

# The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

DIPLOMACY

## Nippon Foundation to Support Myanmar's Peace Process and Flood Rehabilitation Efforts

Honorary Chair of the Nippon Foundation Mr Yohei Sasakawa paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on the Honorary Chair of the Nippon Foundation's plans to assist Myanmar's internal peace process to the best of his ability, as well as on assistance from the Nippon Foundation for assisting in rehabilitation efforts in flood-affected areas of Laymyethna Township in Ayeyawady Region.

The current situation in Myanmar, where the government elected by the people is firmly pursuing the country's democratic path and making efforts to achieve internal peace,



President U Min Aung Hlaing shakes hands with Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Honorary Chair of the Nippon Foundation, during the latter's courtesy call on the former.

was also discussed. They also emphasized the Nippon Foundation's plans to assist technological universities in Myanmar in offering courses on constructing earthquake-resistant buildings. — MNA/TTA

## New Dokhtawady Bridge to feature Myanmar's first EradiQuake bearings

THE new Dokhtawady Bridge, being constructed at Milepost 358/1 on the Yangon-Mandalay

Expressway, will be fitted with earthquake-resistant EradiQuake bearings the approach bridge with high

damping rubber bearings (HDRB) – the first installation of its kind in Myanmar – and is scheduled for

completion before the end of 2026, according to the Ministry of Construction.

The bridge is being built using a steel box girder and prestressed concrete deck system. It has been designed and calculated in compliance with earthquake-resistance standards set out in the Myanmar National Building Code 2025, the ministry said. — ASH/KNN



This photo shows the new Dokhtawady Bridge under construction.

## Myanmar Consul-General participates in IAABE 2026

MYANMAR'S Consul-General Daw Win Lei Phyu in Los Angeles, California, participated in the International Asian American Business Expo (IAABE) and business sessions 2026 held at Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach in Torrance, California, on 7-8 August, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The IAABE 2026 is designed to connect international enterprises with the Southern California economy, hosted by the Coalition of Filipino American Chambers of Commerce (COFACC).

IAABE brings together entrepreneurs, investors, distributors, government representatives, and business leaders for two days of structured engagement and opportunity.

COFACC President Gerry Palon delivered the opening remarks at the two-day business expo. The Myanmar Consul-General participated in high-level business sessions and networking engagements alongside the Consuls-General of the Philippines, India and Sri Lanka,

SEE PAGE 4



Myanmar Consul-General Daw Win Lei Phyu and officials participating in the opening ceremony of IAABE 2026.

NATIONAL

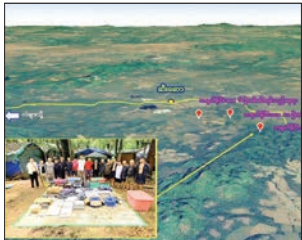
PAGE 4



NSPNC and NDAA hold peace and regional development talks

NATIONAL

PAGE 7



34 Chinese nationals linked to online scams arrested in Laikha



NATIONAL

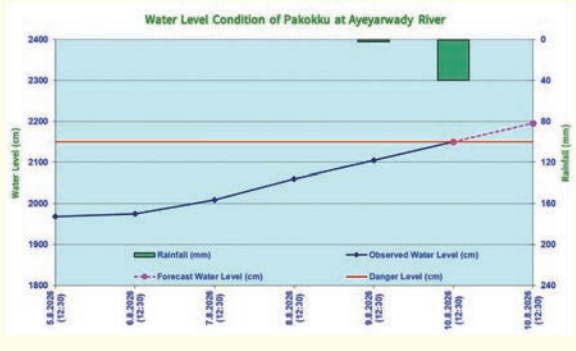
Weather

Flood Bulletin

Issued at 1 pm MST on 10 August 2026

According to the 12:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Pakokku has reached its danger level. It may rise about 1.5 feet during the next day and may remain above its danger level.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Pakokku Township, to take precautionary measures. — DMH



Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Monday 10 August 2026

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 11 August 2026:** Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and northern Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Ayeyawady and isolated heavy falls in Mandalay, Bago, Lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and Southern Shan States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD:** The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Chin and Shan States. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Isolated heavy falls in Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 August 2026:** Some rain or thundershowers with may be heavy at time. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 August 2026:** Some rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 August 2026:** One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Foreign photographers document Bagan’s landscapes, culture

DURING their visit, 12 tourist photographers from Thailand and Malaysia have captured natural landscape shots and cultural documentation in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone in

Mandalay Region’s Nyaung-U Township.

The photographer team began shooting the documentary on the morning of 10 August from the surroundings of Phomaukkyee Hillock located to the

south of Sulamuni Temple.

In the background of Bagan’s beautiful scenery, they captured images of farmers harvesting and carrying straw with cows in paddy fields and sunrise at the eastern Ohhtein

mound and sunset at Phomaukkyee Hillock, plus images of ancient temples, the Ayeyawady River and the Tantkyi Hill.

Following rules set by the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch) and paying taxes, the photography team has carried out the documentary shooting, which will be continued in Myinkaba, Pyathetgyi, Minnanthu and the western Pwa Saw village.

Their visit has brought support to the domestic tourism industry as well as the socioeconomic situation of residents, including bullock cart, mini-Oway and taxi drivers, hotels and guesthouses. — TWA/ZS

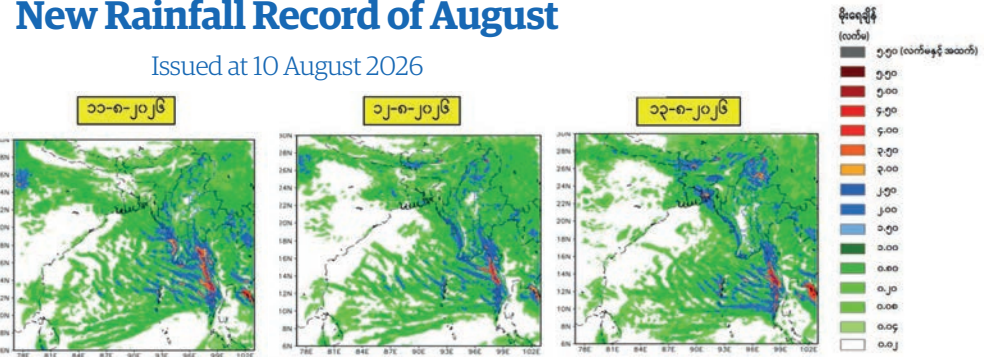


Thai and Malaysian photographers are seen making documentary shots in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone.

New Rainfall Record of August

Issued at 10 August 2026

According to the observations at 9:30 am MST, the new 24 hours rainfall record was observed for the month of August.



| Sr No | Station | Date of New Record | New Rainfall Record |          | Date of Old Record | Old Rainfall Record |          | Past Years of opening station |
|-------|---------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
|       |         |                    | (mm)                | (inches) |                    | (mm)                | (inches) |                               |
| 1     | Kyaukse | 10 August 2026     | 151                 | 5.94     | 28 August 2019     | 118                 | 4.65     | 27                            |

Results, certificates released for July 2026 TOP-J Examination

THE results and certificates for the TOP-J examination, held on 12 July, are now available for collection, according to the MAJA Education Centre.

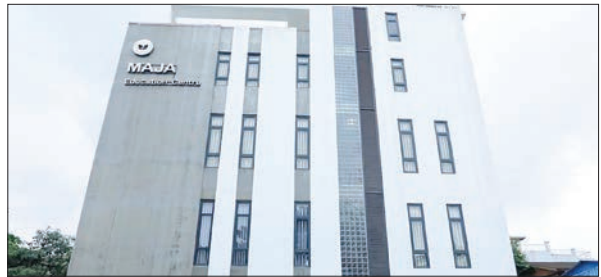
Applicants who registered in Yangon can collect their certificates starting 5 August at the MAJA Education Centre, located at 440, B, 14<sup>th</sup> Zeya Street, Ward 10, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon.

Applicants who registered in Mandalay can collect their certificates

starting 10 August at the MAJA Office (Mandalay Branch), located at Yay Street, Building 1, Room 6, Mingala Mandalay, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay.

Applicants can collect their certificates from the aforesaid venues from 9 am to 4:30 pm, from Monday to Friday (closed on weekends and public holidays).

Applicants must remember to bring their test vouchers when collecting



This image displays the MAJA Education Centre.

their TOP-J results and certificates. If a voucher is lost or damaged, applicants need to bring the original Citizenship Scrutiny Card (CSC) along with a photocopy.

For further inquiries, applicants can contact the MAJA Education Centre (Yangon) at 09 428613848 or the MAJA Office (Mandalay Branch) at 09 255162533. — MT/ZN



NATIONAL

# School Health Programmes Boost Student Nutrition, Growth

Greater emphasis must be placed on adequate nutrition and sports activities to promote the health, fitness and all-round development of students and young people.

The entire public, including health and education staff as well as students' parents, should participate in the implementation of school health promotion programmes, said President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony to mark the School Health Week (Central Level) movement for the 2026-27 academic year.

At the commemorative ceremony held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre 1 (MICC 1) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, the President noted that School Health Week ac-

tivities are regularly conducted nationwide every year during the second week of August. Similarly, the "Nutrition Development Week for Children Under Five and School-children and Youth" is also conducted annually during the second week of August at the same time.

The President explained that the activities contribute to the identification of nutritional deficiencies, obesity and growth and development problems among students at an early stage, and parents, teachers and health workers can work together to provide appropriate healthcare.



President U Min Aung Hlaing observes students participating in a healthcare discussion at the ceremony to mark the School Health Week (Central Level).

The President stressed the need to provide adequate nutrition and proper care throughout the "First 1,000 Days of Life", from birth through the child's first two years of life. During this period, the Department of Social Welfare, in cooperation with the Department of Public Health, is implementing a Maternal and Child Cash Transfer (MCCT)

programme in priority areas of seven regions and states to provide financial assistance to ensure adequate nutrition for pregnant women and children.

Furthermore, he continued that it is necessary to accelerate health monitoring and care services at pre-schools in cooperation with the Department of Social Welfare.

SEE PAGE 4

## Key points from the speech delivered by the President at the School Health Week ceremony

1. In the 2026-2027 academic year, K2.82 billion was initially allocated for school-based nutrition programmes.
2. The sale and advertising of cigarettes and tobacco products within 100 feet of school premises are prohibited by law.
3. Starting from this academic year, efforts must be made with emphasis on ensuring continuous coverage of individual health examination record cards up to Grade 12.

# Indian Ambassador visits Myeik to boost trade and community ties

INDIAN Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur concluded a working visit to Myeik District, Taninthayi Region, aimed at strengthening regional economic collaboration and engaging with the local Indian diaspora.

During the visit on 9 August, Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur met senior district officials and local business leaders to discuss expanding trade and economic co-



Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur pictured with officials during his visit to Myeik.

operation. He inspected regional production processes firsthand, touring local seafood facilities, a mineral processing plant, and an edible bird's nest production factory.

The ambassador also attended a Diaspora Outreach Event in Myeik on 8 August, which drew more than 500 members of the local Indian community. Addressing the gathering, the ambassador highlighted key initiatives for the diaspora, including Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) services,

SEE PAGE 5

# MIFFA reconstituted as Myanmar Logistics Association (MLA)

THE ceremony to reconstitute the Myanmar International Freight Forwarders Association (MIFFA) as the Myanmar Logistics Association (MLA), aiming to more broadly represent the rapidly evolving and diverse logistics sector, was held on 9 August at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI)

in Yangon.

The association currently comprises over 800 Myanmar companies and more than 300 foreign companies operating in partnership with Myanmar firms.

"The main objectives of our association are to help reduce supply chain and logistics costs, facilitate smooth trade, and boost trade volume

SEE PAGE 4



NATIONAL

NSPNC and NDAA hold peace and regional development talks

MYANMAR'S National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and the National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA) met yesterday morning at the Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw to advance political dialogue, border stability, and regional development. The meeting follows an invitation issued by the Central Committee for prerequisite-free peace talks aimed at resolving political issues through political means.

The dialogue was attended by key leadership from both sides, including NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing, as well as an NDAA delegation led by Chairman U Htein Lin, Vice Chairmen U San Pae and U San Lu, and General Secretary U Kyi Myint.

Opening the session, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae welcomed the NDAA delegation for their second official meeting following an initial round of discussions held in Mongla. He commend-



The National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) meets the National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA) in Nay Pyi Taw.

ed the NDAA leadership for continuing the "Peace, Unity, and Development" policy established by former Chairman U Sai Lin, emphasizing that the government aims to elevate the Mongla region through step-by-step coordination within the framework of existing laws.

In response, NDAA Chairman U Htein Lin expressed gratitude for the invitation to Nay Pyi Taw and reiterated his group's commitment to maintaining peace, fostering mutual trust, and cooperating on border stability. He highlighted the need for

guidance and support from national authorities to further develop the region for the benefit of local ethnic communities.

During the meeting, delegates engaged in detailed discussions on local infrastructure and social services. Key focus areas included the repair of the Kengtung-Mongla road, the restoration of regular traffic across the Mongyu-Kengyang bridge, enhanced support for border education and healthcare services, human resources development for medical and teaching staff, and policy support for regional

agricultural products.

NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing confirmed that the proposals and trust-building measures discussed during the session would be submitted to higher leadership and coordinated with relevant ministries. The event concluded with both parties signing a formal record of the discussions, exchanging commemorative gifts, and NDAA Chairman U Htein Lin donating flood relief funds for affected communities in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region. — MNA/ST

School Health Programmes ...

FROM PAGE 3

The President underlined that emphasis must be placed on ensuring that school-age children receive adequate nutrition and on organizing sports competitions to promote the health, physical fitness and all-round development of students and youth.

In implementing school health care services, the President stated that individual health examination record cards for students have been maintained starting from KG in the 2022-2023 academic year. This initiative needs to cover not only primary school children but also adolescents. Starting from this academic year, efforts must be made with emphasis on ensuring continuous coverage up to Grade 12.

The President unveiled that funds are being allocated to the Ministry of Health for the provision of school-based nutrition programmes. In the 2026-2027 academic year, K2.82 billion was initially allocated for this purpose, and the allocation will be increased further.

He outlined that as all schools have been designated as smoke-free schools, the sale and advertising of cigarettes and tobacco products within 100 feet of school premises are prohibited by law.

The President urged all to strive to implement school health activities and health-promoting school programmes more effectively than before, with emphasis placed on nurturing healthy, physically fit and well-rounded young people who will become the nation's future sons and daughters of great merit.

Following this, the President presented outstanding awards for school health activities to school heads of relevant schools. Vice-Presidents U Nyo Saw and Nan Ni Ni Aye also awarded the outstanding schools.

Also present at the ceremony were Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo, Union ministers and Union-level dignitaries.

The President and State dignitaries visited the exhibition displaying documentary photos on school health week activities at the national level in the 2026-27 academic year.

After the ceremony, the President and party viewed round meals prepared by teachers and parents for the school nutrition programme at Zabuthiri BEHS No 6, and activities of providing nutritious meals to KG students.

The President, Vice-Presidents and party administered deworming medicine and iron supplements to the students according to their respective age and gender groups.

They also observed activities of the school health programme such as the participation of primary students in the school cleanliness movement, the demonstration on proper handwashing and toothbrushing techniques, the discussions on the dangers of cigarettes, alcohol, beverages and vape, school health quiz, general health examination for students, and dental and oral healthcare measures. — MNA/TTA

MIFFA reconstituted as Myanmar Logistics ...

FROM PAGE 3

to support the nation's economic growth. This meeting is to seek the consent of our members to change the association's name from MIFFA to MLA," stated MLA Chair U Kyaw Lwin Oo.

This renaming and reorganization is not merely a change of title, but a significant step toward building a more effective, competitive, and sustainable logistics system.

The MIFFA serves as a member of domestic organizations such as MTLF and UM-FCCI, and internationally functions not only as a national-level member of FIATA and AFFA, but also maintains strong connections with regional and global organizations, including the IRU. — MT/ZN



This image shows the ceremony for the reconstitution of MIFFA into MLA.

Myanmar Consul-General participates ...

FROM PAGE 1

exchanging views on business, investment and trade opportunities. The

expo attracted more than 300 participants and featured 30 exhibition booths showcasing products and

services from Asian and American companies.

IAABE serves as a gateway for companies

seeking to enter, expand, or build partnerships in the United States market. — ASH/KK



# NATIONAL

## Shwe Padauk Fish Market facilitates local consumption

LARGE volumes of freshwater fish have been arriving at Shwe Padauk Fish Market in Hline Township, Yangon Region, in recent days, resulting in lower fish prices and making purchases more affordable for consumers, according to sources.

Fish farmers in Nyaungdon, Pantanaw, Ngathainggyoung, Kyonpyaw and other fish-farming townships in Ayeyawady Region, as well as Twantay and Htantabin townships in Yangon Region, have been harvesting and selling fish from their ponds as a precautionary measure against flooding.

“Fish from Ayeyawady Region have been arriving at the fish market in large quantities for the past four or five days. More than 100 truckloads are arriving every day. If each truck is calculated at 3,000 viss, more than 300,000 viss of fish are arriving daily. Some trucks carry as much as 5,000 viss. Although the fish are not yet of marketable size, farmers are catching and selling them at their cur-



Vendors organize fish for sale at the Shwe Padauk Fish Market.

rent size because if the ponds are submerged and the fish are lost, they will receive nothing. They are harvesting the ponds and sending the fish to the market to minimize their losses, even though they do not make a profit. The large supply has caused fish prices to fall, which is beneficial for consumers,” said Vice-Chair U Aye Ko of the Market Development Committee of the Shwe Padauk Fish Market.

Fish from aquaculture ponds have been arriving at the Shwe Padauk

Fish Market daily since 3 August. Previously, more than 200,000 viss of fish arrived at the market, whereas more than 300,000 to around 400,000 viss have been arriving this week. Although the prices of fish suitable for export and shipment to cold-storage facilities have not declined, fish that do not meet export-market requirements are being distributed and sold in the domestic market, resulting in lower prices at wholesale fish dealers at the Shwe Padauk Fish Market.

Fish meal was previously sold for K9,000 to K10,000 per viss but is now being sold at K7,500 per viss, although demand remains low. Fish prices have generally fallen by an average of K1,000 per viss.

Aquatic-product business operators expect that the continuous inflow of fish from Ayeyawady Region this month could result in lower fish supplies during the open season and potentially higher fish prices.

As heavy rains have continued in Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions in recent days, fish farmers in Ayeyawady and Yangon regions, which have previously experienced the flooding of fish ponds, are harvesting and selling their fish to prevent investment losses, reduce feed costs and take precautionary measures against natural disasters. Although they may not make profits, the measure is helping them minimize potential losses.

The Shwe Padauk Fish Market receives more than 30 varieties of freshwater fish. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

## Indian Ambassador visits Myeik to boost ...

FROM PAGE 3

ICCR scholarships, the Know India Programme, and the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign. The event featured traditional Indian Bharatanatyam dance and musical performances by instructors from the Swami Vivekananda Cultural

Centre.

Additionally, the ambassador paid homage at historic religious landmarks in Myeik, offering flowers, water, and oil lamps at the Atula Shwethalyaung Reclining Buddha and Laykyun Hsemee Pagoda. — TWA/ST

## Mongton's MSY income-generating activities inspected



Officials oversee the progress of household income-generating activities in Mongton Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the progress of household income-generating activities implemented under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Haungli Village, Mongton Township.

Mongton Township Department of Rural Development Head U Min Oo and officials visited the village to inspect the progress of agriculture and trading businesses being carried out with loans from the project's revolving fund. He also met members of the village Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Working Committee to examine whether the monthly financial records had been

properly completed and urged committee members to expand household income-generating activities while ensuring systematic management of the revolving fund to prevent any loss or misuse.

The Mya Sein Yaung Village Project was launched in Haungli Village during the 2014-2015 financial year. At present, concessional revolving loans totalling K46.9 million have been disbursed to 32 project members, including K45.4 million to 31 members engaged in agricultural businesses and K1.5 million to one member in trading activities, all of whom are successfully operating local income-generating businesses with support from the project funds. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

## Nyaunglebin's MSY village project introduced, committee formed

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an introductory briefing on the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project and formed a village project working committee in Kyaban Village, Nyaunglebin Township yesterday.

Nyaunglebin Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw

Mi Mi Aung explained that K30 million in revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project would be provided at a low interest rate to create employment opportunities, increase family incomes, expand household-based businesses and implement village development activities with the increased revolving funds. The project officer detailed the



The orientation and committee formation ceremony is underway in Nyaunglebin Township.

rules and regulations to be followed in forming the project working committee, policies in the project manual and implementation procedures.

Villagers and village elders then selected and formed a seven-member

Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Working Committee through a voting system and consensus to effectively lead and carry out project activities in Kyaban Village for the 2026-2027 financial year. — Sein Lwin (Rural)



# NATIONAL

## Flood rescue operations and cleanup tasks conducted in Laymyethna



Images display intensified relief efforts in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region.

DUE to heavy rainfall and river erosion in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region, on the evening of 30 July, water overflowed from the Ngawun Dam, causing flooding in five urban wards and 121 surrounding villages in Laymyethna Township, 37 villages in Hinthada Township, two urban wards and 19 surrounding villages in Yekyi Township, two urban wards in Ngathainggyoung and six villages in Kyonpyaw Township, affecting a total of nine urban wards and 183 villages.

Tatmadaw personnel from the South-West Command, members of the Myanmar Police Force, firefighters, social rescue groups, charitable organizations and local ethnic groups are jointly conducting search and rescue operations for flood victims while providing food and necessary healthcare. To control and protect the water inlet from the Ngawun embankment, geobags are being placed, sandbags are being filled into floating docks, and steel sheet piles are being driven.

In addition, Tatmadaw personnel, members of the Myanmar Police Force, firefighters and charitable organizations are jointly cleaning schools and roads in areas where floodwaters have receded. Officials from the South-West Command are coordinating the necessary measures. — MNA/MKKS

## Repairs underway on partially damaged buildings at Border Area Ethnic Youth Training School

REHABILITATION work is being conducted on partially damaged offices, staff housing, trainees' dormitories, dining halls and roads at the Border Area Ethnic Youth Development Training School using modern machinery.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo, together with state ministers and members of the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee, inspected the ongoing work yesterday morning and urged officials to complete it on schedule and in line with required standards.

They also inspected the renovation of the Myanmar Economic Bank, Township Electrical Engineer's Office, Construction Department guesthouse and District Agriculture Department head's residence.

The members of rehabilitation committees in Tiddim and Tonzang inspected damaged government buildings in terrorist attacks and ongoing repair works and coordinated necessary measures. — MNA/KTZH



Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo and officials inspect repair and renovation work in Chin State.

## Floodwaters overflow railway in Kyonpyaw, halting train services temporarily

ACCORDING to the Ayeyawady Region government, heavy rainfall has caused floodwaters to overflow onto the railway line between the Zayathla Station and the Daikpyet Station in Kyonpyaw Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Relevant authorities have announced the temporary suspension of both up and down train services operating on the Patheingyi route.



This photo captures floodwaters flowing over a section of the railway in Kyonpyaw Township, following heavy rainfall.

Emergency works are currently being carried out at the affected site, including driving 12-metre steel sheet piles into the ground, placing geobags and sandbags down to the riverbed, and constructing temporary flood-protection barriers and retaining walls. A total workforce of 380 personnel is engaged in the operations around the clock under a rotating day-and-night shift system. — TWA/MKKS

## Flood rescue and relief operations conducted in Yaksawk, Kalaw

IN Yaksawk, Shan State (South), heavy rainfall caused the Zawgyi River to overflow, resulting in flash floods in Zawgyi Ward and Uttantar Ward. Meanwhile, flooding of the Kalaw Creek in Kalaw inundated low-lying houses in Wards 2, 3 and 4.

Yesterday morning, Tatmadaw members of the Eastern Command, Myanmar Police Force members, Myanmar Fire Brigade personnel, Red Cross members, social organizations and relevant departmental officials jointly carried out rescue and relief operations for residents affected by the flooding. The residents were transported to safety using rescue boats and Tatmadaw vehicles.

As part of the relief efforts, flood-affected residents in Yaksawk were evacuated to the Zawgyi sports hall and Uttantar religious hall, while those affected in Kalaw were relocated to the Myoma Pariyatti Monastery in Ward No 5.

Officials from the Eastern Command and relevant departments provided food and drinking water to the flood-affected residents at the temporary shelters.

Mobile medical teams from the local Tatmadaw hospital have established temporary flood-relief camps and are providing health examinations and medical treatment to residents affected by the flooding. — MNA/KTZH



People wade through floodwaters in Kalaw Township.



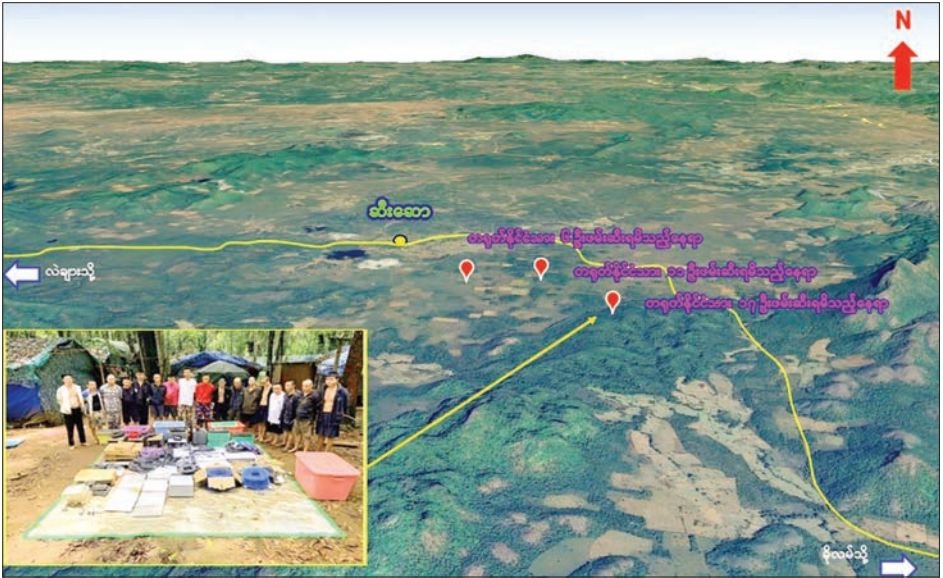
NATIONAL

34 Chinese nationals  
linked to online scams  
arrested in Laikha

TATMADAW columns conducting security measures in Laikha of Shan State (south) arrested 17 Chinese men involved in online gambling at about 2,500 metres southeast of Seesaw village in Laikha yesterday. Offenders were arrested together with one temporary tarpaulin-covered workshop measuring 50 feet long, 20 feet wide and 15 feet high, one temporary residential tarpaulin shelter

measuring 60 feet long, 20 feet wide and 15 feet high; one temporary kitchen shelter measuring 15 feet long, 15 feet wide and 10 feet high, one temporary residential tarpaulin shelter measuring 30 feet long, 20 feet wide and 15 feet high, 10 Starlink sets, two Starlink dishes, 25 laptops, six power stations, six Wi-Fi U6 Pro devices, one medium-sized freezer, plastic tables and chairs, and two generators.

Tatmadaw columns subsequently conducted security operations around the area. As a result, another 11 illegal Chinese male nationals involved in online scam and gambling activities were arrested at a location about 2,000 metres southeast of Seesaw Village, while another six illegal Chinese male nationals linked to such activities were arrested at a location about 1,700 metres south of



This map, with inset, depicts arrests of online scammers in the Laikha crackdown.

the village. A total of 34 illegal Chinese male nationals involved in online scam and gambling activities were therefore arrested. Offenders will face action under the existing law after proper examination, and the seized materials will be managed in accordance with the procedures. — MNA/KTZH

Tatkon’s MSY village  
project introduced,  
committee formed



An orientation and committee formation ceremony for the Emerald Green Village Project in progress in Tatkon Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an introductory briefing on the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project and formed a village project working committee in Nyaungbintha Village of Tatkon Township yesterday. Villagers and village elders then selected and formed a seven-member Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Working Committee through a voting system and consensus to effectively lead and carry out project activities in Nyaungbintha Village for the 2026-2027 financial year. — Karan (Rural)

Kalaw’s DRD implements VDP project

A ceremony to conduct an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project (VDP) and form a project committee took place in Kantan (Nyaungbintha) Village, Kalaw Township, yesterday. Kalaw Township Department of Rural Development Head U Ko Ko Nang met village elders and villagers in the village, and explained the objectives, processes and expected benefits of the Village Development Project (VDP). Project staff also



An initiation and committee formation ceremony for village development project is underway in Kalaw Township.

explained the rules and regulations to be followed in selecting and forming the Village Development Committee, as well as the tasks to be carried out by the village. The villagers formed a seven-member

Village Development Committee to execute village development activities effectively. In the village, villagers will undertake development activities for the 2026-2027 financial year using support funds from the Village Development Project (VDP) and contributions from residents, with technical assistance and close supervision from officials of the Department of Rural Development. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

Zeyathiri’s beef cattle farming operated under  
RBF project

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday morning to observe the status of beef cattle farming activities being executed under the Rural Business Fund (RBF) Project in Thayawady Village, Zeyathiri Township, under the Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development. During the field inspection, Daw Soe Soe Oo, Head of the Department of Rural Development, Zeyathiri District, U Myo

Zaw, Township Head, and officials inspected the operational status of four groups engaged in male beef cattle farming under the group system in Thayawady Village. The district head also met RBF members and discussed their submissions and requirements, and coordinated and provided necessary assistance based on the matters raised by the business operators. The district head stated that the RBF project



Officials inspect beef cattle farming activities in Zeyathiri Township.

is being implemented in Thayawady Village with an RBF fund of K30 million, aiming at enabling people engaged in agriculture and livestock farming, as well as small and medium-sized business operators, to obtain the necessary capital and promote the development of livelihood businesses through the group system. — Nor Lu (DRD)



## Restore lasting peace as a great importance for all

Only when the country enjoys stability and peace can efforts be made to promote the socioeconomic development of the people and the economic development of the nation. Since assuming responsibility, the government has accelerated the implementation of the two priority objectives of “achieving stability and peace in the country” and “promoting national development”. Now is the time for all ethnic armed organizations need to unite and work together in solidarity to build a new nation. In striving to achieve stability and peace across the entire country as soon as possible, it is necessary that, instead of making demands that are impossible to fulfil in the peace-building process, all parties should negotiate and seek solutions that are appropriate and feasible in line with the current era and system.

Regardless of how great the challenges and difficulties being faced may be, in line with the motto that “Strength of the nation lies within”, if the people and the government work together with unwavering determination and perseverance, difficulties can be transformed into opportunities. The government will continue building a new Union nation based on democracy and a federal system in accordance with the aspirations of the people. That is why, without being left behind in terms of ideas and perspectives, everyone must prioritize and participate in collective efforts to achieve durable peace throughout the country, which is vital for the nation.

aspiration and goal of all ethnic peoples, be successfully established. As such, all stakeholders need to resolve the differences in viewpoints and aspirations they are facing not through armed means, but peacefully through political dialogue and political solutions. Regardless of how great the challenges and difficulties being faced may be, in line with the motto that “Strength of the nation lies within”, if the people and the government work together with unwavering determination and perseverance, difficulties can be transformed into opportunities. The government will continue building a new Union nation based on democracy and a federal system in accordance with the aspirations of the people. That is why, without being left behind in terms of ideas and perspectives, everyone must prioritize and participate in collective efforts to achieve durable peace throughout the country, which is vital for the nation.

### Every Meal Matters

Every morning, families across Myanmar prepare meals that reflect the country’s rich natural heritage. Many traditional Myanmar dishes feature non-timber forest products, including bamboo shoots, mushrooms, wild fruits, and edible leaves gathered from nearby forests. For generations, these natural foods have been part of Myanmar’s culture and have supported the livelihoods of many rural communities.

When these resources are harvested carefully and responsibly, they can continue to benefit both people and nature. However, population growth, migration, changing land use, expanding markets, increasing commercial demand, illegal activities, and the growing impacts of climate change are creating new pressures on Myanmar’s forests. These challenges highlight the importance of managing forest resources sustainably for present and future generations. This raises an important question for all of us, especially young people:

“How can we continue to enjoy the gifts of nature while ensuring that our forests remain healthy for future generations?”

# From Forest to Future: Protecting Myanmar Through Sustainable Food Choices

“Healthy forests support healthy people. By using nature wisely today, we protect our future tomorrow.”

Many people recognize illegal logging and forest fires as major threats to forests. Yet another challenge receives far less attention: the illegal and unsustainable exploitation of Myanmar’s forest resources. Wildlife is illegally hunted and traded for meat, traditional medicine, pets, and commercial profit, while valuable forest products are harvested beyond sustainable levels to meet growing market demand. Illegal trade, habitat destruction, weak enforcement, poverty, and increasing consumer demand all contribute to the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of forest ecosystems. Addressing these challenges requires stronger law enforcement, public awareness, sustainable livelihoods, and responsible consumer choices. Protecting forests does not always require expensive technology or large development projects. It

often begins with informed daily choices, responsible consumption, and respect for nature.

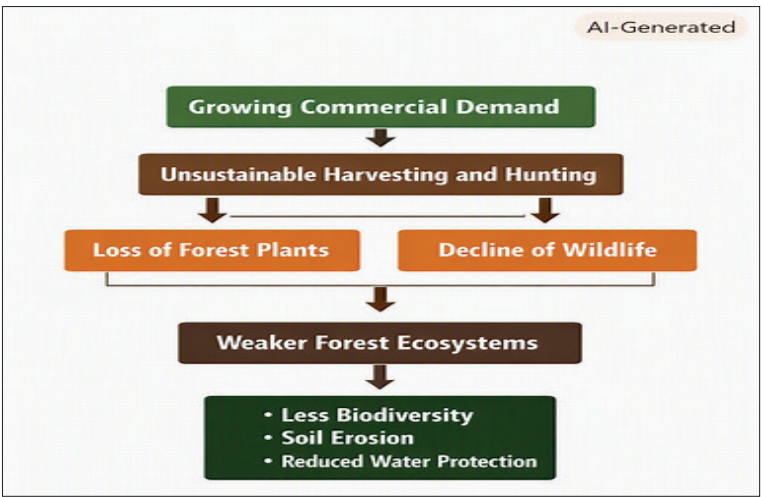
### Myanmar’s Rich Forest Heritage

Myanmar is one of Southeast Asia’s most biologically diverse countries. From the snow-covered mountains of Kachin to the tropical forests of Tanintharyi, the country is home to thousands of plant and animal species.

Forests provide much more than timber. They supply many non-timber forest products, including:

- Bamboo shoots
  - Forest mushrooms
  - Wild fruits
  - Honey
  - Edible ferns
  - Medicinal plants
  - Natural spices
- These products contribute to

By Dr Zaw (Sli)



household nutrition and income, particularly in rural and Indigenous communities. For many families, carefully managed forest harvesting remains an important part of daily life and local traditions.

Myanmar’s forests also provide habitats for elephants,

deer, monkeys, birds, pangolins, and many other wildlife species. Healthy forests support clean water, fertile soil, climate regulation, and biodiversity that benefit the entire nation.

### When Sustainable Use Be-

### comes Unsustainable

For many years, local communities collected forest products mainly for family use or small local markets. In many places, this traditional practice allowed forests enough time to regenerate naturally.

Today, however, the situation has changed.

Growing urban populations, higher consumer demand, improved transportation, and commercial trading have increased pressure on natural forests. In some areas, forest products are harvested faster than nature can replace them.

When harvesting exceeds the forest’s natural ability to recover, sustainability is lost.

For example, bamboo produces many young shoots during the rainy season. Harvesting a limited number of edible shoots

for household use can be sustainable and has long been part of Myanmar’s traditional way of life. However, when large numbers of young bamboo shoots are harvested every year for commercial food processing, especially to produce sour bamboo shoots that are transported and sold across the country as regional products, the pressure on natural bamboo forests increases. Removing too many young shoots reduces the number that can grow into mature bamboo culms, which may weaken the natural regeneration of bamboo stands over time. If unsustainable harvesting continues together with increasing market demand, land-use change, and inadequate forest management, some natural bamboo forests could gradually decline or disappear from certain areas. Promoting sustainable bamboo cultivation, responsible

harvesting practices, and bamboo plantations can help protect natural forests while supporting local livelihoods and businesses. Similarly, excessive collection of mushrooms, medicinal plants, and wild fruits may reduce the natural regeneration of important forest species.

The greatest concern is not traditional use, but unsustainable commercial exploitation.

### Why Healthy Forests Matter

Healthy forests provide many environmental services that people often take for granted.

Bamboo helps stabilize hillsides, reduce soil erosion, conserve water, and provide shelter for many animals. Forest trees protect watersheds, improve air quality, and store carbon that helps reduce climate change.

When forests become degraded:

- Soil erosion increases.
  - Rivers and streams lose natural protection.
  - Wildlife habitats become smaller.
  - Biodiversity declines.
  - Communities become more vulnerable to floods and droughts.
- SEE PAGE 12

# The Cornerstone of National Development

By Junior Thin

sense of civic responsibility is instilled within the hearts and minds of youth hailing from remote and border areas. The overarching vision is clear: to transform raw potential into dedicated patriotism, and to ensure that the light of education reaches every corner of the Union.

### Core Objectives and Strategic Pillars

The operational philosophy and institutional goals of these degree colleges are built upon distinct strategic objectives. These are designed not only to bridge the academic divide but also to address socio-economic disparities across the country:

- **Fostering National Unity and Union Spirit:** One of the primary catalysts for establishing these institutions is to bring together youth from various ethnic backgrounds under one roof. By living, studying, and growing together, these young individuals devel-

- op deep bonds of friendship, mutual respect, and understanding. This collective experience reinforces the “**Union Spirit**”, establishing a foundational belief that regardless of ethnicity, all belong to a single, undivided nation.
- **Human Resource Development in Remote Frontiers:** For decades, border regions and remote areas have faced developmental lag due to geographical and infrastructural barriers. These colleges serve as pipelines to systematically develop human capital for these specific territories, ensuring that development is not centralized but equitably distributed.
- **Elevating Socioeconomic Standards:** Education is the ultimate equalizer. By providing accessible higher education to ethnic youths, the state enables them to elevate their

ing their intellectual horizons. **The Philosophy of “Root” and “Fruit”**

To understand the trajectory of national development, one must appreciate the relationship between cause and effect, or metaphorically, between the “**root**” and the “**fruit**”.

As the globally acclaimed adage dictates:

“**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the nation.**”

In this philosophical framework, **Education represents the Root**. It is hidden beneath the surface, requiring immense effort, resources, patience, and nurturing to grow. It demands qualified educators who teach with passion, visionary administrators who manage with integrity, and a conducive environment that encourages critical thinking.

Conversely, **National Progress and Prosperity represent the Fruit**. Just as a tree cannot bear sweet, nourishing fruit with-

out a deep, healthy, and resilient root system, a nation cannot achieve genuine stability, economic wealth, or social harmony without a robust and inclusive education system. If the root is neglected, the tree of statehood will inevitably wither. Therefore, investing in the education of youth – particularly those from border regions – is akin to watering the very roots of the nation’s future.

### The Dynamic Transition – From Classroom to Community

The true test of an educational system does not take place within the safe confines of a classroom or during graduation ceremonies; it begins the moment students step out into the real world. Upon completing their academic journeys, the graduates of the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges experience a profound transformation. They transition from being the recipients of knowledge to becoming

the creators of value.

These young graduates return to their respective native towns and villages, not as tourists, but as active leaders and public servants. They are integrated into various sectors of public administration, regional development, and social services. This is the precise moment where “**Education**” seamlessly elevates into “**Duty**”.

This transition represents a sacred social contract between the individual and the state. The knowledge, skills, and ethical training accumulated during their college years are now mobilized to solve real-world problems: improving local infrastructure, upgrading healthcare awareness, enhancing regional governance, and inspiring the next generation of children in their villages to pursue learning.

### Embracing the Sacred Duty for a Brighter Future

When education matures into duty, it ceases to be a burden and instead becomes a noble privilege. The responsibilities bestowed upon these ethnic youths are monumental. They are tasked with maintaining local peace, bridging

cultural gaps, and executing development projects that align with the national vision.

The article highlights that this responsibility is twofold:

1. **Individual Accountability:** Each graduate must maintain personal integrity, discipline, and a continuous desire for self-improvement, avoiding complacency.
2. **Collective Solidarity:** They must work hand-in-hand with local populations, respecting regional traditions while guiding them toward modern, progressive perspectives.

In brief, the journey from education to duty is the definitive path toward building a modern, peaceful, and developed democratic nation. By translating theoretical knowledge acquired in lecture halls into impactful, practical actions on the ground, these ethnic youth effectively become the sturdy pillars and architects of tomorrow. They prove that when a state empowers its youth through education, those youth will, in turn, safeguard and elevate the state through their unwavering dedication to duty.



# NATIONAL

## Myanmar-South Korea B2B meetings set for 2026 ASEAN Panorama exhibition in Seoul

BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS (B2B) talks between Myanmar and South Korean entrepreneurs will be held on 26-27 August at the ASEAN-Korea Centre in Seoul during the ongoing 2026 ASEAN Panorama exhibition, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The upcoming B2B sessions are intended to create important opportunities for Myanmar businesses to connect with buyers and distributors in the South Korean market, secure business partnerships, and strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation between the



This photo features products from Myanmar and Thailand showcased at the 2026 ASEAN Panorama exhibition.

two countries.

The 2026 ASEAN Panorama exhibition, which is being held from 7 May to 30 September 2026, was organized to promote ASEAN products in the South Korean market. The ex-

hibition features rotating showcases from two ASEAN member states each month.

Under the current rotation, products from Myanmar and Thailand are being exhibited from 1 to

27 August, with pavilions representing 10 participating Myanmar companies.

The Myanmar participation, supported by the ASEAN-Korea Centre and coordinated by the Ministry of Commerce together with the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul, showcases a wide range of products and promotional materials. These include authentic Myanmar traditional arts and handicrafts, textiles and local food products, as well as tourism promotion through video presentations highlighting Myanmar's travel destinations. — ASH/TH

## GFS offers Shelf Life & Packaging Training in late Aug

GREEN Food Science, providing safe, quality, nutritious and sustainable food solutions, will conduct Shelf Life and Packaging Training from 9 am to 4 pm on 25-27 August 2026.

The training will cover the comprehensive food business solutions including shelf-life studies, packaging solutions, processing, product research and development, GMP & GHP, Food safety systems, quality assurance, regulatory compliance, preservation, FDA regulations, product licence, connecting with suppliers, laboratory testing, observations at the FDA certified food processing factory.

This training is tailored to food manufacturers, factory managers, QA/QC supervisors, R&D managers, and those interested in food manufacturing. It will also offer Zoom Online learning simultaneously. The training fee is K2 million. The training is located at 110, Thanthuma Road, South Okkalapa, Yangon. Interested individuals can enquire for further details by dialling 09 945503888 or 09 960447765. — NN/KK

## Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 10 August 2026

|                              | US\$             | Chinese yuan  | Thai baht     | India rupee |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Exchange rates               | 3,648.00~3669.00 | 555.30~558.70 | 125.30~125.70 | 43.60       |
| Trading amount in the market | 4,124,918.94     | 987,528.50    | 6,340,712.31  | -           |

THE foreign currency volume traded in the market was for the import of medicines and pharmaceutical raw materials, industrial raw materials, fertilizers, consumer goods, car/motorcycle spare parts, construction materials, packaging materials, and animal feed and supplies. — MNA

## Hotel, land near YIA offered for long-term lease

THE Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture invited investors to submit open tender proposals for a long-term lease of a hotel and a three-acre plot of land located near Yan-

gon International Airport in Mingaladon Township, according to its tender committee.

This property for lease is owned by the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism

for a long-term period of (30+5+5) years. Proposal forms will be available until 20 August, with the deadline set for 10 am on 21 August. Bids will be opened at 10:30 am on 21 August.

Interested individuals can enquire for further details through the department at Office 33 in Nay Pyi Taw by dialling 067 3406242 or 067 3406461. — NN/KK

## Over 5,800 rice warehouses registered nationwide by end-July

BY the end of July this year, a total of 5,835 rice warehouses had been registered across the Nay Pyi Taw, regions, and states, according to the Department of Consumer Affairs on 4 August.

Warehouse registration is being conducted online via the Myanmar Rice Online (My RO) sys-

tem, categorized into four groups based on warehouse size criteria.

This data is based on a period between 3 November 2023 and 31 July 2026. According to the registration records on My RO, the breakdown is as follows: Sagaing Region (189), Taninthayi Region (127), Nay Pyi Taw Council Ter-

ritory (177), Bago Region (1,102), Magway Region (391), Mandalay Region (557), Yangon Region (991), Ayeyawady Region (1,905), Kachin State (4), Kayin State (47), Mon State (153), Rakhine State (3), Kayah State (2), and Shan State (187).

To systematically register rice storage op-

erations, storage conditions, and warehouses nationwide using digital methods, Myanmar Rice Online (My RO) has been implemented since 3 November, 2023, in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce's Department of Consumer Affairs and the Myanmar Rice Federation. — MT

## 14<sup>th</sup> intake of International Trade Course set for early Sept

THE Trade Training Institute (Yangon) will offer its 14<sup>th</sup> intake of the International Trade Foundation Course from 9 am to noon every weekend starting in the first week of September.

The course runs for four months. Enrollment is open for 70 to 90 trainees. Applicants must submit three 1inch passport-size photos, a copy of their bachelor's degree or matriculation exam certificate, and a copy of their citizenship scrutiny card. The institute is located at 228/240, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, corner of Strand Road and Shwebontha Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon. Interested individuals can register in person at the institute and can enquire about details by dialling 01 8250871, 09 254075848, or 09 250088436. — NN/KK

## MMPO warns of legal action over sales of industry-owned properties

THE Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO) issued a warning that selling land plots, buildings, and rooms collectively owned by film industry workers will result in legal action under existing laws.

Between 1986 and 2012, video hall operators established residences and video screening venues under the supervision of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO), using public funds. During that period, land, buildings and video halls were acquired in townships across the country's regions and states.

With the decline of the video hall industry, some individuals are reportedly attempting to sell these properties for personal gain. The MMPO stressed that the assets remain the collective property of the film industry and warned that any unauthorized sale or transfer would be subject to legal action. — NN/KK



NATIONAL

Letpadan's Emerald Green village project introduced and village committee formed



An orientation and committee formation ceremony for the Emerald Green village project is underway in Letpadan Township.

THE Department of Rural Development (DRD) under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, organized an Emerald Green Village Project introduction and village committee formation ceremony at the monastery in Thayagon Village, Letpadan Township, yesterday morning. The event was held to promote the socioeconomic development of rural communities.

District Head U Nyunt Zaw of the Department of Rural Development, Thayawady District, first explained the objectives, benefits, and implementation process of the Mya Sein Yaung (Emerald Green) Village Project. Afterwards, Township Head U Thet Soe of the Department of Rural Development, Letpadan Township,

then briefed participants on the rules and regulations governing the project committee, its duties and responsibilities, as well as the roles and obligations of village residents.

Following the presentations, village elders and residents unanimously elected and formed a nine-member Emerald Green Village Project Committee to effectively implement village development activities.

Under the 2026-2027 Financial Year Emerald Green Village Project, a revolving fund of K30 million will be provided to the village as low-interest loans to support small-scale income-generating activities, according to the Department of Rural Development, Thayawady District. — Myo Myo (DRD)

Mongyang's Emerald Green village project activities inspected

THE Rural Development Department of Mongyang Township, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to inspect the successful development of income-generating businesses with the Emerald Green Village Project Fund in Wanoe Village and Monglweauk Village, aiming at enabling rural residents to operate their own small businesses and obtain low-interest financing.

District Head U Yan Kyaw of the Mongyang District Rural Development Department, Town-



Officials oversee an income-generating business in Mongyang Township.

ship Head U Thet Lin Htun of the Mongyang Township Rural Development Department, and district/township project officers, together with members of the Emerald Green Village Project, inspect-

ed the implementation of family income-generating agricultural activities in Wanoe Village and Monglweauk Village with the funds from the Emerald Green project and whether the monthly financial

statements were complete or not. District Head U Yan Kyaw of the Mongyang Township Rural Development Department said that the Emerald Green Village Project in the village has been successfully operating for a total of 10 members/members of the Emerald Green Village Project this financial year. District Head U Yan Kyaw of the Mongyang Township Rural Development Department said that the Emerald Green Village Project has been successfully operating for 10 members of the Emerald Green Village Project. — Aung Ye Kyaw (DRD)

Myanmar migrant worker killed in Thailand's bus-train crash receives 2M baht

FOR a Myanmar migrant worker who lost their life in a bus and train collision in Thailand, compensation worth 2 million baht was paid, said the Myanmar Labour Attaché Office.

A Myanmar migrant worker, Ma Aye Aye Myint, was one of the fatalities in the fire caused by the collision of a passenger bus and a train near Makkasan station in Bangkok. For her death, the labour attaché office helped in gaining access to benefits in accordance with the Thailand social security law and by the instruction of the Embassy of the Republic of

the Union of Myanmar.

The worker's family was paid the compensation worth two million baht on 15 July, it said on 9 August, and added that her brother visited the office on 5 August and expressed gratitude towards the respective officials for their assistance.

The office has helped with labour issues, including health and social security benefits, and Myanmar migrant workers are advised to contact the telephone numbers of the Labour Offices during office hours if their rights are violated. — MT/ZS



A family member of Ma Aye Aye Myint seen together with labour officials.



An awareness talk on air pollution is in progress in Myothit Township, Magway Region.

THE Department of Rural Development (DRD),

under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural De-

Awareness Talk on Reducing Smoke and Air Pollution conducted in Myothit

velopment, conducted an awareness talk on reducing smoke and air pollution in Aitoe (South) Village in Myothit Township yesterday to help create a safer and healthier living environment for rural communities.

Township Head Daw May Thu Aung of the Department of Rural Devel-

opment delivered a presentation on the dangers of smoke pollution, its environmental impacts, and preventive measures to reduce pollution. She also explained the importance of proper waste segregation and systematic waste disposal to prevent environmental contamination. In addition, she discussed

various diseases associated with outdoor and indoor air pollution, along with preventive measures and recommended practices.

Following the presentation, DRD staff distributed informational pamphlets to participants to enhance public knowledge and awareness on

reducing smoke and air pollution.

The awareness programme was attended by departmental officials, the village administrator, village elders, and residents of Aingtoe (South) Village, according to the Department of Rural Development, Myothit Township. — Ah Htwe (DRD)



ARTICLE/ECONOMY  
WORLD

Stocks mostly rise with  
focus on US inflation

STOCK markets mostly rose Monday as investors pared their bets on an interest rate hike by the Federal Reserve that curtail growth, awaiting inflation data this week for more clues to the outlook for the world's biggest economy.

Oil prices gained close to two per cent as the United States and Iran remained deadlocked over a deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz to Gulf tanker and cargo traffic.

In Asia, equities were

boosted by technology shares following a volatile run in recent weeks, with Japanese and Korean chip-makers leading the charge.

Tokyo climbed more than two per cent thanks to advances for Tokyo Electron and Advantest, and Seoul, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Mumbai also closed higher.

European stock markets were more subdued, with Frankfurt edging up, Paris flat and London dipping around midday.

Sentiment was lifted after US data on Friday showed that 23,000 jobs were lost last month, confounding widespread expectations for growth and suggesting that economy was slowing.

But traders welcomed the prospect that the Federal Reserve would hold off on raising borrowing costs to contain stubbornly high inflation, at least for the time being.

"People who lose their jobs and those who see

their wages grow more slowly will be tempted to spend less," said Ipek Ozkardeskaya, senior analyst at Swissquote.

That would "tame inflationary pressures and help the Federal Reserve keep rates unchanged for longer", she added.

Focus now turns to US consumer inflation data due Wednesday, followed by producer prices later in the week. — AFP



A woman shops for produce at a supermarket in La Puente, California, on 7 August 2026. PHOTO: AFP

From Forest to Future: Protecting Myanmar ...

FROM PAGE 9

The loss of even a few important species can affect the balance of an entire ecosystem.

Protecting forests means protecting the many natural systems that support agriculture, clean water, and human well-being.

Wildlife Conservation Benefits Everyone

Wild animals play important roles in maintaining healthy ecosystems. Many birds and mammals disperse seeds that help forests regenerate naturally. Others control insect populations or contribute to the balance of food webs.

Unfortunately, illegal hunting and wildlife trafficking continue to threaten many species around the world. Protected animals, including pangolins, have experienced serious population declines because of illegal hunting and trade.

Reducing demand for illegally hunted wild meat helps protect biodiversity and supports national conservation efforts. Protecting wildlife is not only about saving individual species. It is about maintaining healthy ecosystems that support future generations.

Healthy Food Choices and Public Health

Choosing sustainable food is also beneficial for human health.

Scientific studies show that some diseases can spread between animals and humans. Good food safety practices and responsible wildlife management help reduce these risks.

Improper handling or processing of certain forest foods may also create health concerns. For example, bamboo shoots should be prepared hygienically and cooked properly before consumption. Likewise, some wild plants require careful preparation because they may naturally contain substances that are unsafe if consumed incorrectly.

Whenever possible, families can choose safely produced agricultural products, farm-grown vegetables, and legally sourced foods that meet food safety standards.

Healthy diets support both healthy people and healthy environments.

Laws and Community Participation

Myanmar has introduced important environmental legislation to conserve forests and bio-



diversity, including the Environmental Conservation Law (2012), the Forest Law (2018), and the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Conservation Law (2018).

These laws help protect forests, wildlife, and protected areas.

However, laws alone cannot achieve conservation.

Successful forest protection also depends on:

- Strong law enforcement
- Community participation
- Sustainable forest management
- Public awareness
- Responsible businesses
- Environmental education

When governments, communities, schools, and

businesses work together, conservation becomes much more effective.

Learning from International Experience

Many countries have shown that sustainable development and forest conservation can go hand in hand.

Community forestry allows local people to manage forest resources responsibly while improving their livelihoods.

Commercial bamboo plantations reduce pressure on natural bamboo forests.

Environmental education encourages students to understand biodiversity, climate change, and sustainable lifestyles.

School eco-clubs, tree-planting campaigns,

recycling programmes, and biodiversity education have helped young people become active environmental stewards in many countries.

Myanmar can continue strengthening similar initiatives while respecting its own traditions and local knowledge.

Environmental education

Education is one of the most effective long-term approaches to environmental conservation.

When students understand how forests support clean water, agriculture, biodiversity, and public health, they become informed citizens who make responsible decisions.

Teachers, parents, and community leaders all have important roles in encouraging environmental responsibility.

Simple actions can make a meaningful difference:

- Choose sustainably produced food whenever possible.
- Avoid purchasing illegally hunted wildlife.
- Reduce unnecessary food waste.
- Support community forestry programmes.
- Join tree-planting and conservation activities.
- Share environmental

knowledge with others.

Small actions taken by millions of people create lasting national change.

Protecting Nature Starts with Us

Myanmar's forests are among the nation's greatest treasures. They provide food, clean water, livelihoods, wildlife habitats, and protection against climate change. Conserving these resources does not mean abandoning our traditions. Instead, it means using nature wisely and responsibly so that future generations can continue to enjoy its benefits.

Every family, every school, every community, and every citizen has a role to play.

As our national commitment reminds us:

"Keep Myanmar Clean and Green: Protect Nature, Protect Our Future."

By making informed food choices, respecting wildlife, supporting sustainable forestry, and educating the next generation, we can help ensure that Myanmar's forests remain healthy, diverse, and productive for many years to come.

Together, let us build a greener, healthier, and more sustainable Myanmar for present and future generations.



## BOJ policymaker urged faster rate hikes on inflation risks in July meeting

A Bank of Japan policymaker called for the central bank to consider speeding up the pace of interest rate hikes given upside risks to prices, a summary of opinions at a policy meeting in July showed Monday.

At the 30-31 July meeting, where the bank left the benchmark policy rate unchanged to gauge the impact of its hike to a 31-year high of 1.0 per cent in the June session, the Policy Board member said it is “necessary for the bank to accelerate the pace of adjustment to the degree of monetary accommodation”.

“Should upside risks



File photo taken in June 2026 shows an aerial view of the Bank of Japan headquarters in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

to prices materialize, it would not only deliver a significant blow to Japan’s economy and to people’s daily lives but would also compel the bank to later make rap-

id and substantial policy interest rate hikes, causing a double shock,” the member said. “It cannot be said that ‘the risk of waiting is marginal’. — Kyodo

### CHANGING THE NAME OF INSECTICIDE TRADING

The foreign manufacture Makro Chemical will import and distribute the following insecticides registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board changing trading name –

| Old Trade Name | New Trade Name | Registration Number |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Shwe Paung Go  | Jeeno          | P 2024-5824         |

It is therefore announced to come and reject within two weeks to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of insecticide.

Address : Golden Key Co., Ltd.  
PABEDAN TOWNSHIP, YANGON. PH: 01371629

### Notice for change of distributor

Notice is hereby given that the official distributor – Aventine Limited to Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. has been changed for the following pesticide manufactured by Arysta LifeScience Benelux Spri, Belgium.

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. invites objections to Co-secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from all parties within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice. If no objections are received within the period prescribed, parties mentioned above shall proceed with the completion of formalities recorded with the Pesticide Registration Board.

| No. | Brand Name     | Active Ingredients                                | Registration No. |
|-----|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1.  | Proxanil 45 SC | Cymoxanil 4.6% + Propamocarb Hydrochloride 36% SC | P 2023 – 4703    |

Myanmar Arysta LifeScience Co.,Ltd. Suite # 09 – 02, Crystal Tower, Kyun Taw Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon. 01 – 933 93 59, 933 93 60

## Thailand’s trade with FTA partners rises 21.8% in H1

TRADE between Thailand and its free trade agreement (FTA) partners rose 21.8 per cent year on year to US\$243.67 billion in the first half of 2026, accounting for 57.3 per cent of the country’s total trade, official data showed on Monday. According to the Ministry of Commerce, exports to the 18 FTA partners gained 12.6 per cent to \$105.49 billion during the January-June period, while imports climbed 30 per cent to \$138.18 billion. China remained Thailand’s

largest FTA trading partner, followed by Japan, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, and India, the ministry said in a statement. Chotima Iem-sawasdikul, director-general of the ministry’s Department of Trade Negotiations, said that despite geopolitical tensions, protectionist measures, and supply-chain uncertainty, the agreements had remained a key mechanism for opening markets, linking production chains, and securing industrial raw materials. — Xinhua

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (366W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (366W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-8-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FSL SINGAPORE VOY.NO. (251N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FSL SINGAPORE VOY.NO. (251N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-8-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BUNUN VICTORY VOY.NO. (22)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BUNUN VICTORY VOY.NO. (22)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-8-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S’PORE) PTE LTD

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0B82JS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO FORTUNE VOY.NO. (0B82JS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-8-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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 ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (291N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (291N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-8-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES



# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## Trump's options for walking away from Iran war have narrowed: media

RECENT development in the negotiations indicated that US President Donald Trump's options for walking away from the war against Iran have "narrowed", The Wall Street Journal reported Sunday.

Trump for weeks "had been laying the groundwork to declare victory in the Iran war should Tehran fully reopen the Strait of Hormuz, even floating the idea privately to senior aides that he's willing to walk away without a nuclear deal", the report cited US officials as saying.

The report noted that Trump sought to include nuclear talks as part of broader negotiations with Iran, "but those have proven too difficult, leading the White House in recent



This photo taken on 7 April 2026 shows a view of the White House in Washington, DC, the United States.

**PHOTO: XINHUA**

weeks to focus more on reopening the Strait of Hormuz".

That "scaled-back objective", however, became more difficult when Iran insisted Saturday "on its highest price yet" for seeking billions of dollars in US payments, the removal of

American troops from the region, and an end of the US naval blockade, among other things, the report said, adding that "recent chaos in negotiations signalled Tehran is prepared for a long and grinding conflict".

The latest report came two days after CNN report-

ed that Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General Dan Caine has, over the last few weeks, privately told other top Trump advisers and Cabinet officials that the United States needs to find an off-ramp from the war with Iran.

Meanwhile, growing concerns over US ammunition stockpiles have raised doubts about how long military operations against Iran can be sustained in a war now in its fifth month. Media reported that US military had exhausted nearly 80 per cent of the interceptors for a key missile defence system during the war, as military commanders warned that the army's munitions stockpile was "dangerously low". — Xinhua

## Major quake rocks Colombia and other countries, causing damage and injuries

A powerful earthquake rocked Colombia and other Latin American countries on Monday, causing unspecified damage and injuries and building evacuations in Bogota.

The Colombian geological service put the magnitude of the quake at 6.6 while its American counterpart USGS put it at 7.4, with an epicentre 100 kilometres (62 miles) underground in the west of Colombia.

It was felt in Ecuador and as far away as Panama to the north, and prompted building evacuations in Bogota, AFP reporters saw.

The governor of Colombia's Choco province

wrote on X that there were injuries and serious damage to buildings in the department's capital Quibdo.

The mayor of Cali, Colombia's third largest city, also reported "major damage".

News outlets aired footage of some buildings with their facades ripped off by the quake.

In Bogota some people ran out into the street in their pajamas as emergency sirens rang out, AFP reporters saw.

Twin earthquakes in Venezuela of magnitude 7.2 and 7.5 on 24 June killed more than 6,000 people and caused devastating property damage. — AFP



Women look at a damaged building after an earthquake in Cali, Colombia, on 10 August 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

## British PM announces measures to tackle misleading discounts, subscription traps

BRITISH Prime Minister Andy Burnham on Sunday announced measures to crack down on misleading discounts and subscription traps as part of efforts to ease cost-of-living pressures.

According to an announcement issued by the British government, under the plans, the government

will seek to stop retailers from using practices such as artificially raising prices before advertising discounts.

A consultation will be launched this autumn on whether such practices should be explicitly banned under existing consumer protection law, the announcement added.

New subscription rules will also take effect in January 2027, requiring businesses to provide clearer information, renewal reminders and easier cancellation. Consumers will also be given a 14-day cooling-off period after certain contracts are renewed.

The government said Britain has around 155 mil-

lion active subscriptions, with consumers spending an estimated 1.6 billion pounds (US\$2.15 billion) a year on unwanted subscriptions. Burnham said the measures were the first in a series of what the government calls "everyday fixes" aimed at reducing pressures on household finances. — Xinhua

## Hundreds of thousands evacuated as Typhoon Dolphin brings heavy rain to eastern China

HUNDREDS of thousands of people were evacuated in east China as Typhoon Dolphin brought heavy rain and flooding, with authorities warning that risks remained even as the storm weakened after making landfall.

As of 7 am Monday, about 167,900 people had been moved from vulnerable areas on land and at sea in Fujian Province. By

late Sunday, Shanghai had evacuated around 215,600 people from areas considered at risk.

Heavy rain was forecast to persist on Monday in parts of Fujian, including the cities of Ningde and Nanping, with the potential for torrential downpours in some areas.

The storm caused widespread disruptions to transport and tourism.



A man holds tightly onto an umbrella that is blown open by the wind amid rain at Huangpu District of Shanghai, east China, on 9 August 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

In Fujian, authorities suspended 686 road passenger routes and 658 train services. A total of 234 major tourist attractions were also shut down and dozens of cultural and tourism events cancelled.

In Shanghai, LEGOLAND Shanghai Resort temporarily closed around noon Monday as Typhoon Dolphin lashed the city with heavy rain. Authorities in the district where the resort is located issued the highest-level rainstorm alert and warned of possible urban waterlogging.

Dolphin, the 13<sup>th</sup> typhoon of the year, made two landfalls in Zhejiang Province on Sunday, according to the National Meteorological Centre (NMC).

The NMC renewed a blue typhoon alert Monday morning, forecasting that the storm would move northwest at 15 to 20 kilometres per hour and gradually weaken.

China has a four-tier color-coded weather warning system, with red representing the most severe, followed by orange, yellow and blue. — Xinhua



## 2026 Inter-Ministry Futsal Tourney quarterfinals continue

THE 2026 Inter-Ministry Futsal Tournament, jointly organized by the Department of Sports and Physical Education under the Ministry of Sports and the Myanmar Football Federation, continued at Wunna Theikdhi Futsal Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with the Ministry of Defence team defeating the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development team 5-1 in the men's quarterfinals.

Similarly, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue team defeated the Ministry of

Sports team 2-1, the Ministry of Home Affairs team defeated the Ministry of Digital Development and Communications team 3-2, and the Ministry of Construction team defeated the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement team 2-0.

On 12 August, the Ministry of Defence team will face the Ministry of Home Affairs team, while the Ministry of Finance and Revenue team will take on the Ministry of Construction team in the semifinals. — MNA/MKKS



The match between the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in action yesterday.

## Ayeyawady FC finish 1<sup>st</sup> half of season unbeaten, winning 3-0 over Shan United

DEFENDING champions Ayeyawady FC defeated Shan United FC 3-0 in the final match of the first half of the Myanmar Women's League 2026-2027 season (Match 9), played at Yangon's Thuwunna Stadium yesterday evening.

Ayeyawady FC, who were strong in both attack and defence from the outset, secured victory through goals from May Htet Lu and Nan Khaing Zin Myint, while the third goal came from an own goal by Shan United defender Khaing Thazin.

Although Shan United had produced strong performances in their previous matches, they were unable to withstand the pressure applied by the defending champions and suffered a 3-0 defeat.

The victory enabled Ayeyawady FC to complete the first half of the season without conceding a single goal. They also remain firmly on course to retain their league title, having strengthened their position at the top of the table.



Ayeyawady FC celebrates after scoring a goal against Shan United.

With the first half of the Myanmar Women's League 2026-2027 season now over, all participating teams will begin preparations for the second-round matches. — TWA/MKKS

## Bezos consortium nears deal to buy Liverpool stake: report

AMAZON founder Jeff Bezos is part of a consortium nearing a deal to buy a one-third stake in Premier League club Liverpool, a report said Monday.

Sky News said Bezos was part of an investor group led by Amit Bhatia, the son-in-law of India steel billionaire Lakshmi Mittal, that also includes Facebook co-founder Eduardo Saverin.

Liverpool owners Fenway Sports Group (FSG) confirmed the approach from Bhatia's group last month.

"An investment consortium led, managed, and represented by Amit Bhatia has expressed interest in making a strategic minority investment in Liverpool Football Club," an FSG spokesman told AFP.

Bhatia was until recently a shareholder in Championship club

Queens Park Rangers.

The Sky report said the consortium was "closing in on a deal to buy a roughly one-third stake in Liverpool", with FSG preparing to make an announcement "as soon as this week".

Bezos, 62, is one of the world's richest men, with a fortune estimated by Forbes magazine at more than \$280 billion, while Saverin's wealth is put at \$33 billion.

Bezos has reportedly explored previous bids for the NFL's Seattle Seahawks and Washington Commanders, but decided against pursuing either deal. Sky said the investment in Liverpool, part of an influx of American money into the Premier League, would reportedly value the 20-time English league champions at \$6 billion. — AFP

## Real Madrid does homework early to prepare for new La Liga season

REAL Madrid goes into the new season with renewed confidence after two disastrous campaigns which saw the club fail to win major trophies.

Last season saw Real Madrid kick off with Xabi Alonso in the dugout with the former player expected to bring order to the team, but far from resolving dressing room issues, problems with several players saw Alonso sacked in January and replaced by B-team coach Alvaro Arbeloa, who was unable to bring an upturn in results. The summer saw a brief election campaign as club president, Florentino Perez blamed everyone but himself for the situation, and Perez was duly returned to power with Jose Mourinho returning as coach in an attempt to install greater discipline in the dressing room.

The club also moved quickly in the transfer market with Denzel Dum-



Real Madrid's Portuguese coach Jose Mourinho (C) speak with his players during the pre-season football match between Ferencvaros and Real Madrid in Budapest, Hungary, on 8 August 2026. PHOTO: AFP

fries, Ibrahima Konate and Spain international full back Marc Cucurella all arriving to shore up a defence that shipped too many goals last season.

Dumfries will compete with Trent Alexander Arnold at right back, while Cucurella will also give an attacking outlet down the left and Konate should enhance the central defence.

The club also brought in Bernardo Silva on a free transfer from Manchester City and although the Portuguese is still short of fitness, he will offer options in an attacking midfield role or out wide.

Real Madrid has also strengthened in attack with powerful young striker Carlos Espi arriving from Levante to offer an alternative as a 'number 9', while the club spent an estimated 140 million euros to make 19-year-old Yan Diomande

its record signing.

That gives Mourinho a host of options to work with, especially as Vinicius Jr penned a new contract, and an attack of Kylian Mbappe, Diomande and Vinicius Jr, with Espi, Brahim Diaz, will give a lot of defences sleepless nights, while Endrick could find himself out on loan to gain extra game time and Rodrygo could be sold once he proves his fitness. — Xinhua





# WORLD

## A-bomb victims' group calls for world free of nukes on its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary

NIHON Hidankyo, Japan's leading group of atomic bomb survivors, renewed its pledge Monday to continue its efforts towards realizing a world free of nuclear weapons as it marked the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding.

"It is each citizen of world who will build a human society without nuclear weapons and wars. We will keep calling for it as long as we are alive," the group, formally known as the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, said in a statement.

The grassroots movement led by the group, which has focused on sharing the testimonies of survivors across the country and abroad, has contributed to the creation of an international taboo against the use of nuclear weapons.

The group, established in Nagasaki on 10 August 1956, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2024 "for its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and for demonstrating through wit-



Shigemitsu Tanaka, co-chairman of the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, speaks at a press conference in Nagasaki on 10 August 2026, to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the group's founding. **PHOTO: KYODO**

ness testimony that nuclear weapons must never be used again".

Around 214,000 people are estimated to have died by the end of 1945 due to the US atomic bombings of Hiroshima on 6 August and Nagasaki on 9 August of that year, towards the end of World War II.

"Nuclear bombs were dropped because there was a war. We must not engage in war anymore," Shigemitsu Tanaka, an 85-year-old co-chairman of the group,

said at a press conference in Nagasaki, calling for greater public awareness of the issue.

In the statement, Hidankyo urged the Japanese government to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, calling it the "historic responsibility" of the atomic-bombed country and the "first step towards a world of peace".

In addition to compensation for the victims of the atomic bombings, the

group has also called for Japan's pacifist Constitution to be maintained, claiming the government of Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi is aiming to revise it and change the country's non-nuclear principles without sufficient debate.

The government is reportedly reconsidering the three principles of not possessing, producing or allowing nuclear weapons in Japan, ahead of the revision of key national security documents by the end of the year.

Hidankyo adheres to a pair of basic demands adopted in 1984 — demanding that the state, which started the war, should compensate victims for the damage caused by the atomic bombs, and calling for the immediate abolition of nuclear weapons. With the average age of atomic bomb survivors standing at 86.66 as of the end of March, according to the welfare ministry, Hidankyo and local chapters are aiming to decide on its future course around next year. — Kyodo

## Iran says service fees should be charged for passage through Hormuz Strait

FEES should be charged for maritime services provided in the Strait of Hormuz, Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said on Monday.

He made the remarks at a weekly press conference in response to a question about whether fees for maritime services had been discussed during negotiations between Iran and Oman on the designation of a new route in the waterway.

"Generally, when you provide maritime services, you must be reimbursed for them," Baghaei said.

"At this stage, we do not discuss such details," he said, adding that the discussions were continuing and "certain

technical points" will be discussed.

Baghaei said the negotiations between Iran and Oman "are being held smoothly and constructively", noting that mechanisms would be established to ensure safe shipping, address environmental issues, provide maritime services and combat crimes in the strait.

Under a potential agreement to be reached between the two sides, the existing northern and southern routes in the strait would be replaced by an intermediate one, he said, adding that the new route would be used temporarily until Iran and Oman agree on a new traffic separation scheme. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 20 June 2026 shows the Strait of Hormuz near Khasab, a small town in northern Oman. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

## Japan PM calls for free, safe passage of Hormuz in phone talks with Oman



Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi speaks to reporters in her office after phone talks with Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq al-Said on 10 August 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPANESE Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi called for the resumption of free and safe passage through

the Strait of Hormuz in phone talks with Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq al-Said on Monday, amid

stalled US-Iranian negotiations on the conflict.

Oman is engaged in talks with Iran, reportedly over shipping routes through the key trade artery. Haitham responded that Oman would consult with and respect the views of countries that use the waterway, Takaichi told reporters at her office in Tokyo.

The two agreed to coordinate closely towards regional peace and stability, including in the Strait of Hormuz, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said.

The effective blockade since the conflict

began in late February of the critical waterway for energy transport has fuelled supply concerns and sent energy prices surging. Resource-poor Japan relies heavily on the Middle East for crude oil.

"I said that it is important for the free and safe navigation of the Strait of Hormuz to be restored as soon as possible without additional costs," Takaichi said. "To this end, holding talks with the international community, including countries that use the strait, is necessary." — Kyodo

## Researchers develop self-deploying concrete system that builds structures in seconds, cuts emissions

RESEARCHERS have developed a self-deploying concrete system that could significantly speed up construction while cutting costs and carbon emissions, the Israeli Institute of Technology said in a statement on Sunday.

Published in Communications Engineering, the study described a new type of construction formwork that arrives at building sites in a compact shape and automatically unfolds as concrete is poured into it.

In a demonstration, the researchers built a reinforced concrete structure 2.36 metres high with a base diameter of 2.4 metres, fully deployed in just 14 seconds.

The system uses flexible tubes containing steel cables that reinforce the concrete. Pressure from the poured concrete causes the tubes to unfold into their designed shape, eliminating much of the manual work normally required to assemble and remove large formwork systems. — Xinhua