

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Armed conflict poses major challenges in Myanmar

The government aims to end the armed conflict for the benefit of the nation and the people, striving to build a durably peaceful, stable, and prosperous country.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing sent a message to the ceremony to mark the 78th Anniversary of Shan State Day on 7 February 2025. The full text of the translated message is as follows: -

Esteemed ethnic national brethren in Shan State,

On this auspicious occasion of the 78th Anniversary of Shan State Day, which falls on 7 February 2025, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all ethnic national brethren across Shan State and the entire nation. May you all be blessed with good health and happiness.

SEE PAGE 3



This photo reveals the Tharapa Gate in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone.

Restoring Tharapa Gate's waterways to Bagan's glory

Tharapa Gate, located in the Bagan UNESCO World Heritage Site, will be temporarily closed to facilitate the restoration and preservation of original Bagan-era waterways.

The Bagan Branch of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum has announced that Tharapa Gate, located in the Bagan UNESCO World Heritage Site, will be temporarily closed to facilitate the restoration and preservation of original Bagan-era waterways.

The restoration project commenced

in the first week of February and involves efforts to ensure proper water flow from the moat of the Old City to the Ayeyawady River. Additionally, conduits will be laid where necessary to improve the water system.

Directional signs will be placed in visible locations to guide visitors along alternative routes to minimize incon-

venience. Meanwhile, pilgrims can still visit the Nat shrines at the Tharapa Gate via the road on the western side of the palaces of Kings Anawrahta and Kyansittha. Designated areas will also be arranged to allow continued public worship in adherence to traditional customs, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch).

The project is expected to continue until the fourth week of March. It aims to preserve Bagan's cultural heritage, mitigate flooding in the heritage zone, and enhance water management within the UNESCO-listed site. — ASH/MKKS

Article

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

By **THAN HTUN**
(GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

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NATIONAL PAGE 10



Undocumented Myanmar citizens urged to depart US before deportation

NATIONAL PAGE 12



MMC's inaugural Book & Art Exhibition celebrates 78th Union Day

NATIONAL

Six Peace Principles Key to Ongoing Peacemaking Efforts

THE Six Peace Principles are not only aligned with the essence of the NCA but also stem from the “Knowledge” gained through continuous peace efforts over successive periods, and they represent the “reality” that must be pursued to strengthen ongoing peacemaking efforts.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the 79th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day parade on 27 March 2024)



National Objectives for 78th Anniversary of Union Day 2025

1. To strive for the perpetual development of the Union through the Union spirit, patriotic values, a sublime state of mind and a genuine nationalist spirit.
2. To encourage collaborative efforts among all ethnic nationals to pursue dialogue for durable peace and to end armed conflicts.
3. To collectively advance cooperation amongst all national people, the government, and Tatmadaw to ensure stability and the rule of law.
4. To enhance collaborative efforts to ensure nationwide stability and tranquillity, enabling the successful conduct of multiparty general elections.
5. To promote balanced development across all regions and states, as well as enhance health, education and job opportunities for ethnic nationals.

Mottos for 78th Union Day 2025

1. When all ethnic national brethren stand in unity, hand in hand, the Union will firmly stand.
2. Drifting in one boat, on the same voyage we float; Bound together in communion, the heart of the Union.
3. United in heart and soul, Marching towards the Union's goal.
4. Let's build peace to achieve prosperity.
5. Strong in unity, Ethnic national brethren ensure the nation's strength.

Gold Market Rate as of 6 February 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,480,000 as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

Frequent tanker arrivals slash fuel and palm oil prices

ACCORDING to the Supervisory Committee on Fuel Oil Import, Storage, and Distribution, fuel oil and palm oil tankers are continuously arriving as planned, domestic consumption is sufficient, and reserve fuel oil and palm oil have been stored in advance, leading to a drop in selling prices compared to before.

Currently, six oil tankers have arrived at the Thilawa oil terminal, three ships are at the seaport, one is en route, and ten

are loading fuel abroad, with the committee making advance arrangements to continuously import fuel with 29 ships in February.

In addition, the committee has imported and stored about a month's worth of fuel, in addition to the daily consumption, to ensure domestic fuel sufficiency. It is distributing and selling fuel from Thilawa to the rest of the country promptly with sufficient oil tankers. As people in various regions can easily and conven-

iently purchase the amount they need without any fuel shortages, fuel prices have continuously decreased by K85 to K115 per litre compared to the past.

Similarly, the price of palm oil has been continuously decreasing from the previous reference price of K7,280 per viss to K7,165 this week and will be sold at a reasonable price domestically in line with international price changes, with the committee adjusting the prices weekly. — MNA/TH



A line of bowsers departs the oil tanker terminal, heading for distribution across states and regions.

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)

Armed conflict poses major challenges in Myanmar

FROM PAGE 1

Shan State is the largest state in terms of area among all regions and states in Myanmar and is also home to the highest number of ethnic groups. Within Shan State, various Shan ethnic tribes, including Shan, Pa-O, Palaung, Danu, Intha, Taungyo, Wa, Htanot, Kokang, Lahu, Yinnat, Yinkya, Myaungzee, and Akha, coexist alongside other ethnic groups such as Kachin, Kayah, and Lisu. These diverse ethnic communities have lived together for a long time, demonstrating a strong tradition of unity and harmony in the spirit of the Union.

Looking back at the historical evidence, artefacts from Myanmar's Late Stone Age and the period of urban cultural development can be found in Shan State. The linguistic heritage, cultural traditions, and artistic legacy of the ethnic groups within Shan State are closely intertwined with the overall cultural and artistic landscape of the Union. This serves as a testament to the long-standing history of peaceful coexistence and mutual harmony among the people of the Union for many centuries.

During the three aggressive invasions by the British colonialists, the Shan Saophas and the Shan ethnic people, along with other ethnic groups, united and fiercely resisted. Their tradition of standing together with unwavering patriotism and dedication to national sovereignty remains a source of pride and honour for the Shan State and the Shan people.

From the time the British colonized Myanmar, they ruled the mountainous regions and the lowlands – once united and undivided – through various divide-and-rule tactics. Even when they were eventually compelled to grant Myanmar its independence, they attempted to continue their divisive governance over the mountainous regions. To counter this effort, Shan Saophas who were members of the Shan State Saophas' Council, along with representatives of the Shan State People's Freedom Organization, held discussions in Panglong, Shan State, from 3 to 6 February 1947. As a result, on 7 February 1947, they successfully formed the Shan State Council Executive Committee, comprising a total of 14 members – seven public representatives and seven Saophas representatives. Additionally, they petitioned the British government to abolish the Shan State Saophas' Council, which had previously functioned under colonial rule. The Shan State Council Executive Committee ultimately signed an agreement to achieve independence together with the mainland of Myanmar.

On 11 February 1947, during the Panglong Conference, 7 February was designated as Shan State Day to commemorate the unity and agreement reached for the future of the state and the nation. The decision, based on the solidarity of Shan princely rulers and local leaders, became a strong foundation for the historic Panglong Agreement and the emergence of Union Day. This year marks the 78th anniversary of the designation of 7 February as Shan State Day. As it played a crucial role in supporting Myanmar's journey to independence, it is also a significant and revered day for ethnic nationalities.

The emergence of Shan State Day is closely linked to a significant historical event in which colonial rulers' divide-and-rule policies were successfully resisted. It also stands as a firm testament to the historic event of "Union Day", which symbolized the crucial effort of ethnic unity and solidarity in the struggle for national independence.

Ethnic unity is of utmost importance for the peace, stability, and sovereignty

of a nation. Moreover, as it serves as a driving force for national development, it is essential to remove doubts among ethnic national brethren and engage in dialogue and negotiation to achieve durable peace. In regions where armed groups are present, local people are growing increasingly weary of violence and conflicts that harm the interests of both the nation and its people. It is a call to acknowledge and consider the common desire of all citizens who long for social development and a secure, peaceful life.

At present, the government is implementing the five-point roadmap and the nine objectives related to political, economic, and social affairs for national peace, stability, and development. Preparations are underway to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election to ensure stability, peace, and a smooth democratic transition. Among the five-point roadmap, the government is continuously striving to implement the peace process following the agreement that states: "Priority will be given to the achieving peace as the essence of the state and stabilizing the results of the peace process in alignment with the agreements in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) to the extent possible." Ethnic armed organizations are urged to consider the interests of the Union and all ethnic people with sincerity, rather than focusing solely on their own desires and group interests, and to work towards achieving durable peace in the Union.

Due to the destruction of fundamental infrastructure built for national development, ethnic citizens have suffered hardships. Likewise, the meaningless loss of valuable human resources essential for national progress has also weakened the country's strength. Therefore, I would like to once again urge all ethnic citizens to deeply understand and actively cooperate in working towards stability and lasting peace.

Armed conflict in our country is a challenging issue. Our sole intention is to end the armed conflict for the benefit of the nation and the people, striving to build a durably peaceful, stable, and prosperous country. Therefore, all ethnic communities must resolve these issues through political means and dialogue, as they desire. Only through dialogue and negotiations can stability and peace be achieved, leading to improvements in the economic and social conditions of the people.

For a nation to thrive and stand strong, it must enhance its ability to defend itself and improve its capacity to function effectively. If a country cannot sustain its own survival and stability through its own efforts, its sovereignty will weaken, and it may fall under the control of others. To remain an independent and stable nation, we must all unite and stand together to prevent subjugation by others. In times of potential danger to the nation, the armed forces, which bear the primary responsibility for national defence, must work closely with the people. With patriotism and unwavering courage, we must act in unity to ensure the nation's long-term stability and work towards comprehensive national development.

We are currently making arrangements to successfully hold a free and fair election, which is aligned with the objective of the State Administration Council. Therefore, it is necessary for the people to cooperate in unity, with a spirit of patriotism, national solidarity, and union spirit, to ensure the success of a fair and free election.

SEE PAGE 4

NATIONAL

Armed conflict poses major challenges in Myanmar

FROM PAGE 3

As citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, all ethnic groups aspire to live in peace, stability, and prosperity. To fulfil this aspiration, it is essential to ensure social harmony, the rule of law, economic development, and livelihood security. While the agriculture and livestock sectors, which involve all Myanmar citizens, are being modernized, efforts are also being made to develop other economic sectors comprehensively. Since it is necessary to further enhance micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) based on agriculture and livestock, priority is being given to their success. Therefore, ethnic groups in Shan State, who have a strong foundation and tradition in agriculture and livestock, are encouraged to make greater efforts in these sectors.

For the construction of a modern, developed nation based on democracy and a federal system, it is essential for all ethnic citizens, including young people, to excel in knowledge and skills. At the same time, they must also develop the ability to think critically and make fair, rational decisions. The government is implementing a comprehensive education system to produce highly skilled and competent human resources necessary for the Union. Efforts are being made to ensure access to education in rural and border areas. Therefore, we encourage cooperation with

the state to expand educational opportunities for all.

Programmes are being implemented to nurture well-rounded and capable young individuals. Just as educational development is crucial for the progress of society and the economy, health and well-being are equally important. Therefore, the government is prioritizing efforts to build a healthy and strong society. In particular, to promote health and sports spirit of young people, we urge ethnic communities to collaborate with the State in these efforts.

In conclusion, on the occasion of “Shan State Day”, which laid the foundation for a peaceful and prosperous Union and strengthened national unity, I urge all ethnic national brethren residing in Shan State to uphold the spirit of the Union established in 1947. By doing so, let us work together hand in hand with the government and the Tatmadaw to build a peaceful, prosperous, and modern nation.

*Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu
Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing
Prime Minister
Chairman, State Administration Council*

IDC discusses industrial development plans

SAC Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo addressed the second coordination meeting of the Industrial Development Commission (IDC) yesterday.

At the meeting, the Deputy Prime Minister, who is also the Commission Chairman, discussed the proper cooperation of commission members in implementing 16 objectives of the commission released by SAC, plans to draft work operation, timetable,

implementation, primary measurement index and review on the fixed index.

He also emphasized the matters related to proper support to local industrial entrepreneurs to produce profitable products, quick access to raw materials, energy, finance, human resources and technologies for import substitute industrial businesses, and the duties of the commission — to promote local manufacturing industry, to ensure domestic consumption, to export, to produce



The second coordination meeting of the Industrial Development Commission in progress yesterday, chaired by SAC Member Deputy PM MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo.

quality and value-added products and to make efforts for sustainability of the State industrial sector.

The attendees discussed the

ongoing work plans, factories to implement agro-based industrial businesses and the condition of State-owned industries and pri-

vate industries.

General Mya Tun Oo made proper instructions and concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH



Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister receives Deputy Executive Director of UNOPS in Copenhagen, Denmark

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received Ms Kirstine Damkjaer, Deputy Executive Director of United

The UNOPS's Deputy Executive Director calls on Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe.

Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in Copenhagen, Denmark, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on UNOPS's ongoing activities in Myanmar and discussed enhancing cooperation between Myanmar and UNOPS.

Also, present at the meeting were Mr Sanjay Mathur, Regional Director of UNOPS Asia Region in Bangkok, Ms Sara Austin Netzer, Country Director and Representative of UNOPS to Myanmar, and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

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NATIONAL

Child soldier prevention committee to expedite reuniting children with parents/guardians

THE Committee on the Prevention of Recruitment of Child Soldiers convened its 1/2025 meeting yesterday morning, presided over by State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye.

Speaking at the meeting, the Union Minister, who is also chairman of the committee, emphasized that 597 underage soldiers who were mistakenly recruited before reaching the age of majority between 2004 and 2012 have been allowed to be withdrawn from Tatmadaw before the cooperation with the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting-CTFMR. Then, the government signed a Plan of Action with CTFMR in 2012. After that collaboration, 1,057 underage soldiers who were mistakenly recruited have been allowed to be with-



The first meeting of the Committee on the Prevention of Recruitment of Child Soldiers in progress yesterday, chaired by SAC Member Deputy PM MoD Union Minister General Maung Maung Aye.

drawn from Tatmadaw and sent back to their parents from 2012 to date.

Tatmadaw conducts recruitment following the approved stipulations of the committee and CTFMR, laws, and regulations. Moreover, the

education programmes are also being conducted with the ministries concerned, and committee meetings are also held regularly to implement the objectives of the committee. The work completions are reported to CTFMR.

Then, the committee members and representatives discussed the progress in preventing children from serving in Tatmadaw and clarified the status of previous decisions and conditions for implementation across relevant sectors.

The Union minister then mentioned the discussion to be held with CTFMR in February 2025 and plans to transfer the underage soldiers to their parents, and concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH



MoBA Union Minister inspects disaster sites in Kalaw



SAC Member MoBA Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae views natural disaster-affected Kalaw Creek land area.

STATE Administration Council Member Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, accompanied by officials, inspected the completed measurement of the original Kalaw Creek land area, affected by a natural disaster, near Kalaw railway station, in Kalaw Township on 5 February.

The Union minister and

party observed the construction of the nine feet high retaining walls by Kalaw Chaung, Typhoon Yagi-hit Yayayekan water pipeline maintenance, road maintenance to Yayayekan and the embankment approach road, damage in the Mawmyay Oo garden due to Typhoon Yagi, and recorded photos of rehabilitation processes.

He then met district-level officials at the Kalaw District General Administration Department.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae also inspected the drainage excavation processes for water flows after the blockage of water outlets in the gully due to a natural disaster in Shwem-inphone village. — MNA/KTZH

MIFER Union Minister receives UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNOPS Deputy Executive Director



The UNOPS Deputy Executive Director calls on Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw yesterday.

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw received Ms Kirstine Damkjaer, Assistant Secretary-General of the UN, Deputy Executive Director for Denmark-based UNOPS and representatives at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

Both sides frankly discussed ongoing UNOPS programmes in Myanmar and the future cooperation plans between Myanmar and UNOPS.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations and representatives of UNOPS were also present at the meeting. — MNA

NATIONAL

Shwephonepwint Pagoda access road inaugurated in Taunggyi

IN celebration of the 78th Anniversary of Shan State Day, a new 22-foot-wide asphalt concrete road to Shwephonepwint Pagoda in Taunggyi was inaugurated yesterday morning.

During the ceremony, State Administration Council Member Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae presented a commemorative certificate of appreciation to U Sai Ywet from Sein Hninzi Mining Co Ltd and Loi Kham Advanced Housing Project.

SAC members and Union Ministers then awarded certificates of appreciation and cash award to the Pagoda trustee board, Myanmar Engineering Society (Taunggyi Branch), Shan State Development Department Director, Music Troupe from Basic Education High School No 4, Shan ethnic cultural troupes and traditional dance troupes such as the Kinnara and Kinnari dance troupes.

The attendees then made floral and oil lamp offerings at



The inauguration event of the access road to the Shwephonepwint Pagoda underway yesterday in Taunggyi, attended by Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae.

the pagoda and paid homage to the sacred site. They also observed the diamond a ord and umbrella being hoisted atop the pagoda.

Subsequently, they attend-

ed a religious ceremony at the Dhamma Hall of the Pagoda, where they offered alms to members of the Sangha. State Ovadacariya Sayadaw, the presiding monk of Sun Lun Gu

Meditation Centre in Taunggyi gave the Five Precepts and the congregation listened to paritta before making donations to the monks. The Sayadaw of Theintaung Monastery in Taunggyi

shared the merits of the donations.

As part of the Shan State Day celebrations, the SAC members then travelled to Kalaw Township for the opening of the new asphalt-paved South Myay Char-North Myay Char road (1/6.82 miles) along the Heho-Bawsai Road.

Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and officials then participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony and posed for a commemorative group photo.

During the second part of the event, Union Minister U Hla Moe delivered an opening speech, followed by remarks from Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung. U Myo Min Thant, Director of the Southern Shan State Rural Road Development Department made an explanation of the road and bridge projects implemented in the 2024-2025 financial year. A village representative then delivered a speech of gratitude. — MNA/KZL

MoI Union Minister inspects Academy Awards preparations



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn views the preparatory work for the 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Awards Ceremony.

THE 2024 Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Awards ceremony is set to take place grandly on 9 February at the Myanmar International Convention Centre I in Nay Pyi Taw. In preparation for the event, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, who also chair the organizing committee, inspected the ongoing preparations yesterday evening alongside relevant officials.

The Union minister first

inspected key areas, including the entrance, photo booth, interview booth, and the red carpet section. He also observed the exhibition of documentary photographs of previous Academy awardees from 1952 to 2023 and the display of movie titles screened in 2024. Additionally, he checked the stage setup at the Jade Hall, where the award ceremony will be held, as well as the installation of sound and lighting systems, LED screens, seating arrange-

ments, and designated media zones.

During the inspection, the Union minister emphasized that the State values and respects artistes, and thus, the Academy Awards ceremony is being organized with grandeur at the national level. He urged officials to complete all preparatory tasks on time, ensure the sound and lighting systems are properly set up and conduct systematic rehearsals per the event's schedule. — MNA/KZL

Union Education Minister meets Bangladeshi Ambassador

UNION Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Pe received Bangladesh Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Md Monwar Hossain at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Education yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the enhancement of cooperation in education was discussed in a frank and friendly atmosphere.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers Dr Zaw Myint and U Nay Myo Hlaing,

Director-General of the Office of the Ministry of Education Dr Aung Kyaw, Director-General of the Higher Education Department Dr Win Tun, Director-General of the Basic Education Department U Kyaw Swa Thwin, Director-General of the Department of Teachers' Training Daw Hnin Kyi as well as deputy permanent secretaries, deputy directors-general and other officials. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister Dr Nyunt Pe exchanges gifts with the Bangladeshi ambassador.

NATIONAL

Union Information Minister meets regional/state dept heads

EFFORTS should be made to enhance capabilities to improve departmental operations and to foster innovative thinking for the further development of the country's media sector, said Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn.

The Union minister made the above-mentioned instruction during the meeting with regional and state departmental heads who arrived in Nay Pyi Taw to attend the annual meeting and 34th-anniversary ceremony of the Information and Public Re-

lations Department.

He continued that the staff should learn about the current situation of the country and try hard to provide the people with true information by combatting misinformation and disinformation using modern technologies. Moreover, they should cooperate with the ministries concerned to ensure the success of the visions and missions of the government.

He also highlighted the guidance of the Head of the State to hold raising reading habit and



The meeting between Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and regional and state IPRD departmental heads in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

library development campaigns in respective regions and states, to hold talk shows, reading sessions and discussions to enhance knowledge, five essential capacities and stimulate patriotism of youths. He stressed the need to

study the election law and make sector-wise preparations for holding multiparty democratic general elections based on democracy and the federal system, the government's ultimate goal.

He heard the reports of rel-

evant officials and concluded the meeting.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn also presented uniforms to the staff, who are serving duties in border areas, at the event. — MNA/KTZH

Ethnic cultural troupes visit prominent sites in Nay Pyi Taw



Regional and state ethnic cultural troupes are pictured during their observation tours in Nay Pyi Taw.

MEMBERS of ethnic traditional culture troupes from different regions and states currently in Nay Pyi Taw to attend the 78th Anniversary of the Union Day celebration 2025 visited the well-known sites in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They first visited Maravijaya Buddha Image, the world's tallest sitting marble Buddha Image, situated in the Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory.

The pagoda's board of

trustees explained the history of the Buddha Image with a recording video.

The group made cash donations and one of the board of trustees gave the certificates in return.

They observed the pagoda compound, stone inscriptions curved in marble plaques in the Romanized Language using modern machines and other religious buildings.

They proceeded to Nay Pyi Taw National Museum, National Landmark Garden and De-

fence Services Museum.

The group included 47 members from the Sagaing Region, 35 from Kachin State, 33 from Kayah State, 40 from Kayin State, 32 from Chin State, 38 from Mon State, 39 from Rakhine State and 40 from Shan State.

The second-day excursion will be on 7 February to Nay Pyi Taw Bodh Gaya, water fountain park, Junction Centre, Gems Museum, planetarium, Up-patasanti Pagoda and Hluttaw buildings. — MNA/KTZH

Union Minister for Health meets ICRC Resident Representative



The ICRC Resident Representative calls on Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win yesterday.

UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win received Mr Arnaud De Baecque, the Resident Representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), at the lounge of the ministry yesterday morning.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on ongoing cooperation in healthcare

and potential areas for further collaboration between the ministry and the ICRC in an open and friendly manner.

Also in attendance were the Deputy Minister for Health, directors-general from various departments under the ministry, and ICRC officials. — MNA/MKKS

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OPINION

Create economic opportunities at MSME Expo

TO celebrate the 78th Anniversary of Union Day, an MSME exhibition and competition will be held from 10 to 14 February 2025, at Tabaung Ground near the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw. This marks a unique event in Union Day celebrations, showcasing products from micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) across Myanmar. The exhibition aims to boost national development by enhancing the competitiveness of MSME products and promoting economic growth in all states and regions.

The event will feature products from all 15 states and regions, including Nay Pyi Taw, focusing on local agricultural, livestock, and industrial products. This competition intends to improve product quality, foster innovation, and increase regional competition. Additionally, the exhibition will include a display of traditional foods and various agricultural and industrial products for sale, creating a vibrant marketplace for both exhibitors and visitors. Musical performances will also add cultural value to the event.

MSMEs will present a wide range of products, from high-value goods made from local agricultural and livestock outputs to items supporting import substitution and export growth. Entrepreneurs in industrial crafts and product manufacturing, as well as regional businesses, will showcase their goods. The event provides an opportunity for networking among MSME owners, enabling them to expand their market reach, exchange ideas, and gain insights from new business models. This networking will encourage collaboration and foster the growth of MSMEs nationwide.

The exhibition will also serve as a platform for MSME entrepreneurs to exchange technological innovations, enhance production capabilities and foster new market opportunities. Entrepreneurs can learn from one another, adopting new ideas and improving their business operations. By introducing new products into the market, this event aims to generate further economic opportunities and contribute to national development.

Preparations for the exhibition are nearly complete, with 75 per cent of the work finished as of January 2025. By 8 February, all setups will be finalized. A total of 53 MSME entrepreneurs will display between 200 and 300 products made from locally sourced materials, including agricultural goods, export items, and import-substitution products.

The MSME exhibitions and competitions are a testament to the unity of Myanmar's ethnic communities, bringing together entrepreneurs from across the nation to share their products and ideas. It promotes economic growth by fostering collaboration, introducing new products to the market, and supporting the development of MSMEs.

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

EPISODE:57

By **THAN HTUN**
(GEOSCIENCE
MYANMAR)

Historical Expeditions to Barren Island

This article continues from Episode 56, highlighting key points from FR Mallet's 1895 account of historical expeditions to Barren Island since 1595.

Blair, 1789: I have made unsuccessful attempts, at the libraries mentioned, to discover the original of Captain Blair's report on the Andamans, part of which, relating to Barren Island, is quoted by Lieutenant Colebrooke in the Asiatic Researches. The following letter, however, dated 19 April 1789, serves to supplement the above: "To the Right Hon'ble Charles Earl Cornwallis, KG, Governor-General, etc., in Council:-

My Lord *** After examining Diligent Strait and the archipelago, I proceeded to Barren Island and found the volcano in a violent state of eruption, throwing out showers of red-hot stones and immense volumes of smoke. There were two or three eruptions while I was close to the foot of the cone; several of the stones rolled down and bounded a good way past the foot of it. After a diligent search, I could find nothing of Sulphur or anything that answered the description of lava. *** I have, &c. "Archibald Blair".



Topography of Barren Island. Source: GSI, 1885

The preceding account is, in most respects, very similar to that in the report alluded to, and the chief interest lies in the final sentence. I have argued, on other grounds, that the lava streams that now extend from the central cone westward towards the sea were emitted after Blair's visit, but his statement that after diligent search, he could find nothing resembling lava, put the question beyond discussion. It is scarcely conceivable that anyone, however inexperienced in volcanic geology, could fail to recognize the true character of such typical streams at first glance. There is, however, still further proof that the lava was emitted after Blair's time. From the points of issue, the streams flowed down the slope of the cone, and their heads now constitute a portion of its surface so that there have been no accretions to the cone since the occurrence in question. However, it is shown in the succeeding

paragraphs that the cone has greatly increased in bulk since 1789, and any lava emitted then, or previously, and solidified on its flanks, would now be deeply buried beneath the later products of eruption. I have previously stated that no fragmentary ejecta has even fallen directly from the crater onto the surface of the lava, which must, therefore, have been emitted after the last eruption of such material. In other words, the lava must be the latest volcanic product and cannot have been emitted earlier than 1804, the date of the last outburst of which we have any record. We have no reason to suppose that the different streams were emitted at considerable intervals, and the existence of the hot spring in 1832 shows that the southern stream, at least, had been poured forth before that date.

Captain Blair's landing on the island remains the first, of which we have any record.

It is worthy of mention in connection with Blair's visit that Test's "view of the volcano on Barren Island, bearing east, about one mile off," taken the day before Blair landed, gives the means of arriving at an approximation to the height of the newer cone at that time. The sketch represents the summit of the cone as rising very slightly above the skyline of the old crater rim behind it, and a careful comparison of corresponding points in the sketch and in Hobday's map of 1884 shows that the artist, the summit of the cone, and the eminence on the old crater rim which Hobday marked as 1,060 feet, in height, were in a line; and likewise shows that the eminence in question was concealed, and only just concealed, by the summit of the cone: in other words, the eminence and the cone subtended almost the same angle, their respective distances from the point of view, and the height of the eminence, being obtained from the map, give the height of the cone as exactly 800 feet, assuming the two angles involved to be identical, and that Test estimated his distance from the shore correctly. I do not think any probable difference in the angles would make a difference of more than 20 or 30 feet in height, while an error of a quarter of a mile in the estimated distance, one way or the other; would make a difference of about 30 feet. The errors due to these two sources, if they exist, may partially, or entirely, neutralize each other; but even if they are both of the same sign, the total error is probably well under 100 feet, and is almost certainly not over this amount. While, therefore, it may be taken as almost beyond question, that the height of the cone was between 700 and 900 feet, it is much more likely that it was between 750 and 850 than outside these limits, and the most probable altitude is about 800.

Lieutenant Whales' ketch, as produced in the Asiatic Researches (Vol IV) is on a smaller scale than Test's and shows marks of less careful elaboration. Still, the height calculated from it agrees very fairly with the above, giving the most probable elevation as between 800 feet, the lower figures being the more likely.

Corroborative evidence of a considerable increase in the cone size is afforded by a large protuberance, represented in Test's sketch on the lower part of the northwestern slope. This was quite obliterated in 1884, owing, doubtless, to its having been buried beneath the ejecta emitted since Test used his brush.

Supposing the true height to have been 800 feet, the cone, which is now 1015, must have just doubled in bulk between the time of Blair's visit and 1857, since which date we know that there has not been any eruption, a suggestive conclusion regarding the period during which the entire pile may have been heaped up.

Hall, 1795: The following extract from the log of the ship 'Worcester,' commanded by Captain Hall, adds one more to the recorded eruptions towards the close of the last century:-

"Sunday, 20 December 1795. At 10 am commodore made a single for seeing the land. Saw a long island higher at the westward end

sloping gently to the westward NW ½ W 14 or 15 leagues off deck. At noon it bore from NW to NW. ½ W take it for Barren or Monday Island. In the centre, smoke arises and has the appearance of a volcano. Its Lat by the bearings is 12° 22' N. and Long. by my chron. No 1, 93° 54'E Greenwich x x x.

"Monday, 21 xxx. At 6 am, it bore 10 leagues and Narcondam (both from the deck) NNE ¾ E about 12 leagues. It was astonishing the repeated columns of black smoke which were sent up. There appeared no hill (as the whole island is nearly a plain surface gently sloping to the eastward as mentioned in yesterday's log) but the smoke was from the other side of the ridge or on the eastern side."

Anyone unacquainted with the true topography of the Island, and viewing it from a distance of several leagues might easily suppose it to have a nearly plain surface, or to form a ridge. Captain Hall's remark that the Island is "higher at the westward end sloping gently to the eastward" agrees with Captain Taylor's that "the westernmost extremity is the highest, and makes with a peak descending to a low point to the eastward." But this appearance is evidently a deceptive one, as Captain Hobday's map shows that the volcano is highest towards the southeast, and we have evidence, in Test's sketch of the island in 1789, that, as far as the ancient cone is concerned, the outlines then were practically identical with the present ones.

Cason, 1804: The volcano was again in eruption at the end of January 1804, when HMS "Caroline" passed the island. The log contains the following entry on the 31st:- "Several eruptions of fire from the volcano on Barren Island during the night." This outburst (as pointed out by

Date	Condition of Volcano	Temperature of hot spring	Authority
1595	The island appears to have been known at this time, but there is no indication of its volcanic nature having been recognised.		Maps in Van Linschoten's itinerario.
7 Dec 1708	Dormant.		Capt Gough; the log of the ship 'Stretham'.
28/29 Oct 1748	Dormant.		Capt Chenye; the log of the ship "Lapwing".
1758	Dormant?		Capt Mills, of the ship "Drake"
2 Nov v. 1771	Dormant.		Capt Justice, of ship 'Union M S Bengal'
13&15 Jan 1780	Dormant.		Captain Taylor, of the ship "Ceres" Dalrymple's Nautical Memoirs, Vol II.
12 May 1787	"Column of smoke ascending from the summit " was seen from a distance of 7 leagues. No nearer approach to the island was made.		Lieutenant Colebrooke, Asiatic Researches, Vol IV.
x x x x	x x x x	x x x	
2 April 1886	"From the ship, the thin column of steam (from the central cone) could be barely seen at 3 miles distance.	110°	
April 1891	Some steam issued from the crater but considerably less than in 1886; it was not visible from the sea, or even from the landing place.	102° to 106°	Dr Prain; Proceedings, As Soc, Bangal, May 1891.
1894	"The Volcano is apparently entering a period of renewed activity." This somewhat vague statement does not seem to have been corroborated.		Port Blair correspondent of the Allahabad 'Pioneer'.

(due to the constraint of space, only part of the table could be shown)

References: 1. Mallet, F R, 1595: *Some early allusions to Barren Island; with a few remarks thereon, Records of Geological Survey of India, Vol XXVIII, Calcutta, India.*

ARTICLE

Dr V Ball) is also mentioned, by one of the officers, in an "account of a voyage to India and China, etc, in HMS "Caroline". His remarks are given in the following table.

Probable condition of the volcano in the 18th century: Not one of the observers before Colebrooke (1787) recorded any appearance of smoke rising from the Island or made any remark indicative of their being aware of its volcanic nature, from which it may not unreasonably be assumed that, when they saw the volcano, it was quiescent or at most giving off a little steam. It seems difficult to imagine that while the bearings, etc., of the Island were duly recorded in the log, an eruption if witnessed, should be ignored, and we may, perhaps, further surmise that the volcano was in the same condition when seen by the unknown observers who first applied the names 'Monday' and 'Barren' Island; at dates we are unacquainted with, but which seem not improbably to lie between 1708, before which time both names appear to have been in use. Had the volcano been in eruption when the observers in question saw it, it does not seem unlikely that they would have given names suggested by the remarkable phenomenon of which they were spectators.

Assuming, however, that the volcano was quiescent at the dates previously given, it would still be unsafe to argue very confidently as to its general condition in the eighteenth century, as, during the intervals of which nothing is known, many eruptions may have occurred for ought we can assert to the contrary. But, at the same time, the fact that on every one of the six dates included in the following records, between 1787 and 1804, the volcano was very active, and mostly in eruption, while on each of the (three or) four dates between 1748 and 1780, it appears to have been quiescent, can hardly be attributed entirely to chance. Hence it can scarcely be doubted that several outbursts during the two decades following 1785 have passed unnoticed, while we shall, perhaps, not greatly err if we regard the preceding four decades as a period of at least comparative, and possibly total, tranquillity. As we have seen, there is also some slight ground for surmising that this tranquillity may have extended back to the early part of the century. Of antecedent ages, we know nothing from direct observation unless the suggestion concerning Linschoten's map may be taken as one very faint hint.

Tabular abstract: In conclusion, it may be convenient to add a revised edition of the tabular abstracts given in my memoir on the volcano, incorporating the preceding records, and also the observations that have been made since 1884.

NATIONAL

One ASEAN One Response Roadshow Workshop held in Nay Pyi Taw



Union Minister Dr Soe Win delivers the opening speech at the OAOR Roadshow workshop yesterday.

THE One ASEAN One Response (OAOR) Roadshow workshop jointly organized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the AHA Centre was held yesterday

morning at the Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the opening ceremony, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win delivered a

video message, stating that the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and the AHA Centre have been actively implementing the One ASEAN One Response Declaration.

He highlighted Myanmar's effective response and management of natural disasters, such as Cyclone Mocha in 2023 and Typhoon Yagi in 2024, which led to severe flooding. He also acknowledged ASEAN's support through the AHA Centre in providing relief supplies and technical assistance, expressing gratitude for the cooperation that has significantly contributed to the implementation of the One ASEAN One Response initiative.

Following this, the Department of Disaster Management briefed participants on Myanmar's disaster response and management processes. The ASEAN Secretariat elaborated on ASEAN's disaster manage-

ment policies and emergency response mechanisms, while the AHA Centre discussed the ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure for Regional Standby Arrangements and Coordination of Joint Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Operations (SASOP). Representatives from the ASEAN-ERAT (ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team) and UN-DAC (United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination) provided insights into their operations. Participants engaged in discussions and raised queries on various topics.

The Deputy Minister delivered the closing remarks before concluding the workshop. — MNA/KZL

Undocumented Myanmar citizens urged to depart US before deportation

THE Myanmar Embassy to the United States has announced that undocumented Myanmar citizens in the United States who have been illegally staying should leave before being deported by the host government officials.

The statement issued by the embassy on 5 February said that Myanmar citizens who are facing the expiration of their legal documents such as residence permits or visas for various reasons may be classified as undocumented aliens and subject to deportation, so it is

advised to take steps to obtain residency through their individual arrangements.

The host country has also advised them to leave before deportation if they are undocumented or illegal immigrants. Myanmar citizens who do not have any travel documents to return to Myanmar or whose passports have expired can apply for a certificate of identity. The embassy said the application form and requirements can be found on the embassy's website and can be contacted via email or phone. — MT/ZN



This photo shows the Myanmar Embassy in Washington, DC.

Myanmar, Russia hold 2nd meeting on peaceful nuclear energy cooperation



The second meeting of the Myanmar-Russia Joint Coordination Committee on Cooperation in the Utilization of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes in progress online on 5 February 2025.

THE second meeting of the Myanmar-Russia Joint Coordination Committee on Cooperation in the Utilization of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes was held in a hybrid format on 5 February, co-chaired by Dr Aung Zeya, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology, and Mr Nikolay Spassky, Deputy Director-General of the State Atomic Energy Corporation of the Russian Federation (Rosatom).

In addition to the Ministry of Science and Technology,

officials from the committee member ministries – Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Ministry of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Ministry of Electric Power, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Commerce, and Ministry of Health – attended the meeting in person, while officials from Rosatom participated

via video conference.

During the meeting, they discussed the development of the legal framework and infrastructure for nuclear energy, nuclear technician training and development, and cooperation in the advancement of science and nuclear technology to support the country's long-term development and the socioeconomic prosperity of its people, and signed the meeting minutes between the two countries. — MNA/TH

NATIONAL

Myanmar combats online scams and gambling activities



Photos depict systematic procedures in progress to hand over undocumented immigrants who entered Myanmar illegally.

THE government of Myanmar continues its decisive actions against online fraud and illegal activities, particularly those involving individuals who enter the country without proper documentation. Efforts are underway to identify and deport such individuals to their respective countries.

The government prioritizes national stability, peace and the rule of law. In some border regions, certain foreign nation-

als, including those connected to ethnic armed organizations have exploited the situation for personal gain. They have been involved in extensive online scams and gambling operations. Authorities are focusing on investigating, uncovering and deporting individuals involved in these illegal activities.

Through scrutiny, the majority of illegal entrants discovered in Myanmar have

been found to have crossed through neighbouring countries including Thailand. They entered Myanmar for illegal employment opportunities. While these individuals entered unlawfully, the government, taking into consideration human compassion and international solidarity has ensured they are processed under the law and sent back to their home countries.

In recent operations in

Kayin State, Myanmar authorities uncovered a network of online scams and gambling activities, leading to the identification of 61 foreign nationals involved in these crimes. These included 39 Chinese nationals, one from Kazakhstan, five from Indonesia, one from Ethiopia, one from Pakistan, one from Malaysia and 13 from India. After a thorough investigation, these individuals were transferred back to

Thailand according to official procedures.

Upon questioning, they were reportedly recruited for computer-related tasks, translation work, and other services, lured by promises of high wages. These individuals were exploited through online platforms, coerced into participating in fraudulent schemes and then moved through various border points. The illegal trafficking ring including the facilitation of illicit border crossings is being closely monitored by Myanmar authorities.

The government remains committed to collaborating with neighbouring countries and international agencies to root out online scams and gambling networks. Efforts to gather information from local and regional sources are being strengthened with an emphasis on swift communication of any relevant intelligence. This comprehensive approach aims to eliminate these criminal activities and ensure national security. — MNA/KZL

Counter-argument to false information

False media report denies terrorist attacks, misleads public



This screenshot discloses misinformation.

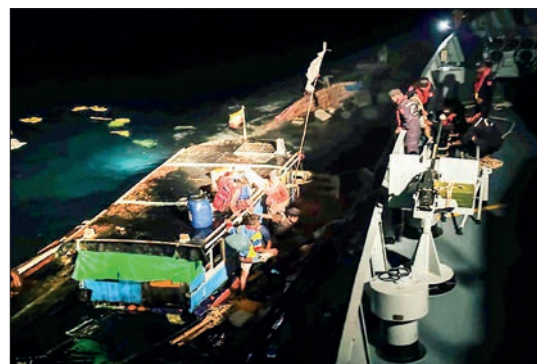
A subversive media outlet fabricated a false report, alleging that security forces carried out airstrikes on Yonesigy and Ywathit villages in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Region, injuring a monk and another

individual.

In response to this claim, a security official stated that the report was untrue, clarifying that security forces had not attacked any villages, as they are non-military targets. The official further explained that only terrorists had been extorting money through threats and had set fire to, shelled, and bombed residential areas, villages, schools, and monasteries that did not comply with their demands.

The official also noted that pro-terrorist media outlets spread misinformation to conceal terrorists' perpetrations and mislead the public about security forces. — MNA/KNN

Security forces rescue crew from sunken cargo vessel near Gwa



Photos capture security forces aiding rescued crew members from a submerged cargo ship near Gwa, Rakhine State.

NAVAL personnel conducting security operations in Myanmar's territorial waters near Gwa Township, Rakhine State, responded to an emergency involving a sinking cargo vessel.

They received a distress signal via radio communication at around 1:25 am yesterday that the vessel Shwe Kyel

Lin I, located approximately 18.5 nautical miles southeast of Gwa had been struck by strong waves, causing structural damage and water ingress.

Rescue operations commenced immediately and the team reached the sinking vessel by 5:45 am. Five crew members aboard the ves-

sel were safely rescued and brought onto the navy ship where they received necessary medical checks, clothing and food.

The authorities are making arrangements to transfer the rescued crew members to the relevant entities in an orderly manner. — MNA/KZL

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

NATIONAL

MMC's inaugural Book & Art Exhibition celebrates 78th Union Day

THE first MMC Book and Art Exhibition in honour of the 78th Union Day will be held at the Myawady Media Centre in Baukhtaw, Yangon, from 11 to 13 February, according to the exhibition organizing committee.

The exhibition will be open from 9 am to 5 pm daily during these days, so book and art lovers and interested persons are invited to visit and buy everything in one place, and special programmes will also

be included.

“The exhibition will include a programme of the meeting among writers/artists and the audience, a live caricature at one sitting, and other interesting food and drinks. Moreover, restaurants will be opened for the convenience of visitors to the exhibition,” said an official from the organizing committee.

At Myawady's Public Access Media Centre, its published books including

those from other printing houses will be sold at special discounted prices.

This is the first exhibition held at the Myawady Media Centre, and it aims to contribute its efforts to promote reading habits and readership. – GNL

Announcement for the inaugural MMC Book and Art Exhibition.



Yangon Region air quality acceptable: MoNREC

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20. မြောက်ဧရာဝတီ	အဆိုးဆုံး	အဆိုးဆုံး	အဆိုးဆုံး	အဆိုးဆုံး	အဆိုးဆုံး	အဆိုးဆုံး

This photo showcases air quality parameters used in measurements across different regions and states.

ACCORDING to measurements taken in January 2025 by the Department of Environmental Conservation under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, the ambient air quality in Yangon Region is generally within acceptable levels.

In order to assess the ambient air

quality across the country, the Department of Environmental Conservation regularly measures air quality parameters at designated sampling points in the Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory/Regions/States. According to measurements taken in January 2025, the air quality in Thakayta Township, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Thanlyin Township, Shwepyitha Township, and Hlegu Township in Yangon Region is at an acceptable level. However, the air quality in Dala Township, near the Yangon Region Government Office and City Hall, is also at an acceptable level but may be identified as harmful to the well-being of vulnerable individuals.

Similarly, the air quality in Ot-tarathiri and Pobbathiri townships in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area is reported to be in good condition, while the air quality in Patheingyi Township in Mandalay Region is at a level that could affect health. The air quality in Amarapura Township is harmful to health only for vulnerable individuals.

Similarly, Bago Township in Bago Region, Taunggyi Township in Shan State, Mawlamyine Township in Mon

State, Hpa-an Township in Kayin State, Homalin Township in Sagaing Region, and Kyaukse Township in Mandalay Region are all reported to have acceptable air quality.

Air quality is regularly measured and analyzed using instruments such as the Environmental Perimeter Air Station (EPAS) — Haz-Scanner, Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQM-65), Scentroid (SL-50 Scential), Aeroqual (Series 500 Portable Air Quality Monitor), AQMesh (Dust Analyzer - 1941150, Gas Analyzer - 1940150), Portable Beta Attenuation Mass Monitor (BAM 1022), Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQMS), and Continuous Particulate Monitor. Key parameters, such as Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5), Particulate Matter 10 (PM10), Sulphur Dioxide (SO2), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2), Ozone (O3), and Carbon Monoxide (CO), are also measured.

In addition, the ambient air quality results may vary depending on factors such as air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, humidity, rainfall, vehicle usage, emissions from factories, and the surrounding environment at the measurement site. — ASH/TH

YC25 to engage Myanmar Youth with EU

THE “YC25 (Youth Conference 2025): Share Your Voice with the EU” will take place on 8 February at Studio Canvas in Thakayta Township, Yangon.

The event is organized through the collaboration of Young City Shapers and other youth organizations, with support from the European Union embassy in Myanmar. YC25 aims to provide Myanmar youth with opportunities to enhance their knowledge, broaden their perspectives and strengthen their skills. It also serves as a platform for young people to engage in discussions and collaborate on solutions to the challenges they face.

The conference will feature several key sessions, including “The Place Game Workshop” by Young City Shapers, which will explore ways to improve public spaces through collective creativity. For The Future Myanmar will lead a discussion on “How Gender Affects Access to Education and Vocational Training,” addressing gender-related barriers in education. “Allyours” will organize the “Integration of Art & Design Panels and Workshops,” focusing on how art and innovation can be incorporated into daily life. YEAH - Youth for Environmental Action and Hope will host the “Youth Environment Echo Workshop,” where participants will discuss climate change and environmental conservation efforts. Purple and Untitled Space will organize two sessions: “Caps to Pins: Crafting Creativity from Waste Workshop,” which highlights sustainability through creative reuse, and “Our Journey Brought to You: Stories of Resilience, Innovation, and Growth Panel Discussion,” where inspiring personal journeys will be shared. — ASH/KZL

‘Thu Nge Chin Doh Ein’ mini-series begins filming

THE television mini-series ‘Thu Nge Chin Doh Ein’ has begun filming, according to actor Nay Chi Shun Latt, who is part of the cast.

Produced by MHC Vision, this marks the company’s debut television series. The Skyward Art Team wrote the script, with Eric Lin as both the writer and director.

“I play a villainous character in

this series. Although it is a villain role, I am doing my best to make it as convincing as possible. I have enjoyed working on series since I entered the industry through television dramas. I also feel that audiences get to see more of us when we are in a series. I hope everyone will support me when this drama is released,” said Nay Chi Shun Latt.

The mini-series will air on Fortune TV and the cast includes Nya Na, Wine Shwe Yi, Nay Chi Shun Latt, Kyaw Moe Paing, Sara, Ku Ku Han Tha, Pyone Han Tha Ko, Loon Chel, Pan Wut Hmon, Paing Soe San, Min Nay Lin, Mo Ko, Nan Shin Saw together with child actress Shwe Yi Loon Eain and many other performers. — ASH/MKKS

CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE (MYANMAR) COMPANY LIMITED
Notice for Members' Voluntary Winding Up
(Company Registration No. 111260494)

Notice is hereby given that

- (1) the members of Corteva Agriscience (Myanmar) Company Limited (the "Company") had passed a special resolution on 1 February 2025 that the Company be wound up by way of members' voluntary winding up under the Insolvency Law 2020 with effect from 1 February 2025.
- (2) Daw Myat Myat Chit (holder of Myanmar NRC No. 1/MANYANA(N)081592), has been appointed as liquidator to conduct the members' voluntary winding up of the Company and distributing the assets of the Company by a resolution of the members passed on 1 February 2025. A copy of the notice of appointment is set out below.

Notice of Appointment of Liquidator

<p>W-11. Notice of appointment of liquidator for company/body corporate Section 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159 and 163 of the Insolvency Law 2020, rule 76, 77 and 79 Insolvency Rules 2020 in relation to liquidator under section 152.</p> <p>1. Identification of company/body corporate to which this appointment relates</p> <p>Name of company/body corporate* CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE (MYANMAR) COMPANY LIMITED</p> <p>Name of company/body corporate in Myanmar language (optional)</p> <p>Company/body corporate registration number* 111260494</p> <p>2. Identification of insolvency practitioner/Official Receiver appointed as liquidator</p> <p>Full name in English* Daw Myat Myat Chit</p> <p>Full name in Myanmar language</p> <p>Insolvency practitioner registration number* 00018</p> <p>Address 111260494</p> <p>3. Date of appointment* 01 / 02 / 2025</p> <p>4. Details of appointment</p> <p>A. Please indicate below the circumstances leading to the appointment of the liquidator* <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator was appointed by the company under section 152(a) of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator was appointed by the creditors of the company under section 153(a) of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator was appointed by a Court order under section 154(a) and 157 of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator was appointed by a Court as a provisional liquidator under section 155 of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator was appointed by the creditors of the company in place of the Official Receiver under section 156(a) of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator was appointed by the creditors of the company in place of the Official Receiver under section 158(a) of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator is a voluntary liquidator appointed under section 153 of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> The liquidator was appointed by the company under section 152(a) of the Insolvency Law, please indicate below the circumstances leading to the members' voluntary winding up.</p> <p>B. The company's constitution has a period for the duration of the company and that period expires or provides that the company is to be dissolved upon the occurrence of an event and the event occurs and the company in general meeting has passed a resolution requiring the company to be wound up voluntarily (section 147(a)(i) Insolvency Law). <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No C. The company received by special resolution that the company be wound up voluntarily (section 147(a)(ii) Insolvency Law). <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No D. In the case of a public company or a wholly owned subsidiary of a public company* <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No E. If the Court ordered the winding up of the company/body corporate, date of Court order* DD / MM / YYYY A copy of the Court order under section 154(a) & 156 of the Insolvency Law must be attached to this notice.</p> <p>6. Attach a copy of the section 151(a) Insolvency Law statutory declaration of solvency and report of company's auditors (if applicable) Where a members' voluntary winding up is proposed in the circumstances identified in section 147(a)(i) or (ii) of the Insolvency Law, and the majority of the directors make a statutory declaration of solvency under section 151(a) of the Insolvency Law, the declaration must be delivered to the Registrar (section 151(b) Insolvency Law). In the case of a public company or a wholly owned subsidiary of a public company, the director's declaration of solvency must be supported by a report of the company's auditors (section 151(c) Insolvency Law). If the declaration of solvency is not delivered to the Registrar together with the notice of appointment of the liquidator within 2 business days of the appointment, the Registrar must file the company and every other as defined an amount not exceeding 100,000 kyats (section 151(d) Insolvency Law).</p> <p>7. Details of any other insolvency practitioners appointed to the role of liquidator in respect of the company/body corporate A. Are two or more insolvency practitioners appointed to the role of liquidator in respect of the company/body corporate? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No B. If two or more insolvency practitioners are appointed to the role of liquidator in respect of the company/body corporate, has the insolvency practitioner to whom this notice of appointment relates been authorized to perform or exercise the functions and powers of liquidator (i) jointly or (ii) jointly and severally (section 152 Insolvency Law)? <input type="checkbox"/> Appointed to act jointly <input type="checkbox"/> Appointed to act jointly and severally C. Please provide details of all other insolvency practitioners currently appointed to the role of liquidator in respect of the company/body corporate* Full name in English of other insolvency practitioner currently appointed to the role of liquidator in respect of the company/body corporate*</p>	<p>111260494</p> <p>01 / 02 / 2025</p>	<p>01 / 02 / 2025</p>	<p>Full name in Myanmar language</p> <p>Insolvency practitioner registration number*</p> <p>Address</p> <p>Street number and street name*</p> <p>Township</p> <p>City/Township</p> <p>State Region*</p> <p>Country*</p> <p>Postcode</p>	<p>8. Signed by liquidator identified in section (2) above*</p> <p>I certify that the information in this form and any document attached to this form is true and correct.</p> <p>Daw Myat Myat Chit</p> <p>9. Checklist The following must accompany this form: <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the completed Form 2 Insolvency practitioner's consent to appointment (in the form set out in the Second Schedule of the Insolvency Rules). <input type="checkbox"/> If the liquidator was appointed by the company under section 152(a) in the circumstances identified in section 147(a)(i) or (ii) of the Insolvency Law, a copy of the directors' statutory declaration of solvency under section 151(a) of the Insolvency Law. <input type="checkbox"/> If the directors have made a statutory declaration of solvency under section 151(a) of the Insolvency Law, and the company is a public company or a wholly owned subsidiary of a public company, a copy of the report of the company's auditors. <input type="checkbox"/> If the liquidator or provisional liquidator was appointed by the Court, a copy of the Court order.</p>
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- (3) The creditors of the Company, are requested to submit their proof of debts or claims together with the detailed particulars and relevant evidence of the debts or claims to the undersigned liquidator, within one month from the date of this advertisement, at No-15/17, Seventh Floor, Bo Saw Oo Street, Kyimyindaing Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar 11101 and electronically to any of the email addresses of the undersigned as indicated below, using the prescribed form, set out below.

Form -11
(Proof of debt or claim)
Insolvency Law 2020, section 201
Insolvency Rule 87

The creditors of the Company who fail to submit the claims within one month from the date of this advertisement will be excluded from:

- (i) the benefit of a distribution made before your claim is submitted; and
- (ii) the right to objecting to that distribution.

To Liquidator

1. This is to state that Company Company with company registration number was on date and still is justly and truly on date, indebted to me an amount of

(* To fill in (as appropriate) the date when the Order to windup was passed or in the case of voluntary winding up the date when the resolution to wind up was passed,.)

Date	Consideration (how the debt arose)	Amount	Remarks (include details of voucher substantiating payment and attach copies)

2. To my knowledge or belief the creditor has not, nor has any person by the creditor's order, had or received any satisfaction or security for the sum or any part of the debt or claim, other than as disclosed in the First Schedule to this document.

If any bills or other negotiable securities are held, show them in a schedule in the following form:

Date	Drawer	Acceptor	Amount	Due Date

3. The creditor holds no security for the debt or claim, other than as disclosed in the Second Schedule to this document.

4. I am authorized in writing by the creditor to make this statement. I know that the debt described above was incurred for the consideration stated and that the debt remains unpaid and unsatisfied.

* Strike out irrelevant.

Signed.....
Name.....
Date.....

Daw Myat Myat Chit
NRC No. 1/MANYANA(N)081592
Liquidator
Contact Number: +95 9 450022074
Email Address: myat@myatandassociates.com / myatandassociates@gmail.com
Corteva Agriscience (Myanmar) Company Limited (In Liquidation)

Ms. Jariya Wutthipongworakit
Passport No. AD0819322
Director
Contact Number: 02-7922900
Email Address: jariya.wutthipongworakit@corteva.com
Corteva Agriscience (Myanmar) Company Limited (In Liquidation)

Toyota to build new EV plant in Shanghai

IN a strategic move to bolster its presence in the world's largest automotive market, Japanese automaker Toyota Motor Corp announced on Wednesday that it will construct a new wholly-owned electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing plant in Shanghai.

The plant, located in Jinshan District in southwest Shanghai, will develop a new battery electric vehicle under the Lexus brand, with production scheduled to begin in 2027, according to a Wednesday

press release of Toyota, the world's top-selling automaker.

The initial production capacity will be around 100,000 units per year, and it is expected to create approximately 1,000 new jobs during the start-up phase, it added.

The new plant marks a significant investment in enhancing Toyota's R&D and production capabilities specifically tailored for the EV sector in China, the world's largest auto exporter. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BANGKOK VOY.NO. (203N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BANGKOK VOY.NO. (203N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-2-2025** 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 LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0341-790N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0341-790N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-2-2025** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

UK to quicken rollout of mini-nuclear reactors

The reforms will allow the construction of the first-ever SMRs in the UK, creating thousands of skilled jobs.

BRITAIN'S Labour government on Thursday said changes to planning laws will speed up the country's rollout of mini-nuclear reactors aimed at providing cheaper and cleaner energy.

"Reforms to planning rules will clear a path for smaller, safer, and easier to build nuclear reactors — known as Small Modular Reactors (SMR) — to be built for the first time ever in the UK," a

statement said.

"This will create thousands of new highly skilled jobs while delivering clean, secure and more affordable energy for working people."

The government led by Prime Minister Keir Starmer noted that China is constructing 29 reactors and the European Union has 12 at planning stage.

"My government was elected



A handout photograph released by the UK Parliament shows Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer speaking during the weekly session of Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs) at the House of Commons in London on 5 February 2025. **PHOTO / AFP**

to deliver change," said Starmer, whose party came to power in July following 14 years of Conservative rule.

"I'll take the radical deci-

sions needed to wrestle Britain from its status quo slumber, to turbocharge our plan for change."

The current plans restrict nuclear development to just eight

UK sites. Greenpeace voiced scepticism at the changes, while urging the government to focus on renewable energy which includes wind and solar. — AFP

Panama Canal authority denies offering free transit to US govt vessels

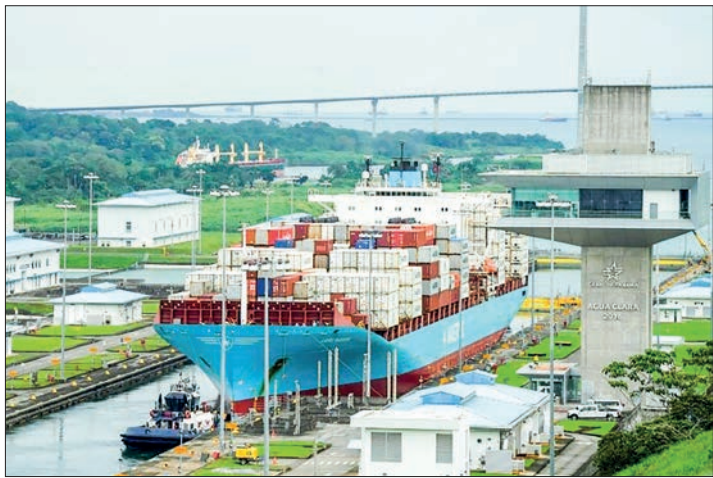
THE Panama Canal Authority denied reports on Wednesday

that it would allow US government vessels to transit the ca-

nal for free, clarifying that no changes have been made to tolls or fees.

"In response to a publication issued by the US Department of State, the Panama Canal Authority, which is authorized to set tolls and other fees for transiting the Canal, announces that it has not made any adjustments to these fees," the agency said in a statement.

"With absolute responsibility, the Panama Canal Authority, as it has indicated, is willing to establish a dialogue with the pertinent officials of the United States with respect to the transit of US warships," the statement added. — Xinhua



The canal was administered by America until 1977, when treaties were signed under then-US president Jimmy Carter for its handover to Panama. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Japan Airlines plane clips parked Delta plane at US airport

A taxiing Japan Airlines plane clipped the tail of a parked Delta Air Lines plane with its wing Wednesday at an airport in Washington state, the US Federal Aviation Administration said.

No one was injured in the incident, which occurred at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, after the JAL plane had landed, according to the airport's operator.

There were 172 passen-

gers and 13 crew members onboard the JAL flight arriving from Narita airport near Tokyo, according to the airline, which has issued an apology for causing concern and inconvenience. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

New Zealand marks 185th year of signing Treaty of Waitangi

New Zealand marked Waitangi Day, which laid the country's bicultural foundation, on Thursday to commemorate the 185th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, the country's founding document. While a public holiday was taken, various events were held nationwide to celebrate the country's founding day on 6 February 1840 when the treaty was signed between the British Crown and more than 500 Maori chiefs, which allowed then British government to gain the sole right to purchase land in New Zealand.

Prime Minister Christopher Luxon joined the celebration in Akaroa in New Zealand's South Island instead of the major dawn ceremony, a traditional waka parade and kapa haka held in the historic Waitangi Treaty Grounds in the Bay of Islands in the North Island. — Xinhua

WHO worker aims to raise \$1 bln to cover US pullout

TANIA Cernuschi, a WHO employee, launched an online fundraiser to offset the financial gap left by the US's withdrawal from the World Health Organization. The initiative, titled "One Dollar, One World," aims to raise \$1 billion. In just a few days, it has raised over \$100,000, with more than 3,000 donors contributing.

Cernuschi, an Italian development economist, was motivated by the US's decision and Argentina's subsequent departure. She emphasized the critical role of individual donations in funding international organizations. While acknowledging the challenges of relying on private donations, Cernuschi underscored the importance of the WHO's work in both developing and wealthy countries.

Despite her frustrations with UN bureaucracy, she believes the WHO's efforts are highly efficient, saving thousands of lives daily. The campaign has gained global attention, and Cernuschi remains hopeful for further support to reach the \$1 billion goal. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar appoints new head coach for U19 team

THE Myanmar Football Federation has appointed Japanese national Ryuji Sueoka as the head coach of the Myanmar U19 national football team.

Until last year, U Aung Nang served as the head coach of the Myanmar U19 team. After his contract expired, the decision was made to appoint a Japanese head coach. Ryuji Sueoka has played for clubs in

Singapore, Thailand and India during his playing career and holds a UEFA Pro Coaching Licence. With the Myanmar U19 team, Ryuji Sueoka will aim to achieve good results in the 2025 ASEAN U19 Championship and the AFC U20 qualifying matches. He will also serve as the assistant coach for the Myanmar U22 team.

The Myanmar Football

Federation has assigned Japanese coaches as head coaches for both the U22 and U19 national teams. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Photos highlight Myanmar U19's new head coach Ryuji Sueoka and his past career in action.



RYUJI SUEOKA
HEAD COACH (MYANMAR U19)

Italy to showcase sporting heritage through Milano Cortina 2026: IOC



The 2026 Winter Olympic Games will be jointly held in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo. PHOTO: IOC

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) released Wednesday an article titled "One Year to Go: Milano Cortina 2026 - Rooted in history, looking boldly to the future", stressing on the role of the Games in showcasing Italy's sporting heritage and culture as its one-year countdown falls on Thursday.

"In just one year, the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 will unite the world in Italy ... Hosting the Olympic Winter Games for the third time — after Cortina d'Ampezzo 1956 and Turin 2006 — Italy will once again showcase its rich sporting heritage, culture and innovative spirit on a global stage," read the article.

Milano Cortina 2026 will be the first

Olympic Winter Games planned and organized under Olympic Agenda 2020, and the first spread across multiple regions, the IOC stated.

"As per the IOC's Olympic Agenda 2020, Milano Cortina 2026 is adapting to the host regions, and not the other way around," said Marie Sallois, IOC's Director for Sustainability.

The opening ceremony will be staged at Milan's San Siro Stadium, while the closing ceremony will take place in the Verona Arena, along with the legendary Tofane Olympia slope in Cortina and other arenas hosting competitions, as the organizers promised to show the new "Italian Spirit" to the world. — Xinhua

Neymar declares love for Santos, calls for patience after return

NEYMAR admitted he would need to be patient after an emotional return to original club Santos on Wednesday.

The star forward came off the bench after halftime of the Brazilian Paulista Championship clash with Botafogo-SP, but he was unable to inspire his team to victory as the game ended in a 1-1 draw. "It's time to be patient and get some matches under my belt," he said. "I'm sure Santos will improve a lot. We'll all click at some stage and the team will start winning. I have no doubt the fans

will be happy".

The occasion marked Neymar's first game for Santos since 2013, when he left to join Barcelona. The game's kickoff was pushed back to accommodate prime-time television and fans flocked to the stadium to see their hero's homecoming. Signs of an anticlimax were evident from the outset, however, as Santos manager Pedro Caixinha put Neymar — who was celebrating his 33rd birthday — on the substitutes' bench. — Xinhua

Man Utd confirm Martinez cruciate ligament injury

MANCHESTER United on Thursday confirmed defender Lisandro Martinez had sustained cruciate ligament damage, which is likely to rule him out for the rest of the season.

The Argentina centre-back, 27, was carried off on a stretcher after his left knee buckled late in Sunday's 2-0 defeat by Crystal Palace at Old Trafford.

"Manchester United can confirm that Lisandro Martinez suffered an injury to his cruciate ligament in Sunday's game against Crystal Palace," the club said in a statement. "Assessment of the injury is ongoing to determine the appropriate course of treatment and the timescale for his rehabilitation. "Everyone at Manchester United wishes Lisandro Martinez strength for a successful recovery and we will be supporting him every step of the way."

United boss Ruben Amorim said after Palace match that he thought it was a "serious situation", adding: "Licha is really important for us, not just as a football player but the character he has, especially in this hard moment." — AFP



Asian Skating Union president Chang hails Harbin Asian Winter Games facilities

ASIAN Skating Union President Chang Myong-hi praised the facilities for the upcoming 2025 Harbin Asian Winter Games, calling them among the best in the world during an exclusive interview with Xinhua on Thursday.

"I was here in 1996 when the Asian

Winter Games was held in Harbin, and now it's the second time. Looking at the facilities, I'm sure this is one of the finest in the world," Chang said after visiting the Speed Skating Oval at the Heilongjiang Ice Training Centre. — Xinhua



CHINESE President Xi Jinping met Thai Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra in Beijing on Thursday.

Xi said that this year marks the 50th anniversary of China-Thailand diplomatic relations as well as the “Golden Jubilee of China-Thailand Friendship”. The two sides should build on past achievements and work together to advance the building of the China-Thailand community with a shared future to deliver more benefits to the two peoples, the region and the world at large.

In the face of profound changes unseen in a century, China and Thailand should consolidate strategic mutual trust, firmly support each other, and respond to uncertainties in the external environment with the stability and certainty of China-Thailand relations, Xi said.

China is ready to work with Thailand to align development strategies, expand mutually beneficial cooperation, implement well flagship projects such as the China-Thailand Railway, and promote the vision of interconnected development of China, Laos and Thailand to achieve more fruitful outcomes as soon as possible, he said.

Xi called for concerted efforts to deepen cooperation in emerging industries such as the digital economy and new energy vehicles, and build more stable and smooth industrial and supply chains. — Xinhua

Xi meets Thai PM in Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping welcomed Thai Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra in Beijing, celebrating 50 years of diplomatic relations.



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets Prime Minister of Thailand Paetongtarn Shinawatra, who is on an official visit to China, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, 6 February 2025. PHOTO: LIU WEIBING/XINHUA

Iran’s president calls for OPEC unity to prevent US from pressuring members

IRANIAN President Masoud Pezeshkian on Wednesday urged the members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to unite and consistently prevent the United

States from pressuring any of them. “The OPEC members should act in a way so that their measures do not harm another member. I believe that if the OPEC members act unitedly

and consistently, the United States will not be able to sanction and place one of them under pressure,” Pezeshkian said during a meeting with OPEC Secretary-General Haitham Al Ghais in Tehran.

A statement from his office said that during the meeting, Pezeshkian emphasized the “great” importance of arriving at a common language, attitude and policy of the OPEC members, calling for efforts to keep the organization away from politicization.

For his part, Al Ghais praised Iran for its “constructive” role in the organization, noting that as a founding member, the country has always played a “positive” role in OPEC. — Xinhua



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian urged OPEC members to unite against US pressure during a meeting with Secretary-General Haitham Al Ghais. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

THE TWO-STATE SOLUTION

Trump’s remarks on Gaza draw wide criticism in Europe

US President Donald Trump’s remarks on Tuesday regarding the Gaza Strip have drawn wide criticism in Europe, with European officials and experts underscoring the importance of the two-state solution. Trump said on Tuesday that the United States will take ownership of the Gaza Strip and redevelop it after Palestinians are relocated elsewhere. He made the remarks in a joint press conference with visiting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, without providing details about how to conduct a resettlement procedure.

“The EU (European Union) remains firmly committed to a two-state solution, which we

believe is the only path to long-term peace for both Israelis and Palestinians,” an EU spokesperson was quoted by local media as saying. “Gaza is an integral part of a future Palestinian state,” the spokesperson added. According to French presidential office Elysee, French President Emmanuel Macron held a phone talk on Wednesday with his Egyptian counterpart Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi, and they stressed that “any forced displacement of the Palestinian population in Gaza or the West Bank would be unacceptable,” pointing out that it would be a serious violation of international law and an obstacle to the two-state solution. — Xinhua