

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.

Tightening security for successful elections



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, State Security and Peace Commission Chairman, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, delivers a speech at the first meeting of the State Security and Peace Commission in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Elections must be conducted with utmost effort to enhance the State’s image and set its political course on the right path.

THE State Security and Peace Commission held its first meeting yesterday morning, with an address by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union

of Myanmar. Speaking at the meeting, the Senior General said that the National Defence and Security Council has formed and assigned the State Security and **SEE PAGE 3**

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the State Security and Peace Commission meeting

- 1. Conducting military and security measures to increase a greater number of townships to hold elections
- 2. Emphasizing management for holding the election in portions, with the use of MEVMs,
- 3. Taking security measures for relevant individuals of political parties, their offices, and urban wards
- 4. Raising public awareness for successfully holding the election through the media

OPINION

Protect the life and habitat of elephants

NATIONAL



Indian Embassy hosts 79th Anniversary of Independence Day in Yangon

NATIONAL



Endangered spot-billed pelicans spotted in Moeyungyi Lake

NATIONAL

Regional economic integration must be expedited to reduce possible losses due to global disruptions

- ❖ To reduce potential losses caused by possible global disruptions, it is necessary to pursue regional economic integration.
- ❖ We must collaborate to strengthen regional supply chains.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening of the Forum on Myanmar Beyond 2025: Challenges and Opportunities in a Multipolar World held on 21 March 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.

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations transferred and appointed

1. The National Defence and Security Council has transferred and appointed U Than Htway, Director-General of the Political Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Director-General of the Protocol Department of the same organization from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The National Defence and Security Council has appointed Dr Ohnmar San, Pro-Rector of the University of Co-operatives and Management (Sagaing), as Rector of the same university on probation from the date she assumes charge of her duties.



No new COVID-19 cases

THE Ministry of Health tested 442 samples from 8 pm on 3 August 2025 to 8 pm on 10 August 2025, and no new case was found. Therefore, no new casualties were reported.

Currently, there is no need to worry about infection and deaths from COVID-19, but all need to follow personal hygiene methods, and the high-risk groups.

- Elderly people (aged 60 and above)
- People with diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, and cancer
- Pregnant women (especially those beyond the third month of pregnancy) are prioritized to receive COVID-19 booster shots.

More detailed COVID-19 information can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health, moh.gov.mm.

Myanmar CDC
Public Health Department, Ministry of Health

Approved political parties keep applying for registration

ORGANIZATIONS wishing to establish political parties are applying to the Union Election Commission (UEC) by stating the names of the parties they intend to establish. To date, a total of 27 groups have applied for party establishment, of which 22 have been granted permission to form political parties.

Among the 22 approved parties, the Pa-O National Development Party, led by U Soe Pu,

applied yesterday for registration as a political party under Section 7 of the Political Parties Registration Law, within 30 days from the date of being granted establishment approval.

Out of the 22 approved parties that applied for registration, one party was denied, and 18 have been granted registration. The UEC continues scrutinizing the remaining parties for approval to register. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Tuesday 12 August 2025)

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

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

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Rakhine, and Shan states. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur

and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in upper Sagaing, and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Chin, and northern Shan states.

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

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

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



2025 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Days' Objectives

- ❖ To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combating trafficking in persons as a national duty;
- ❖ To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
- ❖ To protect and care trafficked victims with empathy; and
- ❖ To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders; government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.

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)

Tightening security for successful elections

FROM PAGE 1

Peace Commission to provide necessary guidance and to effectively coordinate efforts for national defence, security and peace, and for the successful holding of a multiparty democratic general election.

He continued that it is to ensure the successful holding of a multiparty democratic general election and, after the election, to enable the government formed by the Hluttaw to take the responsibilities of the State.

The Senior General highlighted that the election must be held without fail, and efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of voter lists, including the successful implementation, to a certain extent, of the 2024 census, which is part of the preparations for the election.

He added that, to ensure the successful holding of the election, the Union Election Commission was reconstituted, and activities were carried out to collect data by constituency as well as to gather security-related information by region.

He underscored that holding the election is important to convene and form the respective Hluttaws, and it is essential that the election be successful and under the law.

The Senior General emphasized that, regarding the need to secure the required number of representatives for the Hluttaw session to be valid, Section 85 of the Constitution states that for the first Hluttaw

session to convene, more than half of the representatives entitled to attend must be present. If this requirement is not met, the second session shall be valid if at least one-third of the representatives entitled to attend are present. Therefore, in order to ensure that at least 50 per cent of Hluttaw representatives can attend when the Hluttaw convenes, efforts are being made to hold elections in all townships where elections can be conducted.

He underlined that all eligible voters will be enabled to cast their votes, and arrangements will also be made for displaced voters affected by natural disasters to vote in advance. Measures will be taken to ensure that all eligible voters in safe locations do not lose their right to vote.

In foreign countries, he noted that there will be those that support and welcome the holding of a multiparty democratic general election in Myanmar, as well as countries that may take a critical stance toward the election.

Therefore, the Senior General stressed that the upcoming election must be conducted as a free and fair election, and it must be free from fraud.

He explained that necessary protections must be provided to ensure that political party members and candidate representatives participating in the election can safely carry out their activities from the campaign period through to the voting period.

He pointed out that re-

garding the allegations and killings labelling government staff and the public as “informants,” such incidents may increase during the election period, so effective prevention and protective measures need to be implemented.

In the education sector, the Senior General recounted that a review of the schedules for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 academic years shows that all regions and states have experienced insufficient student enrolment and weak grade promotion rates. Therefore, the relevant ministry needs to conduct research and seek solutions to address the weaknesses in education.

He noted that suppressing and preventing illegal trade will help uphold the rule of law and reduce armed violence.

He said that armed terrorists in border areas use the profits from illegal trade to strengthen their forces, which undermines national stability and the rule of law. Looking back at the country’s history, it is evident that illegal trade routes have caused significant damage to the national economy.

The Secretary of the Commission Joint Executive Chief discussed reviews on holding the election in portions in townships of relevant regions and states, use of Myanmar electronic voting machines; the Commission member Union Minister for Home Affairs, comparison of security and rule of law activities in years, formation of people’s security

and violence combat groups, and plans to raise security measures; the Commission member Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air), undertaking of military operations and security measures in military command areas and regions, plans to beef up regional control measures to hold the election in townships; and the Commission member Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, casting advance votes, studies for casting vote process in global countries.

The Vice-Chairman of the Commission discussed activities of anti-government organizations and EAOs in regions and states, achievements of Tatmadaw in military operations, and collaborative efforts of Tatmadaw, People’s Security and Violence Combat Group and people’s militia in combating drug and illegal trade and illegal businesses.

Commission members Prime Minister U Nyo Saw, Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe, and Union Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye also participated in discussions on preparations to successfully hold the election, distribution of MEVM, working procedures in accord with the election rules, dissemination of techniques to use the MEVM to the people, and raising public awareness to cast votes to strengthen the multiparty democratic path.

In his additional guidance, the Senior General explained military and security measures for increasing number

of townships to hold the election, management for holding the election in portions, use of MEVMs, raising security measures for relevant individuals of political parties, their offices, and urban wards, public awareness for successfully holding the election through media, and enhancing support of the people with aspiration to experiencing democracy to hold the election successfully.

The Senior General emphasized that groups and individuals who do not desire national peace, stability, and development may attempt to sabotage the success of the election and carry out attacks. They may also engage in covert attacks through means such as drugs and online gambling, potentially undermining national and regional security. While efforts to combat drug trafficking are already being emphasized, it is necessary to intensify and conduct these operations more effectively.

He stressed the need to carefully handle drug eradication, combatting telecom fraud and illegal trade eradication.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-Chairman of the Commission Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Commission members Prime Minister U Nyo Saw and Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe, Commission Secretary Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Commission members General Maung Maung Aye, Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, U Than Swe, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and General Kyaw Swa Lin. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Indian Embassy hosts 79th Anniversary of Independence Day in Yangon

UNION Minister for Ministry 1 of the President's Office, U Tin Aung San, and his wife attended the concert and reception marking the 79th Independence Day of India held at Myawady Media Centre in Yangon yesterday.

Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur and his wife welcomed the Union minister and party.

After the ceremonial procedures, the Indian Ambassador made a greeting speech, and the Union Minister made a congratulatory remark.

Attendees enjoyed the traditional dance of the Indian cultural troupe. The Union minister and his wife, the Yangon Region chief minister and his wife, Indian Am-

bassador and his wife presented the flower bouquet to the Indian dance troupe.

The Indian ambassador and his wife hosted a dinner for the attendees.

The event was attended by regional ministers and their wives, ambassadors, chargés d'affaires ai from various embassies in Yangon, military attachés, people of the Indian descent and invitees. — MNA/KTZH

Union Minister for the Ministry 1 of the President's Office U Tin Aung San and his wife and Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur and his wife ignite oil lamp to mark the 79th Independence Day of India in Yangon yesterday.



MoL Union Minister receives IOM's AP Regional Director



The MoU signing ceremony for the safety migration between the Department of Labour and IOM in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday in the presence of Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyaw Hoe.

UNION Minister for Labour U Aung Kyaw Hoe received Mr Iori Kato, Regional Director for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They discussed and exchanged views on matters re-

lating to cooperation between the Department of Labour and IOM for the safety migration by signing an MoU starting from 2015, IOM's support to Myanmar migrant workers and the IOM's current work programmes in Myanmar.

After the meeting, the Union minister attended the signing

ceremony of an MoU between the Department of Labour and IOM at the meeting hall of the temporary office of the ministry.

Also, present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Win Shein, the permanent secretary, departmental officials and delegates led by Mr Iori Kato. — MNA/KTZH

Car prices climb despite weak domestic sales

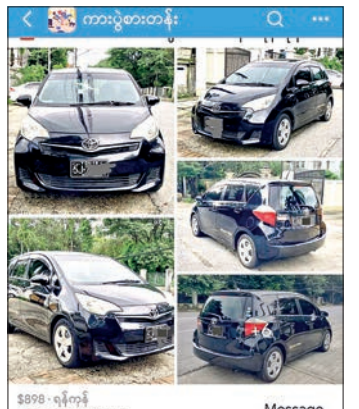
DATA from the Yangon car market shows that while most car prices have risen and sales remain sluggish, buyers are prioritizing durability and quality over car type, with some purchases including both Korean and Japanese models.

"In the Yangon car market, there are no Chinese cars. Korean Kia and Japanese models are traded, with people buying and selling at their own pace, though transactions are few. If a car is good, its price is good. The market is stagnant because prices are high," said Ko Kyaw Hein of Hanthawady Brokerage, a veteran car broker.

In the current Yangon car market, gasoline cars are selling better than EVs, which are in short supply due to high maintenance costs and a lack of spare parts. As new EV models

continue to enter the market, consumers have more options, but sales remain weak.

People in the car market also advise that, since damaged or faulty cars are often for sale, buyers should carefully check the documents and verify the car's authenticity before making a purchase. — ASH/TH



This screenshot captures a Japanese car listed for sale on an online car dealership page.

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

Myanmar celebrates 2025 International Youth Day

A ceremony to mark the International Youth Day 2025 took place at Hotel Max in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

It was attended by Union Ministers Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, Dr Myo Thein Kyaw and Dr Soe Win, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun Oo, deputy ministers, departmental officials, award winners, youth delegates from regions and states, representatives of youths with disabilities, maritime and aviation youths, members of Red Cross and Scouts, students from universities, colleges and institutes from Nay Pyi Taw and officials from youth development organizations.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister Jeng Phang Naw Taung of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and Ministry of Hotel and Tourism, who is also chairperson of Myanmar Youth Affairs Central Committee, said the theme of 2025 International



Union Minister Jeng Phang Naw Taung delivers a speech at the International Youth Day 2025 ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Youth Day is Local Youth Actions For The SDGs And Beyond spotlighting youth as indispensable partners in transforming the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into community-driven realities.

He added that today's youth are those who will shoulder the future responsibilities of the nation, and that the future of the country depends on their abilities, moral integrity, patriotism, sense of responsibility, and

accountability. Therefore, the systematic nurturing of young people for all-round development enables them to shape and create the best future for the nation.

Deputy Minister U Zin Min

Htet, who is also chairman of the Myanmar Youth Affairs Working Committee, read out the message sent by UN Secretary-General Mr Antonio Guterres.

The Union ministers and Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman presented cash prizes and certificates to the outstanding youths, and the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman donated cash for the 2025 International Youth Day and Youth's Dialogue.

They all watched a video clip on documentaries on overall development measures for youths.

The deputy minister and officials presented certificates and cash prizes to the winners in the essay competition and those who participated in the talk show.

The talk show discussed different topics such as Cultural Heritage and Youth, Environmental Challenges and Technology and From Quality Education to Successful Economic Pathways. — MNA/KTZH

Statute signed permitting Russian Orthodox Church activities in Myanmar



The signing ceremony for Registration of the Statute between the director-general of the Department of Religious Affairs and Abbot His Eminence Sergiy in progress in Yangon yesterday in the presence of Deputy Minister U Aye Tun and Russian Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov.

THE Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture organized a ceremony to sign the registration of the Statute of the Parish of the Patriarchal Exarchate of South East Asia, Russian Orthodox Church, at the Summit Parkview Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

Deputy Minister U Aye Tun said the two countries

signed the Letter of Agreement on granting permission to implement religious work in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 February 2025. The ministry will provide the needed assistance to the Russian Orthodox Church regarding the construction of office and religious buildings, funding activities, bank accounts and seeking approvals for religious

activities under the law.

The director-general of the Department of Religious Affairs and Abbot His Eminence Sergiy signed the registration of the Statute of the Parish of the Patriarchal Exarchate of South East Asia, Russian Orthodox Church, as per paragraph 5.1 of LOA. — MNA/KTZH

Veteran vocalists to perform at 'Gentleman Night' concert in Yangon

GENTLEMAN Night, a commemorative concert by the Spectrum Wave band featuring veteran vocalists, will be held at The Heart of Rangoon – THOR in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, from 6:30 pm to 9 pm on 14 August, according to singer Khin Maung Htoo, who will be performing at the event.

“With the Spectrum Wave music group, we will be giving a fresh touch to many of the great songs that were once big hits,” said Khin Maung Htoo.

Performers at the concert will include vocalists Bo Bo Han, Khin Maung Htoo, J Maung Maung, Kaung Set, Myo Kyawt Myine, Graham, Sithu Lwin, Zaw Paing, Zwe Pyae, and Sit Marn. Their performances will be accompanied by the Spectrum Wave Band, which will provide top-quality musical support. — ASH/MKKS



This photo showcases veteran vocalist from the stereo era, Bo Bo Han, seen performing on stage at the previous concert.

NATIONAL

LPA in BOB to bring moderate to heavy rains to Myanmar from 17 August onwards

MODERATE to heavy rainfall is likely on 17 August and beyond, due to the intensification of the low-pressure area in the central-western Bay of Bengal, according to meteorologist U Win Naing.

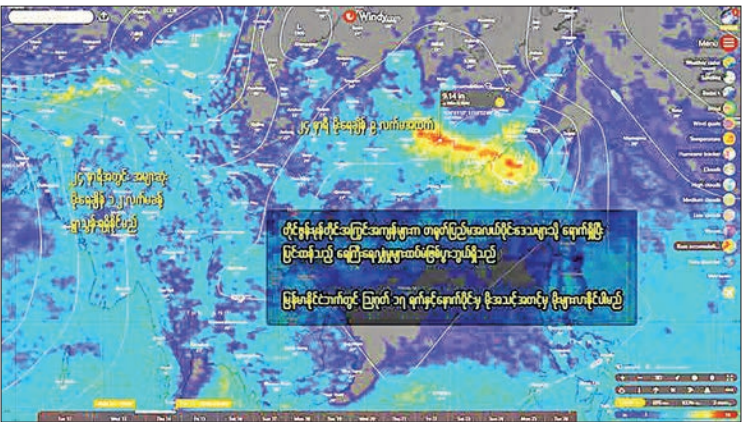
Windy application de-

scribed that Japan's Meteorological Agency has declared a Category-1 typhoon due to the probable impact of Typhoon Podul from the east,

The typhoon is forecast to pass through central Chinese Taipei and continue into the

coasts of China. The remnants of the typhoon are reaching central China, and it may cause more severe flooding.

In Myanmar, Podul has little impact and moderate to heavy rainfall is expected from 17 August onwards. — MT/ZN



This weather map shows moderate to heavy rainfall from 17 August onwards.



The Mandalay rescue organization is working on active rescue activities at the place where the train and car collided.

Train-car collision in Mandalay injures four

IN a train and private car crash in Mandalay Region's Pyigyitagun Township, four people were injured, according to the Myanmar Rescue Organization (Mandalay).

The accident happened on 11 August at the level crossing in Pyigyitagun's Nantha Ward.

After receiving the report, rescue workers went there and

provided first aid for the injured and lifted the car to a safe area by using a crane.

In the accident, four people — a man and three women — were injured, but not severely, said the rescue organization. Contact numbers of the rescue organization are 09 767119119 and 09 787119119 for help. — MT/ZS

Asian Expo Yangon 2025 to run three days in Sept

THE Asian Expo Yangon 2025, featuring an array of Asian top brands and international top brands, will be held in September in Yangon.

It is scheduled from 26 to 28 September at the Yangon Convention Centre from 9 am to 5 pm.

With more than 225 booths, the expo will include

six zones: top Asian brands zone, food and beverage zone, fashion and lifestyle zone, health and beauty zone, household product zone and innovation zone and products from Thailand, China, Japan, South Korea, India, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Myanmar and Laos will be displayed. Interested businesses can book booths.

Admission is free and traditional dances, fashion shows, music shows, make-up show, cooking show, seminar and lucky draw will be included, as well as celebrities, models and movie artists, and famous singers will be featured. — MT/ZS



This image showcases an advert for the Asian Expo Yangon.

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules	
1. Office of the State Administration Council https://sacoffice.gov.mm	
2. Ministry of Defence https://www.mod.gov.mm	3. Ministry of Legal Affairs https://www.mlis.gov.mm
4. Ministry of Information https://www.moi.gov.mm	5. Myawady Webportal https://myawady.net.mm
6. Myanmar National Portal https://myanmar.gov.mm	

Flood Bulletin

Issued at 7:30 pm MTS on 12 August 2025

ACCORDING to the 6:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Thanlwin River at Hpa-An has exceeded by more than one foot above its danger level. It may fall about two inches 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 Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about 2.5 feet above its danger level. It may fall about two inches during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

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

Gold Market Rate as of 12 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.

CBM injects US\$1.1M into edible oil importing sector



Greenbacks are seen at the currency exchange counter.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$1.18 million to edible oil-importing companies and over US\$415,900 to fuel oil-importing companies on 11 August after purchasing the foreign currencies from companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis.

Furthermore, CBM injected over 65,000 yuan into the market on that day. CBM also sold over US\$348,000 to CMP companies and those who made non-trade payment transactions. Moreover, importers of refined sugar, pharmaceuticals, pharma raw materials, electrical devices, industrial raw materials, construction materials, auto parts, motorcycle parts, telecommunication equipment, pesticides, tar and food commodities.

CBM injected over 1.46 million yuan and over 930,300 baht on 8 August.

Additionally, CBM sold \$701,120 to edible oil-importing companies and \$361,921 to fuel oil-importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold over \$1.665 million to edible oil-importing companies after the injection of over 56,000 yuan into the market on 7 August.

CBM also sold over \$1.2 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$590,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 6 August after selling over 1.46 million yuan and 1.5 million baht into the financial market on that day.

CBM injected over 1.4 million yuan and one million baht into the financial market on 6 August after selling over \$1.2 million into the edible oil-importing companies and over \$590,500 to fuel oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 5 August that it would pump \$30 million into the fuel oil sector.

CBM sold over \$1.86 million purchased from CMP companies to edible oil-importing companies, in addition to an injection of 1.38 million yuan into the market on the same day.

CBM announced on 4 August that it would sell 10 mil-

lion yuan and 50 million baht to importers.

CBM also sold over \$1.08 million to edible oil importing companies and \$620,200 to fuel oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM also pumped over \$1.04 million into edible oil-importing companies and over \$434,400 to fuel oil-importing companies on 1 August.

CBM sold \$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 commodities-importing companies as per its initial announcement of selling \$10 million.

CBM sold \$8.4 million, 13.9 million baht and 5.2 million yuan in June 2025, in addition to an 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

FMGEA to conduct AML/CFT course on 18 Aug

THE Federation of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association (FMGEA) will open an anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) course at Mingala Hall on the first floor of UMFCCI Tower in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm on 18 August.

This course is designed for

gold shop operators, gold merchants and staff of gold shops.

Those interested need to enrol on the course by dialling 09 5522123 (Viber) of joint secretary U Kyi Sein, 09 5522123 (Viber); 09 429211413 and 09 977958763 of joint secretary U Aung Pyay Phyo by 15 August, the federation stated. — NN/KK



This image displays the gold bars.

MMFA to open Management Skill Training (Batch 16) on 23 Sep

MYANMAR Microfinance Association (MMFA) will conduct Management Skill Training Online (Batch 16) from 9:30 am to 11:30 am on 23-26 September.

Management Skill Training will cover effective supervisory skills, strategic HR management, customer relationship management and coaching and mentoring by Dr Tin Ma Ma Soe (HR Consultant & Soft Skill Trainer) and Dr Htet Htet Aung (HR Con-

sultant & Soft Skill Trainer). It is tailored to those serving supervisor level and above.

The fee is K80,000 for non-members. Members can enjoy a K20,000 discount. Trainees will receive a completion certificate. Those enthusiastic can enrol in the course by 17 September through <https://shorturl.at/6Lkq3>. For further details, individuals can contact 09965209010 within office hours. — NN/KK



This image captures the commercially valued Myanmar hilsa in the international market.

Myanmar hilsa targets Indian market

MYANMAR'S Fisheries Department stated that India is likely to bring in a large volume of Myanmar's hilsa.

Myanmar's hilsa is primarily exported to India, Thailand, Japan, Singapore and the UAE. India is expected to emerge as the top importing country of Myanmar's hilsa.

"There is a high consumption of Myanmar's hilsa in India. High local demand prompts In-

dia's buyers to import Myanmar's hilsa increasingly. Consumers from Kolkata, India, prefer Myanmar's hilsa, raising demand. Therefore, there is a potential for India to raise the purchase order," said an official of the Department of Fisheries.

Myanmar shipped over 100,000 tonnes of hilsa in the first quarter of the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April. The department

is ensuring sustainable production of seafood, including hilsa, by establishing sanctuaries in critical breeding areas in Toe, Bogalay, Pyanmalot and Yway distributaries.

A fishing ban is practised yearly from 15 September to 15 October in those distributaries. Raising awareness on the hilsa fishing close season and warnings are also being undertaken. — ASH/KK

Protect the life and habitat of elephants

WORLD Elephant Day is observed every year on 12 August to raise global awareness about the urgent need to protect both Asian and African elephants. Since its launch in 2012, this special day has highlighted the challenges elephants face and promoted efforts to safeguard their future.

One alarming consequence of rampant poaching is a change in elephant genetics. In many wild populations, elephants are increasingly born with smaller tusks or even no tusks at all. This happens because poachers tend to target those with larger tusks, removing them from the breeding population. Hence, this year’s World Elephant Day focuses on promoting sustainable coexistence between humans and elephants by reducing human-wildlife conflicts and restoring vital elephant migration corridors.

Elephants are facing the threat of extinction, with poaching and habitat loss being the two most significant problems. Ivory demand remains extremely high, where ivory prices can exceed those of gold. This makes elephants highly vulnerable targets. The economic realities also worsen the situation: in many impoverished regions of Africa, the sale of ivory from a single elephant can earn a person a month’s wages or more, incentivizing illegal hunting.

In Myanmar, elephants have played an important role in the timber industry. Thousands of elephants have been used to extract logs from forest areas without access roads, helping supply both domestic and international timber markets. The Myanma Timber Enterprise, under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, continues to use elephants as “living heavy machinery” in some forest blocks.

Habitat loss further endangers elephants by shrinking the natural spaces they need to find the vast amounts of food — hundreds of pounds daily — to survive and reproduce. It also makes elephants easier for poachers to locate. Experts believe that habitat destruction is now the main reason for the dramatic decline in wild elephant numbers. About a century ago, over 12 million elephants roamed freely; today, that number may have dropped to as low as 400,000, with around 20,000 killed annually by poachers.

In Myanmar, elephants have played an important role in the timber industry. Thousands of elephants have been used to extract logs from forest areas without access roads, helping supply both domestic and international timber markets. The Myanma Timber Enterprise, under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, continues to use elephants as “living heavy machinery” in some forest blocks.

Recognizing the need for conservation, elephant protection camps have been established nationwide to care for ageing elephants retired from logging work. As the government reduces timber extraction to conserve forests and plantations, the workload on these elephants decreases. Moreover, new laws have been introduced to protect wildlife habitats and wild elephants, aiming to increase elephant populations and prevent their extinction in Myanmar. Through global awareness, stronger laws, community involvement, and sustainable coexistence efforts, World Elephant Day encourages all to protect these majestic creatures and ensure they thrive for generations to come.

THE Burmese saying "တလိမ်နှစ်လိမ် ပွေလိမ် ရှောင်" (ta-lain hna-lain pway-lain shoke) presents an intriguing exploration of complexity and fragility, particularly within the realms of psychology and nature. This metaphorical phrase, which translates roughly to “once twisted, twice twisted, entangled and broken,” serves as a poignant reminder of how intricate structures – be they biological, psychological, or emotional – are subject to both the beauty of their design and the perils of their entanglement. The wisdom embedded in this saying can be applied to the understanding of human nature, particularly in how we process experiences and how our biological makeup, exemplified by DNA, can reflect our psychological intricacies.

Complexity Through Twists

First and foremost, the concept of “twists” encapsulates the inherent complexity of both DNA and the human mind. The double helix of DNA exemplifies the beauty of molecular architecture, where each twist and turn is integral to its function. This spiral shape does not merely facilitate storage; it is a symbol of the intricate coding and regulatory mechanisms that govern life itself. Similarly, human cognition operates on multiple levels – thoughts, memories, and emotions intermingle and twist around one another, often leading to cognitive distortions. These distortions, such as overgeneralization or black-and-white thinking, represent the psychological equivalents of twisted strands of DNA.

When individuals encounter emotional challenges, their cognitive processes may become "twisted," leading to an inaccurate perception of

Complexity of Life

By Khin Maung Myint

reality. Such cognitive distortions can cause significant distress, much like a malfunctioning DNA strand can lead to cellular abnormalities. In both scenarios, the organization of information is compromised, rendering the psychological ‘cell’ unable to function optimally. This comparison vividly illustrates that both the intricacies of our biological makeup and the processes of our mind can become ensnared in complexity, with dire consequences for our well-being.

Entanglement Leading to Fragility

The second part of the saying intimates that excessive twisting ultimately leads to rupture – an idea that resonates strongly with both psychological entanglement and genetic integrity. In psychology, individuals often experience a range of emotional tensions that, when unexamined or unresolved, create mental “knots” of distress. Overthinking, rumination, and suppressed emotions can manifest as anxiety, depression, or burnout. Much like a twist in a strand of DNA that increases the risk of mutations, a psychological “twist” can lead to a

breakdown in mental health.

Daniel Kahneman's work on cognitive biases illustrates how these psychological entanglements can distort decision-making and emotional responses. Over time, the failure to address or “untwist” these cognitive barriers can lead to a severe rupture in personal resilience and mental health, mirroring the catastrophic implications of a genetic mutation on health. In both fields, the fragility of these systems – whether they be biological or psychological – demands attention; without intervention, the outcomes can be devastating.

Nature's Imperfect Beauty

Finally, the notion of imperfect beauty is a theme that resonates strongly within nature and human psychology alike. Nature, in its complexity and variety, embodies both harmony and error. DNA sequences, while primarily stable, can undergo mutations that lead to both advantageous traits and detrimental disorders. Similarly, the human psyche is often a tapestry of experiences, memories, and emotions that shape our identity.

These experiences may be intentionally gathered or involuntarily twisted; both contribute to our understanding of self and our interactions with the world.

Psychotherapy can be likened to the scientific work of gene therapy – both aim to understand and repair what has gone awry. Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), for instance, seeks to untangle distorted thinking and reframe perspectives, much like scientific approaches that aim to correct genetic malfunctions. The objective in both instances is restoration and alignment, acknowledging the essential truth that while complexities exist, they can be navigated and repaired. This interplay between nature and psychology illustrates a fundamental truth: our lives are marked by an elegant, yet precarious, intertwining of structures at both micro and macro levels.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Burmese saying "တလိမ်နှစ်လိမ် ပွေလိမ်ရှောင်" (ta-lain hna-lain pway-lain shoke) encapsulates a profound truth about the complexity, entanglement, and fragility of life’s structures. Whether considering the molecular architecture of DNA or the intricacies of human psychology, the consequences of excessive twisting are clear. Both realms highlight the necessity of understanding and addressing the inherent complexities to prevent rupture and to promote healing and resilience. Life, with all its beautifully woven threads, invites us to engage with its challenges thoughtfully and intentionally, lest we succumb to chaos. Through such understanding and action, we can strive toward a state of balance – material, mental, and emotional.

rebuilding trust, restoring empathy, and reweaving the social threads that hold communities together. Let’s examine the current development about our real-life experiences to help one another integrate these into a brighter future that resonates with Myanmar society today.

Living the Ājivatthamaka Sila in a Digital and Social World

Responding with Ethical Restraint

In the early period of my Facebook posts, I encountered a barrage of harsh and emotionally charged comments. These responses, often filled with four-letter words and aggressive tones, were not aimed at the truth of my message but rather at my vulnerability. Friends urged me to retaliate — to match their anger with my own. But I chose a different path.

I used to observe the Ājivatthamaka Sila, particularly the latter four precepts:

- 6. Abstaining from false speech
- 7. Abstaining from malicious speech
- 8. Abstaining from harsh speech
- 9. Abstaining from idle chatter

These ethical guidelines shaped my response. I spoke truthfully, avoided divisiveness, and maintained a tone of dignity. Even when provoked, I refused to let my words become weapons. This wasn’t weakness; it was strength rooted in mindfulness and compassion.

Peace is Essential for Development

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

PEACE and development are deeply interconnected and mutually reinforcing.

Peace and development are two sides of the same coin. Without peace, sustainable development is impossible, justice cannot prevail, and without peace, the hopes of future generations will remain dreams instead of realities. Peace creates the conditions necessary for individuals, communities, and nations to thrive socially, economically, and politically. Peace is not only the absence of war or violence; it is the presence of justice, stability, equality, and opportunity. It provides the foundation on which societies can grow, economies can flourish, and individuals can reach their full potential.

promote social welfare programs that uplift the population and ensure long-term progress.

Peace Promotes Political Stability and Good Governance

Political stability is a cornerstone of development, and peace is its foundation. In peaceful nations, governments can function effectively, uphold the rule of law, and serve their citizens.

Peace Encourages International Cooperation

Peace also enables nations to collaborate on shared challenges such as climate change, trade, health, and security. Global development goals such as the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can only be achieved when countries work together in peace. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals highlight the strong link between peace and development. The Goal 16 specifically focuses on promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions. Without achieving this goal, other goals such as ending poverty, ensuring education, and promoting economic growth cannot be met. Peace creates the conditions necessary for all SDGs to be achieved. War and conflict create divisions and foster preventing meaningful progress on issues that affect all of humanity.

The Role of Peace in Economic Growth

Peace provides the stability that is essential for economic growth. Investors and businesses are more likely to invest in regions where the rule of law is respected, property is protected, and people can work and trade freely. In contrast, conflict disrupts markets, destroys infrastructure, and diverts resources away from productive use. Countries experiencing war or civil unrest often see their economies collapse, with millions pushed into poverty. Therefore, peace not only protects existing economic systems but also creates the environment for future growth.

Peace and Social Development

Social development, which includes access to education, healthcare, and social services, is also dependent on peace. In times of conflict, schools are often closed, hospitals are destroyed, and basic services become inaccessible. Children miss out on education, families are displaced, and entire generations are left without the opportunity to improve their lives. Peaceful societies, on the other hand, can invest in education, build hospitals, and

In addition, Peace is the foundation upon which all progress stands, and peace is not just the absence of war; it is the presence of justice, opportunity, and stability. Development depends on peace because only in a peaceful environment can individuals and societies reach their full potential. As we look toward building a better future for all, it is vital that we invest in peacebuilding efforts, promote dialogue and understanding, and create inclusive societies where development can truly flourish. Therefore, nations, communities, and individuals must work together to cultivate peace through dialogue, justice, inclusion, and mutual respect.

I Say What I See: The Universal Pulse of Buddhist Ethics

By @Editor

IN A world fractured by ideology, identity, and belief, some teachings whisper across the divide, not to convert, but to connect. The Buddhist precepts, especially the Ājivatthamaka Sila (Eightfold livelihood-related precepts), offer a moral compass that doesn’t require a passport stamped “Buddhist.” They speak to the human condition, not just the religious one.

These precepts ask us to refrain from harming, stealing, lying, exploiting, or intoxicating ourselves into oblivion. They ask us to speak with care, live with integrity, and earn our bread without crushing someone else’s spirit. And while they originate in the Dhamma, their relevance doesn’t end there.

I see people — Muslim, Christian, atheist, agnostic — who live by these values without ever reciting a Pali verse. I see parents teaching their children not to lie, not because Buddha said so, but because truth builds trust. I see workers refusing shady deals, not out of fear of Kamma, but out of respect for their conscience.

So, what do I say when I see this? I say that ethics are not the property of religion. They are the heartbeat of humanity. The Buddhist precepts are

not a gate; they’re a mirror. And when people of any faith look into them, they might see themselves.

The Eightfold Ethical Compass for Daily Life

The Ājivatthamaka Sila is a set of eight moral principles rooted in Buddhist tradition, but its core message resonates with everyone, regardless of faith. It’s not about rituals or dogma. It’s about how we live, speak, and earn honestly.

Here's what it asks of us:

- Don't harm others, either physically or emotionally
- Don't steal and respect what isn't yours
- Stay faithful, honour relationships and boundaries
- Speak truthfully as words build trust
- Avoid intoxicants, stay clear-headed and responsible
- Don't gossip, avoid stirring conflict with words
- Don't speak harshly, as kindness is important
- Don't exploit others for profit; earn your living ethically

These aren’t religious rules; they’re social values. They shape how we treat one another in

families, workplaces, and communities. In Burmese society, where respect and harmony are deeply cherished, these principles provide a timeless framework for living with dignity and compassion.

Ethics for Mending Our Words and Our World

Speak to unite, not divide: Avoid gossip or speech that pits people against each other. Words can either build bridges or burn them. Let’s choose connection over conflict.

Speak with kindness, not cruelty: Harsh words leave invisible scars. Whether online or in person, let’s speak in ways that uplift, not humiliate. Dignity should never be collateral damage.

Speak with purpose, not noise: Empty chatter and careless talk can drown out what truly matters. Let’s be intentional – sharing ideas that inspire, inform, or heal, rather than distract or degrade.

Earn with integrity, not exploitation: Let your livelihood reflect your values. Avoid making a living through deceit, harm, or manipulation. A clean conscience is worth more than dirty profit.

These aren’t just moral ideals. They’re tools for

NATIONAL

Endangered spot-billed pelicans spotted in Moeyungyi Lake



Endangered species Spot-billed Pelicans are pictured in the Moeyungyi Lake, Bago Region. PHOTOS: ZWE MARN

THE spot-billed pelicans, a bird species close to extinction in the world, were found in Moeyungyi Lake in Bago Region earlier this month, according to the Warden's Office of Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary.

The spot-billed pelican, a native species of ASEAN countries, is commonly

found in certain ASEAN nations where there are good feeding grounds such as lakes, ponds, and sanctuaries. At the Moeyungyi Lake, 11 species of water birds that are close to extinction take shelter in the Moeyungyi Lake.

The water birds like lesser whistling duck, white-winged duck, purple gallinule,

sarus crane, glossy ibis, ferruginous duck and Asian woolly-necked are found in the Moeyungyi Lake, and also the endangered species spot-billed pelicans and darters.

The spot-billed pelican is listed among the world's water bird species that are close to extinction. Due to their declining population, they are a species

being actively protected in the regions they inhabit. During this rainy season, they have also arrived and are taking shelter at Moeyungyi Lake. When the water level of the lake is high, they tend to visit more frequently. The presence of such rare species indicates the natural development and thriving condition of the lake's original habitat," said an official of the wildlife sanctuary.

The Moeyungyi Wildlife Sanctuary is home to a diverse array of birdlife, including 56 migratory water bird species and 27 resident water bird species, totalling 83, while 106 forest bird species-80 resident species and 26 migratory species. Therefore, there are 189 species of water birds, migratory birds, resident birds and forest birds.

The lake, regarded as a Ramsar Site covering 25,600 acres (40 square miles), is home to over different types of bird species in every season. The lesser whistling duck and white-winged duck build their nests at the lake this monsoon.

Officials conduct awareness programmes monthly or yearly to ensure the sustainability of the lake and high numbers of birds. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH



Photos show the endangered oriental darter (L) and spot-billed pelicans, that are close to extinction, taking shelter in the Moeyungyi Lake.

Special Weather News

Issued at 7 pm MST on 12 August 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, monsoon will be strong over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the unstable air condition over the Bay of Bengal, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing regions and Kayah State and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, upper Sagaing,

Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan states with isolated heavyfalls during 13 August 2025 to 17 August 2025. Squall with rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

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

မိုးလေဝသနှင့်စုလပေးသော ဖြိုကြွားမှု ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်ခြေ WRF မော်ဒယ်လ်၏ ၁၂-၈-၂၀၂၅ ရက်နေ့ ဖြိုမုန်တိုင်း ဝမ်းလှုပ် နာရီအချိန်ကို အခြေခံတွက်ထုတ်ထားသည့် ၁၅-၈-၂၀၂၅ ရက်နေ့မှ ၁၆-၈-၂၀၂၅ ရက်နေ့အထိ မိုးရွာသွန်းမှုခန့်မှန်းချက်ပြပုံ

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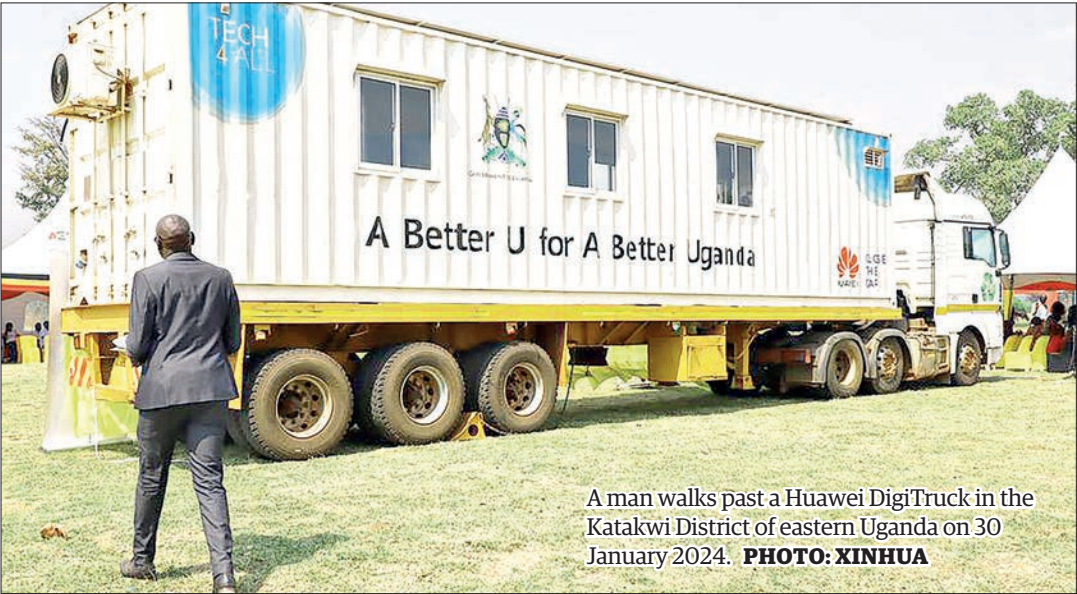
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China’s Huawei launches ICT competition in Uganda to empower local talent



A man walks past a Huawei DigiTruck in the Katakwi District of eastern Uganda on 30 January 2024. PHOTO: XINHUA

CHINESE technology giant Huawei on Monday launched the nationwide 2025-2026 information communication technology (ICT) competition in Uganda to boost local talent.

Huawei said in a statement that the competition aims at encouraging young talent to excel through structured training, industry-level

exposure, and competitions, while driving digital transformation. Under the theme of “Connection, Glory, Future,” the competition is expected to gather higher educational institutions, training institutions, and technology enthusiasts to help the ICT talent ecosystem thrive.

While launching the com-

petition, Uganda’s Minister of Education and Sports Janet Museveni hailed China and the technology giant for partnering with Uganda in the field of ICT. “Our young people have not only participated in the Huawei programmes, in and out of the country, but they have also excelled,” said the minister. — Xinhua

I Say What I See: The Universal Pulse of Buddhist Ethics

FROM PAGE 9

Serving Others with Right Livelihood

While living in Bangkok, I worked as a unionist in the Seafarers Union of Burma (SUB). Many seafarers faced exploitation and isolation. My role was to advocate for their rights, provide support, and stand against injustice. This was not just activism – it was the embodiment of Right Livelihood, the heart of the Ājivatthamaka Sīla.

I offered my assistance without expectation, guided by the principle that ethical living must extend beyond personal conduct into social responsibility. In helping others, I found a deeper pulse of Buddhist ethics – one that beats in solidarity, service, and selflessness.

The Universal Pulse

Whether online or in

real-world activism, the Ājivatthamaka Sīla offered me a compass. It helped me navigate the storm of digital hostility and the challenges of social justice work. These ethics are not just rules; they are rhythms. They pulse through every word, every action, every choice. And in following them, I found clarity, resilience, and peace.

Conclusion: Ethics as Everyday Practice

In the face of hostility, I chose dignity. In the face of injustice, I chose service. The Ājivatthamaka Sīla guided me not only in what I said, but in how I lived. These ethics are universal, not because they are imposed, but because they resonate with the human spirit. They remind us that even in a noisy world, we can choose to listen deeply, speak kindly, and act wisely. That is the pulse I follow. That is the voice I trust.

Robotic guardian joins Tibetan antelope herd

AS the afternoon sets in, the sun begins to warm the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, making it the peak time for Tibetan antelopes to search for food. After a night without eating, these creatures dot the hillsides near Zonag Lake in the Hoh Xil National Nature Reserve.

A slightly larger animal stands out on the grass. Unlike the others, which have lowered their heads to graze, this “antelope” holds its head high, moving carefully towards the herd.

It is a robotic antelope, which, from a distance, looks just like the real antelopes nearby, sharing the same fur colour and body shape. But up close, a small, hidden camera can be seen beneath its eyes.

At first, the real antelopes seem curious about the newcomer, pausing to look at the

mechanical stranger. However, the robot does not scare them away. Gradually, the unique robotic antelope is accepted into the herd to roam alongside thousands of animals in the wilderness.

The robot undertook trial operations in July in Hoh Xil, which has an average altitude of more than 4,600 metres.

The environment is cold and oxygen-poor, making it almost impossible to sustain human life there. At the same time, it is also widely recognized as a “kingdom of animals” due to its rich and diverse wildlife.

Its rare species, including Tibetan antelopes, serve as important ecological indicators of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. Every summer, thousands of female Tibetan antelopes gather at Zonag Lake to give birth and



A robotic Tibetan antelope moves towards a herd of antelopes in the Hoh Xil National Nature Reserve, northwest China's Qinghai Province, in July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

care for their young.

Scientists say that the robotic Tibetan antelope has overcome the established limitations on the distance from

which humans can observe wildlife. It will provide more accurate, reliable images and data for the study of Tibetan antelope behaviour in China.

Lian Xinming, a researcher at the Chinese Academy of Sciences’ Northwest Institute of Plateau Biology who participated in the recent trial, said that Tibetan antelopes are very sensitive, and that it is difficult for people to get close to them.

“They will run away as soon as they see someone from a distance — even 500 to 800 metres away,” Lian told Xinhua on Monday. “A close encounter can induce stress, and can even cause miscarriage in pregnant females.”

Previously, scientists relied on telescopes, cameras or other indirect methods like studying feces or carcasses to monitor the antelopes. Drones, though useful, can also startle the animals. Lian said that robots could be a promising solution to study animals more closely without causing disruption. — Xinhua

ECONOMY
WORLD

Stocks gain on China-US truce, before key inflation data

STOCK markets rose Tuesday, with Tokyo hitting a record, as investors welcomed the extension of a China-US tariff truce and awaited key US inflation data.

US President Donald Trump's widely expected trade announcement avoids the reimposition of sky-high levies and allows officials from Washington and Beijing to continue talking into November to settle their standoff.

Stock markets benefitted from easing fears of an all-out trade war between the world's two largest economies, analysts said. "Although an agreement is yet to be agreed, the can has been kicked down the road and that is enough to maintain the market mood," noted Kathleen Brooks, research director at XTB trading group.

Asian equities rallied, with Tokyo's export-heavy stock index reaching an all-time peak.

London and Paris stocks also gained while Frankfurt fell nearing the half-way stage.

The pound held its ground after data showed the UK's unemployment rate remained at a four-year high in the three months to the end of June.

Traders awaited the latest US consumer price index (CPI) reading due Tuesday, which could play a major role in the Federal Reserve's next decision on interest rates. Bets on a cut have ramped up in recent weeks owing to signs that the world's number one economy is showing signs of slowing, with figures indicating that the labour market softened considerably in the past three months. — AFP



An electronic quotation board displays the Nikkei Stock Average on the Tokyo Stock Exchange along a street in Tokyo on 12 August 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

US consumer inflation holds at 2.7% as tariff worries persist

CONSUMER inflation in the United States was unchanged in July, data showed Tuesday, but underlying price increases picked up as President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs ripple through the world's biggest economy.

The consumer price index (CPI) rose 2.7 per cent from

a year ago in July, same as in June, said the Department of Labour, as worries over the reliability of data intensify and central bank officials gauge the effects of Trump's fresh levies this year.

Analysts are closely monitoring the CPI report in particular for signs of weakening

in the United States after the July government employment report recently showed weakness in the key jobs market.

The figure, however, was a touch lower than the 2.8-per cent rate expected in a median forecast of analysts surveyed by Dow Jones Newswires and The Wall Street Journal.

While the indexes for energy and gasoline dropped in the month, shelter costs rose in July.

Excluding the volatile food and energy segments, "core" CPI accelerated to 0.3 per cent on a month-on-month basis in July, up from a 0.2-per-cent rise.

From a year ago, underlying inflation rose 3.1 per cent, picking up pace too from before.

Indexes that rose over the month included medical care, airline fares and household furnishings, the report showed. — AFP



A customer shops at a Target store in Rosemead, Los Angeles County, California, the United States, on 4 March 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Malaysia's labour market to remain resilient amid external challenges: economists

ECONOMISTS have foreseen Malaysia's labour market will remain resilient amid external headwinds after the country's labour market continued to improve in the first half.

Hong Leong Investment Bank said in a note on Tuesday that Malaysia's labour market continued to demonstrate resilience against mounting external headwinds, suggesting that it remained relatively insulated from external

pressures.

Meanwhile, Maybank Investment Bank also said on Tuesday that it foresees steady job market for Malaysia despite external uncertainties, due to the positive outlook for domestic consumption.

Maybank trimmed Malaysia's full-year average jobless rate to 3.1 per cent from 3.2 per cent in 2025. For the first half, Malaysia's unemployment rate stood at three per cent. — Xinhua

Cambodia makes US\$266 mln from rubber latex exports in first 7 months

CAMBODIA earned US\$266 million in revenue from exports of natural rubber latex in the first seven months of 2025, down one per cent year-on-year, said an official report on Tuesday.

The report, released by the General Directorate of Rubber, showed that the kingdom exported 147,071 tonnes of the commodity

during the January-July period this year, down 15.4 per cent from 173,915 tonnes over the same period last year. However, the domestic consumption of rubber latex saw a significant increase of 76 per cent to 64,978 tonnes in the first seven months of this year, making a gross revenue from local sales of \$118.8 million, the report said. — Xinhua

Malaysia eyes nuclear power as part of its domestic energy mix, says deputy PM

MALAYSIA is examining the role of nuclear energy as a potential option for clean, stable and competitive electricity within the nation's future energy mix, Deputy Prime Minister Fadillah Yusof said on Monday.

The government is undertaking a structured assessment following the presentation of the 13th Malaysia Plan, which aims to diversify energy sources, strengthen long-term energy security, support carbon emission reduction targets,

and reduce dependence on fossil fuels, Fadillah said at the 12th ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies of Atomic Energy annual meeting.

Fadillah, who is also the energy transition and water transformation minister, said the government will ensure any future consideration is grounded in detailed technical analysis, aligned with national development priorities, and in full compliance with international obligations. He added that the Nuclear Energy Programme Imple-

menting Organization, under MyPOWER Corporation, has been tasked with coordinating preparatory efforts in accordance with guidelines recommended by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

This preparatory phase is being implemented through a coordinated framework, involving technical committees across ministries, departments and agencies, to ensure an integrated and comprehensive national approach. — Xinhua



Tourists overlook the Malacca Strait on the St Paul's Hill in Malacca, Malaysia, 18 September 2020. PHOTO: XINHUA

Bayer in \$1.3 bln deal for cancer drug candidate

GERMAN pharmaceutical giant Bayer said Tuesday it had struck a deal val-

ued at up to \$1.3 billion (1.1 billion euros) with a US-based biotech company



A transport vessel passes German chemical and pharmaceutical giant Bayer's plant on the banks of the river Rhine in Leverkusen, western Germany on 25 November 2024. PHOTO: AFP

to develop its prospective cancer drug.

Under the agreement, Kumquat Biosciences is responsible for initiating and completing a study into the medicine while Bayer will complete development and commercial activities.

Kumquat will receive up to \$1.3 billion and additional royalties on net sales, Bayer said.

The drug candidate is aimed at treating several types of cancer in which the KRAS gene has mu-

tated. KRAS mutations occur in nearly 25 per cent of human cancers yet the variant that Kumquat's experimental drug targets still lacks effective treatment options, according to Bayer.

The mutations are found in pancreatic, bowel and lung cancers.

Some of Bayer's other pharmaceutical offerings, such as kidney medicine Kerendia and cancer drug Nubeqa, have enjoyed fast growth in recent times. — AFP

Chinese shares close higher Tuesday

CHINESE stocks closed higher on Tuesday, with the benchmark Shanghai Composite Index up 0.5 per cent to 3,665.92 points.

The Shenzhen Component Index closed 0.53 per cent higher at 11,351.63 points.

The combined turnover of these two indices stood at 1.88 trillion yuan (about US\$263.24 billion), up from 1.83 trillion yuan on the previous

trading day.

Shares related to lithography machines, brain-computer interface technology and gas led the gains, while stocks related to PEEK plastics, energy and metal, and defence equipment suffered major losses.

The ChiNext Index, tracking China's Nasdaq-style board of growth enterprises, gained 1.24 per cent to close at 2,409.4 points. — Xinhua

Osaka expo ticket sales top 18 mln, surpass break-even target

TICKET sales for the World Exposition in Osaka have topped 18 million since its opening in April, the organizer's website showed Tuesday, exceeding the threshold set for breaking even on operating costs.

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition said it had sold 18,095,703 entrance tickets as of Friday, adding it is aiming for 23 million.

The expo, the budget

for which has increased from its initial estimate with rising material costs stemming from the sharp depreciation of the yen, had attracted a cumulative total of around 13.4 million general visitors as of Saturday.

Prior to opening, the organizer forecast that total operating expenses, including personnel and promotional costs, would amount to 116 billion yen (\$782 million), with over 80

per cent expected to be covered by ticket sales.

But revenue from the "park and ride" system, designed to address the limited parking space near the venue, has fallen below expectations.

The association said spending could increase in the event of a disaster, adding it will have a clearer picture of its revenue and expenditure after September. — Kyodo

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC SUPARNA F VOY.NO. (SB531A)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MSC SUPARNA F VOY.NO. (SB531A) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-8-2025 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.

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ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Over half of Europe and Mediterranean basin hit by drought since Apr

MORE than half (52 per cent) of Europe and the Mediterranean basin was hit by drought in July for the fourth consecutive month, according to an AFP analysis of European Drought Observatory (EDO) data.

Drought levels in the region are the highest on record for the month of July since data collection began in 2012, exceeding the 2012-2024 average by 21 per cent.

Monthly records have been broken every month this year.

The Drought Observatory Indicator determined by the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service uses satellite imagery to measure three parameters: precipitation or rainfall, soil moisture and the state of vegetation.

Findings are then categorized into one of three levels of drought: watch, warning and alert — the last level signalling that vegetation is developing abnormally.

Eastern Europe and the Bal-



A pharmacy sign indicates a temperature of 45°C in Toulouse, southwestern France on 11 August 2025. The heatwave that started on 8 August 2025 has intensified, with temperatures at an "exceptional level" in the south-west, where 12 departments are classified under red heatwave alert until 12 August 2025 by Meteo-France. **PHOTO: AFP**

kans are particularly affected, with a high amount of soil under

alert in multiple countries. In Hungary, the percentage

of soil under alert increased from nine per cent in June to 56 per

cent in July. In Kosovo, it went from six per cent to 43 per cent, and in Bosnia-Herzegovina from one per cent to 23 per cent.

Multiple heatwaves have swept the Balkans since the start of the summer and a record number of wildfires have broken out. Some are caused by poorly managed and illegal dumpsites bursting into flames under the scorching sun, smothering towns and cities with toxic smoke.

Further east, Türkiye has been hit by a prolonged drought affecting more than 60 per cent of soil since March, leading to thousands of fires this summer.

On 8 August, wildfires in the west of the country forced authorities to suspend shipping in the busy Dardanelles Strait and evacuate three villages.

In Western Europe, the situation is more mixed.

In France, 68 per cent of soil was affected by drought in July, up from 44 per cent in June.

France experienced one of its largest wildfires in history last week when flames tore through 13,000 hectares (more than 32,000 acres) of the southern Aude department, killing one person and injuring several others. — AFP

Trump announces deployment of National Guard in Washington, DC

US President Donald Trump said at a White House press conference Monday that he is deploying the National Guard to assist in restoring law and order and public safety in Washington, DC.

Trump also stated that he has formally invoked the Home

Rule Act to place the Metropolitan Police Department under direct federal control.

"This is Liberation Day in DC, and we're going to take our capital back," Trump said.

Trump noted that his administration surged 500 federal agents into the district last

week, including from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Drug Enforcement Administration, Park Police, the US Marshals Service, the Secret Service, and the Department of Homeland Security.

Since Trump's return to the White House, he has repeatedly criticized violent crime and homelessness in Washington, DC, blaming the local government for poor management and threatening a federal takeover of the district.

In an interview with MSNBC on Sunday, Mayor Muriel Bowser of Washington, DC defended the capital's safety, saying "we have spent over the last two years driving down violent crime in this city, driving it down to a 30-year low." — Xinhua



Police officers are pictured outside the US Capitol building in Washington, DC, the United States, 18 January 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

NEWS IN BRIEF

China, US reach consensus on extending tariff suspension

CHINA and the United States on Tuesday released a joint statement on the bilateral economic and trade meeting in Stockholm.

The United States will continue to modify the application of the additional ad valorem rate of duty on articles of China (including articles of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Macao Special Administrative Region), by suspending 24 percentage points of that rate for an additional period of 90 days, starting on 12 August, according to the joint statement.

The joint statement also said that China will continue to suspend 24 percentage points of additional ad valorem rate of duty on articles of the United States as well as related non-tariff countermeasures for another 90 days, starting on 12 August. — Xinhua

2 dead, 10 injured in explosion at US Steel plant: reports

A large explosion at a United States Steel Corp plant in Pennsylvania on Monday morning left two people dead and 10 injured, US media reported.

The plant, located near Pittsburgh, is known as the largest coking operation in North America and is one of four major US Steel plants in the state, according to The Associated Press.

A senior US Steel official said a single explosion had occurred and the cause was still unclear, CNN reported. Local authorities temporarily urged nearby residents to stay indoors. — Kyodo

SPORTS

Yangon United lose on penalties in AFC Challenge League qualifiers

IN the 2025-2026 AFC Challenge League qualifiers, Myanmar club Yangon United faced Lao club EZRA on 12 August at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon. After a goalless draw in 90 minutes and a 1-1 stalemate in extra time, Yangon United lost 3-5 in the penalty shootout, failing to advance to the final stage of the tournament.

Despite playing on home ground, Yangon United could not secure victory, thus missing the opportunity to join the final stage of the AFC Challenge League. This season, Yangon United, returning to international club competitions, had strengthened their squad with six foreign players and top domestic talent.

EZRA adopted a defensive approach from the start, while Yangon United pushed forward in attack and applied pressure. However, the hosts struggled to create clear chances and convert them into goals. In the second half, Yangon United made substitutions to intensify their offence, yet the match went into extra time. Substitute Kaung Sithu put Yangon United ahead in 97 minutes, but in 109 minutes, Anan Taza equalized for EZRA, forcing a penalty shootout.

EZRA converted all five spot-kicks,



Yangon United in action against EZRA players. PHOTO: SOE NYUNT THAW

while for Yangon United, Mogu, Arkar Kyaw and Kaung Sithu scored, but David Htan's third attempt was saved by the EZRA goalkeeper, sealing victory for the visitors.

This season, two Myanmar clubs competed in the AFC Challenge League. MNL champions Shan United qualified directly for the final stage, while runners-up Yangon United start-

ed from the qualifiers. The Lao side, EZRA, has now faced Myanmar clubs twice in two different international competitions within a week. They also met Shan United in the ASEAN Club Championship playoff, losing the first leg 1-2 on 9 August, and will play the second leg, also at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, on 15 August. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Myanmar to face defending champions Philippines in final group match

THE final day of Group B matches in the 2025 ASEAN Women's Championship in Vietnam takes place today, with Myanmar facing defending champions the Philippines.

Both Group B matches will kick off simultaneously at 7 pm Myanmar Standard Time, with Myanmar meeting the Philippines and Australia taking on Timor-Leste. After two matches each, Myanmar lead the group with six points, followed by Australia and the Philippines with three points each, while Timor-Leste remain without a point.

Under tournament rules, teams level on points are separated by head-to-head results. This gives Myanmar a strong chance of reaching the semi finals. Myanmar will top the group and advance if they win or draw today. Even with a loss by a single goal, they will still qualify, while only a defeat by two or more goals would see them eliminated from the group stage.

With the performances and form shown so far in the tournament, Myanmar's women's national team are well positioned to secure a semi-final berth.

In Group A, matches concluded on 12 August, with hosts Vietnam and Thailand already booking their semi final places. The semi finals will be held on 16 August, with the final and third-place playoff set for 19 August. — Htun Thway Eain/KZL



Myanmar women's footballers are seen bravely. PHOTO: MFF

Japan boxing to adopt stricter safety rules after deaths of two fighters

JAPANESE boxing officials said on Tuesday they would introduce urine tests, stricter rules on weight loss to prevent dehydration and improve medical cover at bouts following the deaths of two fighters.

The new measures were adopted during an emergency meeting of the Japan Pro Boxing Association (JPBA), the Japan Boxing Commission (JBC) and gym owners on Tuesday.

It was convened after super featherweight Shigetoshi Kotari and lightweight Hiromasa Urakawa, both 28, died days after brain surgery on injuries they sustained in separate bouts at Tokyo's Korakuen Hall on 2 August.

The exact cause of the boxers' deaths is to be determined, but dehydration caused by cutting weight rapidly is regarded as a factor in making the brain more susceptible to bleeding, according to the World Boxing Association.

The deaths were "really regrettable," said JPBA president Shoji Kobayashi. "We gathered today to establish a plan towards zero accidents".

New measures to be implemented as soon as possible include urine tests for measuring dehydration and stricter rules on boxers' rapid weight loss, said Tsuyoshi Yasukochi, secretary-general of the JBC.

Ambulances will also be required on site, even for non-world championship bouts. They will partner with hospitals that are equipped to perform emergency surgery for head and other injuries. There will also be new rules on how long before a fight sparring must be stopped during training, he said.

Officials decided "to take all measures possible so we do not let the deaths of the two be in vain," Yasukochi added.

Kotari collapsed and later died after going 12 rounds in an Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation title fight. The JBC had already announced all future OPBF title bouts would be reduced to 10 rounds.

"That such an incident occurred involving top-level boxers means we may face arguments that boxing should be halted," admitted Toshiharu Kayama, former Japan welterweight champion and president of the boxing gym Ebisu K's Box.

"We, the association and gyms, want to think and change" the way the sport is contested, Kayama said. — AFP

Over half of Europe and Mediterranean basin hit by drought since Apr
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WORLD

Magnitude 6.3 quake hits Papua in eastern Indonesia: USGS

A magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck the eastern Indonesian region of Papua on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said, but a monitor said there was no tsunami threat. The epicentre of the quake, which struck at around 5:24 pm (0824 GMT), was around 193 kilometres northwest of the town of Abepura in Papua, USGS said.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre said there was no tsunami threat.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

USGS earlier gave a magnitude of 6.5 before revising it downwards. The vast archipelago nation experiences frequent earthquakes due to its position on the Pacific "Ring of Fire", an arc of intense seismic activity where tectonic plates collide that stretches from Japan through Southeast Asia and across the Pacific basin. — AFP

UN nuclear watchdog official visits Tehran, talks with Iranian officials

A senior official from the UN nuclear watchdog held talks in Tehran on Monday, marking the first high-level visit since Iran suspended its cooperation with the agency in June, state media reported.

Massimo Aparo, deputy director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), met officials from Iran's Foreign Ministry and nuclear authorities. The discussions centred on a "future framework for cooperation" following Tehran's decision to halt its collaboration, Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi told the official IRNA news agency. He added that both sides agreed to continue consultations. — Xinhua

Xi says China, Brazil can set example of unity, self-reliance in Global South

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said Tuesday that China is ready to work with Brazil to set an example of unity and self-reliance among major countries in the Global South, and jointly build a more just world and a more sustainable planet.

Xi made the remarks during his phone talks with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

China-Brazil ties are at their best in history, with the building of a China-Brazil community with a shared future and the alignment of the two countries' development strategies getting off to a good start and making smooth progress, Xi said.

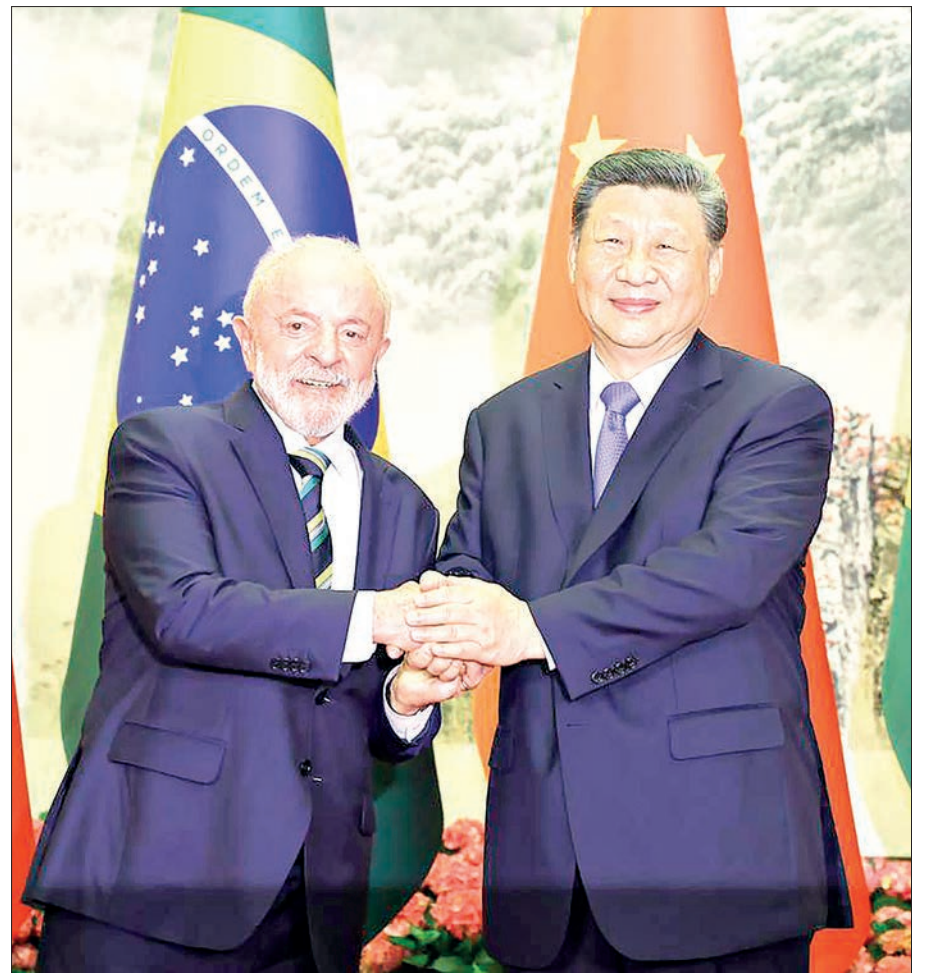
The Chinese side stands ready to work with Brazil to seize opportunities, strengthen coordination, and deliver more mutually beneficial cooperation outcomes, he added.

Xi also said that China backs the Brazilian people in defending their national sovereignty and supports Brazil in safeguarding its legitimate rights and interests, urging all countries to unite in resolutely fighting against unilateralism and protectionism.

Noting that the BRICS mechanism is a key platform for building consensus in the Global South, Xi congratulated Brazil on successfully hosting the recent BRICS Summit.

Xi called on Global South countries to jointly safeguard international fairness and justice, defend the basic norms governing international relations, and protect the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries.

China and Brazil should continue to address global challenges, ensure the success of the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference in the Brazilian



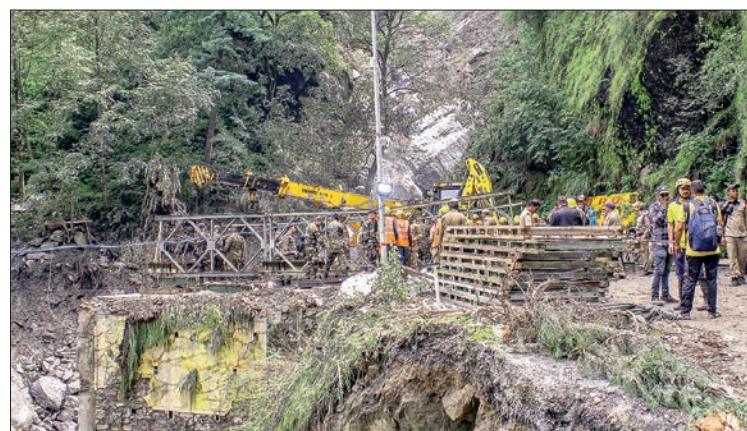
Chinese President Xi Jinping holds talks with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who is on a state visit to China, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, 13 May 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

city of Belem, and promote the "Friends of Peace" group's role in facilitating the political settlement of the Ukraine crisis, he said.

For his part, Lula said Brazil attaches great importance to its relations with China, and looks forward to strengthening cooperation with China, deepening strategic alignment and promoting greater development of bilateral ties.

He briefed Xi on the recent situation of Brazil's ties with the United States, as well as Brazil's unwavering principled stance on safeguarding its own sovereignty.

Lula spoke highly of China's efforts to uphold multilateralism and safeguard free trade rules, as well as its responsible role in international affairs. — Xinhua



Army and rescue personnel construct a Bailey bridge near the Bhatwari village in the Uttarkashi district on 8 August 2025, following a cloudburst that caused a massive mudslide and flash floods in India's Uttarakhand state. **PHOTO: AFP**

Toll of India Himalayan flood likely to be at least 70

INDIAN officials say at least 68 people are unaccounted for a week after a deadly wall of icy water swept away a Himalayan town and buried it in mud.

On top of four people reported to have been killed, it takes the likely overall toll of the 5 August disaster to more than 70 dead.

Videos broadcast by survivors showed a terrifying surge

of muddy water sweeping away multi-storey apartment blocks.

Disaster officials said Tuesday that they were searching for corpses in the wreckage of the tourist town of Dharali in Uttarakhand state. Gambhir Singh Chauhan, from the National Disaster Response Force, said sniffer dogs had identified several sites indicating there was a body

but when "when digging started, water came out from below". Chauhan said teams were also using ground penetrating radar in the grim search.

More than 100 people were initially reported as missing. But with roads swept away and mobile phone communications damaged, it has taken rescuers days to cross-check the list. — AFP