

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

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

1. To steadfastly strive for emergence of political forces and the people’s representatives who can implement a genuine, disciplined multi-party democratic system while constantly emphasizing on the national interests of the State.
2. To persistently strive for promoting the socio-economic life of the people through the development of agro-based industries in improving the agricultural sector, the vital foundation of the economic growth of the State.
3. To put emphasis on enhancing the national education and health sectors for sustainable development of the State.
4. To implement multi-party democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of multi-party democratic general election process and successfully moving towards with the multi-party democratic system aspired by the entire people.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, views around the exhibits at the Bogyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon) yesterday.

**Ancient buildings
preserved in original state**

Historical photographs and documents illustrating the timeline should be digitally enhanced and displayed using modern technology for improved clarity and sharpness.

CHAIRMAN of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected display and maintenance processes at the Bogyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon)

in Bahan Township, the Ministers’ Office (the Secretariat) in Botahtaung Township, and the Yangon Region High Court in Kyauktada Township, Yangon Region, yesterday morning.

Accompanied by Joint Executive

Chief General Ye Win Oo of the National Defence and Security Council, the Yangon Region chief minister and officials, the Senior General visited the Bogyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon) of the Ministry of

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NATIONAL

Agro-based industrial nation requires agricultural and livestock raw materials, electricity and energy

❖ In building an agro-based industrial nation like ours, agricultural and livestock raw materials are of primary importance, while electricity and energy are also critical input factors.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening ceremony of the Myanmar Foodstuff Development Forum (2025) on 19 February 2025)

- Let us encourage production for prosperity of the Nation.
- Let us ensure education sector for the development of the Nation.
- Let us protect our environment for the prosperity of the Nation.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 7 pm MST on 4 August 2025)

ACCORDING to the 6:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about 4.5 feet above its danger level. It may fall about 0.5 foot during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

According to the 6:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Shwegyin River at Shwegyin has exceeded by about 0.5 foot above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level during the next one day.

According to the 06:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Thanlwin River at Hpaan has exceeded by about 3.5 feet above its danger level. It may fall about 1.5 feet during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

It is noticeably advised for the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Shwegyin Township. It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Hpa-an Township and Madauk to stay away from the flood-prone areas. — DMH

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Announcement 41/2025

11th Waxing of Wagoung 1387 ME
4 August 2025

Allowing Rakhine Nationalities Party to register as political party
AS of 4 August 2025, the Rakhine Nationalities Party, with its headquarters located at 49, U Ottama Street, Alalpine Ward in Kyaukpyu, Rakhine State, has been allowed to register under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law.
The registration number of the Rakhine Nationalities Party is 58.

Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Declaration to Publicize Objections

1. The Peace and Development Party, with its head office located at 17/A, Zeeohngon Street, Nathagon Ward, Insein Township, Yangon Region, submitted an application on 28 July 2025 for registration as a political party under Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law. In this application, the party indicated that it intends to use the party name, flag, and emblem as described.
2. Objections to the party's name, flag and emblem may be raised by submitting valid evidence to the Union Election Commission within seven days from the date of this declaration, as stipulated by Section 14 (d) of the Political Parties Registration Law.



Flag.



Seal.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Monday 4 August 2025)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 5 AUGUST 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway Region and Kayah State, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Bago Regions and Chin and Rakhine States, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing Region, Ayeyawady widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin State. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, 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: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-7 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in Kachin, Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 AUGUST 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 AUGUST 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 AUGUST 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

EARTHQUAKE

(Issued at 1:15 pm MST)

A slight earthquake of magnitude (3.8) Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about three miles west-southwest of Muwk-mai), latitude 20.22°N, longitude 97.68°E, depth 10 kilometres, about 56 miles southeast of Taunggyi seismological observatory was recorded at 12 hours 53 minutes 43 seconds MST on 4 August 2025. — DMH

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

(An 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)

Ancient buildings preserved in original state

FROM PAGE 1

Religious Affairs and Culture in Bahan Township.

He enthusiastically viewed around the display of the car that General Aung San once rode in, repair of the car, the brief history of the museum, documentary photos and portraits, the statue of General Aung San, documentary photos of the General's childhood, university student life, political career, Tatmadaw leadership, national leadership, and family life, his utensils, the clothing and personal items used by General Aung San, along with paintings, photographs, and furniture displayed in the living room, special meeting room, bedroom, and library, the books that General Aung San read and studied, as well as books published over the years documenting his historical records. Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin and officials conducted the Senior General round the museum.

In his response to the reports, the Senior General underscored that it is necessary to continue maintenance and repair works on the car that General Aung San once rode in, using skilled technicians, to ensure its long-term preservation in good condition.

He urged officials to enhance historical photographs using modern technology to make them clearer and more visually refined than before, adding that efforts must also be made to organize electrical wiring in a systematic manner.

The Senior General emphasized that excerpts from General Aung San's speeches should be presented in a way that is clear



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing provides guidance while reviewing the display at the Minister's Office (formerly the Secretariat) in Yangon yesterday.

and easy to read and study for public observance.

He stressed that to maintain a clean and pleasant museum environment, undergrowth around roadside trees should be cleared, and waste management should be carried out consistently to ensure cleanliness.

The Senior General looked into a pond in the museum compound, the plot of the crop patch planted by the General, and the circular road of the museum. In his guidance, the Senior General stressed the need to study and restore the original shape of the pond and preserve it in its authentic form. Visitors to the museum should also be systematically registered, and appropriate souvenirs should be presented to special milestone visitors, such as the 100th or 1,000th visitor.

The Bogyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon) is housed in the former residence of Gen-

eral Aung San, the architect of Myanmar's independence, and has been converted into a museum. The building, constructed in 1921, is a European-style structure featuring a blend of Western architectural works. General Aung San lived in this house with his family from May 1945 until his assassination in July 1947. Inside the museum, visitors can visit various rooms, including the living room, dining room, bedrooms, reading room, children's room, special meeting room, and prayer room. Also on display are the crop patch cultivated by General Aung San during his leisure time, the British-made Wolseley car he used, and a gallery of photographic records. The public can visit the museum free of charge during designated visiting hours.

At the Ministers' Office (the Secretariat) in Botahtaung Township, the Senior General ob-

served historical documents and photos displayed at the building and maintenance of the Hluttaw Hall.

In his guidance, the Senior General said that historical photographs and documents depicting the timeline should be enhanced and displayed using modern technology to achieve greater clarity and sharpness. When presenting photographs and personal items, standardized and accurate labelling must be ensured to make them easy to read and understand. Maintenance and restoration work should be carried out in a manner that preserves the original styles and methods used in the past.

The Senior General viewed around inside the Ministers' Office building, which includes visiting General Aung San's office and meeting rooms, where displays depict the assassination of the

General and other martyrs. He also observed the photo gallery featuring historic photographs, the exhibition rooms showcasing significant historical evidence and the maintenance of the building.

The Senior General gave guidance that it is necessary to showcase the display on the assassination of the General and martyrs in the meeting room and the office of the General in the original state. Historical photos must be labelled with captions.

Additional restoration and exhibition of historical photographs should continue, and as a heritage building, ongoing maintenance and preservation must be carried out continuously in accordance with the original design.

He noted that efforts should also be made to follow and honour the legacy of prominent journalists and writers of that era to maintain consistency. For parts of the building that have deteriorated or settled, experts should systematically conduct research and restoration to preserve these areas properly.

On arrival at the Yangon Region High Court, the Senior General inspected offices, the library, the courts and the museum of the high court. The Chief Justice of the Regional High Court and officials conducted the Senior General round the High Court.

After hearing the reports, the Senior General instructed officials to maintain the Yangon Region High Court in its original state, as it is an ancient building. Maintenance must be done for the long-term existence of the building in order to attract foreign travellers. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Yangon-Mandalay Expressway to be upgraded to four-lane AC road

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed the need to grow trees at forest reserves and protected public forests and to establish five to ten acres of small forests along both sides of the expressway during this monsoon.



CHAIRMAN of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo of the National Defence and Security Council and officials, yesterday afternoon inspected damage to segments on the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway.

The Senior General inspected the repair of the water outlet on the expressway at milepost 94 and gave guidance to officials.

At the construction avenue on the expressway, the Senior General responded to reports of officials, saying that trees must be planted in the 200-foot-wide road area for greening the Yangon-Mandalay expressway.

He stressed the need to grow trees at forest reserves and protected public forests and to establish five to ten acres of small forests along both sides of the expressway during this monsoon.

The Senior General underlined that

it is necessary to manage measures of operating illegally opened restaurants and illegal buildings along the expressway under the Expressways Law.

He noted that it is necessary to strictly supervise proper construction and maintenance practices to prevent the construction of unauthorized access routes onto the expressway and to ensure that designated access roads to the expressway are developed under the Expressways Law, rules and regulations.

The Senior General gave guidance to officials to formulate the plans for upgrading the Yangon-Mandalay expressway to a four-lane asphalt concrete road.

He inspected the reconstruction of Swa Creek Bridge on the expressway and gave guidance on systematic construction of the bridge and proper management for retaining walls of the creek and betterment of the water course.

In the evening, the Senior General and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA/TTA

Salient points from guidance given by the Senior General on the inspection tour of the Yangon-Mandalay expressway

1. Officials were urged to manage measures of operating illegally opened restaurants and illegal buildings along the expressway under the Expressways Law.
2. It is necessary to strictly supervise proper construction and maintenance practices to prevent the construction of unauthorized access routes onto the expressway and to ensure that designated access roads to the expressway are developed under the Expressways Law, rules and regulations.
3. Trees must be planted in the 200-foot-wide road area for greening along the Yangon-Mandalay expressway.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, is pictured during his inspection tours along the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

NATIONAL

Study in Japan Fair 2025 for Myanmar to be held online

STUDY in Japan Fair 2025 for Myanmar, featuring 20 well-known Japanese universities, will be held online in August, according to the Okayama University Japan Educational Information Centre, Myanmar OJEIC.

It will be held from 29 to 30 August, organized by Okayama University, the Japanese Embassy in Myanmar and the Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA).

Asia University, Eikei University of Hiroshima, Josai International University, Josai University, Kanazawa University, Kumamoto University, Kyoto University of Advanced Science, Musashino University, Nagasaki University, Niigata University, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Ritsumeikan University, Shizuoka University, Tokyo International University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Toyo University, Tsuda University, University of Miyazaki, University of Tsukuba and Okayama University will be included.

It has been scheduled to hold the online general information seminar on 29 August from 10 am to 12 pm, online group consultation on 29 August from 12 pm to 5 pm and on 30 August from 10 am to 3 pm. There is an opportunity to have a group consultation with each university via Zoom will be included.

Free registration is open at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-Bflv10-QLVbbK7svsB6kt2EQAg-6J6E-b60X1crS3fPh7LGg/viewform>, and detailed information is available at its special website <https://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/myanmar/prepare2025.html>. — MT/ZS



This image displays an advert for the Online Study in Japan Fair 2025 for Myanmar.

5-digit Aung Bar Lay online lottery jackpot raised to K150M

AT the 20th draw of the 5-digit Aung Bar Lay online lottery, the jackpot prize has been raised to K150 million.

The online lottery, which opens on the 1st day and 16th day, has now doubled the 50 million prizes to K100 million, as of the 20th draw.

No jackpot winner appeared at the

19th opening on 1 August; therefore, it will be raised to K150 million on the coming 20th draw, which will open on 16 August. At the 20th opening on 16 August at 2 pm, the K150-million jackpot prize and other prizes will await winners.

It is easy to buy a ticket via the



This image showcases an advert for the Aung Bar Lay lottery.

Aung Bar Lay application, and the price per ticket is K1,000, or dial *117# with a Mytel SIM. — MT/ZS

Myanmar youth show growing interest in traditional attire



This image depicts young people in traditional Myanmar dresses.

ACCORDING to Myat Theinga Nge, the founder of the Myat Taw Win Royal Dress Service, there has been a growing interest among young people in tradi-

tional Myanmar costumes, leading to several photo shoots and creating clips with them.

With renewed interest among the

youth, a change in fashion was seen from the current style to the traditional one, and birthday parties and pre-wedding events have been held in ancient dress styles.

“Young people celebrate birthdays and gatherings to take pictures. They got their photos taken in the costumes and styles of Konbaung era’s princes and wealthy men. Fashion trends and dress codes have changed. Young people were dressed in ancient costumes of the Konbaung era,” Myat Theinga Nge said.

After becoming popular among young people, traditional costumes have been used for various shootings, up to four times per week. As interest among the youth in ancient dress styles of princesses is growing, it makes people happy to see the revived appreciation for traditional culture.

Even models from Myanmar reportedly wore traditional costumes in affection when participating in international competitions. — MT/ZN

Twantay Fisheries Institute to launch three-year diploma course

THOSE individuals who are interested to join three-year Diploma in Fisheries and Aquaculture need to apply by 30 September through respective region and state Fisheries Department, Fish Farming stations and the Fisheries Institute (Twantay), according to Fisheries Institute (Twantay) of the Development and Research Division of the Fisheries Department, under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

Those under 22 who passed the matriculation exam with a science combination can apply for it. They can continue to attend a bachelor’s course (BSc in Fisheries and Aquaculture) at the University of Yangon if they pass the diploma.

The applicants need to provide a matriculation exam certificate and exam result, headmaster recommendation, police clearance, ward administrator’s endorsement, copy of the

citizenship scrutiny card of the applicant and parents, household registration copy and a 1.1 by 1.3 feet licensed photo.

The region and state Fisheries Department and Fisheries Institute (Twantay) will announce those who are entitled to attend the diploma course and the opening date. Individuals can also enquire about details through the contact numbers at 067 408472 and 067 408473. — NN/KK

NATIONAL

Notification letters to be issued to Yoma Yadana flat winners

NOTIFICATION letters will be issued to individuals who won the right to purchase flats at the Yoma Yadana Housing project in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. The project was implemented under the housing scheme of the Yangon Region government, according to the department of Urban and Housing Development (Yangon Region).

The letters will be distributed according to building numbers and flat types. The letters will be issued for four-storey buildings with eight-unit types of building Nos 19, 20, 22, and 24 on 12 and 13 August. The date is set for 12 August to send letters for 12-unit buildings of Nos 38,

39, and 40. Letters for building Nos 41, 44, 45, 49, and 50 will be issued on 14 August, and for Nos 46 and 47 on the same day.

Notification letters for six-unit four-storey buildings of building Nos 56, 57, 58, and 59 will be issued on 12 August. For Building Nos 60, 61, 62, and 64, the issuance date is 13 August, while Nos 65, 66, and 67 are scheduled for 14 August.

Recipients must present their original and a copy of their citizenship scrutiny card along with a household registration copy. Representatives must bring an authorization letter from the flat winner, copies of the winner's CSC and household list, and their own CSC and



Flats under development at Yoma Yadana Housing in Yangon Region.

household documents.

The final date for collecting the letters is 25 August. Failure to do so will result in cancella-

tion of the flat purchase right.

Notification letters will be issued at the Department of Urban and Housing Development

(City Gallery 3), located on Bogyoke Aung San Road, Botataung Township, Yangon Region, from 10 am to 3 pm. — ASH/KZL

Filming begins for new drama 'Tears of Hatred'



Actors and production team members are seen at the opening ceremony for the drama series 'Tears of Hatred'.

THE opening ceremony for the filming of the new television series "Tears of Hatred" was held on 2 August at the Kyaikkasan Pagoda in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region, according to actor Htet Aung Shine, who will play a lead role in the series.

The storyline and script for Tears of Hatred were written and adapted by co-director Nay Khant Kyaw. Tin Aung Kyaw will direct the series under the

banner of Royal King Film Production.

Speaking about his role, actor Htet Aung Shine said, "In this series, I play a tough and villainous character. I usually take on roles based on how well I connect with the characters. There are many talented actors involved, and I believe the audience will enjoy this drama series."

The cast includes Htet

Aung Shine, Shin Mwe La, Phone Min Nay La, Thar Nyi, Phone Hlyan, Academy Yun Yun, Yamone Myint Myat, May La Thansin, Baby Maung, Academy Award-winner Wah Wah Aung, Eaint Kya Phyu, Thuza Pwint, U Win Myaing, Zin Myo, Naing Lu, and Kyaw Zin Htut. The series will consist of 20 episodes and will be broadcast on the For You cinema channel. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar, Thailand sign MOU to strengthen media cooperation

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Press Council, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation between the media sectors of Myanmar and Thailand was signed in Bangkok, Thailand, on 1 August.

The MOU was signed by Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo of the Myanmar Press Council and Chairman Mr Chavarong Limpattamapanee of the Thai Press Council. The signing followed a meeting and discussion between the two chairpersons in Bangkok.

While in Thailand from 31 July to 2 August, Dr Tin Tun Oo and members of the Myanmar Press Council also visited several Thai media organizations, including the Bangkok Post, the National Broadcasting Services of Thailand (NBT), and Maha Chai Cable TV, to study their operations.

Joining Dr Tin Tun Oo on the study tour were MPC Secretary U Aye Chan and MPC Second Joint Secretary U Ye Min Soe. — ASH/MKKS



Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo of the Myanmar Press Council and Chairman Mr Chavarong Limpattamapanee of the Thai Press Council are seen with members of both councils.

Gold Market Rate as of 4 August 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,890,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

Yangon palm oil reference price set higher this week

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market slightly increased to K6,240 per viss for the week ending 10 August, up from K6,130 recorded in the previous week ending 3 August, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

The figures showed an increase of K110 per viss, compared to that of the corresponding period.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, add-

ing transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage



to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies

to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic palm oil consumption is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

CBM injects major foreign currency supply in July

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$36.5 million purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis, in addition to the injection of \$8.8 million, 13.3 million baht, 10.5 million yuan and 500,000 rupees in July.

Furthermore, CBM sold over \$2.3 million to other companies out of \$10 million that CBM announced to sell.

CBM sold over \$1.247 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$230,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 31 July, in addition to an injection of 771,953 baht.



CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation.

CBM sold over \$123,900 and 600,000 yuan on 30 July. Additionally, CBM also sold \$700,000 to edible oil-importing companies and \$380,270 to fuel oil-importing companies.

CBM pumped \$413,223 and 222,411 baht into the financial market on 29 July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$965,200 to edible oil-importing companies and \$200,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 29 July.

CBM announced on 28 July that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil businesspeople.

CBM sold over \$354,900 to fuel oil-importing companies in addition to an injection of 1.184 million yuan on 28 July.

CBM sold over \$1.29 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$485,266 to fuel oil-importing companies on 25 July again.

CBM sold over \$1.345 million, which were purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis, to edible oil-importing companies on 24 July.

CBM sold over \$2.36 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$320,700 to fuel oil-importing companies on 23 July 2025.

CBM announced on 22 July that it would sell \$27 million to those engaged in the fuel oil industry and 130 million baht to importers. CBM injected \$660,000 and 474,900 yuan on 22 July into the financial market after sales of over \$3 million to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold over \$1.75 million each into edible oil-importing companies and fuel oil-importing companies on 21 July, again, after the injection of over 9.36

million baht to construction companies and over 337,800 yuan and 500,000 rupees to the financial market on that day.

CBM pumped over \$3 million and 700,000 yuan into the financial market on 18 July after selling \$1.1 million to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold over \$1.5 million to edible oil-importing companies on 17 July, in addition to an injection of over 756,260 yuan and 2,000 baht into the financial market.

CBM sold \$1.2 million, which were purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis to edible oil companies on 16 July.

CBM announced on 15 July that it would pump \$33 million into the fuel oil industry. In addition to injecting over 324,360 yuan into the financial market,

CBM sold over \$771,290 million to the edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM sold over \$757,230 and 1.426 million yuan on 14 July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.58 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$359,230 to commodities-importing companies.

CBM sold over \$1.7 million to edible oil-importing companies on 11 July 2025.

CBM sold over \$1.5 million purchased from CMP companies to edible oil importing companies on 10 July, in addition to the injection of \$621,000 and 600,000 yuan into the financial market.

CBM announced on 8 July that it would sell \$30 million to fuel oil importers. CBM also sold \$885,100 that was purchased from the CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold \$1.8 million and 1.3 million yuan on 7 July. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.87 million to edible oil companies and over \$912,150 to commodities-importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold \$1.75 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$481,540 to commodities-importing companies on 4 July, in addition to the injection of \$578,542 and 900,000 yuan into the financial market.

CBM sold \$678,000, 1.24 million yuan and 2.94 million

baht on 3 July. CBM sold \$3.346 million to edible oil-importing companies, over \$578,400 to commodities-importing countries on that day.

CBM announced on 2 July that it would sell 10 million yuan to importers. CBM sold over \$1.593 million to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 1 July that it would pump \$33 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold over \$1.15 million, which was purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies.

CBM sold \$8.4 million, 13.9 million baht and 5.2 million yuan in June 2025, in addition to the injection of \$14.9 million that was purchased from the CMP enterprises into the financial market.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, 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

Encourage the development of MSME businesses

MICRO, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are the main driving force behind the development and growth of a country’s economy and society. Hence, it is essential to promote and support the development and expansion of MSME businesses.

Agriculture is the main economic sector of Myanmar. The production and export of valuable agricultural products have not yet reached their full potential, and planting targets have not been fully met. Therefore, agricultural experts are systematically carrying out extension activities to support farmers. In the livestock sector, the quality of eggs, milk, and dairy products has not yet met the desired standards, so efforts are being intensified in the areas

of animal feed, breeding, and care to improve these aspects. Out of the total MSME loan fund of K170 billion, K150 billion has been disbursed as MSME loans, while K20 billion is being used to support the development of MSME businesses. In this regard, the Prime Minister has guided that MSME loans should be granted to businesses that comply with banking regulations and policies.

The challenges faced by MSME businesses damaged by the earthquake include issues related to loans: some have repaid part of their original loans, some are unable to repay, and some business owners have multiple loans from various sources that require investigation. Regardless, if business owners face difficulties in restoring their capital, they are encouraged to report these issues through the agencies to the MSME development work committee. Loan funds provided to business owners will be used effectively and responsibly to develop MSME businesses. Moreover, businesspersons will produce goods not only for the domestic market but also for export. To support this, agencies at the regional and state levels will provide business owners with knowledge and encouragement to help them succeed. Currently, online systems have been established to facilitate buying and selling digitally. Therefore, business owners can produce high-quality, value-added goods that can be exported and linked to markets. Since they are not yet fully connected to international markets, micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) will receive support and assistance from committees and agencies to promote their development and growth. Policies, technical support, and financial incentives will be provided to create a favourable economic environment that encourages the promotion of MSME businesses by increasing the consumption of domestic products and reducing imports and export dependency. It is believed that through these efforts, MSME businesses will continue to develop and grow.

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Literary Talking Ceremony and I

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo’s Song)

HONEST to say, I had always been unfamiliar with the term ‘literary talking ceremony’ in my childhood. But unexpectedly, when I heard this term from my elder brother one day, I strangely felt my heart pounding with curiosity, for the simple reason that I enjoy reading. Books are written by authors, yet who in the world will give literary talks? At that time, I did not honestly know that most writers tend to deliver literary talks to literature-lovers. And how on earth is ‘literary talking ceremony’? I want to mean that I would like to know whether musical instruments are included in the ceremony. Then, I had a chance of seeing a literary talking ceremony on the DVD player thanks to my elder brother.

As far as I can remember, the first literary talking ceremony I have ever seen on TV was ‘Commemorative Ceremony of 100-year Ketumadi (Taunggoo)’. Many famous Myanmar writers came to the ceremony and gave literary talks. From that ceremony, I started to get what a literary talking ceremony is as well as

began to know several famous Myanmar writers, especially Jack (Khungyangon), Chit Oo Nyo, Nay Win Myint, Ledwinthar Saw Chit and A Kyi Taw, if memory serves me correctly. Most of all, writers turned orators like to talk about literature and many others freely at random in a literary talking ceremony for one or two hours, one after another. Not all writers are excellent orators, especially female writers. Few female writers in Myanmar excel at literary talks. I have seen that only Saya U Thukha gave literary talks with the background help of the Myanmar orchestra ‘Hsaing’. In the main, orators are given to trying to draw the audience’s attention with great literary talks.

Of course, there are no two ceremonies all over the world except for Myanmar. They are nothing but ‘paying homage ceremony’ and literary talking ceremony’. As a late literatus once stated, literary talking ceremonies commenced to take place in Yangon, Myanmar, by the year 1944 during the reign of Dr Ba Maw in the Japanese Colonial Era. On the other hand, Saya Chit

Oo Nyo said that the first step towards holding literary talking ceremonies was declaring Laureates’ Day in Myanmar (Sarsodaw Nay) on the first day of Natdaw month in the Myanmar calendar, which often coincides with November in the Gregorian calendar. Paying homage ceremonies to Maha Pane-ne Nat, a kind of Hindu deity, were largely celebrated in Natdaw in Myanmar many moons ago. But later, firm believers of Myanmar in these dieties drove out the ceremonies and then literary talking ceremonies have become popular among young and old to this day. Besides, literary talking ceremonies are held here and there around the country in all weathers.

Among the Myanmar writer orators, I love the above-mentioned five authors most. Firstly, a late literatus once was a university teacher of the Myanmar language, and he could explain what he wanted to say with a great many varieties of examples. Most apparently, while delivering literary talks, he was

able to use gestures appropriate to what he meant so as to make his audience understand and follow him better. I began to know him with the pseudonym of Jack (Khungyangone) from the commemoration ceremony of Taunggoo shown above. But sad to say, I have never read his satire or his works of writing. Secondly, Saya Chit Oo Nyo is an expert at reciting classical Myanmar poems, particularly ‘Lay-cho’, a type of Myanmar poem in rhyme and rhythm, composed by Thakin Kodaw Mie. That may simply be why he is an artiste turned writer, I believe. Next, Saya Nay Win Myint has a good command of singing classical Myanmar songs in that he has got a beautiful singing voice and learnt how to sing those songs systematically from great teachers before, as far as I know. Fourthly, Saya Ledwintha Saw Chit has a good sense of humour and, more surprisingly, he can tell humours in such a gentle voice that he does not laugh at his own jokes at all. Finally, it was Saya A Kyi Taw who thought it

best to humour his incoherent life rather than get into an argument, smiling as a humorist.

After all, most writers are included in literary talking ceremonies, but some are celebrities and public speakers. Rarely are persons who are both great writers and nice orators seen in the world of Myanmar literature, for instance, Nay Win Myint. Strangely enough, some writers expertly perform literary talking but are not very good at composition, while some authors, female writers in particular, excel at works of literature but have little command of public conversation. And literary talks are not only informal speaking but also a type of informal education in which people are educated freely without costing a lot. Sometimes one word of literary talk looks like reading the whole book, that is, a host of knowledge and wisdom can be acquired from literary talks in a while. I am strongly of the opinion that literary talking ceremonies will become the national culture of our country, Myanmar some day.



After all, most writers are included in literary talking ceremonies, but some are celebrities and public speakers. Rarely are persons who are both great writers and nice orators seen in the world of Myanmar literature, for instance

A Constitutional Overview

By Dr Zeyar Win

FROM 1948, when Myanmar gained independence from British colonial rule, until 1962, the country practised a parliamentary democracy system. This system was largely modelled after the United Kingdom’s parliamentary framework.

In 1962, the civilian government was replaced with the Revolutionary Council. Later, in 1974, a new constitution was enacted, leading to the establishment of a presidential system under the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP). The People’s Assembly (Pyithu Hluttaw) was formed, and the President was elected through this assembly. The President then appointed government

ministers either from among the elected representatives or the general public.

In 1988, the Tatmadaw took full control of the state, dissolving the parliament, political parties, and government institutions. They formed the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), administering the country from the village to the national level.

In 2008, a new constitution was ratified via a national referendum, establishing a multi-party system. The first general elections under this new framework were held in 2010, and in 2011, power was transferred to a civilian government.

Key Features of the 2008 Constitution

The 2008 Constitution outlines four branches of power:

- Executive
- Legislative
- Judiciary
- The Defence Services (Tatmadaw)

The Constitution mandates a bicameral legislature, consisting of:

- Pyithu Hluttaw (House of Representatives):
 - 330 elected representatives (one per township)
 - 110 military-appointed representatives

- Total: 440 members
 - Amyotha Hluttaw (House of Nationalities):
 - 168 representatives (12 from each of the 14 states/regions)
 - 56 military-appointed representatives
 - Total: 224 members
- These two bodies collectively form the Union Parliament (Pyidaungsu Hluttaw).

- From these two assemblies:
 - Each nominates one presidential candidate
 - The Tatmadaw also nominates one
 - Among the three nominees, the Union Parliament elects

one as President and the remaining two become Vice Presidents

The elected President appoints Union Ministers, either from elected representatives or qualified civilians. However, for the Ministries of Defence, Home Affairs, and Border Affairs, the President must request nominations from the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services.

The finalized government cabinet list is submitted to the Union Parliament for approval. The President can also reorganize ministries with parliamentary approval and has the power to appoint or remove ministers.

Formation of Regional and State Governments

Each state/region has its own Hluttaw (Assembly). Two representatives per township are elected, including military representatives (constituting no more than one-third of total seats), appointed by the Commander-in-Chief.

The Chief Minister is selected by the President from among elected members of the respective state/region Hluttaw and requires confirmation by the Hluttaw. The Cabinet is composed of ministers selected from elected representatives, while the Minister for Security and Border Affairs is appointed upon request from the military. For Self-Administered Zones and Divisions, the President appoints a Leading Body to manage regional governance.

Government Functionality

Union Ministries are direct-

ly responsible to the President, who is accountable to the Union Parliament. The President can propose new laws and is also responsible for implementing existing laws passed by both Houses. The President may issue regulations, instructions, and decrees necessary for government operation.

State/Region governments and self-administered bodies are similarly accountable to the President. The Constitution also specifies which laws and taxes are under the jurisdiction of each government level.

Accountability Mechanisms

The President is accountable to the Union Parliament and can be impeached under certain conditions. Constitutional disputes or violations can be referred to the Constitutional Tribunal, whose decisions are final. The President is fully responsible for ministers and

chief ministers. If any misconduct occurs, the President has the authority to dismiss or take disciplinary action against them.

The National Defence and Security Council, as per the Constitution, is formed by the President and includes: the President, two Vice-Presidents, two Speakers of both Houses, Commander-in-Chief and Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Union Ministers for Defence, Home Affairs, Border Affairs, and Foreign Affairs

The NDSC holds the authority to take emergency actions when national security is threatened. In the case of a state of emergency, the Council may transfer all powers to the Commander-in-Chief, initially for one year, extendable by six-month terms. Through this structure, a Union Government has been formed. ■

SCI/ENVIRON: WORLD

South China dinosaur footprint discovery sheds light on mysterious ancient worlds

A recent study has resulted in the unveiling of the southernmost dinosaur tracks ever found in China, thereby providing new insights into ecosystems across southern China in the Mesozoic era.

Led by palaeontologist Xing Lida, an associate professor from China University of Geosciences (Beijing) and professor Mo Jinyou, a researcher from the Guangxi Museum of Natural History, the discovery was published in the journal *Earth History and Biodiversity*.

The findings of this study

extend the known range of dinosaur footprints in China to the shores of the Beibu Gulf — about 21 degrees north latitude and located in what is now south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

The tracks, uncovered in 2021 during high-speed railway construction at a village in the city of Dongxing, consist of seven theropod footprints on a four-square-meter rock slab — indicating that some bipedal carnivorous dinosaurs had left these traces in this southern China coastal area. — Xinhua



This file photo shows dinosaur footprints uncovered at Namushan Village in Dongxing City, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

China approves new lunar sample applications from research institutions

CHINA'S space agency has released the approved list for the ninth batch of lunar sample research applications, allowing successful applicants to borrow samples returned by the Chang'e-5 and Chang'e-6 missions.

A total of 30,881.8 milligrammes of lunar samples will be lent to 32 research groups from 25 research institutions, according to the Lunar Exploration and Space Engineering Centre under the China National Space Administration.

The list includes universities such as Macao University of Science and Technology in south China, Chengdu University of Technology in southwest China, east China's Donghua University, Harbin Institute of Technology in northeast China, south China's University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, among others.

This list also features institutions affiliated with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of



A researcher displays the lunar sample to be tested at the Nano Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometer Laboratory of the Institute of Geology and Geophysics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, capital of China, 8 April 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Geological Sciences.

China's Chang'e-6 mission collected 1,935.3 grammes of samples from the far side of the moon — the first time in human history. Meanwhile, the Chang'e-5 mission retrieved about 1,731 grammes of lunar samples.

In July 2021, China delivered the first batch of lunar samples to research institutions. So far the country has

lent eight batches of lunar samples to institutions for research purposes.

Last month, China unveiled a series of research findings by Chinese scientists following studies of the samples collected by the Chang'e-6 mission — in categories such as volcanic activity, the ancient magnetic field, water content and geochemical characteristics of the moon mantle. — Xinhua

CHINESE scientists have recently uncovered the distribution pattern of dryland biocrusts, often described as the “skin” of the soil or a “carpet” that stabilizes sand, according to the Northwest Institute of Eco-environment and Resources (NIEER), the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

This study offers new insights into dryland biocrusts, paving the way for their application in desertification control and ecological restoration efforts, said Li Xinrong, a researcher from NIEER who led the study.

The study was jointly conducted by researchers from the NIEER and the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, both under the CAS.

Biocrusts are composed of non-vascular plants and photoautotrophs, such as lichens, mosses and cyanobacteria, as well as var-

Chinese scientists uncover distribution pattern of dryland biocrusts for better sand control



This aerial photo taken on 6 September 2023 shows the Yellow River flowing through Shapotou District in Zhongwei City, northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

ious heterotrophic microorganisms. They constitute the main soil surface cover in drylands and play an important role in ecological, hydrological and soil processes and biogeochemical

cycles in the global drylands.

“Notably, they can also make it difficult for invasive alien species, reducing their chances of settlement and effectively protecting original dryland and desert ecosystems,” Li explained.

“Biocrusts have different morphology and life history as compared to vascular plant communities. Our study theoretically explains the distribution pattern of biocrusts in drylands,” he said.

The team of scientists adopted a research method that combines computational modelling with field investigation. They employed a probabilistic cellular automaton model, which simulated the dynamic changes of lichen and moss patches.

The researchers carried out the field observations of biocrusts across successional stages at the Shapotou Desert Research and Experiment Station in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. — Xinhua

A team representing the United States clad in popular game characters won the championship of the World Cosplay Summit 2025 in central Japan's Nagoya on Sunday.

"I have no words. We've been working for this for so many years, so many hours... You keep working and dreams can come true," said a US team member dressed as a character from "Fire Emblem Engage" after bagging the first prize at the city's Aichi Arts Centre.

The event wrapped up the three-day festival that gathered cosplayers from 41 countries and regions.

The representatives, in pairs, were judged for the level of precision in the costumes and for their stage performance within a given time of two minutes and

US team clad in game characters wins World Cosplay Summit in Japan



30 seconds, during which they recreated scenes from anime or games by using props. The event, held for the 23rd time, kicked off on Friday with a parade by costume role players, or "cosplayers" on a red carpet, dressed as characters from Studio Ghibli's animation movie "Howl's Moving Castle" and animation series "Neon Genesis Evangelion".

On the second day, the delegates and cosplayers from the public marched around the Osu shopping street in Nagoya, around where the inaugural event was held in 2003. — Kyodo

Representatives from the United States rejoice after winning the championship at the World Cosplay Summit 2025 at Aichi Arts Centre in Nagoya on 3 August 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Sri Lanka to launch first vocational training programme for prisoners

SRI Lanka will launch a new programme allowing prisoners to have vocational training while serving their sentences, said an official on Sunday.

Jagath Weerasinghe, spokesperson for the Department of Prisons, told reporters that the government has allocated 100 million rupees (about US\$330,000) for the initiative, the first of its kind to be implemented.

Weerasinghe said the vocational training scheme aims to help inmates reintegrate into society after their release. Sri Lanka has 36 prisons and around 34,000 inmates, the majority of whom are incarcerated for drug-related offences, according to Weerasinghe. — Xinhua

Indonesia's free medical screening programme reaches 16 mln citizens

INDONESIA'S free medical screening programme has reached 16 million people since its launch on 10 February this year, according to Minister of Health Budi Gunadi Sadikin on Monday.

"As of yesterday, 16 million people have been screened. Now, I see an average of 250,000 to 280,000 children being tested daily," he said.

Dental and vision problems are the most commonly found health issues, Budi added, while also warning about the dangers of excessive gadget use.

Chief of the Presidential Staff Office, AM Putranto, said the government aims to reach 58.2 million people through the free medical screening programme. — Xinhua

JR Hokkaido to launch new sightseeing train services in 2027

HOKKAIDO Railway Co said Monday it will launch two new sightseeing train services on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido from 2027.

While the "Red Star" and "Blue Star" services were initially scheduled to begin from spring 2026, their rollout was delayed due to carriage repairs taking longer than expected, JR Hokkaido said.

The Red Star is set to debut in February 2027 to coincide with the drift ice season along the Sea of Okhotsk. The round-trip service will span two days between JR Sapporo and Abashiri stations.

From April to July, it will run between JR Kushiro and Shiretoko Shari stations.

The Blue Star will be in service from June to September, mainly during the lavender blooming season, between JR



An artist's rendition of Hokkaido Railway Co's "Red Star" sightseeing train. (Photo courtesy of Hokkaido Railway Co) **PHOTO: KYODO**

Asahikawa and Biei stations, and JR Furano Station.

From January to March 2028, it will make round trips twice daily between JR Abashiri and Shiretoko Shari stations.

The diesel-powered trains are designed by industrial de-

signer Eiji Mitooka, who also worked on Kyushu Railway's "Seven Stars in Kyushu" luxury sleeper train. The Red Star will also feature a traditional tatami-mat tea room, where passengers must remove their shoes. — Kyodo

Over 1,400 ancient artefacts transferred to Afghan archaeology department from Mes Aynak

A total of 1,430 ancient artefacts uncovered at the Mes Aynak archaeological site in eastern Logar province have been transferred to the Archaeology Department of the Ministry of Information and Culture, the

Afghan ministry said in a statement on Monday.

"The purpose of this transfer is to initiate the conservation process, including cleaning, restoration, preservation, and proper documentation, be-

fore the artefacts' permanent display at the National Museum of Afghanistan," said Sayed Zabihullah Sadat, general director of the department.

The historical monuments include a diverse range of items

crafted from pottery, stone, metal, glass, bone, and wood, said the statement, adding that the pieces feature copper coins from the Kushan and Sassanid eras.

These artefacts, dating

back over 5,000 years, embody the history and lived experiences of past civilizations, offering valuable insights into the cultural and societal developments of our ancestors, it said.— Xinhua

ECONOMY
WORLD

Hong Kong’s consumer spending to rise amid steady economic growth: financial secretary

STEADY economic expansion and a brisk financial market will bolster Hong Kong’s consumer spending, Paul Chan, financial secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government, wrote in his blog on Sunday.

Chan expects total revenue of Hong Kong’s eateries in the second quarter of this year, which the HKSAR government will unveil soon, to tick up over the same period last year.

Home prices also warmed up and real estate deals increased markedly from the previous quarter, Chan noted.

Hong Kong’s economy expanded 3.1 per cent in Q2, the 10th consecutive quarter of growth, with retail sales up 0.3 per cent

Photo taken on 22 June 2022 shows the view at the Victoria Harbour in Hong Kong, south China. PHOTO: XINHUA



year on year. Solid economic growth will help boost local incomes and consumption, said Chan.

Hong Kong’s tourism, retail and catering industries are thinking outside the box to woo residents and visitors, said Chan, noting that the Hong Kong Football Festival 2025, concluded on 31 July and featuring Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspur, Liverpool FC and AC Milan, attracted around 100,000 sports fans. One of the games set a record for the most-attended sports games at the new Kai Tak Stadium.

The HKSAR government will work with the industries to land more mega events and spur consumption, said the financial secretary. — Xinhua

Rangers urge tourists to refrain from disrupting animal migration in Masai Mara



Wildebeests reach the opposite bank of the Mara River in the Masai Mara National Reserve in Kenya on 30 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

RANGERS at the Masai Mara National Reserve in Kenya, a prime location to witness the spectacular annual wildebeest river crossing, are calling on tourists to refrain from disrupting the migration of wild animals when taking safari tours on the savanna.

From July to October each year, Masai Mara becomes the stage for one of the most breathtaking wildlife spectacles on earth. More than two million wildebeests, zebras and gazelles trek from Tanzania’s Serengeti to Masai Mara in search of greener pastures and water, with the dramatic

crossings of the Mara River serving as the highlight of the migration.

“The challenge we have in Kenya and Tanzania, in terms of wildebeest migration, is that whenever wildebeests cross the river, many vehicles filled with tourists gather to witness this dramatic moment,” Alfred Bett, a tourism warden who has been working at Masai Mara for 20 years, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

On Wednesday morning, thousands of wildebeests gathered along the riverbank, attempting to cross the Mara River. After lingering for over

two hours, the herd started to cross the river after the first wildebeest jumped into the water.

At the same time, dozens of safari vehicles, which were requested to stay far away by rangers to leave enough room for migration passage, raced to the crossing point to secure a better position for taking photos.

The herd’s crossing was abruptly halted as the roar of engines approached, with only a few dozen wildebeests making it to the other side of the river. The same disruption occurred again about an hour later, resulting in the crossing of just three wildebeests.

“We are trying to control them, using new technologies,” Bett said. “We have vehicles, with two rangers on each one, that are always based at the crossing point, to make the passage of wildebeests smooth.”

According to regulations made by the national reserve, when there are more than five vehicles wanting to see an animal, viewing time is restricted to 10 minutes. Vehicles waiting to see the sighting must stay 100 metres away. — Xinhua

Major Japan firms plan to boost investment by 14% in FY 2025: survey

MAJOR Japanese companies plan to boost domestic investment by 14.3 per cent in the current financial year from April, bringing the total to 22.71 trillion yen (\$153 billion), a survey by a government-backed bank showed Monday.

The year-on-year gain across all industrial sectors is driven by spending on electric vehicles and decarbonization-related materials, while the pace of expansion in overseas outlays is estimated to slow, the Development Bank of Japan said.

Spending by such firms abroad is projected to edge up 2.2 per cent from fiscal 2024, marking

a third straight year of slower growth amid uncertainty over the impact of higher US tariffs and concerns about a potential economic slowdown in China.

“If tighter tariffs trigger an economic deceleration both domestically and internationally, investment plans may fall short of expectations,” said an official in charge of the survey at the bank, referring to those imposed by US President Donald Trump. The deadline for responses was 3 July, before Japan concluded a tariff agreement with the United States. The survey gathered input from 1,607 companies with capital of 1 billion yen or more. — Kyodo

Vietnam issues food safety control procedures for exported fresh durian

VIETNAM’S Ministry of Agriculture and Environment on Monday issued a set of food safety control procedures for the country’s exported fresh durian, Vietnam News Agency reported.

The procedures outline detailed requirements for ensuring food safety throughout the entire production process, including cultivation, harvesting, trans-

portation, storage, packaging and export.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, cultivation facilities must comply with food safety conditions under the Law on Food Safety. Plantation areas must be inspected, monitored and assigned identification codes in line with the ministry’s regulations. — Xinhua

Northeast China entrepreneur conference highlights new quality productive forces

THE main forum of the 2025 Entrepreneurs Sun Island Annual Conference kicked off Sunday in Harbin, capital of northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, highlighting new quality productive forces.

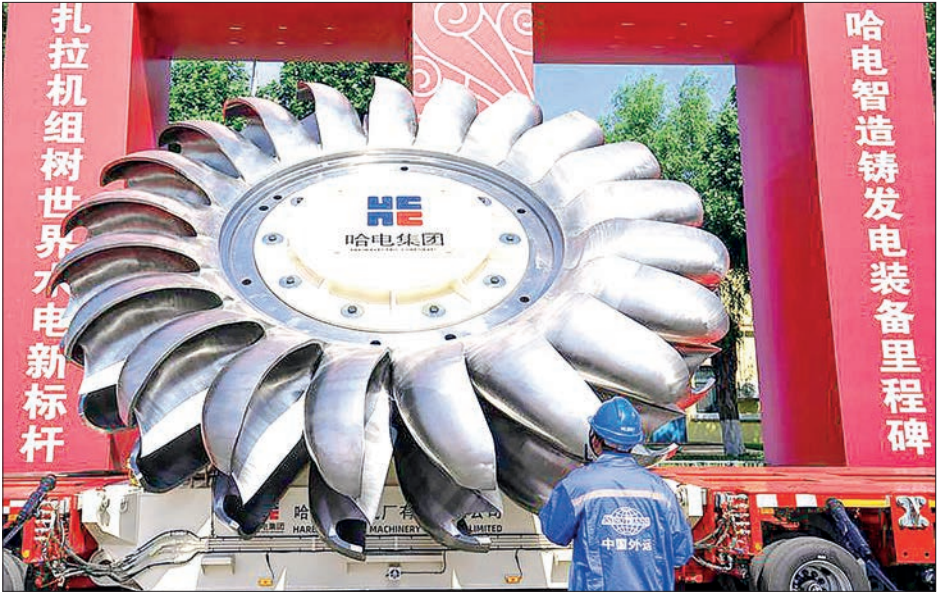
As a national-level dialogue, the conference attracted guests from government, business, academia and enterprises this year, to contribute innovative ideas and inject momentum for high-quality economic and social development.

Liu Hui, deputy secretary of the Heilongjiang Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China, said that the province features abundant scientific and educational resources, profound innovation heritage, and solid industrial foundation. Liu said that he hopes attendees can advise and contribute to Heilongjiang’s high-quality development and sustainable revitalization.

Liu Jian, vice president of Xinhua News Agency, said that the

conference serves as a platform to empower local economic and social development and northeast China’s comprehensive revitalization. The platform of exchange and collaboration can provide vital support for high-level opening-up and the development of new quality productive forces, he added.

With an annual theme focusing on “New Quality Productive Forces: New Intelligent Manufacturing, New Consumption and New Ecosystem,” the conference, held from Saturday to Monday, is hosted by Xinhua News Agency and Harbin Modern Culture and Tourism Investment Group Co Ltd.



A staff member directs the loading of a newly developed impulse turbine to a special truck at the factory area of Harbin Electric Machinery Company Limited under Harbin Electric Corporation in Harbin, northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, on 2 July 2025.
PHOTO: XINHUA

Besides the main forum, the conference also holds parallel events such as forums on digital intelligence empowering new consumption, and integrated development of the low-altitude economy and intelligent manufacturing. — Xinhua

Japan’s farm exports rise 16% in 1st half of 2025, set record

JAPAN’S agricultural, fisheries and forestry product exports in the first half of 2025 rose 15.5 per cent from a year earlier to a record 809.7 billion yen (\$5.5 billion), as sales in the United States increased sharply, the government said Monday.

The record for the January-June period followed a fall in the same period of the previous year. The turnaround came as Japan expanded sales channels in the United States and other areas following China’s import ban on Japanese seafood in the wake of the discharge of treated radioactive wastewater from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

Exports were also likely helped by an increase in the number of Japanese restaurants operating overseas as awareness of the cuisine increased on the back of surging foreign tourism. Supermarkets outside the country are also selling

more Japanese food, the farm ministry said.

The record figure came as the government aims to boost Japan’s farm and seafood exports to two trillion yen by 2025, after exports in 2024 grew 3.6 per cent from the previous year to a record 1.51 trillion yen.

But there is uncertainty over Japan’s prospects of achieving the goal, as the United States will implement a 15 per cent “reciprocal” tariff on Japanese imports on Thursday. China, however, is moving to resume imports of Japanese marine and other products.

By country and region, exports to the United States topped the list with 141.0 billion yen, up 22.0 per cent, boosted by strong demand for scallops, green tea and yellowtail. The increase came despite the administration of US President Donald Trump imposing a new 10 per cent tariff in April. — Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V KENZEN VOY.NO. (03/25)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V KENZEN VOY. NO. (03/25)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **WILMAR** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S RAFFLES SHIPPING INTERNATIONAL PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (156W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (156W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (350W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (350W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHPPING

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AREZOO VOY.NO. (SCY1181)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (SCY1181)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-8-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** 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 LAND AND SEA INTERMODAL LOGISTICS SDN BHD LINE

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

S Korea begins dismantling
loudspeakers along
inter-Korean border



This handout photo taken on 4 August 2025 and provided by the South Korean Defence Ministry shows South Korean soldiers removing loudspeakers that were set up for propaganda broadcasts near the Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas in an undisclosed location in South Korea.

PHOTO: HANDOUT / SOUTH KOREAN DEFENCE MINISTRY / AFP

SOUTH Korea’s Defence Ministry said Monday the military has begun dismantling loudspeakers used for propaganda broadcasts along the border with North Korea.

“This is a practical measure implemented in a way that does not affect the military’s readiness, while helping to ease tensions between the South and the North,” the ministry said.

South Korea’s loudspeaker

propaganda targeting the North had been suspended since 11 June as part of President Lee Jae Myung’s efforts to improve ties. North Korea stopped blasting its own border noise a day after the South halted the broadcasts.

In late July, however, North Korea rejected dialogue with South Korea in its first statement since Lee took office, declaring that Seoul “can never be

the partner of reconciliation and cooperation,” regardless of any proposals it may put forward.

In response, South Korea’s presidential office reiterated that Lee’s government remains committed to taking actions “to build a Korean Peninsula free of hostility and war”, saying years of confrontational policies under former President Suk Yeol had created deep mistrust between the two Koreas. — Kyodo

Suspended Thai PM submits defence
statement to constitutional court: official

SUSPENDED Thai Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra has submitted her formal statement to the Constitutional Court defending against allegations of ethics violations, PM’s Secretary-General Prommin Lertsuridej said on Monday.

Paetongtarn has completed and endorsed all supporting documents, and her representatives have already delivered them to the court, Prommin told reporters at the government house ahead of the deadline for submission.

Prommin dismissed the rumours regarding Paetongtarn’s resignation before the court ruling, saying, “We are proceeding according to the law and affirming our righteousness.”

Last week, the court set Monday as a final deadline for Paetongtarn to tender the defence statement, after granting two extensions citing her request to seek additional time to complete the explanation.

On 1 July, the court suspended Paetongtarn after accepting the case petitioned by a group of senators seeking her removal from office over a leaked phone call on the border issue with Cambodia. — Xinhua

Israel invests US\$11.7 mln in national
space lab

ISRAEL will establish a national space research and development (R&D) lab with 40 million shekels (some US\$11.7 million) in government funding, the Israeli Innovation Authority and the Israel Space Agency announced Monday.

The lab, which aims to accelerate Israel’s entry into the global space market, will provide end-to-end services, including R&D, satellite launches, system integration, and data analysis, enabling startups, companies, and academic institutions to test technologies in orbit, they announced in a joint statement.

As a national innovation hub, the lab will support early-stage ventures, foster global aerospace partnerships, and bridge academia with industry, they said, adding that at least 15 Israeli-developed payloads are slated for orbital launch within three years.

“Investing in a national launch lab will allow Israeli companies to test their technologies in space, boost our international presence in the field, and help drive future economic growth,” said Israeli Minister of Innovation, Science and Technology Gila Gamliel. — Xinhua

Volcanic fury in Kamchatka: Second
eruption in hours disrupts skies

THE Klyuchevskoy Volcano on Russia’s Kamchatka has once again erupted, sending an ash emission 7.5 kilometres (4.6 miles) above sea level, posing a threat to air travel, the Institute of Volcanology and Seismology of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences said on Monday.

This marks the second ash eruption from the volcano on Monday. The previous eruption, recorded several hours earlier, reached a

height of 6.5 kilometres (3.7 miles).

On 2 August, the regional branch of the Russian Emergency Ministry reported ash emission from active Klyuchevskoy, Shiveluch, Karymsky, Bezymianny and Kambalny volcanoes with a height of six to 10 kilometres. Tourists and residents of Kamchatka were advised to avoid trips and hikes within a 10-kilometre radius of these volcanoes’ summits.

On 30 July, a magnitude

8.8 earthquake struck off the coast of Russia’s Kamchatka Peninsula, becoming the strongest in the region since 1952.

Klyuchevskoy Volcano is 4,850 metres (15,912 feet) above sea level and is located in the Ust-Kamchatsky district of Kamchatka. It last erupted in April 2025. — SPUTNIK

Klyuchevskoy Volcano in Kamchatka, Russia. PHOTO: SPUTNIK



SPORTS

Yangon Galactico crowned as 2025 PMWC winner



Esports players from Yangon Galactico celebrate their victory after receiving the championship prize at the Exports World Cup in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

YANGON Galactico, representing Myanmar, has been crowned the PMWC (PUBG Mobile World Cup) Champion at the 2025 Esports World Cup held from 25 July to 3 August in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The competition served as a qualifier stage, beginning with the PMCL (PUBG Mobile Challengers League). Throughout the 2025 Esports World Cup's PMWC (PUBG Mobile World Cup), the Myanmar team faced the top-tier teams from around the world. With precise strategies and unwavering determination, a

team representing Myanmar emerged as the champion for the first time in the history of the 2025 Esports World Cup, winning a grand prize of US\$500,000.

In the tournament, teams from 50 countries had to compete in the Qualifier stages, and in the final stage, 24 of the world's top teams continued to battle for the title. Meanwhile, the team representing Myanmar claimed the Esports World Cup championship title, whereas the Chinese team won second place and Mongolia third place. — Arkar Lin/KTZH

Myanmar women's national football team leaves for Vietnam

THE Myanmar women's national football team departed for Vietnam yesterday to compete in the 2025 ASEAN Women's Championship to be held from 6 to 19 August.

The team includes U Kyi Lwin as head, Yuki Tetsuro as coach, U Sa Htet Naing Win and Daw Thuzar Htwe as assistant coaches, U Sein Aye as goalkeeping coach, players: Myo Mya Mya Nyein (Thitsa Arman), Ei Sandar Zaw (Ayeyawady), Zuu Lat Nadi (Institute of Sports and Physical Education) as goalkeepers, while the defenders are Hnin Pwint Aye, Lin Lae Oo, Than Than Nwe (Institute of Sports and Physical Education), Phyu Phwe (Yangon United), Zun Yuya Oo, Phyu Phyu Win (Ayeyawady), Khin Myo Thandar Tun (Shan United) and May Thet Mon Myint (Thitsa Arman), the mid-field players



The Myanmar Women's national football team is seen before departing for Vietnam. PHOTO: MFF

are Naw Htet Htet Wai (Ayeyawady), Khin Mar Lar Tun, Shwe Yi Tun (Institute of Sports and Physical Education), Win Win, Khin Mo Mo Tun (Thitsa Arman), Nan Phyu Phyu Thwe, Yupar Khine (Shan United), Yoon Wadi Hlaing (Yangon United), the attackers are San Thaw Thaw (Ayeyawady), Myat Noe Khin (Thitsa Arman), May Htet Lu (LA Pierce College, USA), and Win Theingi Tun

(Sabah, Malaysia). Eight teams will compete in the tournament. Group A includes Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, and Cambodia, while the Philippines, Myanmar, Australia U23 and Timor-Leste are in Group B. Myanmar will face Australia U23 on 7 August, Timor-Leste on 10 August, and the Philippines on 13 August in the group stage. — Mg San Gyi/KTZH

Swiatek crashes out of WTA Canadian Open, Osaka races through

WIMBLEDON champion Iga Swiatek became the latest seed to fall at the WTA Canadian Open on Sunday, stunned 7-6 (7/1), 6-3 by 19th-ranked Dane Clara Tauson in the fourth round.

Swiatek, ranked third in the world and seeded second in Montreal, followed top-seeded Coco Gauff, third-seeded two-time defending champion Jessica Pegula and fourth-seeded Mirra Andreieva out the door.

Fifth-seeded American Amanada Anisimova followed later with a straight-sets loss to Elina Svitolina.

Tauson avenged a fourth-round loss to Swiatek at Wimbledon and called her second career victory over a top-five player "unreal".

"Obviously it's really great and it shows all the hard work I've been doing has been the right thing," Tauson said. "I'm getting more confidence in this kind of level and feeling like I belong here a bit more. I think that really helped me today in the important points."

Tauson booked a quarter-final berth against Australian Open champion Madison Keys, who saved two match points on the way to a 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 victory over Czech Karolina Muchova.

It was the American's third match win of the year in which she overcame a match point.

Meanwhile, it was clear sail-

ing for former world number one Naomi Osaka, who needed just 49 minutes to blast past Anastasiya Sevastova 6-1, 6-0.

The second-quickest win of Osaka's career put her into her first quarter-final at the 1000 or Grand Slam level since Doha in 2024.

Swiatek, playing her first tournament since winning her sixth Grand Slam title at the All England Club last month, looked out of sorts from the start on a breezy centre court.

She fell behind a quick break and failed to convert a pair of break chances in the eighth game as Tauson took a 5-3 lead in the first set.

The Polish star appeared to be finding her rhythm as she won the next three games to get her nose in front 6-5.

But Tauson, who won her third WTA title and her first since 2021 in New Zealand in January, held to force the tie-breaker and dominated, Swiatek surrendering the set with a double fault on the Dane's first set point.

Swiatek had saved a pair of break points in the eighth game of the second set when another untimely double fault gave Tauson the break and a 5-3 lead.

Tauson calmly served it out, claiming the victory when Swiatek belted a backhand into the net. — AFP

Indonesian climber aims for gold at 2025 World Games in Chengdu

INDONESIAN rock climber Veddriq Leonardo said on Monday that he is targeting a gold medal at the 2025 World Games in China this month.

The 12th edition of the World Games is scheduled to take place from 7 to 17 August in Chengdu.

Veddriq said his preparation is in final stage, with his focus now on fine-tuning his physical condition and adapting to the competition venue.

"This month, in the second week, we're leaving for the World

Games. So, preparations are as usual, just adapting there, getting food, training, and rest, all optimized. Indonesia's target is, of course, gold," he was quoted as saying by local media.

At the 2025 World Games, Indonesia will be represented by eight rock climbers, comprising four men and four women, competing in the speed category.

Chengdu will be the third Asian city to host the World Games since the event was first held in 1981. — Xinhua

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WORLD

Netanyahu asks Red Cross for help after ‘profound shock’ of Gaza hostage videos



Trucks loaded with humanitarian aid await permission on the Egyptian side of the Rafah crossing with the Gaza Strip, to drive towards the besieged Palestinians territory on 3 August 2025. PHOTO: AFP

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appealed to the International Committee of the Red Cross on Sunday for help aiding hostages in Gaza, as outrage built at videos showing two of them emaciated.

The premier’s office said he spoke

to the ICRC coordinator for the region, Julien Lerisson, and “requested his involvement in providing food to our hostages and... immediate medical treatment”.

The ICRC said in a statement it was “appalled by the harrowing videos” and

reiterated its “call to be granted access to the hostages”.

In response, Hamas’s armed wing said it would allow the agency access to the hostages but only if “humanitarian corridors” for food and aid were opened “across all areas of the Gaza Strip”.

The Al-Qassam Brigades said it did “not intentionally starve” the hostages, but they would not receive any special food privileges “amid the crime of starvation and siege” in Gaza.

Over recent days, Hamas and its ally Islamic Jihad have released three videos showing two hostages seized during the 7 October 2023 attack on Israel that triggered the ongoing war.

The images of Rom Braslavski and Evyatar David, both of whom appeared weak and malnourished, have fuelled renewed calls in Israel for a truce and hostage release deal.

A statement from Netanyahu’s office on Saturday said he had spoken with the families of the two hostages and “expressed profound shock over the materials distributed by the terror organizations”.

Netanyahu “told the families that the efforts to return all our hostages are ongoing”, the statement added.

Earlier in the day, tens of thousands of people had rallied in the coastal hub of Tel Aviv to call on Netanyahu’s government to secure the release of the remaining captives.

There was particular outrage in Israel over images of David, who appeared to be digging what he said in the staged video was his own grave. — AFP

Kremlin cautions against Trump’s nuclear rhetoric

THE Kremlin on Monday urged caution about US President Donald Trump’s remarks on nuclear submarine deployment against Russia.

Trump on Friday said on Truth Social that he had ordered the deployment of two nuclear submarines “in the appropriate regions” following his spat with Dmitry Medvedev, former Russian president and deputy chair of Russia’s Security Council.

Trump said Sunday that the two nuclear submarines have arrived “where they have to be,” two days after he ordered their deployment.

“We are very careful about any statements related to nuclear issues ... And, of course, we believe that everyone should be very, very careful with nuclear rhetoric,” said Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov. — Xinhua

Indonesia targets 20 mln beneficiaries for free nutritious meal programme by 17 Aug

INDONESIAN President Prabowo Subianto has set a goal of providing free nutritious meals to 20 million people before the country’s Independence Day on 17 August, Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs Budi Gunawan said in a statement on Monday.

As of the end of July 2025, the programme had reached 7,374,135 beneficiaries through 2,375 active community nutrition kitchens. The recipients include schoolchildren, toddlers, pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, as well as students at Islamic boarding schools and other religious schools.

“This programme is a comprehensive strategy to improve the quality of Indonesia’s human resources from an early age. If our children are healthy and intelligent, the future of the nation will be more secure,” Gunawan said.

Beyond its nutritional and health



This picture taken on 23 June 2025 shows elementary schoolchildren eating food prepared by the government’s free meal programme at a classroom in Jakarta.

PHOTO: BAY ISMOYO / AFP

benefits, the free meal programme also bolsters economic resilience by lowering household expenditures, creating millions

of jobs, and stabilizing food prices through direct purchases from smallholder farmers. — Xinhua