

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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

## Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Post Handed Over

**A** MILITARY parade honouring the ceremony to hand over duties of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of the Myanmar Tatmadaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was held at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Incumbent Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing and Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Zeya Kyaw Htin Sithu Ye Win Oo, who will assume the duties of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, led by two protocol officers, arrived at the venue where the handover ceremony will take place.

The Senior General and the General took the salute of the Guard of Honour. Meanwhile, the artillery unit of honour fired a 19-gun salute to the accompaniment of the military parade. The Senior General inspected the Guard of Honour.

On the occasion, the Senior General delivered a speech of honour. He said: As of today, it has been about 52 years since he first joined Tatmadaw in 1974 and served in various positions. Over the past 15 years, since 30 March 2011, when Senior General Than Shwe and the senior leaders of Tatmadaw entrusted him with the responsibilities of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, he has diligently carried out his duties to the best of his ability and intelligence. Following the vision set by successive Tatmadaw leaders, including General Ne Win, he worked to build a modern, capable, and patriotic Tatmadaw that is strong, disciplined, and highly proficient.

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Incumbent Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing confers the command insignia on newly appointed Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Zeya Kyaw Htin Sithu Ye Win Oo.

**OPINION**

Encourage efficient application of modern technologies

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UNHCR Representative to Myanmar presents Credentials to MoFA Union Minister

# NATIONAL

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

## Bank Holiday

ALL banks will be closed on 1<sup>st</sup> (Wednesday) April 2026 "BANK HOLIDAY" under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

## Festive displays and light shows celebrate Armed Forces Day in Nay Pyi Taw

IN honour of the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Armed Forces Day, which fell on 27 March, posters featuring valiant and patriotic members of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, and Air Force) have been placed at the traffic lights at Pinlaung Junction and near the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) in Nay Pyi Taw.

Similarly, along the road from Pinlaung Junction to the parade ground, Tatmadaw slogans are displayed in both Myanmar and English, while the grand arch at the entrance to

the parade ground presents a magnificent display.

At the entrance to the Tatmadaw parade ground and along both sides of the road, truss beams, light boxes, lighting poles, LED strip lights, rain lights, uplights, programmed LED displays, and banners have been installed. In addition, the national flag and the Tatmadaw flags, lighting effects, and trees facing the dais of taking salute have been adorned with handmade lights. The two stars representing the Tatmadaw flag



Visitors enjoy their time at the Tatmadaw Park, illuminated with colourful decorative lights in hour of the 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day.

beneath the statues of the Three Kings are also decorated with LED strip lights.

Furthermore, in honour of the 81<sup>st</sup> Armed Forces Day in 2026, Tatmadaw Park, located opposite the Nay Pyi Taw Military Parade Ground, has been illuminated with decorative lights

and the national flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary commemorative emblem, alongside scale models of Tatmadaw vehicles, ships, and aircraft, is on display. The park is also filled with small fibre statues of Tatmadaw members, decorated with flowers and

colourful lights. Consequently, the site was crowded with visitors on the third day of the display.

Various regions and states across the country have also been illuminated with colourful lights and festive decorations in honour of the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary. — MNA/MKKS

## MR expands express services, adds carriages to meet rising demand



This photo depicts a passenger train operating with additional carriages attached.

MYANMA Railways has announced that additional carriages are being attached to passenger express trains operating on the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay, Yangon-Mawlamyine, and Yangon-Pyay railway lines.

On the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw route, an additional air-conditioned DEMU train has been introduced, bringing the total to three up-and-down services running daily on a regular schedule.

Similarly, on the Yangon-Mandalay line, due to an increase in passenger numbers,

one upper-class carriage and three ordinary-class carriages have been added to Express Trains No 11 up and No 12 down. Moreover, the number of stopping stations has been increased from 16 to 20, with additional stops now included at DaikU, Yeni, Nyaungyan, and Myittha stations.

In addition, on the Yangon-Mawlamyine route, one more ordinary-class carriage has been added to the air-conditioned express train. On the Kyimyindine-Pyay line, two ordinary-class carriages have

been added to the postal train. Furthermore, on the Letpadan-Tharawaw line, the local train, which previously operated only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, has been running daily since 28 March due to rising passenger demand.

Tickets for the air-conditioned DEMU express trains running on the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay route can be purchased via the Online Railways Ticketing and Payment System (ORTP), and ticket prices remain unchanged. — ASH/KNN

## YBS to operate 130 buses in Yangon during Thingyan at regular fares

THE Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC) has announced that a total of 130 buses from the Yangon Bus Service (YBS) routes will operate within Yangon during the Myanmar New Year Thingyan Festival period.

During the festival, from 13 April (the eve of the festival) to 16 April (the final day of the festival), YBS routes including YBS 37, YBS 43, YBS 62, YBS 72, YBS

87, YBS 88, YBS 89, YBS 106, and YBS 107 will run a combined total of 130 buses.

It is also reported that the respective bus operators have been instructed not to charge higher fares during the Thingyan period and to collect fares at the normal rates.

During the 2025 Thingyan festival, more than 1,000 buses from over 60 YBS routes operated across Yangon. — ASH/MKKS



This photo captures YBS buses operating in Yangon.

## Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Post Handed Over

### FROM PAGE 1

In achieving this, he combined the guidance and counsel of former senior Tatmadaw leaders with the lessons learned from his own life experiences to execute his responsibilities in the best possible manner. Consequently, he was able to enhance Tatmadaw's capabilities and elevate it to a level where it can stand on par with international armed forces.

Furthermore, numerous developments and reforms were implemented for the Army, Navy, Air Forces, and affiliated units. During the two consecutive terms of the democratic government, the Tatmadaw also cooperated in various sectors to support national development. While doing so, although Tatmadaw repeatedly sought, in accordance with its duties under the Constitution (2008), to address the widespread voting irregularities that occurred during the 2020 general election under the multiparty democratic system, those efforts were not resolved, and attempts were made to seize state power by force. Consequently, a state of emergency was declared in accordance with the Constitution, and Tatmadaw undertook responsibilities across multiple sectors of the state. This period represented an unprecedented political turning point. The country faced the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, internal unrest, external instigation, and some of the most challenging and critical times. Tatmadaw and the people worked together in unity and were able to overcome the difficulties successfully. At present, the 2025 multiparty democratic general election has been conducted freely, fairly, and honourably. Therefore, in the near future, the newly elected government, led by the President chosen by the Hluttaw, will be able to assume the responsibilities of the State.

Under the circumstances the country faced, General Ye Win Oo is especially commended for having actively and diligently carried out multiple responsibilities, including Joint Secretary of the State Administration Council, Joint Executive Chief of the National Defence and Security Council, Secretary of the State Security and Peace Commission, Chief of Military Affairs Security, and Commander-in-Chief (Army).

Therefore, the current duties of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services have today been formally handed over to General Ye Win Oo. The Senior General stated that he will continue to contribute to the best of his ability for the benefit of the nation, the people, and Tatmadaw, as well as for the national interest of the State. He also expressed special gratitude to all Tatmadaw leaders, colleagues, and associates he has



A 19-gun salute is underway to mark the handover of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief.

worked with since first joining Tatmadaw, as well as those who collaborated with him after serving as Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

He urged that the new generation of Tatmadaw leaders have to diligently and cohesively carry out the responsibilities of Tatmadaw in unity under the leadership of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo and the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. He affirmed that as long as the world exists, Myanmar must exist; and Tatmadaw must exist as long as Myanmar exists. He urged all to continue preserving the noble traditions of Tatmadaw and to ensure that it remains a force the State can rely on and the people can trust and depend upon.

Military Appointment-General Zeya Kyaw Htin Htein Win read out the appointment order, stating that Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Zeya Kyaw Htin Sithu Ye Win Oo had been appointed as the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief.

The Senior General handed over the sword of insignia and the flag of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services to the General and decorated the insignia of command.

The General respectfully handed over the sword of insignia to the Senior General.

In his speech, the General who will assume the duties of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services said that during the 15 years in which the Senior General held the position of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, he systematically carried out the processes for building a modern Tatmadaw (Standard Army). The General also stated that he will continue to strive to develop Tatmad-

aw into a well-organized, conventional military force capable of disciplined operations, with both combat power and combat capability, in line with this vision.

Tatmadaw has, across successive generations, assumed our three main national causes as its patriotic responsibility. It will continue to safeguard these three national causes, which are vital to the national interest. Likewise, it will uphold the Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, as ratified by the State, and fulfil its constitutional responsibilities "to protect the Constitution, preserve the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, and safeguard a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system." Tatmadaw will continue to faithfully and diligently carry out these responsibilities. Together with the leadership of the government, he will execute his duties to support national development, advance the democratic path desired by the entire population, and fully cooperate in establishing internal peace across the country.

Following the motto "Study, Practise, Comply" established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, the General pledged that he will continue to develop Tatmadaw into a disciplined and capable force with both combat power and combat capability. He will adhere to the principle "Mother-Figure People, Father-Figure People", working to ensure that the Tatmadaw and the people remain united as one. He will also carry out the best possible measures within Tatmadaw to maintain order and strengthen civil-military relations.

The General stated that he will earnestly follow and carry out the guidance set forth by successive national leaders, which urges "to preserve the noble legacy handed down, and to continue enhancing

Tatmadaw and the prestige of the nation." He emphasized that he will continue to uphold the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw and ensure that it remains a force trusted by the State and relied upon by the people.

He stated that throughout his tenure, he has diligently and wholeheartedly carried out the orders and responsibilities entrusted to him. The General expressed special gratitude to the senior Tatmadaw leaders who entrusted him with the position of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and pledged that, with their trust and in a manner worthy of it, he will continue to serve to the best of his ability and intelligence for the benefit of both the nation and Tatmadaw.

The Senior General and the General took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, and General Zeya Kyaw Htin Sithu Ye Win Oo and his wife Daw Nilar, cordially greeted senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives and guests.

The Senior General and his wife viewed commemorative gifts presented by offices and departments from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief.

When the vehicle carrying the Senior General and his wife left Zeyathiri Beikman, they were bade farewell by the Cavalry Unit of Honour with the Military Band.

The duty handover ceremony was also attended by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Union ministers and their wives, and senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives. — MNA/TTA

# NATIONAL

## Incumbent Deputy Commander-in-Chief Hands Over Responsibilities to Successor

A ceremonial military parade to hand over duties of the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of Myanmar Tatmadaw of the Republic of Myanmar took place at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

First, Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win, the current Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of Myanmar Tatmadaw, and Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Zeya Kyaw Htin Thray Sithu Kyaw Swa Lin, who will assume the duties of the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, led by two protocol officers, arrived at the venue where the ceremony will be held.

Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win and General Zeya Kyaw Htin Thray Sithu Kyaw Swa Lin from the dais took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

Meanwhile, the artillery unit of honour fired a 17-gun salute to the accompaniment of the military parade.

Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win inspected the Guard of Honour.

On the occasion, the Vice-Senior General delivered a speech. He said: Tatmadaw has, through successive generations of leaders — from the pre-independence period, through the post-independence era to the present — provided training and systematically handed over responsibilities to ensure that it remains a young, dynamic, and revitalized force. Regardless of who serves within it, many capable Tatmadaw members are fully qualified to carry out the duties assigned to them. Those Tatmadaw members have become competent through training and refresher courses conducted by the Tatmadaw, as well as through battlefield experiences, staff officer experience, and the instructors' guidance, and shared knowledge of successive trainers and mentors. To enable the effective discharge of duties, senior leaders have



Incumbent Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win and newly appointed Deputy Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Zeya Kyaw Htin Thray Sithu Kyaw Swa Lin are pictured during the handover of responsibilities.

also trained subordinate officers at successive levels in accordance with the motto "study, practise, and comply". The transfer of a duty within Tatmadaw is not an ordinary handover, but one based on trust, confidence, and the prior training of suitable individuals before responsibilities are assigned. In other words, only when young leaders are equipped with experience can they effectively lead and carry out Tatmadaw's core duties — national defence, safeguarding our three main national causes, protecting the Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and working in coordination with the incumbent government to serve national interests. Therefore, responsibilities are systematically handed over to the younger generation in stages. During the period of his service, the Vice-Senior General paid tribute and expressed deep respect to all his trainers, mentors, and guiding figures who provided direction and guidance. The

Vice-Senior General also conveyed his gratitude, respect, and pride toward former Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who led with understanding, forgiveness, and compassion throughout the 15 years of his service. The Vice-Senior General added that, thanks to the guidance, instruction, and counsel of successive trainers, mentors, and advisors, he was able to carry out his duties with minimal errors during his tenure. During their period of service, the Vice-Senior General said he carried out duties with sincere intentions, making use of their experience, guidance, and military training, intending to ensure the welfare of Tatmadaw members and their families, including livelihood, health, and education, as well as achieving operational success with minimal casualties and losses. While there may be both successes and setbacks in the execution of duties, the most important objective has

been to build a Tatmadaw that is progressively improving and one that the people can rely on in accordance with the policies and directives set by senior leaders, and through cooperation based on mutual understanding, tolerance, and empathy. If such cooperation — grounded in responsibility, respect, goodwill, understanding, and compassion — continues in the future, Tatmadaw will remain a youthful and dynamic force, one that is respected internationally and trusted, relied upon, respected, and cherished by the people. Upholding the motto: Mother-Figure People, Father-Figure People, the Vice-Senior General affirmed that he will always remain ready and willing to serve whenever the Tatmadaw requires in the future.

Military Appointment-General Lt-Gen Zeya Kyaw Htin Htein Win read out the appointment order, stating that Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Zeya Kyaw Htin Thray Sithu Kyaw

Swa Lin had been concurrently appointed as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief (Army).

Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win handed over the sword of insignia and the flag of the Office of the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services to General Zeya Kyaw Htin Thray Sithu Kyaw Swa Lin, who will assume the duties of the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and was decorated with the insignia of command of the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Zeya Kyaw Htin Thray Sithu Kyaw Swa Lin respectfully handed over the sword of insignia to the former Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win.

The Vice-Senior General and the General took the salute of the Guard of Honour.

Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win and his wife Daw Than Than Nwe and General Zeya Kyaw Htin Thray Sithu Kyaw Swa Lin and his wife Dr Nang Kue Ku cordially greeted senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, and guests.

The Vice-Senior General and his wife viewed round commemorative gifts presented by offices and departments from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and posed for documentary photos together with attendees.

When the vehicle carrying the Vice-Senior General and his wife left Zeyathiri Beikman, those present at the ceremony bade farewell to them with the State Military Band.

The ceremonial military parade was also attended by senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives. — MNA/TTA

# NATIONAL

## Presidential electoral college nominates candidates for vice-presidency

THE first-day meeting of the group of elected Pyithu Hluttaw representatives comprising the presidential electoral college was held in the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall of the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, nominating and seconding vice-presidential candidates and submitting the nomination forms to the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, U Khin Yi, announcing the list of vice-presidential candidates and selecting one elected Pyithu Hluttaw representative to serve on the scrutiny committee to verify whether the candidates meet the qualifications prescribed for the President.

Dr Kyaw Kyaw Htay from the Dawei Constituency nominated Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing as a vice-presidential candidate, and Nang Yi Yi Win from the Pin-



The first-day meeting of the group of elected Pyithu Hluttaw representatives forming the presidential electoral college convenes.

laung Constituency seconded the nomination to the Hluttaw.

Similarly, U Naing Min Oo from the Kyangin Constituency nominated Dr Kyaw Swe from the Taungdwingyi Constituency as a vice-presidential candidate, and U Moe Tin from the Sedok-

tara Constituency seconded the nomination.

Nomination forms (Form 1) for the vice-presidential candidates were completed with full details and submitted to the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw. The Speaker announced the list

of vice-presidential candidates in alphabetical order, informing the Hluttaw accordingly.

For the selection of one elected Pyithu Hluttaw representative to serve on the scrutiny committee to verify whether the candidates meet the quali-

fications for the President, Dr Maung Thin from the Meiktila Constituency nominated U Khin Maung Soe from Hlegu Constituency, and Dr Thant Zaw Lwin from the Nyaunglebin Constituency seconded the nomination.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker confirmed and announced that, since only one nominee was proposed by the Hluttaw to serve as a member of the committee to scrutinize the qualifications for the President, U Khin Maung Soe from the Hlegu Constituency was selected as a member of the scrutiny committee.

The first day of the group meeting was adjourned to allow the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw to scrutinize the nomination forms for vice-presidential candidates and to compile the list of candidates. The second day of the group meeting will be held on 31 March. — MNA/KTZH

## Candidates for vice-presidency nominated at Amyotha Hluttaw

THE first-day meeting of the group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives comprising the presidential electoral college was held in the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall of the Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe announced that the meeting of the group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives was duly constituted and commenced. The attendance status was then confirmed and recorded with the approval of the Hluttaw. The elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives conducted the nomination and seconding of vice-presidential candidates, and submitted the nomination forms to the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw.

During this process, the group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives submitted Nomination Form 1 for vice-presidential candidates. Daw Nang Ni Ni Aye from the Kayin State Constituency 1 (PR System) was nominated by U Hla Thein from the Bago Region Constituency 2 (PR System), and seconded by U



The first-day meeting of the group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives forming the presidential electoral college is underway.

Shah Rel from the Kayah State Constituency 1 (FPTP System).

Dr Manam Tu Ja from the Kachin State Amyotha Hluttaw Constituency 2 (PR System) was nominated by U Than Aye (aka) U Tin Oo from the Taninthayi Region Constituency 1 (PR System), and seconded by U Saw Thwin from the Magway Region Constituency 1 (PR System) and U Ye Htut Aung from the Mon State Constituency 1 (PR System).

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced that the can-

didates nominated as vice-presidential candidates were Daw Nang Ni Ni Aye from the Kayin State Constituency 1 (Proportional Representation System) and Dr Manam Tu Ja from the Kachin State Amyotha Hluttaw Constituency 2 (Proportional Representation System).

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced that, as the scrutiny committee to verify whether the candidates meet the qualifications for the President must be composed of the Speakers and Deputy Speakers of both

Hluttaws in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, one Pyithu Hluttaw representative selected by the group of elected Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, one Amyotha Hluttaw representative selected by the group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, and one Defence Services Personnel Hluttaw representative selected by the group of Defence Services Personnel Hluttaw representatives, nomination forms were to be taken for the group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives to propose a nominee to

serve as a member of the scrutiny committee.

The group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives conducted the nomination and seconding of one elected Amyotha Hluttaw representative to serve on the scrutiny committee and submitted the nomination form to the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw.

U Hla Thein from the Bago Region Constituency 2 (PR System) was nominated by U Aung Tin Myint from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 1 (PR System), and seconded by U Ye Myint Tun from the Bago Region Constituency 4 (FPTP System).

The Speaker then announced that, since only one nominee was proposed, U Hla Thein from the Bago Region Constituency 2 (PR System) was selected as a member of the committee to scrutinize the qualifications for the President.

The first day meeting of the group of elected Amyotha Hluttaw representatives was adjourned, and the second day of the meeting will be held on 31 March. — MNA/KTZH

# NATIONAL

## UNHCR Representative to Myanmar presents Credentials to MoFA Union Minister



Union Minister U Than Swe receives Mr Barnaby Jones, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to Myanmar, yesterday.

REPRESENTATIVE of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to Myanmar Mr Barnaby Jones paid a courtesy call and presented his Credentials to Union Minister for

Foreign Affairs U Than Swe at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Also, present at the meeting were respective officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

## Myanmar deports 65 undocumented foreign entrants

MYANMAR deported 36 Ethiopians, 27 Vietnamese, one Kenyan and one Rwandan, totaling 65 individuals, involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities in Kayin State via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday.

Myanmar authorities officially handed the deportees the necessary legal documents

to ensure their smooth repatriation.

Between 30 January 2025 and 30 March 2026, a total of 14,616 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 13,401 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being

made to deport the remaining 1,215 individuals. These individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation. The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

## Graduation ceremony of Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy Course 1/2025 held

THE course completion and certificate presentation ceremony of the Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy Course 1/2025, conducted by the Myanmar Diplomatic Academy, was held yesterday at the Lawkanat Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

The event was attended by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Naing Min Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Myint, directors-general from respective departments, members of the Advisory Board of the Myanmar Diplomatic Academy, the rector and board of studies of the Naypyitaw State Academy, and trainees from the Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon cohorts.

At the ceremony, Deputy Minister U Naing Min Kyaw de-

livered the keynote address and presented certificates of completion to the trainees. Then, Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw presented the prizes to outstanding trainees.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy Programme Batch 1/2025 was conducted concurrently in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon from 23 June 2025 to 26 March 2026, for a total duration of eight months. The programme was attended by officials from different government agencies, various ministries and individuals from the private sector who are interested in diplomacy and international relations. A total of 104 participants attended the programme. The Diplomas will be conferred at the convocation to be held at Naypyitaw State Academy in December 2026. — MNA



The closing ceremony of the Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy Course 1/2025 is underway in Nay Pyi Taw.

## Myanmar hosts 2026 Forum on AI-Driven Education Innovation



The Global Education Innovation Forum (GEIF)-Myanmar 2026 is in progress yesterday in Yangon.

TO analyze the future of the education sector in the age of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and to share innovative teaching methodologies for educators, the Global Education Innovation Forum (GEIF)-the RVi Group held Myanmar 2026 on 30 March at the Zealax Hotel in Yangon.

It was conducted under the theme "AI-Enhanced Education: Teaching with Purpose and Ethics". International and local educators attended the event and discussed the transformation of classroom teaching through

technology and future educational requirements.

The forum was held in Mandalay on 28 March and in Yangon on 30 March. Attended renowned international experts, including Dr Benson Soong (PhD, University of Cambridge) – Founder of Advanced Pedagogy, Mr Nigel Killick (MBA, Harvard Business School) – Founder and CEO of Reallyenglish, and Mr Wayne Schlegel (Graduate of Yale and Norwich) – International Education Consultant.

It was announced that for

outstanding individuals in the education sector, schools can nominate up to two teachers for the Inspiring Educator of the Year Award. Selected winners will receive a trophy, a certificate of honour, and a cash prize of K500,000.

Furthermore, Education Innovation Awards will be presented to schools that have demonstrated excellence in AI integration, innovative teaching methods, and educational processes that create a positive social impact. — MT/ZN

# NATIONAL

**F**IVE rare animal species that are facing the threat of extinction worldwide are being conserved and protected in wildlife sanctuaries across Myanmar.

These five rare species, such as tapirus, clouded leopard, pangolin, Irrawaddy dolphin and star tortoise, are protected in Taninthayi Nature Reserve, Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary, Lampi Marine National Park, Ayeyawady River and Minson Hill Wildlife Sanctuary.

There are three types of clouded leopards in the world, distinguished by their size and body patterns, with different names depending on the region. They can live up to 11 years and are mainly found in the Himalayan rainforests. The Sumatran clouded leopard in Indonesia is also well known. As a medium-sized wild cat species, they inhabit wildlife sanctuaries in Myanmar, particularly Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary. In 2018, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) classified them as an endangered species.

The Irrawaddy dolphin, recognized for its friendly appearance and close interaction with humans, is considered a



This picture captures an Irrawaddy dolphin leaping out of the water in the Ayeyawady River near Kyaukmyaung, Mandalay Region.

## Myanmar protects world's five endangered species

critically endangered species and is protected as a national treasure. Due to higher mortality rates than birth rates, its population continues to decline. As a mammal, it has a gestation period of about 11 months and usually gives birth to only one baby at a time, reaching reproductive maturity between seven and nine years of age. Fewer than 90 Irrawaddy dolphins remain worldwide. Besides Myanmar, they are also found in Singapore and Thailand. IUCN has listed them as an endan-

gered species, and efforts are ongoing to conserve those living in the Ayeyarwady River.

The Myanmar star tortoise, which prefers hot climates, is found in Mandalay, Magway, and Sagaing regions. It inhabits deciduous forests and thorny scrublands. As an omnivorous species, it mainly feeds on fibre-rich leaves and prefers to hide under piles of leaves or in sheltered areas. This rare species can be found only in Myanmar, with only around 10,000 individuals remaining, and is

being carefully protected.

“The Myanmar star tortoise can be found in their original habitats in Minsone-taung Wildlife Sanctuary in Natogyi Township, Myingyan District, Mandalay Region, Myaleiktaung in PyinOoLwin district and the Shwesettaw Wildlife Sanctuary in Minbu of Magway. The species was first recognized as critically endangered in the early 1990s. Conservation efforts began at the Lawkananda Park, where breeding programmes have

been carried out. Offspring are later released back into their natural habitats to restore the population,” said an official of NyaungU natural environment and wildlife conservation.

Pangolins are critically endangered due to the high demand for their body parts in traditional medicine, which is decreasing their population. ICUN recognized it as vulnerable, and many countries, including Myanmar, have strictly prohibited their killing. In Myanmar, they can be found in wildlife sanctuaries, particularly in Lampi Marine National Park.

The tapir, considered one of the world's rarest animals, can only be found in a few countries, including Myanmar. It is a herbivorous animal that resembles a pig but has a short trunk similar to that of an elephant. Tapirs are found in the rainforests of South America, Central America, and Southeast Asia. Their body colours vary by region, including black and brown, pale grey, and combinations of black and white. In Myanmar, black and brown tapirs are found in the Taninthayi Nature Reserve, where they live and reproduce, giving birth to one offspring at a time. — Ottha/KTZH



These images showcase the world's endangered species – tapirus, clouded leopards, pangolins, Irrawaddy dolphins, and star tortoises – being well protected in Taninthayi Nature Reserve, Htamathi Wildlife Sanctuary, Lampi Marine National Park, Ayeyawady River, and Minson Hill Wildlife Sanctuary.

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

## OPINION

### Encourage efficient application of modern technologies

**M**OST countries in the world are achieving rapid economic development alongside advancements in science and technology. In the development of a nation, the factors of production include not only capital, labour, and land or natural resources, but also technology. However, the key driving force for national development is the overall process of scientific and technological advancement.

In production activities, if investment is increased only in financial capital without corresponding development in skills and the expansion of human knowledge, the production sector will inevitably face negative consequences and decline. In practice, by combining financial capital and human labour with the use of advancing technology, it is possible to overcome difficulties and achieve progress in all relevant sectors.

In Myanmar's agricultural sector, it can be observed that cultivation using modern technologies yields significantly higher productivity compared to traditional farming methods. Due to limited ability to effectively utilize modern technologies, it remains difficult to achieve target yields. In efforts to meet planned cultivated acreage and production

targets in Myanmar, farmers should understand that these goals are primarily intended for their own benefit and should carry out their work with dedication and effort.

If there is a large gap in skills and technology between countries, those with more advanced technology will be able to produce goods in large quantities with good quality and at low prices, allowing them to dominate the market. This will further widen the gap in economic development among producers. On the other hand, countries with less advanced technology will be limited to producing only small quantities of lower-quality products, making it difficult to compete in the market.

For national economic development, a large number of skilled professionals who can drive and manage the economy are required. Therefore, education must be strongly promoted to train and produce such professionals. For the future of Myanmar, polytechnic universities have already been established to produce a large number of skilled young professionals. In addition, basic education plus industrial, agricultural and livestock farming high schools have also been opened. Thus, education for future generations must continue to be promoted and supported without losing momentum.

At present, Myanmar has to initiate a new chapter for the nation. In order to stand shoulder to shoulder with the international community, the human resources must be nurtured through the education sector. By increasing investment in education and encouraging investment in the development of skills and technology, everyone must work together to build a modern and developed nation.

**A**S far as we can see, most people tend to go walking in the morning, particularly for good health. The other possible reasons may be that they do not want to start their day with work-related stress, or they would like to prepare for work-related stress before their daily work. Nonetheless, it cannot be denied that many people like to walk only in the morning for any physical exercise or something like that. In contrast to most people's likes, I would rather go for a walk in the evening. To my certain knowledge, going for an evening walk will relieve stress to some extent after we have been physically and mentally fatigued all day.

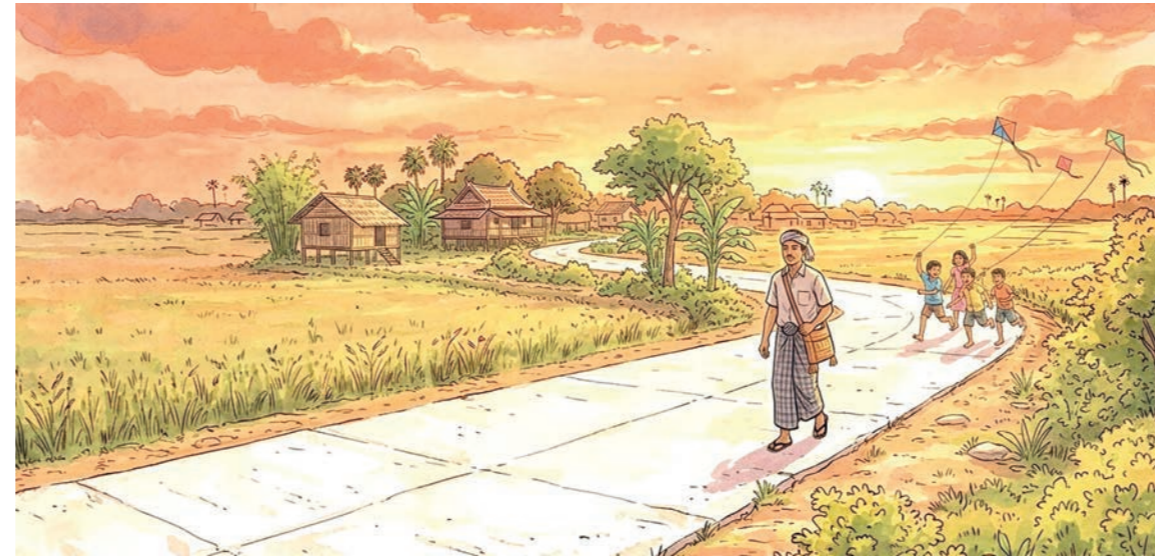
In fact, many people do not like to have a walk in the evenings mainly because they are usually as busy as a bee, thereby working late during these periods of time. On the other

hand, those who can walk in the evening are most likely to keep early rush hours and will never be late for an evening walk. This is just because walking in the evening as a routine often plays a major part in their day. That is, only if they go out evenings will they probably feel less physical and mental fatigue in the space of a day than average. Even though these people find it happy and healthy to take a walk in the evening, others are given to being late for work as always, lest they should be responsible for an overload or backlog the next day.

Although living in the country, as a part-time teacher, I hardly have time to go out in the evening. Even so, I willingly go for a walk in the evenings sometimes. Some evenings must attract me in that the weather is fine with a light wind or without a breath of wind; it is partly

## The Fruits of Going for an Evening Walk

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)



cloudy, or there is no cloud in the blue sky, but sometimes, birds fly away to perch in flocks under a bluish-white sky. At that time, my evenings are marvellously pleasant, capturing the subtle hues of the countryside in the evening and cool thanks to a soft breeze. When that happens, I can't help going for a walk in the evening so that I will skip or drop my evening class despite the fact that I should not do so to my students as a teacher, humorous to say.

Of course, it should take 30 minutes or so to go for a walk in the evening. Too much time is not needed for an evening walk, actually. However, strolling in the evening mostly brings many little-known but great benefits to evening walkers, in spite of the fact that it lasts a short time. By a short walk in the evening, we may have a sound sleep for one night, to my way of thinking.

Really, walking in the evening for a short time will apparently ease our nervous tension due to everyday work stress. And we will feel free to enjoy the red and orange natural environment around us, which is glittering in the darker sunlight. In some sunsets, even ugly people seemingly look better than normal, as it is said. Truly, it would be best if we went for a walk a little every evening after we let our hair down and leave our work table. Also, we can walk the dog for an evening unless it bothers us.

For an evening walk, I go to the school lane in my village most of the time. This two-way lane was constructed of concrete so that two bikes can go through one another face-to-face or side-by-side. The white lane is absolutely interesting to me. It has connected my village and its neighbouring ones in such a way that a rural way of life

comes alive with crowded villagers here and there along the lane on weekend evenings, especially on Sundays. Over there, the little children are playing tag happily, but some are flying kites, smiling. Some young adolescents are surfing the net on their phones. Some pretty girls are taking a selfie by themselves. There are also some naughty boys sneaking, smoking, chewing betel, and even having a beer in a three-person group, as most have seen. Besides, some men are staggering home, drunk. At that time, however, we are all standing under the reddish-orange clouds. All of us look good in one way or another. We are the same, having a keen sense of the cold, gentle wind of an evening, except that our ways of feeling make a difference to the evening. Please forget what we are in quite a while and go for an evening walk. Have fun!

## The Importance of Saving Electrical Energy

By Junior Thin

**I**N today's modern world, electricity has become the backbone of human civilization. From the simplest household tasks to the most advanced technological systems, electricity plays a vital role in making our lives easier, faster, and more comfortable. Every day, we rely on electricity for lighting, communication, transportation, education, healthcare, and entertainment. Especially during the summer season, when temperatures rise significantly, the demand for electricity increases rapidly as people use more electrical appliances such as fans, air conditioners, and refrigerators to cope with the heat. As a result, it has become increasingly important for people to understand not only the value of electricity but also the need to use it wisely and responsibly.

The development of electricity has a long and fascinating history. In ancient times, people noticed simple electrical effects, such as static electricity produced by rubbing certain materials. However, the scientific



study of electricity began much later. One of the earliest pioneers was Benjamin Franklin, who proved that lightning is a form of electricity through his famous kite experiment. His discovery opened the door to further research in this field. Later, Michael Faraday made a groundbreaking contribution by discovering electromagnetic induction, which became the basis for generating electricity in power plants. Another key

figure, Thomas Edison, invented the practical electric light bulb, making it possible to use electricity safely and conveniently in homes. Over time, many other scientists and engineers improved electrical systems, leading to the widespread use of electricity that we enjoy today.

Electricity is incredibly useful and has transformed nearly every aspect of human life. In our homes, electricity powers lights, fans, televisions,

computers, washing machines, and many other appliances that make daily tasks easier. In the field of healthcare, electricity is essential for operating medical equipment such as X-ray machines, ventilators, and surgical tools, which help save countless lives. In education, electricity enables the use of digital devices, online learning platforms, and modern teaching methods, allowing students to access knowledge more effectively. In industries and businesses, electricity is used to operate machinery, produce goods, and provide services efficiently. Even transportation systems, such as electric trains and vehicles, depend on electricity. Without electricity, modern society would not be able to function properly.

However, electricity itself is not a natural resource; it must be generated from other energy sources. These sources include both non-renewable and renewable resources. Non-renewable resources, such as coal, oil, and natural gas, have been wide-

ly used for many years to produce electricity. These fuels are burned to generate heat, which is then used to produce steam and drive turbines connected to generators. On the other hand, renewable energy sources include water, wind, and sunlight. Hydropower uses flowing water from rivers and dams to generate electricity, wind power uses turbines to capture the energy of the wind, and solar power uses panels to convert sunlight into electricity. In recent years, there has been increasing interest in renewable energy because it is cleaner and more sustainable.

Despite these advancements, the growing electricity demand has put significant pressure on natural energy resources. Fossil fuels, which are still the main source of electricity in many parts of the world, are limited and cannot be replaced once they are used up. As populations grow and industries expand, the consumption of these resources continues to increase. This has led to concerns about energy shortages in the future. Further-

more, the use of fossil fuels has serious environmental consequences. The burning of coal, oil, and natural gas releases carbon dioxide and other harmful gases into the atmosphere, contributing to global warming and climate change. These environmental problems can lead to rising temperatures, extreme weather conditions, and damage to ecosystems.

During the summer season, the situation becomes even more challenging. As temperatures rise, people tend to use more cooling devices, which increases electricity consumption significantly. In some regions, this high demand can exceed the available supply, resulting in power outages and electricity shortages. These interruptions can disrupt daily life, affect businesses, and even impact essential services such as hospitals. Therefore, everyone must play a role in conserving electricity, especially during peak seasons.

There are many practical ways to reduce electricity consumption in daily life. One effective

method is to replace traditional incandescent bulbs with energy-efficient LED lights, which consume less electricity and last longer. Turning off lights and appliances when they are not in use is another simple but important habit. Using natural sunlight during the day instead of artificial lighting can also help save energy. Additionally, unplugging electronic devices when they are not being used can prevent unnecessary energy consumption. People should also try to use energy-efficient appliances and avoid overusing high-power devices such as air conditioners. Setting air conditioners to moderate temperatures and using fans when possible can significantly reduce electricity usage.

If people do not practice energy conservation, they may face higher electricity bills, which can increase household expenses. On a larger scale, excessive electricity consumption puts pressure on national resources and infrastructure, making it more difficult for governments to meet the growing demand. This can lead to increased costs for energy production and distribution. Therefore, saving electricity is not only beneficial for individuals but also important for the overall development of the country.

In addition to economic benefits, conserving electricity also helps protect the environment. Since electricity generation often involves the use of natural resources, reducing electricity consumption can help preserve these resources for future generations. It can also reduce the emission of harmful gases, thereby minimizing environmental pollution and slowing down climate change. By adopting energy-saving habits, people can contribute to a cleaner and healthier environment.

In brief, electricity is an invaluable resource that supports every aspect of modern life. Its historical development reflects human ingenuity, and its wide range of uses highlights its importance in today's world. However, the natural resources used to generate electricity are becoming increasingly scarce, and their overuse poses serious environmental and economic challenges. Therefore, it is the responsibility of every individual to use electricity wisely and efficiently. By conserving energy, we can reduce costs, protect the environment, and ensure a stable and sustainable supply of electricity for future generations. Only through collective effort and responsible behaviour can we build a better and more sustainable world.

# NATIONAL

## MoFA Deputy Minister receives UAE Ambassador

DEPUTY Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw received Mr Mutaz Abdullah Abduljaleel Mohamed Al Faheem, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to the strengthening of the existing bilateral relations between Myanmar and the UAE, and mutually beneficial cooperation in various areas, including trade and investment. — MNA



The ambassador of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) calls on Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw.

## India donates advanced equipment for post-earthquake building inspections



Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies President U Khin Maung Htay, Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur, and officials look into exhibits on display at yesterday's handover occasion.

A handover ceremony for equipment donated by the Republic of India to the Myanmar Engineering Council for use in post-earthquake building inspections was held yesterday at the Function Hall of the Myanmar Engineering Federation in Hlaing Township, Yangon.

President U Khin Maung Htay of the Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies first delivered a welcome address, followed by remarks from the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Abhay Thakur.

Central Executive Committee Member U San Kyu then presented an explanation on the technical use of the donated equipment for building inspections. The equipment

and related documents were then formally handed over by the Indian Ambassador to the President of the Myanmar Engineering Societies. The ceremony concluded with closing remarks by Chairman U Nyunt Maung San of the Myanmar Earthquake Committee.

Speaking at the event, U Khin Maung Htay said, "The donated items were transported from India to Yangon Port through arrangements made by the Embassy and arrived at our office on 24 March. A total of 11 types of equipment were donated, valued at over 20 million Indian rupees, which is equivalent to more than one billion kyats. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Government and the

people of India, the Ambassador, and all officials from the Embassy for this meaningful contribution. Such support not only reflects goodwill but also strengthens the friendship and long-term partnership between Myanmar and India."

The donated machinery and equipment include a Ground Penetrating Radar, a tablet/iPad equipped with a LiDAR scanner, a levelling laser, a digital spirit level (1 metre), a vernier calliper, a distance laser meter (maximum range), a rebound hammer for testing concrete strength, a total station, computers, and related accessories. These tools can be used for assessing buildings both before and after disasters. — MNA/MKKS

## Unity in Action ceremony marks Mandalay quake 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary



The Unity in Action ceremony is underway to mark the first anniversary of the Mandalay Earthquake.

THE Unity in Action ceremony was held to commemorate the first anniversary of the Mandalay earthquake at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in Yangon on the evening of 28 March.

A minute's silence was first observed in memory of the victims of the Mandalay earthquake, accompanied by sirens and bowed heads.

This was followed by a speech from Professor Dr Myo Nyunt, President of the Myanmar Red Cross Society, and remarks by Ms Nadia Khoury, Head of Delegation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and Mr Xavier Collard de Macquerh, Head of Programmes and Prevention at the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Executive Professor Dr Tin Maung Hlaing then highlighted the earthquake response and rehabilitation work carried out over the past year, as well as

cooperation with partner Red Cross societies, accompanied by a video presentation showcasing volunteers' support.

Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Tin Lay, Executive Professor Dr Tin Maung Hlaing, and Professor Dr Daw Yi Yi Tin then presented certificates of appreciation to 15 Red Cross volunteers who had participated in the earthquake response and rehabilitation efforts.

The ceremony was attended by executives, chairpersons, and officials from the Region and State Red Cross Supervisory Committees, deputy general secretaries, assistant general secretaries, and directors, as well as representatives from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross, partner Red Cross societies, Red Cross volunteers, local and international donors, and invitees. — MNA/MKKS

## Myanmar's Future Lifestyle & Travel Expo 2026 Event to promote destination marketing



Images illustrate invite posters for the lifestyle and travel expo 2026.

MYANMAR'S Future Lifestyle & Travel Expo 2026 Event will take place at Inya Ballroom & Foyer (First Floor) of Melia Hotel Yangon, on 3-6 April, according to the STP event management team. The expo will bring about tourism branding, destination

marketing and product showcasing and serve as a dynamic platform to connect diverse tourism stakeholders on a global stage and extend the network in the tourism industry.

The first day of the event will host a meeting with the economic attache and embassy personnel. It will be a great platform to organize a panel discussion and explore tourism opportunities in international markets.

The second day of the event represents Young Founder Forum Day, where young domestic tourism leaders will meet up and discuss potential businesses and plans. Talk shows and panel discussions will bring together young entrepreneurs from international countries, sharing challenges and opportunities.

Ambassadors, delegations and organizers will also give a score to award one Local Founder during the award ceremony.

Tourism Day, set on the third day, will also include panel discussions of tourism industry leaders from different sectors and workshops of domestic and international tourism associations and businesses.

The last day of the event will feature a B2B Meeting, a bridge network with VVIPs through dinner and other collaboration events, plus a panel discussion of the speakers.

Interested business entities can participate in this expo to promote branding and networking through the STP event management team page, messenger and hotline: 09 250510447, 09 250510448, and 09 250510449 for booth registration. — NN/KK

## ITC Thagara to commence one-year industrial skills training on 18 May



Trainees diligently practise their skills in the training session.

THE No 3 Industrial Training Centre (ITC) Thagara, located in Yedashe Township, Bago Region, will offer one-year industrial skills training (batch 16) from 18 May 2026 to 2 April 2027. Trainees are limited to 10 per Machinery Course, 15 per CAD/CAM Course, 15 per Electrician Course, 10 per Electronic Course and 10 per Foundry Course. Those interested who have taken the matriculation exam under the

old curriculum or new curriculum between the ages of 18 and 25 are eligible to attend the courses. They must be unmarried, healthy and fit enough to complete the courses and committed to follow the rules.

Application forms can be downloaded through the website (<https://industry.gov.mm>) and the No 3 Industrial Training Centre – Thagara Facebook page. The deadline for submission of the application is 10 April 2026.

Individuals can enquire about details through 09 420731549 and 09 420731547 of the ITC Thagara, and 067 3405051 of the Training Centres Supervision Department under the Ministry of Industry. Application is available at [www.industry.gov.mm](http://www.industry.gov.mm) and [www.itcthagara.edu.mm](http://www.itcthagara.edu.mm) for free. — NN/KK

## Companies invited to submit EOI for developing Kengtung's Yan Kham Market

THE Shan State Development Supervision Office (Kengtung) called for interested companies to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the construction work of Yan Kham Market on 0.764 acre of land in Kengtung Township, Shan State.

Domestic companies run by Myanmar citizens are invited to submit EOI, along with proposed development projects and design concepts.

Applicants must present Power-Point presentations of Civil Drawing and Architect Drawing design in detail to the EOI Evaluation Committee.

EOI application forms are available at the office, and EOI form submissions must be done by 4 pm on 22 April 2026. Late submission will not be considered.

Only selected proposals will be considered for further processing in accordance with the tender rules. Individuals can enquire about details through the office at 084 21692 and 084 21016. — NN/KK

### Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit [www.moi.gov.mm/mal](http://www.moi.gov.mm/mal), [www.moi.gov.mm/km](http://www.moi.gov.mm/km), [www.moi.gov.mm/nlm](http://www.moi.gov.mm/nlm) and [www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper](http://www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper).

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# ECONOMY WORLD

## Oil prices rise, stocks diverge tracking Mideast war developments

OIL prices rose and stock markets diverged Monday as the Middle East crisis escalated with the entry of Houthi rebels into the Iran war and speculation that the United States could deploy troops on the ground.

Brent North Sea crude, the international benchmark, jumped more than three per cent at one point to reach almost \$117 per barrel.

In Europe, London was up slightly in late morning trading, while Paris and Frankfurt were little changed, supported by gains to share prices of heavyweight energy and mining groups.

Shares of oil companies such as TotalEnergies and BP



A display panel shows the Nikkei Stock Average falling below 51,000 in Tokyo on the morning of 30 March 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

were up about two per cent, outpacing the rest of the market.

Aluminium prices climbed as much as around six per cent

on the London Metal Exchange after Iran attacked two major aluminium plants in the Gulf, raising concerns over supply

disruptions.

Asia's leading stock markets closed lower, while the dollar traded mixed. The Japanese yen jumped on talk that the Bank of Japan could intervene on markets to shore up the country's currency.

The yen's gains weighed heavily on Japanese exporters, with the Tokyo stock market closing down almost three per cent.

"While the US dollar has seen some strength from haven-seekers, it is oil which remains centre stage," noted Richard Hunter, head of markets at Interactive Investor.

"Attacks in the Gulf continued over the weekend, with a

new layer of risk emerging as Yemen's Houthis entered the fray, which could restrict shipping in the Red Sea, adding another choke point to oil supplies."

As the conflict moved into its fifth week, the spectre of a widening conflict grew as Houthi rebels on Saturday said they had fired "a barrage of cruise missiles and drones" at strategic sites in Israel.

The strikes raised concern about the war spreading to the Red Sea, with Saudi Arabia re-routing much of its oil exports there to avoid the Strait of Hormuz, through which about 20 per cent of crude and gas usually passes and has been effectively closed by Tehran. — AFP

## Toyota global output drops 3.9% in Feb on weaker output in Japan, China



Members of media gather at the booths of Toyota and its luxury vehicle division Lexus during the press day of the Japan Mobility Show in Tokyo on 29 October 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

TOYOTA Motor Corp said Monday its global output sank 3.9 per cent in February from a year earlier to 749,673 vehicles, declining for the fourth consecutive month, weighed down by slowing production in China and Japan.

Global sales dropped 3.3 per cent to 737,134 units, the first fall in three months, according to the world's largest automaker by volume.

Toyota's overseas production slid 4.6 per cent to 470,757 vehicles, with output in China

plunging 11.5 per cent to 78,457 units due to intensifying competition and fewer working days during the Lunar New Year holidays. Domestic production decreased 2.6 per cent to 278,916 vehicles due largely to fewer operating days than a year earlier, while output in North America slumped 9.1 per cent to 159,237 units, with production in Canada down 46.2 per cent to 23,173 units due to a cut ahead of an update of the RAV4 sport utility model. Output in the United States alone, meanwhile, rose

3.4 per cent to 110,978 vehicles, helped by solid demand for hybrid vehicles. Although Toyota's overseas sales fell 2.2 per cent to 614,870 vehicles, sales in the United States grew 3.2 per cent to 180,950 units.

Sales in Japan dipped 8.3 per cent to 122,264 units, dragged down by a decline in registrations ahead of the abolition of the environmental performance tax at the end of March, while sales in China dropped 13.9 per cent to 82,471 vehicles. — Kyodo

## World Bank, OCI team up for South-East Asia's first semiconductor-grade polysilicon manufacturing facility in Malaysia

THE World Bank Group, through its private-sector arm the International Finance Corporation (IFC), is partnering with OCI TerraSus Sdn Bhd (OCI TRS), a subsidiary of South Korea's OCI Holdings Co, Ltd, to build South-East Asia's first semiconductor-grade polysilicon manufacturing facility in Malaysia.

The duo said in a statement on Monday that through a joint venture with Japan's Tokuyama Corporation, they will develop a clean energy-powered manufac-

turing facility for ultra-high purity semiconductor-grade polysilicon in Bintulu, Sarawak.

IFC will provide OCI TRS with an A-loan of up to US\$125 million, which will primarily be used to construct the state-of-the-art manufacturing facility. Once completed, the facility will be powered by clean and renewable energy and will produce essential raw materials for silicon wafers and semiconductor chips, creating high-quality jobs. — Xinhua

## Indian govt eases kerosene rules to address energy supply concerns

FOLLOWING the disruption of energy supplies worldwide due to the ongoing US-Israel strikes on Iran, the Indian government, in a bid to tackle the supply concerns at home, announced a temporary relaxation of petroleum safety and licensing rules to speed up the distribution of kerosene to households across the country, officials said Monday.

The federal Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said it will allow ad-hoc kerosene supply for cooking and lighting in

all states. It has permitted public sector oil marketing companies to allocate public distribution system superior kerosene oil across 21 states and Union Territories, including Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat, where kerosene supply had been phased out.

According to officials, the decision was taken to ensure access to essential energy sources for households in view of the ongoing global crisis impacting fuel availability. — Xinhua

## S Korean stocks pare losses amid continued Middle East tensions

SOUTH Korean stocks pared losses on Monday after panic selling, triggered by continued Middle East tensions.

The benchmark KOSPI dropped 161.57 points, or 2.97 per cent, to close at 5,277.30, while the smaller KOSDAQ dived 34.46 points, or 3.02 per cent, to finish at 1,107.05.

The KOSPI extended its losing streak to a third straight session on the back of geopolitical risks in the Middle East. The KOSPI started 4.73 per cent lower, but it trimmed earlier losses as institutional investors turned into net buyers. — Xinhua

### Member's Voluntary Winding-up & Appointment of a Liquidator for Tokai Myanmar Co., Ltd. (Registration No. 114954772) pursuant Articles 147(a)(ii) and 152(a) of Insolvency Law 2020

#### & Notice to Creditors

With respect to Tokai Myanmar Co., Ltd. (Registration No. 114954772) (the "Company") which is located at #14-12, Level 14, Sule Square, 221 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar, it is hereby notified that:

1. According to Article 147(a)(ii) of Insolvency Law, the Company unanimously passed the following resolutions:
  - (i) to wind up the Company voluntarily effective on 31 March 2026; and
  - (ii) to appoint the following liquidator (the "Liquidator") pursuant to Article 152(a) of Insolvency Law, effective on 31 March 2026:

Name: Daw Nilar Thwin

Name of the Company/Title: Global United Myanmar Ltd./Managing Director

Insolvency practitioner registration number: 102257

Phone number: 095049113

Address: #14-11, Level 14, Sule Square, 221 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar 11182

2. Any creditors who have any debts or claims against the Company are required to submit their names, addresses, and details of their claims, together with any documentary evidence in their possession, to the Liquidator on or before 30 April 2026.

Daw Nilar Thwin  
Liquidator

Global United Myanmar Ltd./Managing Director  
#14-11, Level 14, Sule Square, 221 Sule Pagoda Road  
Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar 11182  
Phone number: 095049113

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09 454 237 515

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NEWSEAS JADE VOY.NO. (2602)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NEWSEAS JADE VOY.NO. (2602)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-3-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-4** 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 ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE LTD

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ERASMUS PASSION VOY.NO. (611S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ERASMUS PASSION VOY.NO. (611S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-3-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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 MAERSK A/S

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HE SHUN VOY.NO. (0B80FS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HE SHUN VOY.NO. (0B80FS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-3-2026** 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 AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0043N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0043N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-3-2026** 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (021)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (021)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-3-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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 ANDAMAN SEA GATEWAYS GROUP OF COMPANIES LIMITED

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (906N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BANDUNG VOY.NO. (906N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-3-2026** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (360W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (360W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-3-2026** 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 SHIPPING

# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## Rallies against US-Israeli war on Iran draw 8 mln worldwide



People participate in a "No Kings" protest in New York, the United States, on 28 March 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

RALLIES against the US-Israeli war on Iran swept numerous cities across the world over the weekend, with an estimated eight million people turning out for over 3,300 protest events.

In the United States alone, thousands of demonstrations were held Saturday in major US cities, including Washington, New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco, and involved over 900,000 people, making it the largest single-day protest on record.

In Manhattan, New York City, tens of thousands of protesters marched along Seventh Avenue on Saturday afternoon, stretching more than 10 blocks,

chanting slogans and carrying signs reading "No ICE," "NO Kings", and "No Wars".

Meanwhile, crowds gathered outside the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC and marched into the National Mall, holding signs reading "Regime change begins at home", "Defend Our Constitution", etc. Demonstrators rang bells and played drums while chanting "No Kings!"

According to local authorities, hundreds also showed up in deep-red cities, such as Midland in Texas and Lebanon in Pennsylvania.

Beyond US borders, people protested in Portugal,

Greece, Japan, France, Britain and Italy, spilling an anti-war mood internationally.

In Portugal, about 200 Americans gathered on Saturday in front of Porto City Hall to protest against the US administration.

"We are against these policies of the current US government, both abroad and at home. And above all, against the war that is taking place in the Middle East. That war was ordered solely by (Donald) Trump and was not authorized by Congress," said Robert Glassburner, an American who has lived in Portugal since 1983. — Xinhua

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Thai PM says new cabinet finalized for endorsement

THAILAND'S Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul said on Monday that a list of new cabinet members for the incoming government has been finalized and will be processed for royal endorsement.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with various agencies to review the qualifications of 35 prospective ministers, Anutin said the cabinet lineup for his second term is in hand and ready to be submitted with royal consideration on the same day.

He noted that once royal approval is granted and oath-taking is completed, the government is set to deliver its policy statement to parliament immediately, a final step required before a new administration can officially take office.

Anutin's Bhumjaithai Party has previously announced its alliance with the third-place election finisher, the Pheu Thai Party, and other small groups to form a coalition government that would command a total of around 290 seats in the House of Representatives. — Xinhua

### Iran's heavy water plant severely damaged, not operational: IAEA

IRAN'S heavy water production plant at Khondab, located in central Iran, has been severely damaged and is no longer operational, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said on Sunday.

"Based on independent analysis of satellite imagery and knowledge of the installation, the IAEA has confirmed the heavy water production plant at Khondab, which Iran reported had been attacked on 27 March, has sustained severe damage and is no longer operational," the IAEA said on social platform X.

The plant contains no declared nuclear material, the IAEA added.

On 27 March, the IAEA said that it had been informed by Iran that the heavy water production plant in Khondab was hit, but it confirmed that no radiation risk was identified. The strikes came amid the ongoing US-Israel-Iran conflict that started on 28 February. — Xinhua



## Boat sinks in North Maluku waters, 27 passengers reported missing

A motor vessel, named Nazila 05, sank in the northern waters of Taliabu Island in Indonesia's North Maluku province, leaving

This photo provided by Indonesia's National Search And Rescue Agency (Basarnas) Palu region shows rescuers riding a ship during search and rescue operation in the northern waters of Taliabu Island, North Maluku province, Indonesia, 30 March 2026. **PHOTO: BASARNAS PALU/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

27 passengers missing, the Palu Search and Rescue Office reported on Monday.

The incident was first reported by the boat owner at around 10 am local time, prompting authorities to launch a search and rescue operation, said Muh Rizal, head of the Palu Search and Rescue Office, in a written statement.

"Based on the report, the vessel departed from Taliabu Island to Kema village on Sunday

at 6 pm local time," Rizal told Xinhua. "At around 4 am local time, the captain reported that Nazila 05 had sunk. All crew members were able to conduct a self-evacuation using a long boat, but their whereabouts remain unknown," he said.

He added that further developments regarding the search and rescue operation would be delivered in the next report. — Xinhua

# SPORTS

## MTB race sees 428 riders from Yangon Zoo to Hlawga

A total of 428 participants took part in a Mountain Bike (MTB) Novice Class cycling competition held from the Yangon Zoological Gardens to Hlawga Park, according to the Yangon Zoo.

The event, held on 29 March, was organized by the Htoo Zoos & Gardens Business Unit. All 428 contestants showed great spirit and determination, successfully reaching the finish line.

The first, second, third, fourth, and fifth winners of the competition were: Men's MTB Novice Class – Maung Htet Ko Lin (No 221), Maung Phone Pyae Zaw (No 377), Maung Nay Min Arkar Kyaw (No 378), Maung Khant Min Htet (No 206), and Maung Lu Htoo Han (No 101); Women's MTB Novice Class –



The awards ceremony for the winners of the MTB Novice Class competition.

Ma Hnin Thet Paing Soe (No 317), Ma Thae Su Aye (No 311), Ma Kay Thi Kyaw Thu Thant (No 414), Ma Khaing Myint Myat (No 341) and Ma Yi Yi Chein (No 302).

Special prizes were also awarded to those who finished within the top 30, as well as veteran athletes over the age of 65.

Under the guidance of the



Cyclists are seen competing during the race.

Yangon Region government, the Forest Department, and the Department of Sports and Physical Education, this race was organized to produce new

young cyclists, upgrade the cycling sports sector, raise public awareness for natural resources and promote green eco-tourism. — MT/ZN

## Myanmar squad lands in Thailand ahead of 2026 ASEAN Futsal Championship



Players and coaches from the Myanmar national futsal team.

MYANMAR national futsal team (men) departed for training to prepare for the ASEAN Futsal Championship 2026 and

arrived in Thailand on 30 March, according to MFF Futsal.

The men's futsal team has been placed in Group A along with Thailand, Vietnam and Timor-Leste.

The Myanmar team comprises 17 players and 9 coaching staff, and they will stay at the Deluxe Hotel to do training. The team will head to Nakhon Ratchasima, the venue of the championship, on 5 April. — MT/ZS

## Premier League fans back call to scrap VAR

MORE than three-quarters of Premier League fans would like to see VAR scrapped and even more believe it has a detrimental impact on the matchday experience, according to a survey by the Football Supporters' Association (FSA).

The poll of nearly 8,000 supporters, just over half of whom attend more than 15 home games a season, showed how unpopular the current system has become despite the Premier League insisting it has resulted in more correct decisions.

Asked if they support the use of VAR, 76 per cent said they do not, with more than 70 per cent disagreeing that it has improved the overall accuracy of refereeing decisions.

The consensus that VAR has made football less enjoyable was nearly unanimous at 97 per cent, while over 90 per cent disagreed it has made the matchday experience better.

"The results show that most fans want VAR removed," said Thomas Concannon, the FSA's Premier League network manager.

"People are annoyed about

the time that it takes, annoyed about the accuracy, and annoyed about the (reduced) spontaneity.

"It does take away from what football is meant to be and what those special moments are about."

First introduced into the Premier League seven years ago, one of the common complaints about the technology is it is made for the television watching audience rather than those in the stadium, who are often unaware of the reason for delays in the game.

However, the survey found even 94 per cent disagreed that VAR makes watching football on TV more enjoyable.

In response, the Premier League said in a statement that their research "indicates fans are largely in favour of keeping VAR, but improving the way it is used".

The prospect of any immediate changes to the rules appear unlikely.

In 2024, 19 out of 20 Premier League clubs decided to keep VAR, with only Wolves voting against, having proposed a vote themselves. — AFP

## CAF considering Africa Cup of Nations expansion to 28 teams

CONFEDERATION of African Football (CAF) President Patrice Motsepe has said that the Africa Cup of Nations could be expanded from 24 to 28 teams.

Motsepe made the remarks on Sunday at a press conference following a CAF executive committee meeting, but did not specify how the tournament structure would change or when the expansion might take effect.

The Africa Cup of Nations

was expanded from 16 to 24 teams in 2019.

Motsepe also confirmed that the 2027 tournament will go ahead as planned in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. After an additional edition in 2028, the competition is expected to move to a four-year cycle.

He added that CAF plans to launch a new national league competition in 2029, to be played annually, with a 16-team finals tournament staged every two

years.

"The adjustments reflect CAF's commitment to developing world-class football with the best African players from all over the world returning to compete on the continent," Motsepe said.

Motsepe, who was elected CAF president in 2021 and re-elected in 2025, is the first South African to lead the continental soccer governing body. — Xinhua

Rallies against US-Israeli war on Iran draw 8 mln worldwide

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# WORLD

## World Data Organization established in Beijing

**T**HE World Data Organization (WDO) held its first general meeting in Beijing on Monday, marking its official establishment.

During the meeting, members reviewed and adopted the WDO's charter, and elected its first council members and board of supervisors.

The newly elected council held its inaugural meeting, electing the organization's leadership and approving key systems and regulations.

According to the WDO preparatory committee, the organization's establishment aims to promote global data development and governance practices, facilitate the exchange and utilization of data in a compliant, secure and trustworthy manner, and serve the development of the global digital economy.

Yang Jie, secretary-general of the organization, said its mission is to bridge the data divide, unlock the value of data, and boost the digital economy. By promoting capacity building, regulatory exchange, technological collaboration and industrial cooperation, the organization seeks to help more countries and communities better access, utilize and protect data resources.

According to Yang, the organization is also expected to boost the efficiency of data circulation, development and uti-



This photo taken on 30 March 2026 shows the inaugural assembly of the World Data Organization (WDO) in Beijing, capital of China.

**PHOTO: XINHUA**

lization, aiming to transform data from a mere "resource" into "value". Meanwhile, by fostering synergy in data technology, regulations and industrial ecosystems, it can also support the sustained and sound growth of the digital economy.

Muhammadou MO Kah, chair of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development, and

vice chair of the UN Data Governance Working Group, said that the establishment of the organization will enable countries to participate in global data governance decision-making.

Yang added that the WDO is ready to collaborate closely with international organizations to advance global data cooperation.

As a professional, non-governmental and non-profit international body voluntarily established by relevant entities and individuals in the global data sector, the WDO aims to provide a platform for global data collaboration that is practice-oriented, industry-focused and designed for multi-stakeholder dialogue and cooperation. — Xinhua

## WTO faces new reality of global trade



Cameroon's Minister of Trade Luc Magloire Atangana (L) speaks during the WTO ministerial conference in Yaounde on 26 March 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE WTO's failure to reach significant agreements during high-level talks in Yaounde

demonstrates its inability to adapt to a new reality of fragmented global trade, jeopardis-

ing a return to multilateralism, experts warn.

The World Trade Organi-

zation's 14<sup>th</sup> ministerial conference wrapped up in the wee hours Monday with no results on the key issues of agriculture and much-needed reform of the organisation.

The failure to reach agreement also allowed an important moratorium that since 1998 has exempted cross-border digital transmissions from duties to expire.

The meeting, which had initially been scheduled to end at midday Sunday, ended "in chaos and confusion", the NGO network Our World Is Not For Sale, said in Yaounde.

In the hallways of the convention centre in the Cameroonian capital, even delegates from countries on the periphery of the negotiations voiced bewilderment at the numerous postponements of meetings on Sunday. — AFP

Iran rejects US proposed truce plan as "very excessive, unrealistic"

IRANIAN Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said on Monday the recent truce plan proposed by the United States contains "very excessive, unrealistic and unreasonable" demands.

He made the remarks at a weekly press conference in Tehran while elaborating on the US-proposed 15-point plan delivered to Iran via intermediaries to end the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. Unlike the United States, "which constantly changes its positions, and whose officials make and demonstrate contradictory remarks and behaviours," Iran's stance towards relevant issues has been completely clear from the beginning, Baghaei said. — Xinhua