

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Confirmed: Multiparty General Election Set for December



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the honorary meeting of the State Administration Council (SAC) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Efforts must be made to prevent electoral fraud and to protect against those who wish to disrupt or sabotage the election.

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing expressed his belief that the Hluttaw should be more organized and systematic than it is now concerning politics related to the Hluttaw.

A ceremony to hold an honorary meeting of the State Administration Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar took place at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, with an address by SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Senior General noted that the relevant government bodies were repeatedly informed and notified to investigate and take action against those responsible for such voter

list irregularities. However, no resolution was made. Instead, they made attempts to convene the Hluttaw to unlawfully seize State power. Therefore, under the 2008 Constitution, Tatmadaw had to declare a state of emergency and assume the responsibilities of the State.

Regarding politics, based on past Hluttaw experiences, the Senior General expressed his belief that the Hluttaw should be more organized and systematic than it is now. Since the Hluttaw is the place where laws are made, its members fundamentally need to be well-educated and possess strong critical thinking skills. Therefore, amendments to the laws have been published.

The upcoming election will be held this December, and efforts will be made to enable all eligible voters to cast their ballots. For those who face difficulties in voting for various reasons, advance voting has also been legally authorized.

For the sake of the country, it is the responsibility of officials at all levels — whether through encouragement or personal effort — to unite, assist, and work together to ensure that all eligible voters genuinely exercise their right to vote. Voting or not voting is the duty of the electorate, and it is the government’s responsibility to facilitate their ability to vote.

SEE PAGE 3

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the honorary ceremony

1. Looking ahead, I encourage everyone to continue to unite and help one another achieve success in the journeys we still have to undertake.
2. We have already passed the first chapter. Now, we are starting the second chapter.
3. If at the start of this second chapter we write it well, beautifully, and sincerely with our own hands and carry it out successfully, I believe we will overcome even more challenges, and the results of our efforts will be even more rewarding.

OPINION

Sustain fine traditions of international friendship

PAGE 8

NATIONAL

PAGE 4



Myanmar steps up crackdown on illegal trade

NATIONAL

PAGE 6



UNICEF Representative to Myanmar presents his Credentials to DPM MoFA Union Minister

NATIONAL

Tatmadaw, people must join hands in unison to strive for the nation's overall development

❖ Tatmadaw, which holds primary responsibility for national defence, must work hand in hand with the people—with patriotism and full courage—to ensure lasting stability and unity of the nation, and to jointly strive for the country's overall development.

(An excerpt from the message sent by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, to the ceremony to mark the 78th Anniversary of Shan State Day, which falls on 7 February 2025)

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 7:30 am MST on 30 July 2025)

ACCORDING to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Toungoo has exceeded by more than two feet above its danger level. It may fall about 1/2 foot during the next 1 day and may remain above its danger level.

According to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk has exceeded by about 51/2 feet above its danger level. It may fall about two inches during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

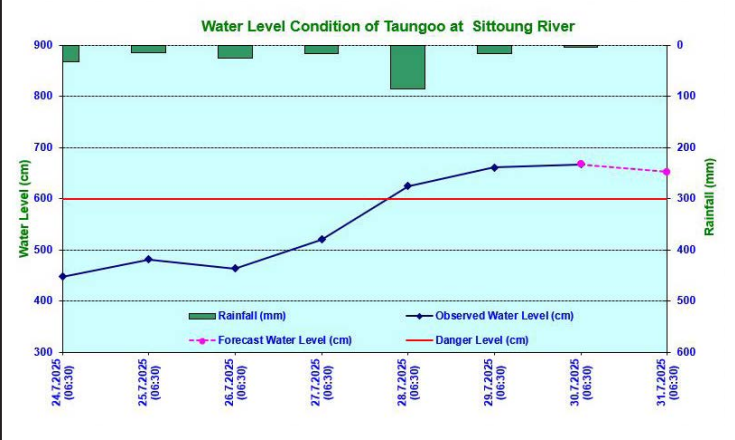
According to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Shwegyin River at Shwegyin has exceeded by about 21/2 feet above its danger level. It may fall about 1/2 foot during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

According to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Thanlwin River at Hpa-An has exceeded by more than 51/2 feet above its danger level. It may rise about one foot during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

According to the 6:30 am MST observation today, the water level of the Thaungyin River at Myawady has exceeded by about twelve feet above its danger level. It may rise about 11/2 feet during the next one day and may remain above its danger level.

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

It is noticeably advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Bilin township. It is especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low-lying areas in Toungoo, Shwegyin, Hpa-An, Myawady Townships and Madauk, to stay away from the flood-prone areas.— DMH



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

Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Notification 113/2025

6th Waxing of Wagoung 1387 ME

30 July 2025

Date set for Cyber Security Law to come into force

THE Cyber Security Law enacted with the State Administration Council Law No 1/2025 shall come into force effective 30 July 2025 under Section 2 of that law.

*Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman
State Administration Council*

MRCSS and GRC jointly launch Trauma First Aid Provider Training in Yangon Region

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCSS), in collaboration with the German Red Cross (GRC), opened the Trauma First Aid Provider Training in Yangon Region on 29 July, according to reports.

The training programme is being held at Yangon International Hotel in Dagon Township, running from 29 July to 1 August, with 21 Red Cross volunteers from various town-

ships in Yangon Region participating.

The course aims to enhance trauma care capacity, ensure safe and effective first-response assistance, expand knowledge of trauma first aid, and produce qualified trauma first aid instructors.

At the opening ceremony, Professor Dr Myo Nyunt, President of the Myanmar Red Cross Society, and Dr Zaw

Theik, Chair of the Yangon Region Red Cross Supervisory Committee, delivered opening remarks.

Also in attendance were executives of the Myanmar Red Cross Society, responsible officials from the Yangon Region Red Cross Supervisory Committee, directors from the MRCSS headquarters, and participating Red Cross volunteers. — ASH/KZL



This photo reveals officials attending the opening ceremony posing for a documentary group photo.

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)

Confirmed: Multiparty General Election Set for December

FROM PAGE 1

To successfully hold a free and fair multiparty general election, all eligible voters must be able to cast their votes. Just as in the 2020 election, efforts must be made to prevent electoral fraud and to protect against those who wish to disrupt or sabotage the election. Only through the united support, cooperation, and diligent efforts of the entire population can the election be successfully conducted, resulting in the free and fair multiparty general election all hope for.

At present, he continued that it has been four and a half years since we assumed the responsibilities of the State. During this period, members of the government have collectively strived to overcome all the hardships and challenges the nation has faced. In this regard, he said that he would like to express his sincere gratitude and recognition to all colleagues and partners for their cooperation and efforts.

Regarding political matters, the Senior General affirmed that the government is treading the path of multiparty democracy as chosen by the people. Tatmadaw is a part of the State, and its members are part of the people. Since the people expressed their desire in 1988 to follow the path of multiparty democracy, Tatmadaw has laid the foundation for that path to be taken.

For a country to stand strong, the economy plays a crucial role. Only when the economy is strong will politics also become stable, leading to national development. In 2010, a multiparty democratic election was held, and Tatmadaw transferred the country onto the path of multiparty democracy. In 2011, during

the first term of the democratic government led by President U Thein Sein, the government undertook necessary reforms to ensure the practice of democracy took root. The Tatmadaw also cooperated harmoniously with the incoming government.

Regarding peace and stability, starting from 2012, efforts were made to engage in peace talks and invite ethnic armed organizations to sign the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). To achieve genuine peace, the government and Tatmadaw worked hand in hand. Myanmar is a union where ethnic national brethren live together in unity. Therefore, they all worked towards building a Federal Democratic Union. President U Thein Sein made efforts to ensure national peace and stability, which resulted in the successful signing of the NCA on 15 October 2015.

During the 2015-2016 period, the country received substantial foreign assistance, and the national economy was strong. However, in the following years, due to weak management, reliance solely on foreign support to keep the economy running without promoting the domestic economy, lack of domestic production, and acting under the influence of foreign advisors whose recommendations did not align with the country's actual situation, the national economy declined.

Regarding the economy, in the 2011-2012 period, the country had a trade surplus of over US\$100 million. However, from the latter part of 2012 onwards, only trade deficits were recorded. This was due to the lack of domestic production and the absence of exportable goods, resulting in the need to cover trade deficits. Instead of supporting

domestic production, reliance was placed on foreign assistance and funds received from non-trade sources.

The current government boldly and decisively implemented the KG+9 education policy to ensure that all school-age children receive an education without dropping out. Future governments must continue to strive toward this goal. In addition to academic learning, it is also essential to instil discipline, patriotism, national pride, and a spirit of preserving cultural and ancestral values.

Intending to increase the number of educated youth for the future, the government consulted with the Union Minister of Education and the Union Minister of Science and Technology to establish Polytechnic universities. As a result, eight Polytechnic universities have now been opened, and more will continue to be established.

In building a democratic nation, it is essential to know legal and economic matters. Therefore, efforts were made to ensure that all universities are able to offer instruction in economics and law through BA (Law) and BA (Eco) degree programmes.

Regarding agriculture and livestock, 86 basic education high schools specializing in industrial agriculture and livestock breeding have been established to allow students who have completed middle school to attend. Efforts will continue to open such schools in every district. In addition to these agricultural and livestock schools, steps will also be taken to expand educational opportunities from the college level up to the university level.

The actions taken by armed terrorists to prevent education

in schools, to block the opening of hospitals and clinics, and to hinder economic activities are only causing harm to the health, education, and economy of the local people, effectively destroying their lives. These armed terrorists, by disrupting and damaging education and healthcare, are recklessly destroying the future lives of the people.

The total population of the country is over 54 million, with 70 per cent of them living in rural areas. Since the rural population primarily engages in agriculture and livestock activities, improving their socioeconomic conditions would lead to national economic growth and also help reduce poverty.

In 2014, according to the World Bank's calculations, Myanmar's poverty rate was 21.6 per cent, but it was announced that by 2024 it had risen to 49 per cent. Successive governments have also made efforts to reduce the country's poverty. Therefore, practical work involves promoting rural economic development, which our government has actively supported. The new government is expected to continue to encourage and support agriculture and livestock activities.

In agriculture, river water diversion projects were implemented to secure the water supply. The electricity required for these river water diversion projects the government generated using solar systems. If double-cropping can be done on 6.39 million acres of arable land along the Ayeyawady River and its tributaries, the country will be able to firmly establish itself as a prosperous nation. Therefore, it is essential to truly put in the work.

With regard to serving over

four years of duties of the State Administration Council, the Senior General unveiled: "This is our current era. Over the past four and a half years, despite facing numerous difficulties in all sectors, we have collectively worked together and overcome them to reach this current situation. I want to sincerely thank all the partners who have participated and cooperated in this effort. Looking ahead, I encourage everyone to continue to unite and help one another achieve success in the journeys we still have to undertake. There is still a long way to go in the country's future path. What we have done so far is just the beginning of the second chapter. We have already passed the first chapter. Now, we are starting the second chapter. If at the start of this second chapter we write it well, beautifully, and sincerely with our own hands and carry it out successfully, I believe we will overcome even more challenges, and the results of our efforts will be even more rewarding. I wish everyone success and progress in all endeavours, and I extend my heartfelt thanks once again."

Also, present at the ceremony were SAC Vice-Chairman, Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, the SAC Secretary, the Joint Secretary, SAC members, Union-level dignitaries, Union ministers, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and deputy ministers together with chief ministers of regions and states through video conferencing.

After the ceremony, the Senior General hosted a lunch for attendees while the Myawady entertainment troupe presented songs. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Myanmar steps up crackdown on illegal trade

VICE-SENIOR General Soe Win noted that the committee should supervise more strictly to seize the illegal trade than before, following the instruction of the Prime Minister.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee held the 3/2025 meeting at the Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Steering Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win.

In his address, the Vice-Senior General pointed out that only through exposing, arresting and eliminating the various methods of the illegal trade can reduce such illegal activities. Regarding the illegal trade, the monthly seizure records of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, task forces of the regions and states, are increasing every month. Such an increase in seizures shows the entry of illegal goods into the country through various ways. Therefore, all should carry out stronger cooperation in combating illegal trade.

He continued that efforts must be made not to create imbalances in export and import in normal trade and in certain areas of border trade, and to ensure a balance between export and import values.

In the process of seizing illegal goods, due to territorial and security conditions, some border trade posts are temporarily closed. For such closures, normal trade is being primarily carried out through maritime routes.

Similarly, although border trade is currently being restricted, there remain weaknesses and loopholes through which illegal exports and imports continue to take place via various methods. In July, based on the



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win chairs the third meeting of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

reports made to the leading committee, it was discovered that 144 vehicles carrying illegal goods from the Myawady border were attempting to unlawfully pass through Hpa-an to Yangon during the night. Therefore, the relevant task forces and OSS staff blocked the road and arrested 132 vehicles in Kayin and Mon states.

Regarding this case, the departmental staff and members of combined teams did not seize the goods, although they knew of the case and also did not scrutinize the illegal goods carried by the vehicles. The State did not receive the proper income, and they committed malpractices for their own sake. Therefore, they will take action effectively.

He added that all the staff were instructed to carry out their duties in combating illegal trade in accordance with the law, and

those who failed to follow the loyalty to the work processes, the dignity of the employee and rules and regulations will face legal actions seriously.

The employee should prioritise the organisation's interests when comparing with individual interests, and put the affairs and interests of the State in the first place when comparing with the organizations. Therefore, the employees should not be manipulated by the people who run illegal trade. The relevant officials also should supervise them successively.

He then highlighted the speech of the SAC Chairman, Prime Minister, made at the National Economic Development Coordination Meeting on 2 July 2025 regarding with MSME sector.

He continued that during the three years and six months

duration from January 2022 to June 2025, the smuggled and illegal commodities worth K663.919 billion were seized in 25,231 cases. With regard to seizures in Myanmar, the Vice-Senior General noted that the Yangon Region Illegal Trade Eradicating Task Force stood first for the seizure of smuggled and illegal commodities in May and June, followed by the Shan State and Sagaing Region. Among them, he continued that unregistered vehicles and vessels carrying illegal commodities were seized as the most enormous volume, followed by raw materials and capital goods.

He added that the staff for supervision must be qualified in their respective fields and should use modern tools rather than their eyes in inspecting the construction materials and other goods entered officially, to

determine whether they meet the standards and quality set by the relevant ministries.

On 17 July, the Nyaung Khar Shay inspection camp was successfully opened in Waw township of Bago Region. Four trucks and a small vehicle can be scrutinized at the same time in the import inspection site, while two trucks and two small vehicles at the same time in the export inspection site. Such action can reduce the duration of the heavy traffic and inspection section.

He also notified the need to be aware of security-related measures at the inspection camp and to cooperate with the security forces systematically.

The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) expressed that the illegal trade is on the rise annually at a value of no less than US\$460 billion.

SEE PAGE 5



Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

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 steps up crackdown on illegal trade

FROM PAGE 4

In April, the export value from Myawady trade zone to Thailand was US\$12.592 million, and the import value from Thailand was \$21.982 million, and the difference was over \$9 million. According to the data, the export value from Thailand was \$113.97 million, and the acceptance import value was only over \$6 million, so the difference was over \$107 million. Therefore, the two governments coordinate to maintain the same trade ratio, and the relevant inspection teams should perform their duties loyally.

Due to such imbalances in trade value, the State faces a loss of millions of US dollar in revenue. The State also faces losses in the use of foreign currency due to the cooperation of disloyal government employees regarding the foreign currency used for these illegal exports and imports, and the foreign currency generated. Moreover, the foreign currency gained through these illicit trades causes losses through illegal financial systems such as cryptocurrency, further harming the country's legitimate access to foreign exchange. The illegal goods also give rise to

black market trading and the influx of substandard imported products, which negatively affect domestic consumers. These issues lead to price instability, undermine the competitiveness of local businesses, reduce job opportunities, decrease production capacity, and result in a decline in exports. Therefore, consideration must be given to these impacts, and relevant special task forces are urged to take strong, decisive action to expose and seize illegal goods.

He then mentioned the need to conduct public awareness programmes for reports to the

relevant officials as the informers from Hpa-an of Kayin State did not report to the relevant regional officials, but to the leading committee. Such action showed that the informers did not have full trust in the regional officials. Therefore, all should make efforts not to destroy the trust of the informers in combating the illegal trade.

The Secretary of the Steering Committee reported on the accomplishment of the minutes of the 2/2025 meeting and the work process of the steering committee. Letters sent to the steering committee were pre-

sented at the meeting.

Member of the steering committee Union ministers, the Chairman of the Revenue Appellate Tribunal and officials discussed reviews on illegal trade, seizures of prohibited chemicals, drugs, arms and ammunition, timber, vehicles, fuel, foodstuffs and cosmetics, swift addressing the cases, gathering of information, export and import measures, commodity flow at trade camps and bilateral trade with neighbouring countries.

The meeting ended with the remarks by the Vice-Senior General. — MNA/KTZH

Medium Urban Search and Rescue Team to be established



Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung encourages participants in the quake-related practical rescue operation exercises in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday

UNION Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung inspected the quake-related practical rescue operation exercises performed by 100 members of the special task force of the Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs for 12 weeks (from 12 May to 1 August) at Bala Theikdi Ward in Zabuthiri Township yesterday.

The 12-week exercise was

conducted aiming to form a Medium Urban Search and Rescue Team.

Moreover, it is also carried out to enable fire fighters to effectively conduct timely and effective search and rescue operations in case of earthquake-related disaster, particularly in situations like building collapses, carry out standard search and rescue techniques like the interna-

tional urban search and rescue teams and establish the Medium Urban Search and Rescue Team as per the standards of International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG).

The trainees performed shoring techniques, rope rescue techniques and breaking and breaching techniques at the event. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar, Vietnam paediatric teams operate on 17 children with heart defects

AT the 550-bed Yangon Children's Hospital, paediatric cardiologists are currently performing complex open-heart surgeries to treat congenital heart diseases, as well as providing non-surgical treatments using specialized cardiac catheterization lab equipment. Moreover, treatments are being carried out in collaboration with international paediatric cardiology experts and special medical teams.

From 3 to 4 July 2025, Dr Do Nguyen Tin, a paediatric cardiologist from Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Children's Hospital 1, collaborated with the specialists led by Professor Dr Khin Maung Oo and performed surgical operations for

17 children with congenital heart disease at cardiac catheterization lab using the devices, medicines and medical supplies provided by the Ministry of Health.

The children who received treatment were brought back for follow-up care and an echo examination on 22-23 July 2025. According to the results of these evaluations, the condition of the paediatric patients was found to be good.

At the 550-bed Children's Hospital, Yangon, 496 patients were treated with cardiac catheterization procedures and 488 patients with non-surgical treatments from February 2021 to 24 July 2025. — MNA/KTZH



Dr Do Nguyen Tin, a paediatric cardiologist from Vietnam and the specialists team of paediatric cardiologists from Myanmar render treatment to patients at the 550-bed Yangon Children's Hospital on 3 July 2025.

NATIONAL

UNICEF Representative to Myanmar presents his Credentials to DPM MoFA Union Minister

MR Yasumasa Kimura, Representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Myanmar, paid a courtesy call and presented his Credentials to U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister

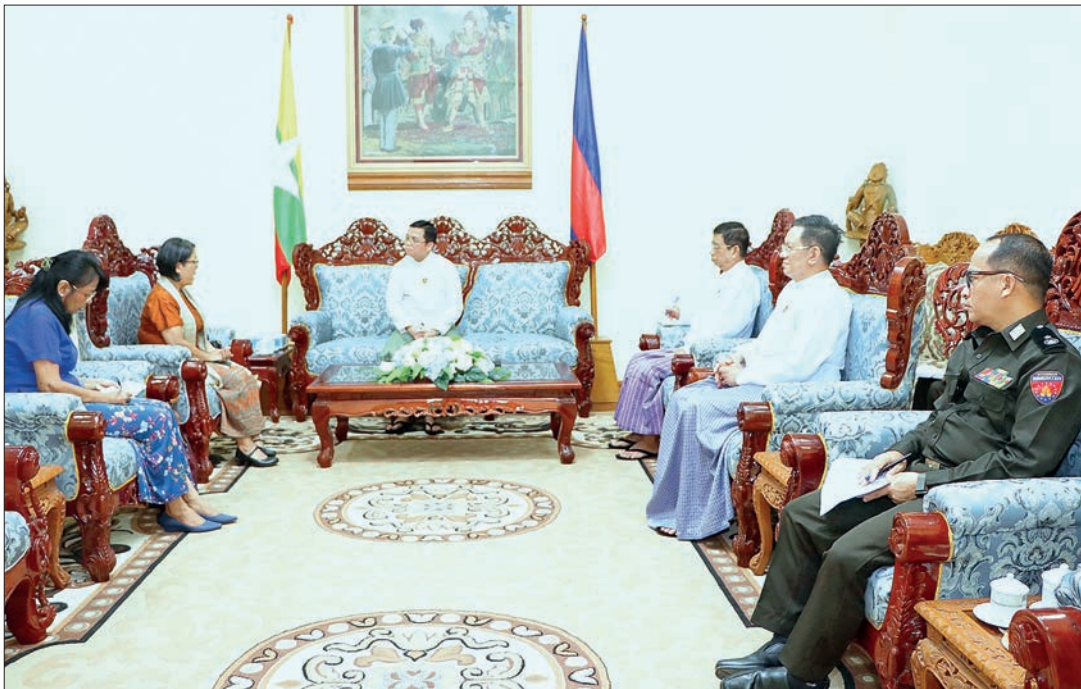
for Foreign Affairs, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Also, present at the call were senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister U Than Swe meets UNICEF Representative to Myanmar Mr Yasumasa Kimura in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

MoIP Union Minister meets UNHCR Resident Representative



Union Minister U Myint Kyaing discusses with UNHCR Resident Representative Ms Noriko Takagi at the Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

UNION Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing received UNHCR Resident Representative Ms Noriko Takagi and team at the meeting hall of the Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they exchanged friendly views on the ongoing efforts and progress of the repatriation pro-

cess of internally displaced persons from Rakhine State following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry and UNDP-UNHCR, the issuance of entry visas for UNHCR's foreign staff as per the procedures and the plan to be submitted for the travel and settlement of local staff, the procedure for

UNHCR to submit approvals for humanitarian assistance, and the continued cooperation between the Ministry and UNHCR.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Ministers U Htay Hlaing and Dr Myo Thant, Permanent Secretary U Min Hein, the director-general of the Immigration Department and officials. — MNA/MKKS

MSWRR Dy Minister meets UNHCR representative to Myanmar

DR Than Soe, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, received Ms Noriko Takagi, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Myanmar, at the Ministry's reception hall yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides discussed the formation of the Buildings Restoration, Utilization, and New Buildings Construction Supervision Committee to inspect earthquake-affected buildings, assess damage

levels, determine resettlement status, identify repair and demolition needs, UNHCR's assistance to earthquake victims, and the prompt signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and UNHCR.

The meeting was attended by the Director-General of the Disaster Management Department, Deputy Permanent Secretary and officials, as well as representatives from the UNHCR office. — MNA/TH



Deputy Minister Dr Than Soe meets Ms Noriko Takagi, Representative of UNHCR in Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm



CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

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

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

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

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

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

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

NATIONAL

Aid and donations for earthquake victims

LOCAL and foreign volunteers and organizations are donating money and assistance to the earthquake victims. Yesterday afternoon, Wovtiger New Energy Company donated 30 sets of Portable Power Stations and nine sets of Solar Energy Storage Systems, Thailand's Theppadungporn Coconut Co Ltd donated 15,000 soft drinks and 1,004 sports shirts as well as Mr Lin Baoquan from Japan donated 200,000 Japanese yen to the Disaster Management Committee (DMC) under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (MS-

WRR).

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win received the donations and assistance with making a speech about the earthquake, recovery efforts and expressed his gratitude for the donations, and presented a certificate of appreciation.

The donation ceremony was attended by the secretary of the National Disaster Management Committee, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Than soe and officials. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister Dr Soe Win accepts donations from Theppadungporn Coconut Co Ltd from Thailand in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

18 Filipinos deported for illegal entry into Myanmar

EIGHTEEN Philippine nationals who had illegally entered Myanmar through border routes after transiting neighbouring countries, including Thailand, and were involved in online gambling, scams, and other illicit activities in Myawady Township, notably at Shwe Kokko, KK Park, and Kyaukkhet areas, have been deported to their home country under immigration laws and bilateral relations.

The deportation was carried out via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II, with due regard to humanitarian considerations and cooperation between nations. The return of these individuals followed legal procedures implemented by authorities.

To ensure proper coordination, officials from the Ministry of Immigration and Population of Kayin State, led by Deputy Director U Myint Phone, met with relevant departmental teams to verify documentation and deportation procedures. They inspected the accuracy and completeness of records and discussed measures for smooth repatriation.



Immigration processes underway for the deportation of foreign entrants.

At the handover event, officials from Myanmar, representatives from the Philippine Embassy in Thailand, including the Attache and Assistant to National Officer Ms Muser C Moso, and officials from Thailand's Tak Province Immigration Department attended the proceedings. Myanmar officials formally handed over all required documentation and repatriated the individuals following legal protocols.

Between 30 January and 30 July 2025, a total of 9,321 foreign nationals who illegally entered Myanmar were identified and detained. Of these,

9,078 individuals have been repatriated to their respective countries through Thailand, and the remaining 243 are ready to be transferred. All are under appropriate conditions pending deportation.

The Government of Myanmar continues its crackdown on illegal online fraud and gambling operations. To effectively suppress these transnational crimes in border regions, Myanmar is working in coordination with neighbouring countries and international organizations to investigate, expose, and take strong action against offenders. — MNA/KZL

BEHS 1 & 2 reopen in Nawngkhio; temporary hospital still operating

BASIC Education High Schools 1 and 2 in Nawngkhio Township, northern Shan State, have resumed teaching as of 25 July, following a nearly year-long closure due to disruptions caused by terrorist insurgents. Students have returned to classes peacefully, and school registration is also ongoing.

As part of efforts to ensure access to education for children of school-going age, the schools have reopened and are now conducting regular lessons. A total of 1,733 students are currently attending peacefully and joyfully. Also, new students who wish



Locals from Nawngkhio receive treatment at the temporary hospital in Nawngkhio.

to enrol are being accepted, and the Ministry of Education is continuing to distribute free school

textbooks, stationery, and uniforms to support them.

Meanwhile, a temporary



Students from Nawngkhio peacefully study their lessons at the school in Nawngkhio.

hospital has been set up at the Mingala Hall in Nawngkhio to provide medical services to

local ethnic residents. Military medical personnel, in collaboration with doctors and healthcare workers from the Ministry of Health, are providing necessary treatments. On the day of reporting, healthcare services were rendered to 282 residents.

In support of public health and environmental hygiene, efforts have been undertaken at BEPS 3 in Nawngkhio, including the removal of overgrown grass, the clearing of drainage ditches to improve water flow, and general sanitation work around the school premises. — MNA/KZL

OPINION

Sustain fine traditions of international friendship

IN 2011, the UN General Assembly established the International Day of Friendship to recognize the power of friendship among peoples, nations, cultures, and individuals to inspire peace and build bridges between communities, thereby reducing hatred, conflicts, and wars.

The UN's resolution emphasizes involving young people, as future leaders, in community activities that celebrate cultural diversity and promote international understanding and respect. To mark this day, the UN encourages governments, international organizations, and civil society groups to host events and initiatives that advance global efforts towards fostering dialogue among civilizations, solidarity, mutual understanding, and reconciliation.

This observance is rooted in UNESCO's concept of the Culture of Peace – a set of values, attitudes, and behaviours that reject violence and aim to prevent conflicts by addressing their underlying causes to achieve peaceful solutions.

Myanmar aims to cultivate sincere and friendly relations with countries across the globe. It values partnerships with nations that understand its unique context and show genuine goodwill, considering them true friends. Regardless of geographical distance, some countries continue to maintain strong ties with Myanmar, reflecting the depth and resilience of their friendship.

Myanmar is a country that adopts and practises the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, which serve as the foundation of its foreign policy. These principles were established in 1954 by the leaders of Myanmar, China, and India. They include respect for each nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, non-interference in internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. Everyone and every country has to strive to ensure the perpetual existence of friendship among them to build peaceful communities.

Myanmar aims to cultivate sincere and friendly relations with countries across the globe. It values partnerships with nations that understand its unique context and show genuine goodwill, considering them true friends. Regardless of geographical distance, some countries continue to maintain strong ties with Myanmar, reflecting the depth and resilience of their friendship.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar pursues an independent, active, and non-aligned foreign policy. It prioritizes global peace and promotes friendly and enduring relations among nations. Myanmar upholds the principles of peaceful coexistence between countries. This foreign policy is enshrined in Section 41 of the 2008 Constitution of Myanmar. In implementing this policy, Myanmar has established embassies, permanent missions, and consulates in foreign countries to strengthen cooperation with the international community and to ensure mutual recognition and adherence to established diplomatic practices.

True friendship and harmony can only flourish in an environment of peace and stability. Only within a stable and peaceful society can people cultivate loving and harmonious relationships. Myanmar is actively striving for internal peace while also fostering lasting friendship and goodwill with the international community. Just as ethnic armed groups are being invited for dialogue in pursuit of internal peace, continuous efforts are also being made to ensure nationwide peace, stability, and sustainable development.

Myanmar is a country that adopts and practises the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, which serve as the foundation of its foreign policy. These principles were established in 1954 by the leaders of Myanmar, China, and India. They include respect for each nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, non-interference in internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. Everyone and every country has to strive to ensure the perpetual existence of friendship among them to build peaceful communities.

By Yu Yu Htay

AS A PhD student at China Agricultural University (CAU), I had the privilege of visiting the Shiyanghe Experimental Station in Gansu Province, where groundbreaking agricultural innovations are turning barren deserts into thriving green fields. This experience offered profound insights into water-saving technologies, drought-resistant farming, and sustainable land rehabilitation practices that could revolutionize agriculture in Myanmar's Central Dry Zone, where water scarcity and desertification pose similar challenges.

Innovation, Transformation, and Resilience for Sustainable Agriculture

The Shiyanghe Experimental

Station was conducted by China Agricultural University (CAU), located in Wuwei City, Gansu Province, in northwest China (37°51' N, 102°52' E; 1,581 metres above sea level). The area is characterized by low precipitation (around 164 millimetres annually) and high evaporation rates up to 2,000 millimetres, and is also known for high temperatures in summer, windy and dry weather. This station serves as a landmark of forward-thinking design and steadfast resilience.

I was particularly impressed by the innovative research being conducted to address drought and salinity stress. This research mainly contributes to a better understanding of drought resistance and supports sustainable

water management systems in arid regions. This study focuses on the challenge of maintaining maize productivity in arid regions facing water shortages and soil salinization. Among all research, the one that uses maize genotypes (Xianyu 335 and Zhengdan 958) under different irrigation, drought, and salinity treatments this kind of research is a pivotal role in identifying drought-resistant crop varieties and optimizing agricultural practices in extreme climates. Myanmar can adopt similar research methodologies; it will be immensely improved by the Myanmar Climate Smart Agricultural Strategy (MCSAS).

Shiyanghe, mainly focuses on advanced water-saving technology such as drip irrigation, rainwater

China's Desert-to-Farmland Transformation Offers Lessons for Myanmar's Agricultural Development

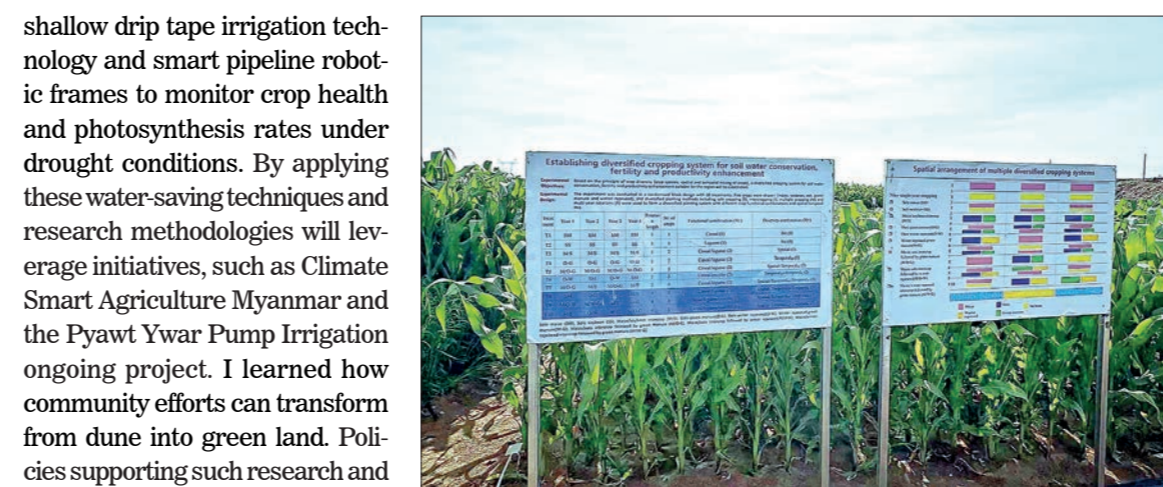
Station was conducted by China Agricultural University (CAU), located in Wuwei City, Gansu Province, in northwest China (37°51' N, 102°52' E; 1,581 metres above sea level). The area is characterized by low precipitation (around 164 millimetres annually) and high evaporation rates up to 2,000 millimetres, and is also known for high temperatures in summer, windy and dry weather. This station serves as a landmark of forward-thinking design and steadfast resilience.

I was particularly impressed by the innovative research being conducted to address drought and salinity stress. This research mainly contributes to a better understanding of drought resistance and supports sustainable



harvesting, mulching, and soil moisture monitoring. The precision irrigation (like smart drip irrigation) delivers water directly to the roots, improving moisture consistency and nutrient absorption. These techniques have significantly enhanced crop performance, demonstrating that effective management strategies can overcome climate limitations. Promoting research on drought-resistant crops and advanced monitoring technologies would enhance agricultural resilience.

My field observations extended to the long-term agricultural experiments, where innovative water conservation strategies are making a significant impact. Applying advanced technologies like



shallow drip tape irrigation technology and smart pipeline robotic frames to monitor crop health and photosynthesis rates under drought conditions. By applying these water-saving techniques and research methodologies will leverage initiatives, such as Climate Smart Agriculture Myanmar and the Pyawt Ywar Pump Irrigation ongoing project. I learned how community efforts can transform from dune into green land. Policies supporting such research and advanced technology support to local farmers would empower them to better withstand drought conditions, ultimately improving productivity.

This long-term field experiment was established (since 2003), one of the experiments, which was a randomized complete block design with three replicates. Mainly focuses on the wheat, maize and faba bean. The experiment treatments include: (1) monoculture, (2) rotational intercropping, and (3) continuous intercropping. In the early four years (2003-2006) of field experiments, maize overyielded by 43 per cent and faba beans overyielded by 26 per cent when intercropped on a low-phosphorus but high-nitrogen soil.

Compared with conventional

farmers would empower them to better withstand drought conditions, ultimately improving productivity.

Huarui Farm (华瑞农场) in Minle County, Gansu Province, China, is known for its modern agricultural practices, particularly in maize, soybean production and other high-value crops. It is also promoting water-saving irrigation technologies, including drip irrigation and a fertigation system in sandy soil. Fertigation integrates fertilizers into irrigation water, delivering nutrients directly to the plant root zone. Up to 30-50 per cent less fertilizer waste compared to broadcasting. Drip fertigation

reduces evaporation and runoff. These modern techniques place as a role model to save water and fertilizer runoff in the dry zone.

My journey to Gansu Province was more than just an educational experience; it was eye-opening. I learned how innovative practices and community-driven efforts can transform even arid environments into lush farmland. The central dry zone of Myanmar shares many similarities with Gansu's topography, making the lessons from the experimental station invaluable for enhancing Myanmar's agriculture. By embracing these strategies, Myanmar can overcome its challenges and achieve long-term economic growth while improving livelihoods for its communities.

Not Just Wood, But The Heartbeat of The Home

By Yin Nwe Ko

SOME homes have clocks that mark time — we had a dining table that marked life. More than just wood, it held our stories, our meals, and the unspoken rhythm of our days. It stood in the centre of the room, a round, sturdy wooden relic with a deep, mahogany hue that seemed to glow under the soft light of the hanging bulb. Passed down from my grandparents, it carried the weight of generations, its surface etched with the subtle scars of time: faint scratches from my brother's toy cars, a small burn mark from a careless moment with a hot pan, and countless rings from water glasses left unattended. Each mark was a chapter in our family's story, a silent witness to the laughter, arguments, and quiet moments that defined us.

"Children, let's have our dinner," Mom's voice would call, cutting through the hum of our studies. It was a summons we couldn't resist. Dropping our schoolbooks, we'd race to the kitchen, drawn by the promise of her cooking. The air was thick with the scent of spices — turmeric, cumin, and the faint sweetness of coconut milk, mingling with the rhythmic clatter of pots and the hiss of steam. Mom stood at the stove, a tall figure of grace even in the chaos of meal preparation. Her hair, often dusted with flour or streaked with lamp-black from the wood-fire, framed a face that time had only softened, not diminished. Sweat beaded on her brow, yet she moved with a quiet elegance, her hands deftly shaping each dish into an offering of love.

She was a master in the kitchen, her talent turning even the simplest ingredients into something extraordinary. A pot of rice became a fluffy, fragrant bed for her curries, and even a watery vegetable stew carried the warmth of her care. "It's all in the timing," she'd say with a smile when I'd ask her a secret, her voice as soothing as the meals she prepared. I can

still see her ladling out portions, her eyes scanning the table to ensure everyone had enough, her presence a steady anchor in our daily lives.

Dad was her counterpoint, a man carved from the earth itself. A farmer, his days were spent knee-deep in the rice fields, his skin darkened to a rich brown by the relentless sun. But beneath his calloused hands and stern demeanour lay a mind sharp with unfulfilled promise. The political unrest of 1988 had stolen his chance at a full education, cutting short his time as a Grade X student. Yet he never let that define him. Instead, he poured his intellect into us, teaching us math, science, and literature with a rigour that left

ter of our voices. My sister, ever the storyteller, would launch into tales of schoolyard triumphs, her hands waving dangerously close to her glass. "And then I scored the winning goal!" she'd exclaim, while my brother, quieter and more reserved, would nod along, his face lighting up only when Mom slid a bowl of her fish curry his way.

"Mom, this is amazing," I said one night, my mouth full of her spicy chicken stew. She laughed, reaching over to pat my head. "Slow down, my dear. There's plenty more where that came from." Dad, chewing thoughtfully, would add, "Good food fuels good minds. Eat up, then back to your books." It was a routine as comforting as the



no room for laziness. We never needed tutors — Dad was our guide, his strictness — a scaffold for our futures. "Books before play," he'd say, his voice firm as he handed us our texts after our post-school baths.

Dinner was our sacred hour. The table, set with Mom's meticulous care — plates aligned, glasses filled, a small vase of marigolds at its centre — became our gathering place. We each had our spot: Dad at the head, Mom to his right, and my siblings and I fanned out around the circle. The kitchen buzzed with life — the ceiling fan whirring overhead, the clink of spoons against plates, the chat-

meal itself, a thread that wove us together.

But time, relentless as it is, began to unravel that thread. I was the first to leave, sent to a boarding school to finish high school. The day I packed my bags, the dining table stood behind me like a sentinel, laden with Mom's farewell feast — sticky rice, grilled fish, and a bowl of her mango dessert. Her eyes glistened as she hugged me. "Don't skip meals," she whispered, her voice trembling. At school, the dining hall was a cold contrast: long, sterile tables, lukewarm food, and the clamour of unfamiliar voices.

SEE PAGE 14

NATIONAL

12 DPLA, MDY-PDF, TNLA members renounce armed struggle

MEMBERS of armed terrorist groups are beginning to understand the peace processes and are reporting to nearby military camps and security police outposts to reenter the legal fold.

Between 17 and 29 July, four TNLA members, 47 DPLA members, 61 MDY-PDF members, and six members of Ywangan PDFs, totalling 118, returned to the legal fold with 14 different types of weapons, 1,515 rounds of various munitions,

and 12 magazines.

On 30 July, four DPLA members, six MDY-PDF members, and two TNLA members also returned to the legal fold with one Type-81 gun, one magazine, 25 bullets and one grenade.

Officials welcomed and provided them with rewards and supplies, and systematically handed them back to their parents or guardians. — MNA/KTZH



The event of reentering the legal fold for 12 DPLA, MDY-PDF and TNLA members in progress.

Explosive-laden vehicle detonates in Meiktila

SECURITY forces in Meiktila Township, Mandalay Region, conducted a search along the Zee Taw–Dahatwa village road yesterday morning and attempted to stop a suspicious Hiace vehicle (license still being verified) travelling from the south of Sartaug towards Zee Taw for inspection. The vehicle overturned while attempting to flee, causing it to explode and catch fire due to suspected explosives on board.

Security forces searched the area around

the burnt-out vehicle and found a set of MG-1 plastic grenade launchers, a PDF armband, a red wire strip, and the bodies of five deceased PDF members inside the vehicle.

Tatmadaw is conducting round-the-clock security and counter-terrorism operations in some regions and states, in cooperation with the public, to protect lives and property from terrorist attacks and to ensure that people can live, work, and eat in peace. — MNA/TH



Photos show confiscated items from the vehicle (L) and vehicles that exploded and caught fire due to suspected explosives on board.



This photo depicts a poster for the film 'Five Plus One'.

Myanmar film 'Five Plus One' to release in Aug

THE Myanmar film 'Five Plus One' will be released at cinemas nationwide in August, according to director Khin Hlaing (Nyan Gyi Shin).

The novel is written by Khin Moe (KM Group), and the screenplay is written by Khin Moe (KM Group) along with Nay Soe Thaw. Director Khin Hlaing

(Nyan Gyi Shin) is responsible for the production of Hill Picture Film Production.

The film stars Hlwan Paing, Academy Khin Wint Wah, Wint Yamon Naing, May Mee Ko Ko, May La Than Zin, Ah Byae Sein, Hla Nu Htun, Htet Htet Linlet, Si Si and many others. — ASH/MKKS

MNAB to honour visually impaired students who passed 2024-25 matric exam

THE Myanmar National Association of the Blind (MNAB) will organize a special honorary ceremony for visually impaired students who passed the 2024–2025 matriculation examination, according to sources from the association.

The association announced that the event aims to recognize the academic achievements of visually impaired students while also encouraging greater support for inclusive education and empowerment. MNAB extended an invitation to individuals and organizations interested in contributing to the advancement of education for youths with visual impairments to cooperate and provide assistance.

MNAB general secretary Daw Su Su Win said, "This year, seven students from schools for the blind have passed the exam.

We are not yet certain if more candidates who sat the exam from outside the blind schools are among the successful ones. The ceremony to honour these students will be held on 12 August at the association's office".

Also, the association issued a call for visually impaired individuals who passed the 2024-2025 matriculation exam but were not affiliated with blind schools, such as those who studied independently, at private institutions, or in boarding houses, to contact MNAB by 7 August to be included in the recognition programme.

The honorary event is part of MNAB's ongoing efforts to promote inclusive education and provide motivation for young learners with disabilities to pursue higher education and personal development. — ASH/KZL



A ceremony held in a previous academic year (2022-2023) at the Yangon School for the Blind (Khawel Chan) honouring outstanding students.

NATIONAL

MyanTrade eyes coffee export to Russia

THE Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization (MyanTrade) under the Ministry of Commerce held a hybrid meeting on 28 July for the exportation of Myanmar's high-grade coffee to Russia.

The director-general of the MyanTrade led the meeting and discussed matters

to bolster bilateral trade between Myanmar and Russia, coffee cultivation to export high-grade coffee, production situation, coffee market outlook in Russia and potential coffee varieties, in presence of officials of the MyanTrade, Myanmar's economic counsellor in Russia, and representa-

tives of Myanmar Coffee Association and coffee suppliers.

MyanTrade, under the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and the economic counsellor in Russia will coordinate the needs for coffee export to Russia. — NN/KK



A glimpse of coffee beans in a coffee plantation.

CBM injects over US\$410K, THB220K into market on 29 July



Foreign currencies are seen at the money changer counter.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) pumped US\$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 was 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 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 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

14 rice mills to use 18.4 MW solar power this FY

FOURTEEN rice mills will install 18.4 megawatt solar power in the current financial year 2025-2026 under the Public-Private Partnership, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation.

Shwe Wah Yaung rice mills inaugurated a ceremony to generate electricity with solar in Shwelinpan Industrial Park in Hlinethaya Township. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, accompanied by officials concerned, the president of MRF, rice millers and solar companies' representatives, observed solar power utilization conditions, milling process, possible business expansion operations and export market outlook. Shwe Wah Yaung Rice Mill was equipped with 500 kilowatt solar power.

Afterwards, Yangon Region Chief Minister also inspected Shwe Ma Naw Myay rice mill, warehouse and port operations to facilitate cargo loading and discharging. He also visited the Thamadi Rice Mill equipped with 200-kilowatt solar power in the Mya Sein Yaung Industrial Zone.

Of 28 rice mills that are designated to install solar as a cleaner alternative in grain processing, Sein Lae Myay rice mill is the first one equipped with (487 kWp) Solar power, and the remaining are underway to install them, the Myanmar Rice Federation stated.

Sein Lae Myay rice mills held a solar power event on 22 July 2025 in Nyaungdon Town-

ship, Ayeyawady Region, which is a solar power system in rice mills project under the guidance of MRF, with MRF's President, chair of Green Land Group and representatives of Perpetual Company Limited, Prime Power Sustainable Consortium Company PPSC, UAB Bank and rice millers from Nyaungdon Township.

MRF and 17 solar companies signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to utilize solar power in rice mills designated for exports, contributing to sustainable rice processing using renewable energy. A preliminary assessment on the installation of 41.9-megawatt solar power projects at 28 rice mills by 17 solar companies began in March 2025, and installation is being undertaken.

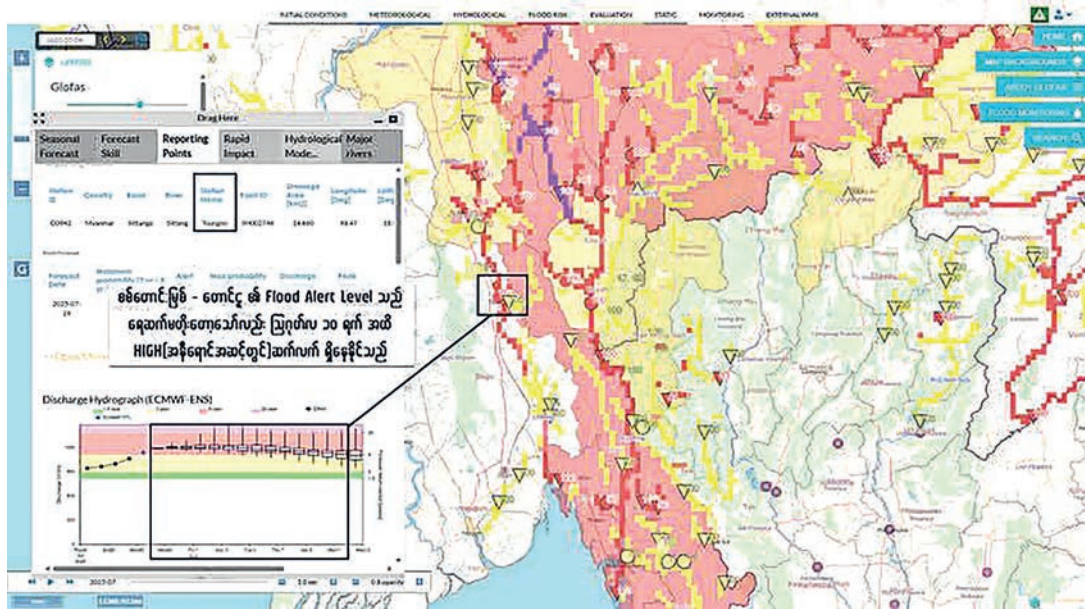
Furthermore, MRF has been planning a project for the paddy farmers to get access to solar-powered irrigation systems with an investment from private solar companies.

Furthermore, MRF has been planning a project for the paddy farmers to get access to solar-powered irrigation systems with an investment from private solar companies.

MRF has been endeavouring to export three million tonnes of rice in the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, through collaboration with private companies as per the National Export Strategy for export-led growth. — NN/KK

NATIONAL

No more river flooding expected by early Aug: Meteorologist



Map showing river flooding conditions.

RIVER flooding conditions are expected to end by early August, according to the meteorologist U Win Naing.

The water level in the lower reaches of the Sittoung River may fall within three days, while the upper reaches could continue to decrease. Meanwhile, water levels in the Sittoung and Thanlwin

rivers showed signs of stabilizing, he said. Signs of receding water were observed in the lower Bago River and Ayeyawady (Magway), while stagnant flow was reported in Mon and Kayin states.

As a result, flooding conditions are expected to subside in the next three to four days, he forecast.

The flood alert level for the Sittoung River has stopped rising in Toungoo due to weakened rainfall. Inverted triangles, indicating receding water levels, were observed in the upper Sittoung, but the alert level in Toungoo could remain high (red level) until 10 August, he said. — MT/ZN

JLPT online applications for individuals open on 4 Aug

FOR individual candidates who will take the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) scheduled on 7 December 2025, applications will be accepted as of 4 August according to levels.

JLPT will take place on 7 December in Yangon and Mandalay, and the total fee for the exam and application is K57,000 for N1, N2 and N3 and K52,000 for N4 and N5. Applications will be accepted from 4 to 6 August for N1 and N2, 8-11-12 August for N3, from 12 to 14 August for N4, and from 5 to 7 August for N5.

The acceptance time won't be announced in advance in order to prevent logging into the system simultaneously. Candidates won't be allowed to take the exam or won't be refunded if the name is different in the application form and test voucher, and candidates will have to take the exam corresponding to the level and exam station they filled out, and no change



Students are seen in a queue for the JLPT application form.

is allowed.

The JLPT organizing committee, the Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA), stated that candidates are responsible for any incorrect personal data submitted by agents. Additionally, candidates must confirm their selected test level, as changes will not be allowed later. — MT/ZS

Mandalay hotels gear up for peak season



This image displays a glimpse of the Hotel Mandalay.

MYANMAR Hotelier Association (MHA) stated that hotels in earthquake-stricken Mandalay are preparing to resume business operations and improve hotel service quality.

MHA has been trying to fulfil the need to reopen hotels in quake-hit Mandalay areas for the peak

season, in cooperation with related institutions in the region. Hotels within tourism sites are making ready for the upcoming tourism season with a wide range of offerings.

“Mandalay and Sagaing regions are the most quake-affected areas. Discussions with hoteliers concerned are ongoing for the resumption of hotel businesses in areas hit by the Mandalay Earthquake. MHA is also expediting procedures to seek technical and financial approval from the State. Hotels are prepping for the high season,” MHA Chair U Thein Win elaborated.

Furthermore, hotels in popular tourism destinations such as Chaungtha, Ngwesaung beaches, Hpa-An and Mawlamyine have planned to provide better hotel facilities and new tourism packages in the nearby places. — ASH/KK

Tsunami warning issued for Myanmar nationals in Japan

THE Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo said on 30 July that a tsunami warning is being issued in Japan.

Due to an 8.8 magnitude earthquake that hit near Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula on 30 July, the Japan Meteorological Agency issued a tsunami

warning for the Pacific Coast from Hokkaido Prefecture to Wakayama Prefecture, it said.

The warning further read that Myanmar nationals living in the regions will need to pay special attention to alerts and evacuate to higher land and should avoid travelling to the

coastal areas until all alerts are lifted.

The warning also covers Pacific coastal areas from Japan's northernmost prefecture of Hokkaido down to Wakayama Prefecture, and the expected tsunami height is three metres (9.8 feet). — Htun Htun/ZS



NHK footage shows tsunami waves hitting the Kujukuri coast in Chiba Prefecture.

France orders carmakers to step up airbag recalls

AUTOMAKERS replacing potentially risky airbags in millions of vehicles in France will have to provide owners facing long delays with replacement vehicles or face “high penalties”, the transport ministry said Tuesday.

The order is among several issued by the ministry to speed up re-

placements of the faulty airbags made by Japanese firm Takata.

The scandal emerged in 2014 after investigators determined the airbags had caused several injuries and deaths because they exploded when deployed in an accident.

At least 18 people in France are suspected to have been killed by the faulty airbags, and in June the latest recall ordered 1.7 million vehicles off the road.

The transport ministry said the airbags should generally be repaired within 15 days of securing a dealer appointment, or face penalties. — AFP



The order is among several issued by the ministry to speed up replacements of the faulty airbags made by Japanese firm Takata. PHOTO: AFP

UAE: Air Arabia expands services to Bangkok

AIR Arabia, the Middle East and North Africa’s first and largest low-cost carrier (LCC) operator, announced the expansion of its flight services to Bangkok, Thailand with the addition of a third daily flight starting from 26 October 2025.

The increase to three daily flights between Sharjah International Airport and Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok underscores Air Arabia’s commitment to offering its customers enhanced connectivity, greater convenience and more flexible travel options between the UAE and Thailand.

el options between the UAE and Thailand.

Adel Al Ali, Group Chief Executive Officer, Air Arabia, said, “We are glad to expand our service to Bangkok, which reaffirms our ongoing commitment to meeting customer demand and strengthening connectivity to key global markets.

We remain dedicated to enhancing the travel experience of our customers while also contributing to the growth of trade and tourism ties between the UAE and Thailand”. — ANI



Air Arabia announced the expansion of its flight services to Bangkok, Thailand with the addition of a third daily flight starting from 26th October 2025. PHOTO: LINKEDIN

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVEMS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VIMC DIAMOND VOY.NO. (0UVEMS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (947N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (947N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2025** 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MTT PORT KELANG VOY.NO. (528W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MTT PORT KELANG VOY.NO. (528W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V OTANA BHUM VOY.NO. (231W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V OTANA BHUM VOY.NO. (231W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

MYANMA Port Authority “NOTICE of High Tide”

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.01 feet to 20.13 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of August 9th to August 15th, 2025. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

ARTICLE/ENVIRON: WORLD

Not Just Wood, But The Heartbeat of The Home

FROM PAGE 9

I'd sit there, pushing soggy vegetables around my plate, dreaming of home. Holidays brought me back, and the table welcomed me like an old friend, its familiar scratches a balm to my homesickness.

My sister left next, her ambition pulling her to the city with a scholarship in hand. We gathered for her send-off, the table groaning under the weight of Mom's cooking. "You'll do great

things," Mom said, forcing a smile as she passed the rice. But her hands lingered on the bowl, as if reluctant to let go. My brother followed years later, the baby of the family chasing his own path. His departure broke something in Mom. I found her one weekend, sitting alone at the table, her gaze fixed on the empty places. "It's too quiet now," she murmured, her fingers tracing the burn mark from years ago. I sat beside her, our silence heavy with shared understanding.

Last month, I turned thirty. My siblings are scattered, chasing lives of their own, and the dining table now holds only two regular occupants: Mom and Dad. Its legs, once sturdy, wobble under the slightest pressure, a mirror to Mom's frail health. Dad offered to fix it once his tools were ready, but Mom stopped him. "No," she said, her voice resolute. "This table stays as it is. It's where my children grew up, where we were a family. When they come back, I want them to

see it just as they left it." Her words hung in the air, a testament to her unwavering hope.

Sometimes, I visit. Mom still cooks, though her meals are simpler now — just enough for two, with leftovers saved for me. The table creaks as we sit, but it holds. "Why not get a new one?" I asked once, eyeing its unsteady frame. She shook her head, smiling faintly. "This table's seen us through everything. It's old, but it's ours." Her silver-streaked hair caught the light, and I saw

the girl she once was — vibrant, full of life, just like the table in its youth.

Over twenty years ago, there were two kinds of youthfulness in our home: Mom, with her boundless energy, and the wooden table, solid and new. Now, both bear the marks of time — her body weakened, its legs loose — but the love they embody endures. I believe, with every fibre of my being, that no matter how far we drift, that table will call us back. It stands as a monument to Mom's lovingkindness, a place where memories linger, waiting for us to reclaim them.

M8.8 quake off Russia triggers tsunami in Japan, 60-cm waves detected

Tsunami waves reached heights of up to 60 centimeters, with the highest detected in Hamanaka, Hokkaido, and Kuji Port, Iwate Prefecture.



Police officers ask a man to evacuate from an empty beach following a tsunami warning, in Fujisawa, Kanagawa Prefecture, on Wednesday. **PHOTO: AFP**

VAST areas of Japan's Pacific coast were hit by tsunami waves as high as 60 centimetres on Wednesday after a magnitude 8.8 earthquake struck off Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula in the morning, with the weather agency keeping its evacuation warning in place.

The warning, covering areas stretching from Hokkaido in northern Japan to Wakayama Prefecture in the west, disrupted rail, road and air transport along the coast and led the operator of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant to halt the release of treated radioactive

wastewater into the Pacific Ocean. The Japan Meteorological Agency has warned of tsunami waves as high as 3 metres. The highest detected so far were the 60 centimetre-waves that arrived after 1 pm at the town of Hamanaka in Hokkaido, northern Japan, and Kuji Port in Iwate Prefecture. A 20-centimetre wave also reached Tokyo's Harumi waterfront district, according to the agency. Tsunami waves were also observed in Aichi Prefecture, central Japan, as well as Kagoshima and Miyazaki prefectures in the southwest and Okinawa in the south. — Kyodo

US, India to launch powerful Earth-monitoring satellite

A formidable new radar satellite jointly developed by the United States and India is set to launch Wednesday, designed to track subtle changes in Earth's land and ice surfaces and help predict both natural and human-caused hazards.

Dubbed NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar), the pickup truck-sized spacecraft is scheduled to lift off at 5:40 pm (1210 GMT) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre on India's southeastern coast, riding an ISRO Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle rocket.

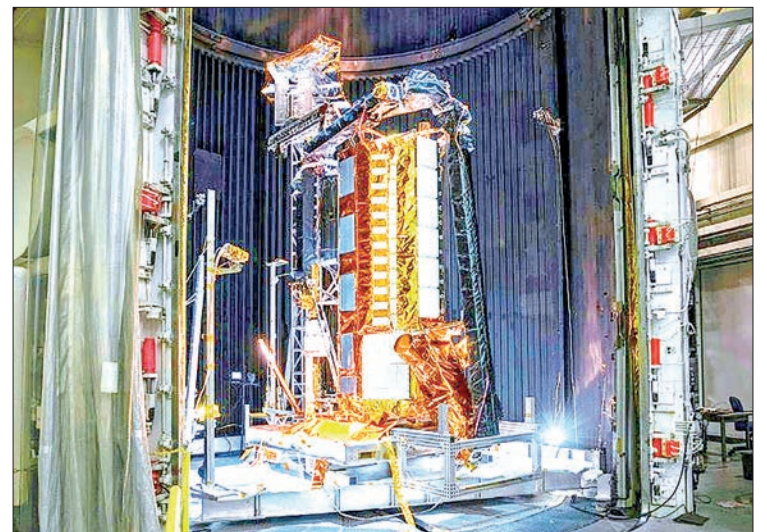
Highly anticipated by scientists, the mission has also been hailed as a milestone in growing US-India cooperation between

President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Our planet surface undergoes constant and meaningful change," Karen St Germain, director of NASA's Earth Science division, told reporters.

"Some change happens slowly. Some happens abruptly. Some changes are large, while some are subtle."

By picking up on tiny changes in the vertical movement of the Earth's surface — as little as one centimetre (0.4 inches) — scientists will be able to detect the precursors for natural and human-caused disasters, from earthquakes, landslides and volcanoes to ageing infrastructure like dams and bridges. — AFP



This NASA image obtained on 29 July 2025 shows part of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite, which was designed to track subtle changes in Earth's land and ice surfaces. **PHOTO: NASA/ AFP**

SPORTS

Yangon Region Chief Minister's Cup Chinlone Tourney kicks off

THE opening ceremony of the Yangon Region Chief Minister's Cup Chinlone (Myanmar cane ball) 6-Person Team Round-Robin Tournament, featuring players from 14 districts, was held yesterday at the National Indoor Stadium 1 in Thingangyun Township, Yangon.

The event was officially inaugurated by Yangon Region Chief Minister and Patron of the Yangon Region Sports and Physical Education Committee U Soe Thein, along with other regional ministers, who were in attendance to encourage the athletes.

Following the opening, the chief minister and ministers presented Chinlone balls to participating athletes and warmly greeted them. Demonstration matches were showcased by selected Chinlone teams, including the Chinlone Selection Team and teams from the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization.



The opening demonstrations of the YRCM Cup Chinlone Tourney in action yesterday.

The tournament is scheduled to take place from 31 July to 2 August, with 140 athletes from the 14 districts of Yangon Region competing in the event. — Arkar Linn/KZL

41st Junior Golf Myanmar Championship held to foster future national golf athletes

TO nurture a new generation of national-level golf players and promote golf as a sport in Myanmar, the 41st Junior Golf Myanmar (JGM) Championship was held yesterday at Dagon Golf Club in Mingaladon Township, Yangon, according to sources.

Golf, like football, continues to gain popularity worldwide, and Myanmar is no exception. The JGM Club, formed in 2013, has consistently organized monthly competitions, with the 41st edition now underway. Despite some interruptions in earlier years, the club has successfully resumed its schedule, providing young golfers opportunities to gain local and international experience.

"We've reached the 41st tournament since our inception in 2013. Some gaps existed in the early years, but we've since hosted tournaments monthly. Our players also compete in international events, gaining exposure, and we are preparing



The 41st JGM Championship tournament in action yesterday. PHOTO: KANU

them to represent Myanmar at events like the SEA Games and other Asian and European tournaments," said U Myint Aung, Joint Secretary of the Myanmar Golf Federation.

Junior Golf Myanmar has participated in regional tournaments held in Hong Kong, Singapore, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand, with many young male and female athletes showing promising results. In neighbouring countries, companies often sponsor the training and development of young athletes, and Myanmar is also striving towards such systems to enable young golfers to raise the country's profile through sports.

According to U Kyaw Min Min Lat, General Secretary of JGM Club, "The main goal is to foster young talents through regular tournaments. With consistent competitions, players aged 12 to 18 can gradually enhance their skills and eventually

compete internationally. The monthly tournaments help build experience, and parental support has played a crucial role in organizing these events".

Today's championship features competitions in boys' under-12, under-14, and under-18 categories, and a girls' under-18 division. The tournament will run for three consecutive days until 1 August, with prizes to be awarded on the final day. The event aims to maintain performance levels, enhance skill development, and build a pool of athletes capable of representing Myanmar internationally.

Currently, JGM trains over 50 registered youth players, and an extra 30 unregistered players regularly participate in its programmes.

"I wasn't fully satisfied with today's round due to weather and course conditions, but I did my best. I finished with a score of 83 on 18 holes. I also won a prize in the under-14 division at last month's 40th tournament. I have dreams of becoming a professional golfer representing Myanmar. Competing in international tournaments gives us great experience, and I will keep working hard," said 14-year-old junior player Kyaw Than Lwin Hein. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KZL

Bayern Munich boost firepower with Diaz signing

BAYERN Munich on Wednesday signed forward Luis Diaz from Premier League champions Liverpool for a fee that could reportedly rise to 75 million euros (\$86.5 million).

The Colombian winger, who won the Premier League, FA Cup and two League Cups during his three-and-a-half years at Anfield, has signed a contract with the Bundesliga champions until 2029.

The fee paid for Diaz, which includes add-ons, is the third-highest in Bayern's history.

Diaz, 28, said in a statement on the club's website that he was "very happy" to be joining the 34-time German champions.

"It means a lot to me to be part of FC Bayern," he said. "They're one of the biggest clubs in the world. I want to help my new team with my way of playing football and my character.

"My goal is to win every possible title, and that's what we'll work for every day as a team".

Writing on Instagram, Diaz said he would "treasure forever" his time at Liverpool, adding he was "proud of everything we achieved together".

He mentioned his late teammate Diogo Jota, who died in a car crash in Spain earlier this month. — AFP



Luis Diaz has left Liverpool for Bayern Munich. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Zverev makes winning Toronto return after a month off court

ALEXANDER Zverev made a storming return after a month away from tennis on Tuesday, with the top seed pounding out a 7-6 (8/6), 6-3 win over Adam Walton to reach the third round of the ATP Toronto Masters.

The German top seed, who lost in

the Wimbledon first round, has spent the last weeks dealing with mental burnout and also made a trip to Rafael Nadal's Mallorca academy for consultations and perhaps some career advice during his time away.

The ATP world number three came

from 4-1 down in the opening set tie-breaker and did not face a break point until he found himself down 0-40 as he tried to serve out victory leading a set and 5-3.

Though he lost that game, the German immediately broke back, with his

Australian opponent double-faulting on a Zverev match point. His victory included a massive 52-shot rally, with the triumph putting Zverev on 499 wins for his career.

"Sometimes it's just about winning," Zverev said. "It was not the prettiest match, though". — AFP



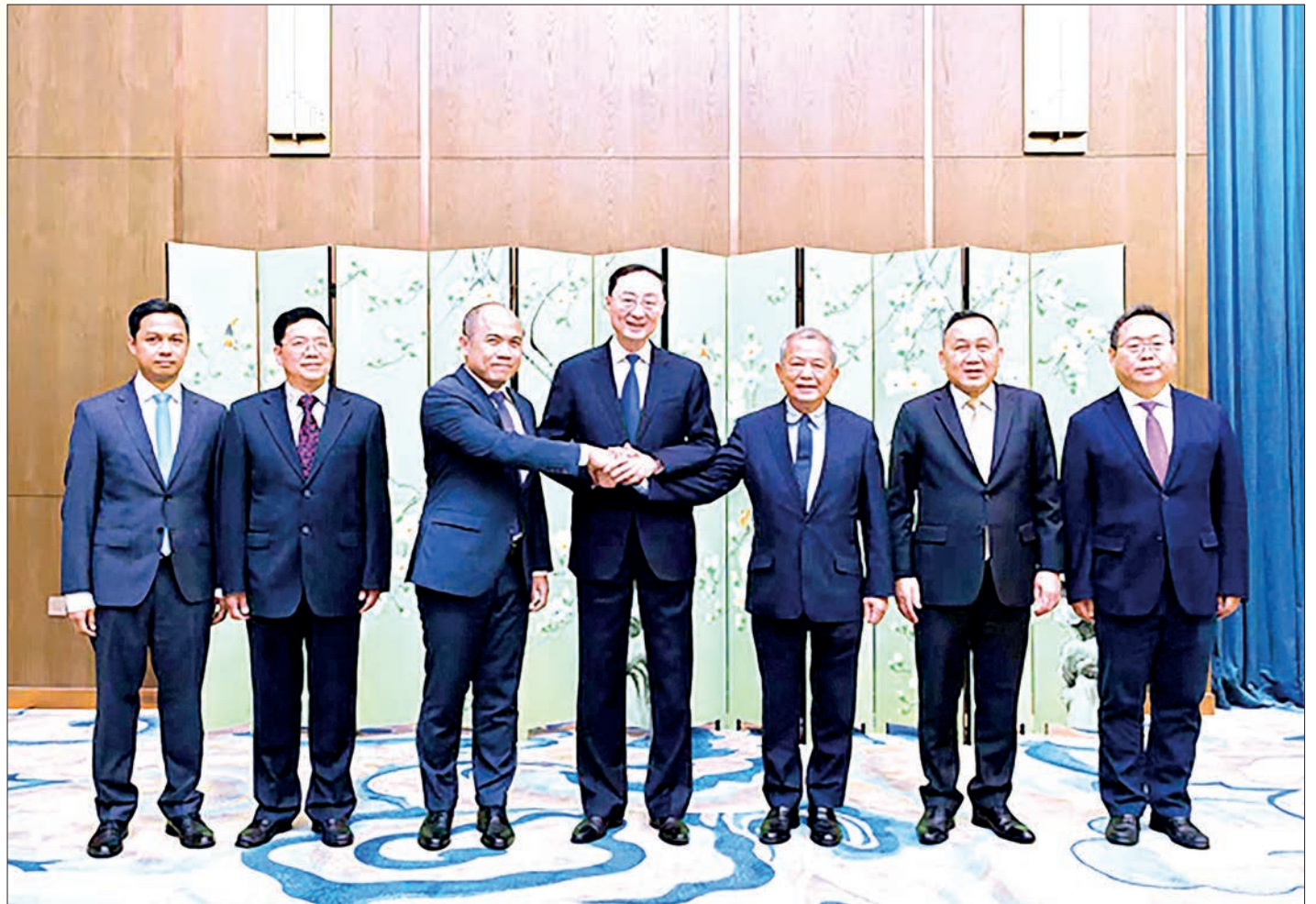
Cambodia, Thailand reaffirm commitment to ceasefire agreement at trilateral meeting with China

This meeting represents China's ongoing diplomatic initiatives in the region.

CAMBODIA and Thailand reaffirmed to China their commitment to abiding by the ceasefire agreement at an informal trilateral meeting, according to a statement on the Chinese foreign ministry's website.

China, Cambodia and Thailand held the meeting in Shanghai on Wednesday. Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Sun Weidong and representatives from Cambodia and Thailand attended the meeting.

Cambodia and Thailand reaffirmed to China that they will abide by the ceasefire agreement, and expressed their appreciation for the positive role China has played so far in calming down the situation, the statement said. The meeting was conducted in a frank, friendly and harmonious atmosphere, it said. China continuously plays a constructive role in supporting Cambodia and Thailand in peacefully resolving their border disputes, and this meeting is China's latest diplomatic effort in this regard, the statement said. — Xinhua



An informal trilateral meeting among China, Cambodia, and Thailand was held in Shanghai on 30 July 2025. Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Sun Weidong, along with representatives from Cambodia and Thailand, attended the meeting. **PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY/GLOBAL TIMES**

Earthquake intensity peaked at record 8.8, aftershocks anticipated: Kamchatka Governor

KAMCHATKA experienced the strongest earthquake recorded in the entire instrumental period, registering a magnitude of 8.8, Kamchatka Governor Vladimir Solodov revealed on Wednesday, adding that prolonged after-

shocks are anticipated.

"This is the strongest earthquake in the entire instrumental period, with a magnitude of 8.8. Regular, prolonged aftershocks are expected," Solodov wrote on his Telegram channel.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the Geophysical Service of the Russian Academy of Sciences reported that the strongest earthquake occurred in Kamchatka.

"The strongest earthquake in the Kamchatka seismic focal zone since 1952 has just occurred. The magnitude, according to various estimates, reached 8.7," the Kamchatka branch of the Geophysical Service of the Russian Academy of Sciences said in a statement.

On Wednesday, Russian state television broadcast footage of a tsunami wave devastating a coastal town in the far east, following an 8.8 magnitude earthquake off the Kamchatka peninsula. — SPUTNIK/AFP



Authorities said residents in the northern Kuril islands were evacuated to safety. **PHOTO: GEOPHYSICAL SERVICE OF THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES/SPUTNIK**

TRUMP'S OPTIMISM

Trump on India-US trade deal, hints at 20-25 per cent tariff

Just days ahead of the self-imposed 1 August deadline date before the tariffs come into effect, US President Donald Trump stated that the India-US trade deal was "working out very well" but hinted at a 20 per cent to 25 per cent tariff on New Delhi.

During a gaggle with the press interaction aboard Air Force One on Tuesday (local time), Trump responded to a report suggesting that India might be preparing for 20 to 25 per cent tariffs, stating that India had been imposing higher tariffs on the US as compared to other countries. He further mentioned that all this would come to an end as he is now "in charge".

However, Trump hasn't sent any letters to India announcing the tariff imposed on New Delhi, as he did for many other nations.

President Trump acknowledged India's friendship but criticized its high tariffs, stating that trade deals are improving and benefiting the United States. — ANI