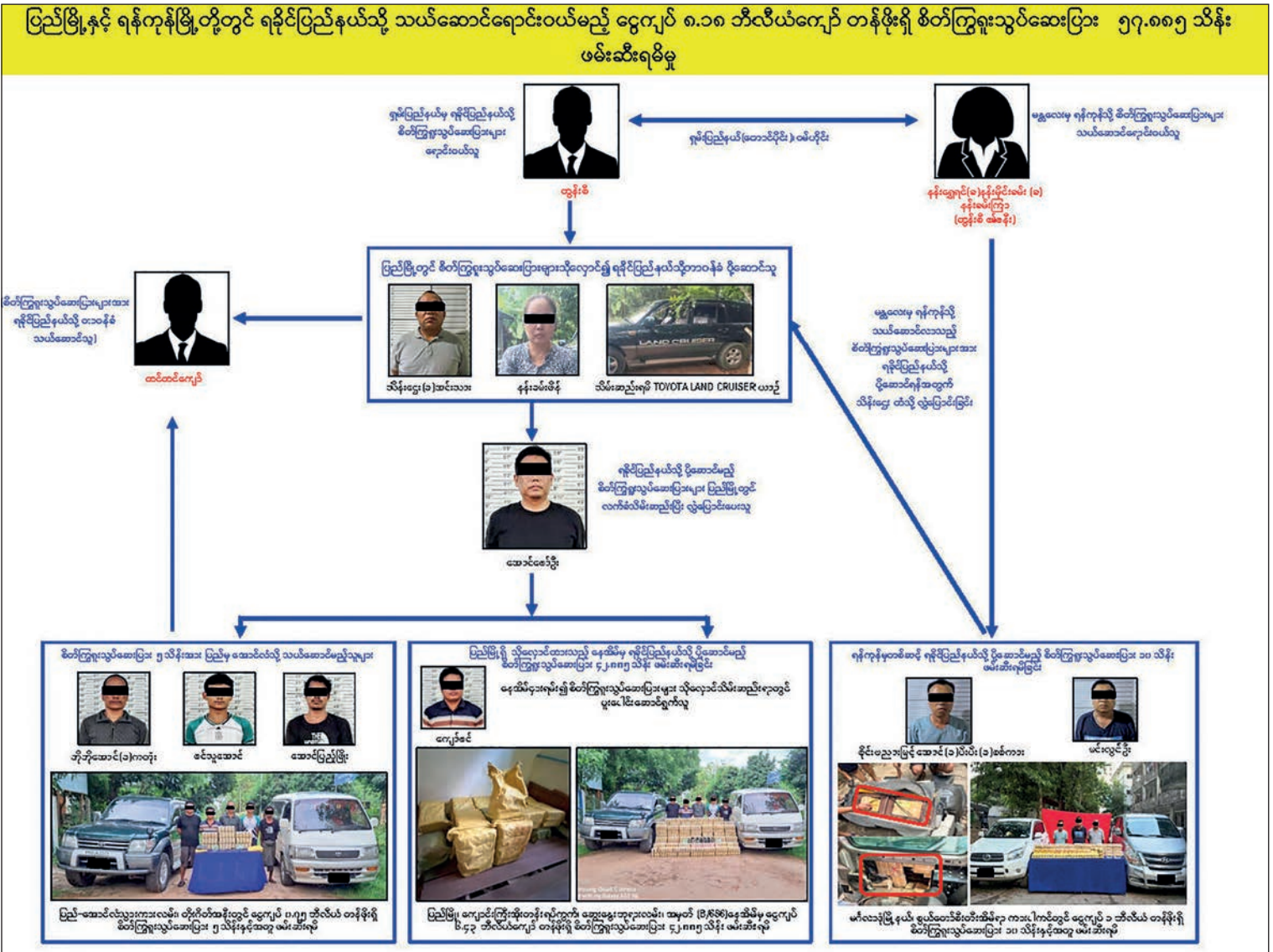
Drug syndicate busted with K8.18B in meth bound for Rakhine

A drug trafficking syndicate was apprehended with more than 5.78 million methamphetamine tablets, valued at over K8.18 billion, which were being transported to Rakhine State, according to the Myanmar Police Force.

The incident began at around 12:30 pm on 4 June when a combined team comprising those from the Drug Enforcement Division was conducting surveillance near the toll gate on the Pyay-Aungmyan Road, based on intelligence suggesting a drug deal was imminent. As drugs were being transferred from a Toyota Prado, driven by Aung Zaw Oo, to an I-Zone vehicle driven by Bo Bo Aung and accompanied by Zin Thu Aung and Aung Pyae Phyo, officers intervened and arrested the four suspects along with 500,000 methamphetamine tablets.

Subsequent investigations led authorities to a house in Kyaunggyi Otan Ward in Pyay, rented by Aung Zaw Oo. There, officers apprehended Kyaw Zin and seized a further 4.2885 million meth tablets.

At 9 am On 7 June, police



Photos above and below expose the drug gang's network showing offenders alongside seized drugs and vehicles used in the crime.



arrested two more individuals: Saing Banyar Myint Aung (a) Pi Pi (a) Sittkar and Min Lwin Oo, in a car park at the Swedaw City Housing in Mingaladon Township. They were found in possession of 1 million methamphetamine tablets inside a Hyundai Grand Starex.

Altogether, the operation resulted in the seizure of 5.7885 million meth tablets, valued at over K8.18 billion.

Investigations revealed that the meth was originally transported from Wam heing Kehsi Township, Shan State, by a man named Htun Si and his wife Nan Shwe Yin (a) Nan Mai Khan (a) Nan Kham Kyar. They had arranged for the drugs to

be delivered to Pyay, where Thein Htay and Aung Zaw Oo rented a house for storage before onward shipment to Rakhine State.

It was also discovered that the meth trafficker in Rakhine State was one Htin Htin Kyaw (a) Rakhine. Legal action has been taken against the syndicate under the law, and further investigations are ongoing to identify other offenders linked to the network. Authorities are also working under the Anti-Money Laundering Law to confiscate profits and assets gained from drug trafficking for the benefit of the public treasury. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Chinese Embassy gifts 'Thu Chit' film copy to star's family



The handover of the film's digital copy to family members of the cast in progress on 11 June.

THE Chinese Embassy to Myanmar presented a digitally restored soft copy of the classic Myanmar film 'Thu Chit' to the cast's family members as a gift on 11 June, according to the embassy.

The restored digital version of 'Thu Chit' was handed over to the family of the film's leading actors, U Nyunt Maung and Daw May Myint, by Minister Counsellor Dr Zheng Zhihong at the embassy.

During the handover ceremony, the Minister Counsellor stated that the film had been digitally restored by China at Myanmar's request to

commemorate the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. He noted that the restored version had been officially transferred in March this year and re-screened at a special event, which received widespread support from audiences across Myanmar. He further emphasized that China would continue to actively promote cultural exchange and co-operation in film and broadcasting between the two nations, thereby strengthening the bonds between their peoples.

U Thiha Aung, grandson of the film's lead actors and recipient of the soft copy, expressed gratitude to China for restoring classic Myanmar films. He stated that such efforts allow the Myanmar public to rediscover the cultural traditions, way of life, and geographical characteristics of the Myanmar people during the 1950s. He added that his family was especially grateful to have the opportunity to once again see their grandparents in such a dignified and vivid manner. He also expressed the family's desire to contribute in their way to Myanmar-China friendship.

'Thu Chit', originally produced in 1951, portrays the lives of Myanmar farmers. When it was screened at the Asian Film Week held in China in 1957, it was warmly received by Chinese audiences. — ASH/MKKS

VIVID music video debuts in Yangon

SINGER-SONGWRITER Mi Sandi launched her music video titled 'VIVID' at the Nawaday Premium Cinema in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region, on 11 June, according to the artist.

The 'VIVID' MV features songs performed in both English and Myanmar. It was directed and filmed by director Zar Chi Saw Naing, with Mi Sandi and various actors participating in the video.



Scenes from Mi Sandi's 'VIVID' MV launch event.

"This song is part of the International Artists Project Album, which was completed last year. The project included artists from 157 countries, making up about 80 per cent of the world. I took part as an artist representing Myanmar and personally wrote this song," Mi Sandi shared.

She added, "This track reflects a period when I was emotionally down. It represents my comeback and is filled with affirmations I needed to tell myself. I want to offer this as a special single to my fans. I also wanted to ensure it met high international standards, so I poured a lot of time, energy and effort into it. As the adage goes, 'A genuine gem will not sink in the mud', this is my best work".

Artistes including Phyo Pyae Sone, Aung Htet, Thar Thar, Ni Ni Khin Zaw, Jewel, and Hein Thit, along with many loyal fans of Mi Sandi, attended the launch event. — ASH/KZL

Magway to establish special zones for oil crop boost



Sesame plants, a vital oil crop, thrive in cultivation.

THE Department of Agriculture in Magway Region has announced plans to designate two special zones aimed at increasing the production of oil crops within the region.

According to the department, these two special zones will be established across five districts. Zone 1 will cover Magway, Chauk, and Aungmye Districts, while Zone 2 will include Minbu and Thayet Districts.

Within these designated special zones, over 2.4 million acres of land have been earmarked for oil crop cultivation. The primary crops to be grown are groundnut,

sesame, and sunflower. During the early monsoon season, high-yield sesame varieties such as Sinyadana 3 and Sinyadana 4 will be cultivated on over 1.2 million acres this year.

To achieve a target yield of 20 baskets per acre, the Department of Agriculture is working to ensure the use of quality seeds, the development of fertile soil layers, and the provision of technical support.

Besides oil crops, the region also cultivates paddy, various types of pulses, industrial crops such as cotton, and other crops. — ASH/KNK

Earthquake toll hits 3,745 as relief efforts push on

AS of today, 3,745 people have died, 5,104 have been injured, and 61 remain missing in six regions and states of Myanmar that were severely affected by the powerful earthquake that struck the country on 28 March.

Members of the Myanmar Fire Brigade, along with both domestic and international rescue teams, have been carrying out search and rescue

operations in the affected areas promptly. These teams have managed to rescue 653 survivors who were trapped under collapsed buildings and have recovered the bodies of 824 deceased individuals.

Local donors in Myanmar continue to provide financial assistance and essential relief items to those affected, while donations in the form of funds and supplies have also been

extended by foreign countries, organizations, and international philanthropists. Between 5 pm on 11 June and 5 pm on 12 June, a shipment of 0.185 tonne of instant dried noodles donated by the Lotus Light Charity Society of Singapore arrived at Yangon International Airport.

The donated food supplies are now being rapidly distributed to the victims of the disaster. — MNA/MKKS

Mahagita takes first steps towards UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage status

FROM PAGE 1

Myanmar possesses a vast number of cultural heritage items, including approximately 2,200 that have been inventoried and documented, with plans to submit them to UNESCO annually.

"We have to submit them, but I haven't been able to do so this year yet. We will need to vote to determine whether it is on the priority list. We have to submit it to prevent Mahagita

from disappearing. We also need to submit the tradition of tea consumption and the tradition of wearing traditional Acheik dress. Many stakeholders want to submit their preferred traditional items. The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture will need to negotiate with us to submit it next year. These items will be included on the submission list. I can't say exactly yet," said Daw Sanda Khin.

Daw Sanda Khin also stat-

ed that, in the future, the people of Myanmar will be able to vote online for the cultural heritage items to be submitted to UNESCO. She mentioned that it is possible that around five cultural items will be posted online and selected through a voting system. UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) programme was established in 2003, and Myanmar became a signatory to the convention in 2013. — ASH/TH

MRF ensures affordable rice sales

UNDER the guidance of the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), rice traders will offer affordable rice sales every Wednesday and Thursday from 11 am to 3 pm at Wadan Rice Depot in Lanmadaw Township, according to the Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association's committee on selling rice.

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; K60,000-72,000 per 108-pound bag of non-premium rice varieties (Aemahta, Ngasein, Sinthukha, Ngasein Yakyaw, Kayinma, Yadanatoe, Tunpu, GW-11, 747, Theepu, Shweman, and Hnankauk, among others), K68,000-K78,000 per bag of rice varieties (Zeeya, Ngwetoe, Mi-



Workers meticulously arranging rice bags in the warehouse.

naya and Hnankauk, 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 and Ayeyamin produced

from Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions, K90,000-155,000 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.

The ministry determined reasonable market prices by

considering the following factors: fair profit for the farmers, millers and distributors, reasonable prices for consumers, last year's market price, global market prices and other commodities prices. There are separate prices for modern trade with consumer packaging at mini-marts and supermarkets.

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 sells over CNY290K, THB1M on 11 June



THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over 290,000 yuan and one million baht on 11 June. Moreover, CBM sold US\$1.096 million that were bought from companies working on a Cutting, Making and Packaging basis through foreign exchange trading, to fuel oil importing companies on the same day.

CBM announced on 10 June that it would sell \$32 million to fuel oil importers. CBM

sold 600,000 yuan, 694,750 baht and over \$730,440 from CMP companies to fuel oil importers on that day.

CBM pumped over 400,000 yuan on 9 June, over \$501,000 on 6 June and 364,400 yuan on 5 June into the foreign exchange market.

CBM announced on 4 June that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil importers. CBM pumped \$422,000, 345,850 yuan and over 2.1 million baht on that

day into the foreign exchange market.

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

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

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

MCEF to open OHS training on 27 June

MYANMAR Construction Entrepreneurs Federation's Technology Development Committee will conduct Occupational Safety and Health Training 2/2025 from 9 am to 5 pm on 27-30 June 2025.

Developers, those who are interested in Occupational Safety and Health, site engineers, safety officers, and safety su-

pervisors had better attend the training.

Only 20 trainees will be accepted per batch. The trainees will receive a completion certificate. The fee is K200,000.

Individuals can register through the contact numbers of the MCEF at 09 893217109 and 09 660282000. — NN/KK



OPINION

Make well preparedness against a variety of natural disasters

MYANMAR has fully entered the monsoon season, a period marked by an increased risk of natural disasters such as heavy rainfall, flooding, landslides, and cyclones. These events have historically caused significant damage across the country, making it critical to take proactive and systematic measures to reduce their impact and protect lives and property.

In recent years, Myanmar has experienced a range of natural disasters, including devastating cyclones, earthquakes, floods, and landslides. The severity and scale of damage have varied with each event, but thanks to improved disaster preparedness and management systems, the country has been able to respond more effectively and reduce losses. However, the challenges remain complex, as Myanmar continues to grapple with additional factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic, ongoing internal conflicts, and climate variability, all of which exacerbate the difficulties of disaster response and recovery.

Ultimately, natural disasters can cause both minor and catastrophic damage, making it vital for all citizens to collaborate closely with the government. Through unified, well-organized efforts in preparation, prevention, and response, Myanmar can minimize future damage, safeguard its people, and continue on the path towards sustainable development.

regions and states including Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 28 March this year caused devastating damage estimated at K3,629.288 billion. Recovery and rebuilding are still ongoing, underscoring the heavy financial strain natural disasters place on the country.

Beyond natural calamities, Myanmar also suffers from the impacts of armed terrorist groups, which cause further losses and hinder national development. Without the setbacks caused by these disasters and conflicts, the country could progress more rapidly and deliver greater benefits to its population. Currently, government authorities have issued weather warnings about the possibility of heavy rains, strong winds, hailstorms, lightning, flash floods, and landslides in several regions as usual for the sake of the nation and the people. Immediate and coordinated preparedness is essential to protect communities from these threats.

Ultimately, natural disasters can cause both minor and catastrophic damage, making it vital for all citizens to collaborate closely with the government. Through unified, well-organized efforts in preparation, prevention, and response, Myanmar can minimize future damage, safeguard its people, and continue on the path towards sustainable development.

THE honorary ceremony for the recipients of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida titles and monastics recognized as “Religious Heroes” (Sasana Ā zani) in the 77th Tipitaka Recitation and Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Examination was held solemnly on 22 May of this year at the Maha Pasāna Cave on the Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon.

Present at the ceremony were the Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, senior members of the Sangha, religious heroes who successfully passed the Tipitaka examinations and received their Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida titles, along with the Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council, Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe, departmental officials, and other invitees.

In this year’s 77th Tipitaka Recitation and Examination, one monk successfully recited all three Pitakas and was conferred the full Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida title, becoming a new Religious Hero. Additionally, two monks who recited two Pitakas received the Tipitakakovida (Sutta) title, eleven monks reciting two Pitakas were awarded the Tipitakadhara (Sutta) title, one monk who recited one Pitaka received the Tipitakakovida (Vinaya) title, twenty-nine monks who recited one Pitaka received the Tipitakadhara (Vinaya) title, seven monks reciting the Vinaya Pitaka’s Ubhato Vibhaṅga section were awarded the Tipitakakovida (Ubhato Vibhaṅga) title, and forty-six monks received the Tipitakadhara (Ubhato Vibhaṅga) title. In total, 97 monks successfully completed their respective examinations and received titles. The remarkable efforts and commitment of these monks are deeply respected and honoured by the Buddhist community nationwide.

In Myanmar, the Tipitaka Recitation and Examination Ceremony is held as a distinguished religious and academic event of the highest order, especially designed for highly disciplined, wise, and well-versed monastics. It is organized to support and maintain the vitality and purity of the Sasana (Buddha’s teachings) and to identify outstanding individuals capable of memorizing and accurately reciting the sacred scriptures.

From the inception of the



PHOTO: THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Guardians of the Dhamma

By Yin Nwe Ko

examination to this 77th event, seventeen monks have been honoured with the full Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida title and designated as “Religious Heroes”. Their achievements are greatly revered as a vital contribution to the endurance and flourishing of Theravāda Buddhism in Myanmar.

This prestigious national-level examination and recitation is recognized not only within Myanmar but also globally as one of the most rigorous and revered religious events. The exam requires memorization and recitation of the Buddha’s words with complete accuracy, along with explanation and interpretation of the texts, demanding exceptional memory, mindfulness, perseverance, and profound wisdom. It is a demanding task, seen as a significant

spiritual endeavour towards the ultimate goal of Nibbāna.

In recognition of the extraordinary efforts of the monks who have attained the title of Religious Heroes by memorizing and reciting the sacred Tipitaka, laypersons and the state pay homage to them by offering gifts and performing Dhammadāna (donations of Dhamma). Offering respectful tributes and necessary items to these exemplary monks is a noble deed believed to bring merit that supports one’s path to Nibbāna.

The ceremony was a symbol of the collective efforts of the government and the public in preserving and honouring the Theravāda Buddhist tradition. The State Administration Council encourages citizens to continue supporting these great monks and uphold the

spiritual values of the nation.

The appearance of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida monks and other Dhamma heroes brings many great benefits to the Sasana. These monks are like strong pillars that hold up the Buddha’s teachings. Their deep knowledge, hard work, and moral discipline help keep the religion pure and alive for future generations.

Here are some of the important benefits they bring to the Sasana:

- Preserving the True Teachings of the Buddha
- The Tipitaka is the original word of the Buddha. These Dhamma heroes memorize the whole Tipitaka and also understand its meaning. Because of their great memory and deep knowledge, the

Buddha’s teachings remain safe and correct. They help prevent wrong teachings or changes to the original Dhamma.

- Guiding Other Monks and Laypeople
- These monks are like teachers and leaders. They guide younger monks and laypeople. They explain difficult parts of the scriptures in simple ways. This helps people understand the true path to peace and happiness. Their teaching brings more faith and wisdom into the community.
- Keeping the Sasana Strong in Society
- When people see these Dhamma heroes, they feel proud of their religion. Their example gives strength to the Sasana. It reminds people to follow the moral teachings of the Buddha. Their presence encourages others to practice generosity, keep precepts, and meditate.
- Encouraging Monks to Study the Scriptures
- Young monks feel inspired when they see Tipitakadhara monks. They want to follow in their footsteps. So, more monks began to study the scriptures seriously. This helps produce more learned monks in the future, which is

very important for the long life of the Sasana.

- Creating Unity and Harmony in the Sangha
- These Dhamma heroes are respected by all. Because of their high level of knowledge and good conduct, other monks and people listen to them. They help settle questions about Dhamma and Vinaya (monk rules). This brings unity to the monastic community and helps avoid conflicts.
- Bringing Respect to Myanmar Around the World
- The Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida exam is very special and only held in Myanmar. Because of this, the world sees Myanmar as a strong centre of Theravāda Buddhism. These monks help raise the country’s honour in the world Buddhist community. Other countries admire Myanmar for keeping the Buddha’s teachings so carefully.
- Serving as Living Examples of the Dhamma
- These monks are not only book-learned. They also live simple, pure lives according to the Buddha’s rules. They are kind, wise, and peaceful. People can see the Dhamma in their daily actions. This gives others a living example to follow and encourages the right practice.
- Helping the Sasana Last for a Long Time
- The Buddha said that the Sasana would last longer if his teachings were preserved and practised correctly. These Dhamma heroes play a big part in this. By protecting the Tipitaka and teaching it to others, they help make sure that the Sasana remains bright and strong for many more years.

To sum up, the 77th Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination is not just a religious event but a shining example of the strength and continuity of the Buddha’s teachings in Myanmar. The emergence of Dhamma heroes who preserve and spread the Tipitaka brings great honour to the Sasana and benefits all Buddhists. Their wisdom, discipline, and deep faith serve as a guiding light for the present and future generations, helping the Sasana to flourish and remain strong for many years to come.

A Noble Person

Translated by Hu Wo (Cuckoo’s Song)

A laureate of great knowledge depth,
Sapiently in Pali verse,
Writing a pleasant poem,
Makes the most of himself.

Words of his mouth auspicious,
With a sweet voice, suavely said,
So others following them to the letter,
Make the most of themselves.

His body in all innocence,
Not sensing any guilt of even a split end,
By good religious precepts,
Makes the most of itself.

လူကောင်းလူမွန်

ကျယ်မြင်နို့သိ၊ ပညာရှိမို့
ကဗျာ၊ ဆန်းဂီတနှင့်
ကဗျာသံချို၊ ဖွဲ့ဆိုခြင်းလျှင်
တန်ဆာဆင်၏။

နို့တမီလာ
စကားမှာကား၊ အသာအချို
သူနာလိုအောင်၊ မိန့်ဆိုခြင်းလျှင်
တန်ဆာဆင်၏။

သန့်စင်ကြည်ဖြူ၊ ကိုယ်ကိုမူလည်း
ဆံ့မြူခြင်းမျှ၊ ဒေါသမသင့်
အကျင့်သီတင်း၊ ကောင်းခြင်းသည်လျှင်
တန်ဆာဆင်၏။

စိန္တကျော်သူဦးဩ

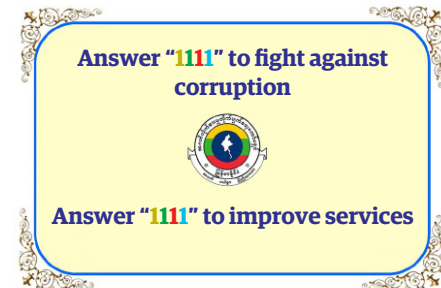
Public Notice

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

NATIONAL

YGEA warns against online gold trading, saving books & lucky draw sales

THE Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association issued a notice on 12 June, warning people not to sell gold online and using the methods of savings books, tally system, and drawing lots.

All gold entrepreneurs, gold shops and online gold sellers in Yangon Region are required to apply for gold shop-related licenses. A gold shop business needs to apply for a mineral (gold) trading service license, a business license from the Yangon City Development Committee, a precious metal (gold) trading business registration certificate, and a business registration certificate issued to a manufacturer or trader or service provider.

Online licenses must be applied for at the www.ecommerce.gov.mm website. In order to stabilize gold prices, gold shops are advised to open their shops daily, sell at a fixed price, and apply for the necessary licenses.

The YGEA has announced that effective action will be taken if instructions are not followed when relevant departments come to inspect. — MT/ZN

This image showcases online sales of gold.



Yangon clears illegally installed hazardous cables from power poles



Illegally installed Wi-Fi cables and dangerous telecommunications cables are being removed.
PHOTO: CHIT SAUNG - YESC

THE Ministry of Electric Power has carried out the removal of illegally installed fibre optic cables, Wi-Fi cables and communication cables that can cause electrical hazards from the power poles of the Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation.

The clearing task was done on 11 June from Setsan 9th Street to Ferry Street, including access lanes along the Upper Pazundaung road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, eastern district, Yangon.

Authorized communication companies have also inspected their cables to ensure proper installation as per the city's characteristics and safety for electrical hazards.

Township engineers and staff from the YESC's Mingala Taungnyunt office, and employees from authorized telecommunications companies worked together to carry out the work.

Illegally installed Wi-Fi cables and dangerous telecommunications cables along Upper Pansodan Road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township were removed on 14 May. — Htun Htun/ZN

Thai Festival 2025 offers taste of Thai cuisine & culture

ORGANIZED by the Royal Thai Embassy in Yangon, Thai Festival 2025 will be held in Yangon this month with free admission.

The venue is the first floor of the Novotel Hotel and is scheduled for 21- 22 June, starting from 9:30 am to 6:30 pm.

At the event, participants will have an opportunity to fully explore different kinds of quality Thai products and the authentic taste of Thai foods in the same place.

It will feature 54 booths which will display cosmetic and personal care, health and wellness, food products, travel, housing products and accessories, restaurants and cafes, artist merchandise, education and administration, including a booth of the Department of International Trade Promotion under the Thailand Ministry of Commerce. — MT/ZS



Layout of booths at the exhibition.

MMFA to offer Change Leadership Training on 5 July

THE Myanmar Microfinance Association (MMFA) will open Change Leadership Training (Batch 5) from 9 am to noon on 5, 6, 12 and 13 July via Zoom application.

This training is tailored to department heads, senior managers, mid-level managers, assistant managers, regional managers, branch managers, and deputy managers in the microfinance company and those who are interested in exploring a career in the microfinance sector.

The topics will cover Self-Management for a Leader (What exactly is self-management, Important steps of self-management and Discussion on important steps of self-management), and Motivation for a Leader (What is Motivation, How people are motivated and How can a leader motivate team members) on Day 1 and The Art of Followership (What is Followership, Reasons why people follow, Types of followers and Followership Qualities) on Day 2, Team Building for an organization (What is a Team, What is Teamwork, Team Building and Team Leadership, Characteristics of a Team, Stages of Team Development, Causes of a Team Conflict and Handling Conflict Models on Day 3 and Change Management and Organizational Development for a Leader (What is Change Management, What is Organizational Development, Why do people resist Change, Steps of effective Change management, New challenges for Change management and How are change management and organizational development related) on Day 4 by Dr. Pyae Phyo Lwin, Microfinance Consultant, Coach and Trainer, Director of the Thitsa Works Solution.

The fee is K100,000 for non-members, and members can enjoy a K20,000 discount. Those enthusiastic can enrol in the training by 30 June 2025. For further details, individuals can contact 09965209010 within office hours. — NN/KK

Ethiopia’s vast lake being pumped dry

Concerns are growing about the potential disappearance of Lake Dembel.

LAKE Dembel in Ethiopia, a vital water source for irrigation, is facing severe depletion due to over-pumping by farmers and industries. Since 1990, the lake’s depth has halved from four metres to two, raising concerns about its potential disappearance.

The situation is exacerbated by heavy pesticide use, which is harming fish populations and threatening the livelihoods of local fishermen. Belachew Derib, a fisherman since the 1980s, reports a drastic decline in fish

stocks, with daily catches plummeting from 20-30 to just 2-3 fish.

Farmers like Habib Bobaso rely on pesticides to protect their crops, despite knowing the environmental harm they cause.

Ethiopia’s rapidly growing population, now over 130 million, faces increasing water management challenges, particularly in a landlocked country prone to droughts. A recent report criticized the government’s inadequate policy frameworks for contributing to the degradation of lakes and rivers. — AFP



Lake Dembel’s depth has halved since 1990 due to over-pumping. **PHOTO: AFP**

Labubu toy sculpture sold for \$150,000

A Beijing auction house has sold a four-foot-tall sculpture of a viral plush toy character for more than \$150,000, as global demand for the Chinese-designed Labubu dolls reaches fever pitch.



Labubus have been endorsed by celebrities such as Rihanna and Dua Lipa, and fans have queued overnight outside stores hoping to snag one. **PHOTO: AFP**

The rabbit-like figures sporting mischievous grins began as a character created by Hong Kong-born artist Kasing Lung, and are made by Beijing-based toy brand Pop Mart.

They have been endorsed by celebrities such as Rihanna and Dua Lipa, and fans have queued overnight outside stores hoping to snag one, with analysts pointing to the phenomenon as evidence of China’s growing soft power. On Tuesday, a teal sculpture depicting a Labubu character with a furry body and head fetched an eye-watering 1.08 million yuan (\$150,260) at an auction held in Beijing, according to the auction house’s app. — AFP

Bryce Dallas Howard reflects on box office failures

BRYCE Dallas Howard has been one of the most successful actors and directors of Hollywood, who is known for his work in the Jurassic World franchise and Star Wars series like ‘The Mandalorian’.

The filmmaker opened up about her painstaking box office failures like ‘Argylle’ and ‘The Lady in the Water’ and said that she was not shocked by its poor business as she “saw it coming”, reported Variety. In an interview with ‘The Independent’, as quoted by Variety, the actress said, “You can always see it coming while you’re making it. I’ve never been shocked when something doesn’t work. But I’m just an actor – you’re there to serve a director’s vision. — ANI



Bryce Dallas Howard has been one of the most successful actors and directors of Hollywood. **PHOTO: ANI**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japanese man tells UN forced sterilization at 14 ruined his life

A child victim of forced sterilization under Japan’s now-defunct eugenics protection law said the surgery ruined his life, as he described his experiences at a UN event on disability rights Tuesday in New York.

“Because of the surgery, my life was thrown completely off course,” the 82-year-old man, who uses the pseudonym Saburo Kita, said at the event linked to a United Nations conference on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Kita is a member of a group that won compensation from the government in a Supreme Court ruling in July last year. He was forced to undergo sterilization at the age of 14 after he was placed in a child welfare facility for alleged delinquents.

He chose to never reveal the surgery to the woman who later became his wife until just before her death, calling the incident a “painful secret”. — Kyodo

Joaquin Phoenix, Pedro Pascal’s ‘Eddington’ trailer released

A24 has released the first full-length trailer for ‘Eddington,’ the latest film from acclaimed director Ari Aster.

The film, starring Joaquin Phoenix and Pedro Pascal, is set during the COVID-19 pandemic and follows a tense standoff between a small-town sheriff and mayor that ignites a powder keg of neighbourly conflicts in Eddington, New Mexico.

For Aster, ‘Eddington’ marks a reunion with Phoenix, with whom he collaborated on the dark comedy ‘Beau Is Afraid’.

The film features an all-star cast, including Luke Grimes, Deirdre O’Connell, Michael Ward, Austin Butler, and Emma Stone.

As per Deadline, after its premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, ‘Eddington’ received a standing ovation lasting nearly seven minutes.

The film is set against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, a period that Aster believes has yet to be properly captured on film. — ANI

ECONOMY
WORLD

UK posts record drop in exports to US
in Apr after tariffs



Finance minister Rachel Reeves hopes that spending and investment will help spur Britain's sluggish economy. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

The UK remains subject to the 10-per-cent tariff on most goods imported to the United States.

BRITISH exports of goods to the United States fell by a record £2 billion (\$2.7 billion) in April following President Donald Trump's tariffs onslaught, the Office for National Statistics said Thursday.

The data covers the period when a baseline 10-per-cent tariff was imposed on the UK and other countries by Trump at the start of April, along with sector-specific levies on cars,

steel and aluminium.

The UK and US have since struck a trade deal cutting tariffs on British cars and scrapping them on steel and aluminium, while Britain agrees to open its markets to US beef and other farm goods.

Britain is still subject to the 10-per-cent tariff on most goods imported to the United States.

The data shows the largest monthly fall in trade with the

United States since records began in 1997.

Decreases were seen "across most types of goods, following the recent introduction of tariffs," said ONS director of economic statistics Liz McKeown.

Exports of machinery and transport equipment, including cars, took a notable hit in April, after four months of consecutive increases in the export of British goods to the US. — AFP

BRIEF: ECON

Japan PM hopes for progress in US tariff talks, in no rush for deal

PRIME Minister Shigeru Ishiba said Thursday that Japan aims to make progress in ongoing tariff negotiations with the United States but will not sacrifice its national interests to reach a deal quickly.

Ishiba made the remarks ahead of a possible meeting with US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of a Group of Seven leaders' summit to be held in Canada from Sunday. Japan's chief tariff negotiator Ryosei Akazawa is expected to hold another round of negotiations with the United States on Friday, setting the stage for the meeting between the leaders. Through rounds of ministerial negotiations, Japan has been urging the United States, its closest ally, to rethink its tariff policy and to explore a deal that can be mutually beneficial. Ishiba has made the case that increased Japanese investment will help create jobs in the United States. — Kyodo

Iran to face censure amid stalled nuclear talks

MAJOR European countries and the United States are expected to seek to censure Iran when the UN atomic watchdog meets this week amid stalled talks to revive the 2015 nuclear deal.

The resolution drafted by the United States, Britain, France and Germany is a sign of their growing impatience as diplomats warn the window to save the landmark deal is closing.

The International Atomic Energy Agency's Board of Governors meets Monday through Friday in Vienna.

If the resolution urging Iran to "cooperate fully" with the IAEA is adopted, it will be the first motion censuring Iran since June 2020.

Talks to revive the accord started in April 2021 with the aim to bring the United States back into the deal and lift sanc-

tions again and get Iran to scale back its stepped-up nuclear programme.

The 2015 landmark deal — promising Tehran sanctions relief in exchange for curbs in its nuclear programme — started to fall apart in 2018 when then president Donald Trump withdrew from it.

Talks to revive the agreement have stalled in recent months. — AFP



The International Atomic Energy Agency's Board of Governors meets Monday through Friday in Vienna. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Brazil's meat production in Q1 2025 hits record high

BRAZIL, one of the world's leading producers of animal protein, posted record slaughter numbers for cattle, pigs and poultry in the first quarter of 2025, marking its best first-quarter performance since records began in 1997, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) reported Wednesday.

Between January and March, 9.87 million head of cattle were slaughtered, representing a 4.6 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2024 and a

1.9 per cent increase compared to the previous quarter. What's particularly notable is the 11.3 per cent year-on-year increase in the slaughter of female cattle, which accounted for nearly half of the total. The IBGE attributed the increase to lower calf prices since 2022 and rising demand for premium beef. "This is driven by growing demand for higher-quality meat and international preference for younger animals," said research manager Angela Lordao. — Xinhua

Indian steel companies to see uptrend in Q1 FY26, driven by safeguard duty and higher prices: Report

INDIAN steel companies are likely to experience an uptrend in the first quarter of 2026 owing to the recently imposed 12 per cent safeguard duty on flat products in April, according to a recent report by JM Financial.

The Government of India had imposed a 12 per cent safeguard duty in April, with an aim to protect the domestic steel industry from a sudden and sharp increase in steel imports. The government has set minimum import prices for

five steel product categories ranging from USD 675 per tonne to USD 964 per tonne. Any shipment imported below these prices will attract a 12 per cent safeguard duty.

According to the report, “Indian steel companies are expected to witness margin expansion to the tune of approx. INR 2k/t in 1QFY26.”

Indian steel companies’ margins are expected to be partly offset by elevated iron ore prices and lower scale during the quarter. — ANI



Indian steel companies’ margins are expected to be partly offset by elevated iron ore prices and lower scale during the quarter. **PHOTO: ANI**

China-Africa expo opens with focus on economic ties, new deals

Nearly 4,700 Chinese and African companies and over 30,000 participants are attending the event.

THE fourth China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo opened on Thursday in the central Chinese city of Changsha, highlighting the commitment of the world’s largest developing country to strengthening ties with Africa, the continent with the largest number of developing nations.

Nearly 4,700 Chinese and African companies as well as over 30,000 participants will attend the four-day event, themed “China and Africa: Together Towards Modernization.” The value of cooperation projects preliminarily agreed upon surpasses US\$11 billion, according



Ugandan Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja attends the opening ceremony of the fourth China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo and delivers a speech in Changsha, central China’s Hunan Province, 12 June 2025. **JIN LIANGKUI/XINHUA**

to organizers. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi attended the opening ceremony on Thursday, expressing the belief that the expo will create more opportunities for China-Africa cooperation and yield more results. — Xinhua

Nvidia marks Paris tech fair with Europe AI push

DRAWING high-powered tech CEOs and a presidential visit, the Vivattech trade fair opened in Paris on Wednesday with a bang as Nvidia boss Jensen Huang announced a major push into Europe.

“In just two years we will in-

crease the amount of AI computing capacity in Europe by a factor of 10,” Huang told a packed hall in a southern Paris convention centre, striding around the stage wearing his trademark leather jacket.

He also announced a mul-

ti-billion-dollar partnership with French AI champion Mistral AI.

President Emmanuel Macron hailed the Nvidia-Mistral tie-up as a “historic” opportunity for France and Europe, urging other local firms to climb aboard. — AFP

Ryanair says will fine ‘disruptive passengers’ 500 euros

IRISH no-frills airline Ryanair said Thursday it will fine “disruptive passengers whose unruly behaviour” results in their removal from aircraft 500 euros (\$580).

Europe’s biggest airline by passenger numbers has previously hit out at “unruly” behaviour caused by travellers consuming excessive amounts of alcohol while waiting to board delayed flights.

“Ryanair is committed to tackling unruly passenger behaviour for the benefit of its passengers and crew, and will continue to pursue disruptive passengers for civil damages, but at a minimum, they will now be issued with a 500-euro fine,” Ryanair said in a statement Thursday.

A spokesperson added that the penalty “will

be issued to any passengers offloaded from aircraft as a result of their misconduct”.

Ryanair in January said that it had incurred costs of 15,350 euros as a result of a “disruptive passenger” on board a flight from Dublin to Lanzarote, in Spain’s Canary Islands, last year.

This was because the plane had to divert to the Portuguese city of Porto, where the passenger was arrested, and the more than 160 other travellers on board were provided with overnight accommodation and meals.

Ryanair said it faced other costs, including the need for additional fuel and crew. The airline filed civil legal proceedings against the passenger in Ireland to recover its outlay. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 4 VOY.NO. (17N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 4 VOY. NO. (17N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **13-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISITCS
COMPANY LIMITED

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Trump urges Netanyahu to end Gaza war, halt Iran strike plans amid ceasefire push

Despite Trump describing the call as “very well, very smooth”, tensions have increased between him and Netanyahu over the Gaza conflict.



US President Donald Trump asked Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to end the war in Gaza and cease discussions about a military strike on Iran.
PHOTO: ANI/FILE

US President Donald Trump has asked Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to end the war in Gaza and stop talk of a potential military strike on Iran, CNN reported, citing a source familiar with their recent phone conversation.

The phone call, which took place on Monday, comes amid ongoing indirect ceasefire negotia-

tions between Hamas and the US, as well as Washington’s efforts to secure a nuclear agreement with Iran.

CNN noted that despite Trump later describing the call as “very well, very smooth”, tensions between the two leaders have grown in recent weeks over the Gaza conflict.

According to CNN, Trump urged Netanyahu during the call to stop public discussion of a potential attack on Iran and halt leaks about related military plans.

In response, Netanyahu reportedly told Trump that Iran was stalling through negotiations and was not genuinely committed to any deal. — ANI

NEWS IN BRIEF

Indian Coast Guard working to combat fire on Singapore-flagged container ship

THE Indian Coast Guard is continuously working to combat the fire that engulfed the Singapore-flagged container ship MV Wan Hai 503.

It said attempts were being made to control the vessel fire that injured several crew members. Of the 22 crew members, 18 were rescued by the Indian Navy, while four are still missing.

According to the Indian Coast Guard, as of 5:00 pm on Tuesday, the flames on the container ship were reduced, as thick smoke continued to emanate.

“Indian Coast Guard ships continue to fight the fire and attempt to bring the inferno on the container ship MV Wan Hai 503 under control off Kerala coast. Visible flames have reduced, and thick smoke continues to emanate as of 1700 hours today,” the Indian Coast Guard said. — ANI

South Africa winter storm leaves over 40 dead

At least 49 people have died in South Africa after heavy rains caused major flooding Eastern Cape province, officials said on Wednesday.

The largely rural region, which stretches from the Indian Ocean into high inland mountains, has been battered by heavy rain and snow since the weekend.

Much of South Africa has been struck by heavy rainfall and bitterly cold conditions in the past days.

“We have never seen this kind of combination of snow and torrential rains in winter simultaneously,” Eastern Cape premier Lubabalo Oscar Mabuyane told reporters.

Among those who perished were four children on a school minibus that was swept away by the waters, provincial authorities said.

“Sadly, four of those learners have been confirmed to be deceased, together with the driver and the conductor of the minibus taxi,” Mabuyane said. — ANI

EU, Britain strike deal on Gibraltar’s post-Brexit status

THE European Union and Britain on Wednesday sealed a deal on the status of the territory of Gibraltar, in what was billed as a “historic” breakthrough five years after Brexit.

The deal will ease the flow of people and goods over the Gibraltar-Spain border, and marks a new step in the much-vaunted “reset” of ties with Brussels under British Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

When Britain left the EU in 2020, the relationship between Gibraltar — historically an important military base for

Britain due to its position at the mouth of the Mediterranean Sea — and the bloc remained unresolved.

Talks between London, Madrid, Brussels and Gibraltar on a deal had made halting progress during several rounds of negotiations under Britain’s previous Conservative government, but Labour’s return to power last summer gave them new impetus.

EU trade chief Maros Sefcovic announced the deal at a joint news conference with Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares. — AFP



Wednesday’s deal between the EU and Britain will allow the flow of people and goods over the Gibraltar-Spain border. **PHOTO: CRISTINA QUICLER/AFP**

SPORTS

Star strikers Win Theingi Tun, May Htet Lu return to Yangon for team comeback

STAR forwards of the Myanmar women’s national football team, Win Theingi Tun and May Htet Lu, came back home to join the squad ahead of the Women’s Asian Cup Qualifiers and the ASEAN Women’s Championship, according to team sources.

May Htet Lu, who has been studying in the United States, arrived back at Yangon International Airport on the evening of 11 June. She will rejoin the national team’s training camp, currently preparing for the Women’s Asian Cup qualifiers.

Likewise, Win Theingi Tun, who recently played in the Malaysian Women’s League and serves as the national team’s captain, also arrived back in Myanmar on 11 June. She began training with the team on the morning of 12 June.

“We’ll give our best to lead the na-



Star forwards May Htet Lu and Win Theingi Tun are seen arriving at the Yangon International Airport to rejoin the Myanmar national women’s football team.



tional team to success in the qualifiers,” said Win Theingi Tun.

Myanmar will host Group C matches of the AFC Women’s Asian Cup Quali-

fiers, competing against Bahrain, Bangladesh and Turkmenistan. The qualifiers will be held from 23 June to 5 July.

The ASEAN Women’s Championship is scheduled to take place in Vietnam from 6 to 19 August, with the top two teams from each group advancing to the semi-finals. Myanmar is drawn in Group B alongside powerhouse Australia and defending champions the Philippines, making it a highly competitive group.

Despite the challenge, football analysts say Myanmar remains a strong contender with key players like Win Theingi Tun, May Htet Lu, San Thaw Thaw, Phyu Phyu Win and Naw Htet Htet Wai in the lineup.

Both strikers are now in training with the national team in preparation for the upcoming tournaments. — Htun Htun/KZL

Spurs set to name Brentford boss Frank as new head coach: reports

TOTTENHAM have reached an agreement with Premier League rivals Brentford to make Thomas Frank their head coach following the sacking of Ange Postecoglou, it was widely reported on Thursday.

Spurs set their sights on Frank after dismissing Postecoglou last week, just 16 days after he won the Europa League, and

made an official approach to Brentford earlier this week.

Britain’s Press Association said discussions initially centred on Frank’s current terms at Brentford and further talks were required over which backroom staff he would take with him. Frank’s contract with Brentford was set to run until 2027. It is understood he has a release clause of

about £10 million (\$13.6 million).

PA said a deal was struck on Thursday and the Athletic reported Spurs were set to seal the appointment of the 51-year-old Dane.

Frank lead Brentford back to the top flight in 2021 after an absence of 74 years and has established the west London club in the Premier League.

Spurs will play in the Champions League next season thanks to their Europa League success in Bilbao, where they beat Manchester United 1-0. — AFP

Myanmar's Joshua Van set for UFC showdown with top-ranked Royval

JOSHUA Van, Myanmar’s rising UFC flyweight, is set to fight No 1 contender Brandon Royval at UFC 317 in the United States on 29 June (Myanmar time). This comes just weeks after Van’s recent bout against Bruno Silva on 8 June, marking his second fight within a month.

Van steps in as a replacement after Royval’s original opponent, a Portuguese fighter

ranked sixth, withdrew due to injury. Despite limited preparation time, Van is on a strong run, having won seven of his eight UFC fights and four in a row. His professional record stands at 14 wins and two losses from 16 fights.

Royval, a seasoned American fighter, has secured seven wins in ten UFC appearances. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Tottenham are expected to announce Brentford boss Thomas Frank as their new manager.
PHOTO: AFP/FILE



PHOTO: UFC



WORLD

BELT AND ROAD
SCIENCE FORUM

Global programme
launched for
space weather
research

THE international scientific community has launched a programme that will utilize diverse observation methods and a global network to drive groundbreaking theoretical innovations and technological advancements in space weather research, aiming to enhance global capabilities in alleviating space weather hazards.

Five new institutions on Thursday signed cooperation agreements with the National Space Science Centre (NSSC) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the lead institute of the International Meridian Circle Programme (IMCP), at a forum held during the Second Belt and Road Conference on Science and Technology Exchange in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The signatory institutions include international organizations, universities and research institutes, namely the Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics, the Korea Polar Research Institute, the National Space Research and Development Agency in Nigeria, the King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang in Thailand and Muni University in Uganda. Within the framework of the IMCP Big Science Programme, 36 cooperation agreements and collaborative intentions have been reached with a wide range of international organizations and research institutions, according to the NSSC. — Xinhua



This handout picture from the Central Industrial Security Force shows the tailpiece of the plane jutting from a building. PHOTO: CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY FORCE (CISF)/AFP

Boeing 787 Air India plane crashes near Ahmedabad, multiple nationals aboard

The incident occurred in the Meghaninagar area near Ahmedabad airport.

AIR India said that the 242 passengers and crew on board the London-bound passenger plane that crashed on Thursday included 169 Indian passengers, as well as British, Canadian and Portuguese nationals.

"The flight... was carrying 242 passengers and crew members on board the Boeing 787-8 aircraft", it said in a statement. Among the 230 passengers, "169 are Indian nationals, 53 are British nationals, one Canadian national and seven Portuguese nationals", it said.

"The injured are being taken to the nearest hospitals," it said, adding that "Air India is giving its full cooperation to the authorities investigating this incident".

The Republic of India's Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) on Thursday said rescue operations are being carried out in close coordination with local authorities and emergency services at the spot of the plane crash incident in Ahmedabad, in which London-bound Air India Flight 171 was involved in a tragic accident.

In a post on X, CISF said all emergency

protocols were immediately activated and rushed to the site upon receiving the information.

The paramilitary force, which plays a crucial role in aviation security, also expressed solidarity over the incident.

"CISF stands in solidarity with the victims and their families in this hour of grief," they added.

The Air India plane from Ahmedabad to London with 242 passengers crashed in the Meghaninagar area near Ahmedabad airport early on Thursday. — ANI/AFP



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi attended the Muscat International Book Fair on 25 April 2025, where he spoke to reporters ahead of nuclear talks with US officials. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Israel fully ready to launch operation in Iran: Sources

ISRAEL is fully ready to launch an operation into Iran, US officials have been told, multiple sources told CBS News.

The US anticipates Iran could retaliate on certain American sites in neighbouring Iraq. This is part of the reason the US advised some Americans to leave the region earlier Wednesday, with the State Department ordering non-emergency govern-

ment officials to exit Iraq due to "heightened regional tensions", CBS News reported. US President Donald Trump's Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff is still planning to meet with Iran for a sixth round of talks on the country's nuclear programme in the coming days. Trump on Thursday while attending a performance of Les Miserables at the Kennedy Centre said that the US military

personnel are being moved out of some countries in the Middle East because it would otherwise be perilous. Trump said that Iran cannot have nuclear weapons.

"They (US military personnel) are being moved out (of some countries of the Middle East) because it could be a dangerous place and we will see what happens...We have given notice to move out," he said. — ANI