

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.

Preparations Urged to Ensure Successful Convening of Hluttaw Sessions

Security measures must be taken inside and outside the Hluttaw buildings and at the accommodation where Hluttaw representatives stay, during and adjourning Hluttaw sessions, said Prime Minister U Nyo Saw at the first coordination meeting of the Hluttaw Session Convening Central Committee at the Union government Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

In his speech, Central Committee Chairman Prime Minister U Nyo Saw continued that as the first regular sessions of the relevant third Hluttaw meeting will take place under the Constitution, the Central Committee and the work committees have to make preparations for respective sectors to hold the Hluttaw sessions successfully.

The Prime Minister pointed out that it is necessary to timely invite Hluttaw representatives to the first regular session of the Third Hluttaw meetings at a time when the Hluttaw representative list has been approved.

Moreover, he emphasized that lodges must be prepared with facilities of drinking water and electricity to administer the convenient stay of Hluttaw representatives, adding that transport, food supply and healthcare services must be taken systematically for those representatives.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister stressed the need to check and conduct test-running of the telecommunications



Prime Minister U Nyo Saw inspects the preparatory work at the Hluttaw buildings after presiding over the first coordination meeting of the Hluttaw Session Convening Central Committee yesterday.

system, e-voting system, delegate unit and LED boards for proper use.

Similarly, the Prime Minister urged officials from relevant committees to oversee the systematic upgrade of

earthquake-affected buildings, roads, and bridges within the Hluttaw complex, maintenance of the recording and broadcasting of sessions of the respective Hluttaw, as well as audio-visual equipment.

He underlined that arrangements must be carried out for news gathering by domestic and international media in an orderly and smooth manner.

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ARTICLE

Nipah Virus: A Global Emerging Threat and Its Implications for Myanmar

By Dr Aung Tun

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NATIONAL



National Objectives for 79th Union Day 2026

- 1. To work together among all ethnic nationals to achieve the country’s prosperity and food security, the national goal of the country.
- 2. To cooperate hand-in-hand with the government, Tatmadaw and all ethnic nationals in successfully implementing the measures for stability and rule of law.
- 3. To strive together with ethnic armed groups to establish a lasting peace, while propagating justice, freedom and equality within the country.
- 4. To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, practising a genuine and disciplined multiparty democratic system through the friendship, trust, unity and collaboration of ethnic people.
- 5. To cooperate, ensuring the development of education, health and socioeconomic status of ethnic nationals and the emergence of a developing country.

- 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.

- ### Mottos for 79th Union Day 2026
- 1. Unity is strength, Unity is power,
Peace is beauty.
 - 2. Let’s build lasting peace
for the Union’s development
 - 3. National brethren, let’s unite
and join hands for the Union
 - 4. Unity boosts friendship
Harmony brings peace

Myanmar Gazette
Assignment to Duties of Permanent Secretary and Director-General
THE National Defence and Security Council has assigned U Myo Kyaw Thu, Director-General of the Union Minister’s Office of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, to the duties of the Permanent Secretary and Director-General of the same organization.

16 February declared public holiday between Government and Chinese New Year breaks
TWO consecutive days — 14 and 15 February 2026 (Saturday and Sunday) are government holidays. 16 February, which falls between these holidays and the public holiday on 17 February (Chinese New Year), has been designated as a consecutive holiday. 21 February 2026 (Saturday) has been designated as an alternative working day. — MNA

New National Democracy Party Statement
22 January 2026
THE Myanmar delegation, led by Union Minister for Ministry 2 of the President’s Office U Ko Ko Hlaing, and Union Minister for Legal Affairs and Union Attorney-General Dr Thida Oo, appeared before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, the Netherlands, from 12 to 29 January 2026 to address The Gambia’s unjust accusations in accordance with the law, demonstrating Myanmar’s responsibility and honourable conduct.
The New National Democracy Party fully welcomes and supports the Myanmar delegation, which is effectively and decisively confronting the unjust accusations against Myanmar at the ICJ on behalf of the country, based on its belief in the fairness of the law.
**Central Executive Committee
New National Democracy Party**

Over 6.9M pilgrims visit Shwedagon in Jan-Dec 2025



The photo captures the Shwedagon Pagoda.

nuns, more than 3 million local men and over 3.6 million local women, as well as over 36,000 foreign men and nearly 40,000 foreign women, visited Shwedagon Pagoda, bringing the total number of pilgrims to more than 6.9 million. The number of pilgrims averages at least around 10,000 per day from Monday to Friday, and is higher on government and public holidays,” said U Bo Thin, a member of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.
Currently, due to the increasing number of pilgrims, Shwedagon Pagoda has been open from 4 am to 10 pm. since 21 June 2024, in order to ensure that pilgrims can visit the pagoda in peace and tranquillity. — ASH/MKKS

FROM January to December 2025, a total of over 6.9 million pilgrims, including monks, nuns and laypeople, visited Shwedagon Pagoda in the Yangon Region to pay homage. “Over the past year, more than 130,000 monks, over 66,000

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NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

(An excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

Preparations Urged to Ensure Successful Convening ...

FROM PAGE 1

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat reported on the work procedures to be carried out to convene the sessions of relevant Hluttaws successfully.

Officials from the work committees participated in discussions on successfully holding the Hluttaw sessions and further work plans. The Prime Minister coordinated discussions and fulfilled the needs.

Also, present at the meeting were Union Election Commission Chairman U Than Soe, Union ministers, the Auditor-General of the Union, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman and officials from relevant Hluttaws.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister and party visited the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw building, the Pyithu Hluttaw building and the Amyotha Hluttaw building in the Hluttaw complex and inspected preparations to convene Hluttaw sessions successfully. — MNA/TTA

MoI Union Minister inspects preparations for 2025 Academy Awards Ceremony



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn views around the preparatory work for the film awards ceremony.

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn visited the Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening, where the 2025 Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Awards Ceremony is to be held, to inspect preparations and discuss matters related to the successful staging of the event.

At MICC I, the Union minister inspected the ongoing preparations for the 2025 awards ceremony, including the construction of the arch, the red-carpet walkway, arrangements for media and television coverage, the order of proceedings, the completion status of the stage, and the installation of LED displays, lighting and sound systems. He then discussed with responsible officials matters concerning the smooth attendance of artists to the ceremony and the systematic organization and conduct of the order of proceedings. — MNA/MKKS

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Defence and Security Council
Declaration of State of Emergency

Ordinance 1/2026

12th Waxing of Tabodwe 1387 ME
29 January 2026

1. The National Defence and Security Council released Ordinance 1/2025 on 7th Waxing of Wagaung, 1387 ME (31 July 2025), and declared a state of emergency in the townships of the regions and states mentioned in that order.
 2. The order shall be effective for 90 more days starting from today.
- Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Acting President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Defence and Security Council
Announcement of Martial Law

Ordinance 2/2026

12th Waxing of Tabodwe 1387 ME
29 January 2026

1. In the townships of regions and states where a state of emergency was declared under Ordinance 1/2026 by the National Defence and Security Council, a Martial Law order has been issued continuously under Section 413 (b) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, transferring the powers and responsibilities of the said townships to the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services.
 2. The Defence Services Commander-in-Chief may exercise the powers and responsibilities himself or delegate them to an appropriate military authority to exercise and carry them out.
- Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Acting President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the Commander-in-Chief of
Defence Services

Martial Law Order 1/2026

12th Waxing of Tabodwe 1387 ME
29 January 2026

THE Martial Law Orders 1/2025 and 2/2025, which were released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services on the 7th Waxing of Wagaung, 1387 ME (31 July 2025), shall remain in effect.

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

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

NATIONAL

Myanmar begins second round of oral arguments at ICJ



The second round of Myanmar's oral arguments is underway at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, the Netherlands.

ORAL hearings in the case between The Gambia and Myanmar are currently held at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Netherlands, from 12 to 29 January, with Myanmar's second round of submissions having begun at 3 pm local time on 28 January. Myanmar's legal team re-

sponded to questions from the judges and argued that the evidence presented by The Gambia lacks sufficient credibility. Myanmar's Lead Counsel and Advocate, Mr Christopher Staker, first delivered the opening statement of Myanmar's second round of oral arguments.

Myanmar's lawyer, Mr David Hooper, then presented his submission while Myanmar's lawyer, Ms Leigh Lawrie, responded to questions from Judge Brent.

The second round of arguments by Myanmar was held at 10 am local time yesterday. — MNA/KTZH

Healthcare services provided to Ovadacariya Sayadaws in Mawlamyine

MON State Chief Minister U Aung Kyi Thein yesterday observed providing healthcare services to members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, State Ovadacariya Sayadaws and venerable members of the Sangha at the Mawlamyine General Hospital.

The chief minister then delivered an address at the opening of the basic first-aid course 1/2026 jointly organized by the Mawlamyine University Red Cross Society and Mon State Red

Cross Supervisory Committee. The rector of the university reported on the purpose of conducting the training course, while the chief minister attended to the needs for the training course.

Mon State Chief Minister U Aung Kyi Thein also inspected progress in the construction of the gymnasium in the Mon State Sports Park and the Cultural Museum in Minywa Village of Mawlamyine Township. – Mon State IPRD/TTA



The Mon State chief minister and officials are pictured during their inspection tour in Mawlamyine.

A TOTAL of 46 species of rare migratory waterbirds and resident waterbird species, with a population of 24,177 birds, were recorded after the Asian Waterbirds Census conducted in Indawgyi Lake, the country's largest freshwater lake, located in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, in January.

Indawgyi Lake annually becomes a habitat for rare migratory bird species arriving from northern parts of the world and the resident waterbird species during the winter. This year, officials conducted a survey in the east, west and vicinity areas of the lake, and the survey showed 17,275 migratory waterbirds from 29 species and 6,902 resident birds from 17 species, totalling 24,177 birds. The number of migratory waterbirds this winter added 3,970 birds and one additional species compared to last year.

The most commonly observed rare migratory waterbird species in Indawgyi Wildlife

Sanctuary included bar-headed goose (4,805), tufted ducks (3,002), common coots (2,159), common cranes (1,768), brown-headed gulls (1,533), black-headed gulls (794), common pochards (505), ferruginous duck (580), and gadwalls (430) whereas the resident

waterbird species included whistling ducks (2,532), cormorants (1,200), grey-headed swamphen (1,509), and Tachybaptus ruficollis (460).

These surveys of waterbird species were being conducted in the east and west of the lake, along the Indaw Creek and wetlands.

This year, three bird species not recorded in 2025 – namely the common shelducks (four), Recurvirostra avosetta (three), and Mirafra javanica (six) – were

rediscovered and documented.

The Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary office stated that migratory bird species have been recorded as arriving annually starting from October. As a result, welcoming activities for migratory birds, including public aware-

ness talks and the installation of signboards, are carried out every year during the second week of October.

Indawgyi Lake became a member of the East Asia-Australasian Flyway on 15 December 2014, and was designated as

the country's second Ramsar Site on 2 February 2016. The lake is home to 47 mammal species, 91 amphibian and crawling animal species, 94 fish species, 105 waterbird species and 400 forest bird species. — Shwe Mohnyin/KTZH

Indawgyi Lake hosts 24,000 migratory and resident birds, Jan survey shows



This image shows the Indawgyi Lake hosting both migratory and resident birds.

MR launches weekend sightseeing trains on PyinOoLwin-Gokteik route

THE Ministry of Transport and Communications, through Myanma Railways, has been operating sightseeing train services along the PyinOoLwin-Gokteik route and the Gokteik-PyinOoLwin route since 19 December, on Saturdays and Sundays each week. These services allow both domestic and foreign tourists to explore the historic Gokteik Viaduct and enjoy the natural scenery of rivers, plains, and mountains along the route.

Since the service began, a total of 13 regular train trips have been operated, carrying 621 passengers. In addition, eight trips have been run using upper-class RBE accommodating 24 passengers each under package arrangements, while six trips using ordinary-class RBE carrying 40 passengers each have transported 432 passengers. Furthermore, special trips were arranged with large chartered trains for school groups: on 12 and 16 January, 540 students and teachers from Snow Queen Private High School from PyinOoLwin were transported; on 28 January, 300



Joyful train travellers pose for a group commemorative photo near the PyinOoLwin -Gokteik railway.

students and teachers from Mawmyo Private High School; and on 29 January, 300 students and teachers from the Pyinnya Shwe Yaung Private High School in Anisakhan, PyinOoLwin Township. Since the commencement of operations, a total of 2,193 passengers have participated in the sightseeing train services.

For the PyinOoLwin-Gokteik and return route, each

RBE can carry 40 passengers. The Gokteik 1 RBE departs PyinOoLwin Station at 8 am and arrives at Gokteik Station at 11:30 am, while the Gokteik 2 RBE departs Gokteik Station at 12:30 pm and returns to PyinOoLwin Station by 4 pm. The train makes stop-over at Pwekauk, Watwun, Samse, and Nawngkhio stations along the route.

Additionally, a RGC sight-

seeing train, which can accommodate 20 passengers per trip and costs K5,000 per person, travels from Gokteik Station across the Gokteik Viaduct to designated viewing areas. Up to today, 400 passengers have used this service.

PyinOoLwin-Gokteik-PyinOoLwin trips continue to operate on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays. Tourism

companies, travel agencies, and private schools may also charter upper-class RBE for 24 passengers per train at K30,000 per person, amounting to a total of K720,000 for a full train.

For groups exceeding 150 passengers, the trains can be arranged with 30-seat upper-class carriages, 60-seat ordinary-class carriages, and brake vans, serving not only the PyinOoLwin-Gokteik-PyinOoLwin route but also starting from Zeepingyi, Anisakhan, and Thonetaung stations. Fares for such services are K15,000 per person for ordinary class and K30,000 per person for upper class. For trips starting from Anisakhan Station, fares are K20,000 per person for ordinary class and K35,000 per person for upper class.

Those wishing to book package sightseeing trips using either RBE or large chartered trains are advised to make reservations at least three days in advance through the station superintendent (upper class) at PyinOoLwin, by contacting 09 448538830. — MNA/MKKS

Hlawga Park urges visitors to follow 5 “Don’ts”

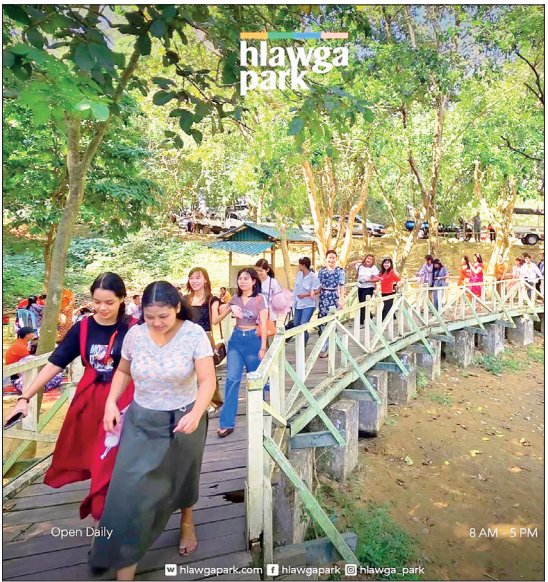
THE nature park, Hlawga, which is established to protect the natural environment, has suggested that visitors adhere to the five don’ts.

It is a sanctuary for wild animals and is worth a visit for those who love nature, so the open zoo has suggested dos and don’ts for visitors in order to protect the natural environment.

The five don’ts are- pets are not allowed, do not use fire, do

not smoke near animals, do not litter and do not let children go alone without guardians, it said.

Visitors can explore the wild fauna and flora, take photos of the natural environment, go on picnics, bicycle, and walk in the park, which is open from 8 am to 5 pm daily. On weekdays, the visitor arrival is about 500 regularly, but it is between 2,000 and 5,000 on weekends and public holidays, said the park official. — MT/ZS



Images capture visitors at Hlawga Park

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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.

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Announcement 25/2026

12th Waxing of Tabodwe, 1387 ME
29 January 2026

Notification of list of elected Pyithu Hluttaw representatives

ACCORDING to the announcements issued by the respective State and Region Election Subcommissions under Section 49(b) of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law, the following individuals have been elected as members of the Amyotha Hluttaw in the multiparty general elections held in stages starting from 28 December 2025.

Kachin State (First-past-the-post)

No	Name	CSC	MP No	Representing Party/ Individual
1	U Naw Tawng	1/MaKaNa(C)034516	2	Union Solidarity and Development Party
2	U Sein Win Tun	1/MaNyaNa(C)018096	3	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Kachin State (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 2				
3	U Zung Loke	1/MaKaNa(C)074906	9	Union Solidarity and Development Party
4	U Aung San Htoo	1/BaMaNa(C)051394	10	Union Solidarity and Development Party
5	U Sein Lwin Oo	1/MaNyaNa(C)004096	11	Taing-Leng (Shan Ni) National Development Party
6	Dr Manam Tu Ja	1/MaKaNa(C)119286	12	Kachin State People's Party
Kayin State (First-past-the-post)				
7	U Aung Thein Win	3/KaKaRa(C)000716	1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
8	U Han Lin Tun	3/KaHsaKa(C)040312	2	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Kayin (Proportional Representation)				
9	U Saw Nay Lin Aung	3/BaAh Na(C)223213	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
10	U Chit Wai	3/BaAh Na(C)020705	8	Union Solidarity and Development Party
11	Saw Myat Htut Win (a) Ko Sweet	3/KaKaRa(C)011211	9	Kayin National Democratic Party
12	Nan Saw Saw Mon	3/BaAh Na(C)083778	10	Kayin National Democratic Party
13	Naw Yuzana Wah	3/BaAh Na(C)004706	11	Phalon-Sawaw Democratic Party
14	Khun Win Oo	3/BaAh Na(C)017164	12	Pa-O National Unity Party
Sagaing Region (First-past-the-post)				
15	Daw Kyawt Yin Win	5/YaMaPa(C)034261	3	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Sagaing (Proportional Representation)				
16	U Thein Hlaing	9/MaKhaNa(C)007578	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
17	U Kyaw Zin Tun	5/HaMaLa(C)071253	8	National Unity Party
Taninthayi Region (First-past-the-post)				
18	U Than Aung	6/KaSaNa(C)030613	2	Union Solidarity and Development Party
19	U Maung Sein	6/HtaWaNa(C)008713	3	Union Solidarity and Development Party
20	U Moe Myint	6/MaAh Ra(C)009459	5	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Taninthayi (Proportional Representation)				
21	U Yu Naing	3/BaAh Na(C)011649	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
22	U Tin Maung Win	6/PaLaNa(C)001981	8	Union Solidarity and Development Party
23	U Nyan Tun	6/KaSaNa(C)023751	9	Union Solidarity and Development Party

No	Name	CSC	MP No	Representing Party/ Individual
24	U Than Aye (a) U Tin Oo	6/HtaWaNa(C)076931	10	National Unity Party
25	U Soe Kyi	6/MaMaNa(C)136883	11	National Unity Party
26	U Wai Yan Myo	14/BaKaLa(C)204154	12	People's Party
Bago Region (First-past-the-post)				
27	U Aung Soe	7/PaKhaNa(C)076953	1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
28	Daw Ni Ni Mar	7/TaNgaNa(C)073714	2	Union Solidarity and Development Party
29	Daw Htar Htar Nu	7/PaMaNa(C)060252	3	Union Solidarity and Development Party
30	U Ye Myint Tun	7/PaKhaNa(C)001992	4	Union Solidarity and Development Party
31	U Kyaw Win Oo	7/PaKhaNa(C)101277	6	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Bago (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 1				
32	U Zin Min Htet	9/MaMaNa(C)013117	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
33	U Thein Zaw	7/ThaWaTa(C)006192	8	Union Solidarity and Development Party
34	U Thaug Shwe	7/PaTaTa(C)051962	9	National Unity Party
Bago (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 2				
35	U Hla Thein	7/PaKaNa(C)005562	10	Union Solidarity and Development Party
36	U Phyo Wai Lin	7/DaUNa(C)147052	11	Union Solidarity and Development Party
37	U Min Sein	7/PaKhaNa(C)013216	12	National Unity Party
Mandalay Region (First-past-the-post)				
38	U Khin Maung Win	9/KaHsaNa(C)088173	1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
39	U Bo Thein Naing	9/MaKhaNa(C)056997	2	Union Solidarity and Development Party
40	U Hein Min Oo	9/ThaSaNa(C)101015	3	Union Solidarity and Development Party
41	U Win Pe Maung	9/MaNaTa(C)098678	4	Union Solidarity and Development Party
42	U Maung Maung Myint	12/TaMaNa(C)054257	5	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Mandalay (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 1				
43	U Kyaw Tin	5/NgaZaNa(C)005627	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
44	U Myint Oo	9/NyaUNa(C)075851	8	National Unity Party
Mandalay (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 2				
45	U Khin Maung Myint	9/MaNaMa(C)110128	9	Union Solidarity and Development Party
46	U Myint San	9/MaRaTa(C)095297	10	National Unity Party
Mandalay (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 3				
47	U Aung Lin Dwe	10/ThaHtaNa (C) 012807	11	Union Solidarity and Development Party
48	U Kyaw Tint	9/MaThaLa(C)109264	12	National Unity Party

NATIONAL

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No	Name	CSC	MP No	Representing Party/ Individual
Yangon Region (First-past-the-post)				
49	U Win Hlaing	12/MaGaTa(C)007784	1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
50	U Aung Win Than	12/LaMaNa(C)100974	2	Union Solidarity and Development Party
51	U Zaw Win Thant	12/MaGaDa(C)021942	4	Union Solidarity and Development Party
52	U Aung Thiha	12/MaGaTa(C)000967	5	Union Solidarity and Development Party
53	U Aye Paing	12/KaHtaNa(C)056440	6	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Yangon (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 1				
54	U Ye Yint Soe Nyunt	12/BaHtaTa(C)007505	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
55	U Kyi Lin Htet	10/KaTaNa(C)092371	8	People’s Party
Yangon (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 2				
56	U Yan Naing Oo	12/DaGaNa(C)031077	9	Union Solidarity and Development Party
57	U Kyaw Kyaw Latt	14/MaMaNa(C)144832	10	People’s Party
Yangon (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 3				
58	U Tint Zaw	12/MaBaNa(C)003190	11	Union Solidarity and Development Party
59	U Wunna Soe	12/ThaGhaKa(C)162565	12	People’s Party
Shan State (First-past-the-post)				
60	Khun Tai	13/SaSaNa(C)059822	3	Pa-O National Organization (PNO)
61	Dr Kyaw Tun	9/MaRaTa(C)006453	6	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Shan (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 1				
62	U Khin Maung Myint	13/RaSaNa(C)009091	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
63	Khun Saw Lwin	13/KaTaLa(C)007481	8	Pa-O National Organisation (PNO)
64	U Tun Lin	13/NaKaNa(C)058596	9	Union Solidarity and Development Party

No	Name	CSC	MP No	Representing Party/ Individual
65	Sai Win Khine	13/ThaNaNa(C)006044	10	Shan & Nationalities Democratic Party (Kyar Phyu Party)
Shan State (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 3				
66	U Shamwe La Shan	13/MaKaNa(C)000119	11	Union Solidarity and Development Party
67	Daw Nang Woe Sein	13/MaPaTa(C)0000937	12	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Ayeyawady Region (First-past-the-post)				
68	U Yan Naing Win	14/KaPaNa(C)125658	1	Union Solidarity and Development Party
69	Daw Nwe Nwe Oo	14/PaThaNa(C)055946	2	Union Solidarity and Development Party
70	U Khine Win Aung	14/PhaPaNa(C)097794	3	Union Solidarity and Development Party
71	U Aung Kyaw Min	12/MaRaKa(C)077877	4	Union Solidarity and Development Party
72	U Htein Lin	14/LaPaTa(C)000945	5	Union Solidarity and Development Party
73	U Myo Thant	12/DaGaNa(C)010576	6	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Ayeyawady (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 1				
74	U Myint Kyaing	9/MaNaMa(C)089546	7	Union Solidarity and Development Party
75	U Aung Tin Myint	14/PaThaNa(C)087116	8	Union Solidarity and Development Party
76	Daw Kyin Thein	14/PaThaNa(C)052207	9	National Unity Party
Ayeyawady (Proportional Representation) – Constituency 1				
77	U Chit Swe	7/TaNgNaNa(C)013304	10	Union Solidarity and Development Party
78	Daw Zin Pa Pa Oo	14/BaKaLa(C)172070	11	Union Solidarity and Development Party
79	Daw Khin Than Oo	14/HaThaTa(C)040740	12	National Unity Party

Sd/ Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

K200M jackpot up for grabs in 31st Aung Bar Lay draw

AT the 31st opening, the five-digit Aung Bar Lay online lottery has raised the jackpot grand prize to K200million.

Tickets can be available until 31 January, and your luck will be locked at 11:59 am on the day. No jackpot winner appeared at the 30th opening, so the prize will be doubled to K200 million at the 31st opening.

At Myanmar’s first five-digit ABL application, you can choose lottery tickets at your desire with K1,000 per ticket and make payment by e-wallet or by dialling *117# with a Mytel sim.

The five-digit online lot-



The lucky number for the jackpot grand prize drawn at the 29th opening.

tery opens on the 1st and 16th day of the month at every 2 pm and selects winners of the jackpot grand prize, unit prizes and other prizes by a digital drawing machine. — MT/ZS



Myanmar reports no new COVID-19 cases

THE Ministry of Health tested four samples from 8 pm on 18 January 2026 to 8 pm on 25 January 2026, and no new cases were detected.

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

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

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

Myanmar CDC
Public Health Department, Ministry of Health

Nurture youth to have digital technological knowledge

ALTHOUGH digital technology is advancing across multiple sectors of society, more than 2.6 billion people worldwide – most of them women and children – still lack access to digital technology. Therefore, promoting gender equality in digital access is essential to opening new pathways for economic growth, fostering innovation, and supporting sustainable development.

In the late 20th century, internet technology experienced rapid development, becoming a major driver of the swift global spread of communication and information technologies. Subsequently, innovations in mobile phones during the 1970s and 1980s, along with the development of social media in the early 21st century, opened a new chapter in communication and information technology. The advancement of these technologies has benefited social and economic sectors more broadly.

Currently, countries around the world, including Myanmar, place strong emphasis on digital education. Many countries are nurturing their citizens to develop strong capacities in cooperation, communication, critical analysis and problem-solving, creativity and innovation, as well as the strengthening of national spirit, as key 21st-century skills and personal competencies. As such, it is essential to create greater access to digital technology for youth, women, and children.

to the growth of online shopping, many countries have been able to secure economic growth.

Currently, countries around the world, including Myanmar, place strong emphasis on digital education. Many countries are nurturing their citizens to develop strong capacities in cooperation, communication, critical analysis and problem-solving, creativity and innovation, as well as the strengthening of national spirit, as key 21st-century skills and personal competencies. As such, it is essential to create greater access to digital technology for youth, women, and children.

As a result, countries that efficiently apply communication technology can achieve rapid development within a short period. As the global community moves toward the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0), countries that fail to keep pace with others in communication and digital technologies will fall behind in development. Hence, not only governments but also youth need to enhance their digital technology knowledge and capacities to build a better society.

Nipah Virus: A Global Emerging Threat and Its Implications for Myanmar

By Dr Aung Tun

NIPAH VIRUS
နီပါးဗိုင်းရပ်စ် (Nipah virus) ဆိုတာဘာလဲ?

Nipah virus ရောဂါသည် တိရစ္ဆာန်မှ လူသို့ ကူးစက်နိုင်သော (zoonosis) ရောဂါတစ်မျိုး ဖြစ်ပြီး တိရစ္ဆာန်များနှင့် လူသားများအတွက် ပြင်းထန်သောရောဂါကို ဖြစ်စေနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဘယ်လို ကူးစက်နိုင်သလဲ?
Nipah virus သည် တိရစ္ဆာန်များမှ လူသားများသို့ ကူးစက်နိုင်ပါသည်။ (ဥပမာ - လင်းနို့များ၊ ဝက်များ)

ing, and quarantine protocols, the virus has been successfully controlled. The state's experience with previous outbreaks has enabled more effective response mechanisms.

Regional Response
The World Health Organization (WHO) has assessed the risk of the Nipah virus outbreak crossing the Myanmar-India border as moderate for both India and Myanmar. The Nepali government has accordingly implemented strict health screening procedures at border entry points to prevent cross-border transmission.

Human-to-Human Transmission
Person-to-person transmission occurs through close contact with infected individuals' bodily fluids, including:

Although no Nipah virus infections have been detected in Myanmar to date, special emphasis is being placed on disease surveillance activities in areas near the India- Myanmar border, where infections frequently occur. This enhanced vigilance is crucial given the region's connectivity and shared fruit bat populations.

3. Transmission
Animal-to-Human Transmission
The primary mode of transmission is from fruit bats to humans. This can occur through:

- Direct contact with infected bats or their body fluids

typically ranges from 4 to 14 days, though it can extend up to 45 days in some cases. The clinical presentation of Nipah virus infection varies considerably, ranging from asymptomatic infection to severe encephalitis and death.

Initial Symptoms
The disease typically begins with flu-like symptoms:

Progression to Severe Disease
Within 24 to 48 hours, symptoms can rapidly progress to include:

- Drowsiness and confusion
 - Disorientation and mental confusion
 - Difficulty breathing (respiratory distress)
 - Seizures
 - Encephalitis (brain inflammation)
 - Coma
- Atypical pneumonia and severe respiratory problems are common complications. The rapid progression from initial symptoms to coma is a hallmark of Nipah virus encephalitis and distinguishes it from many other

viral infections.

Atypical Presentations
Some patients may present primarily with respiratory symptoms, making initial diagnosis challenging. These atypical cases can be difficult to differentiate from common respiratory infections in the early stages, potentially delaying appropriate isolation and treatment.

5. Diagnosis and Treatment
Diagnostic Methods
Early diagnosis of Nipah virus infection is critical but challenging. Laboratory confirmation requires specialized testing:

- Real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) from throat swabs, nasal swabs, blood, urine, or cerebrospinal fluid
- Antibody detection by ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay)
- Virus isolation in cell culture (performed only in biosafety level 4 laboratories)
- Immunohistochemistry on tissue samples

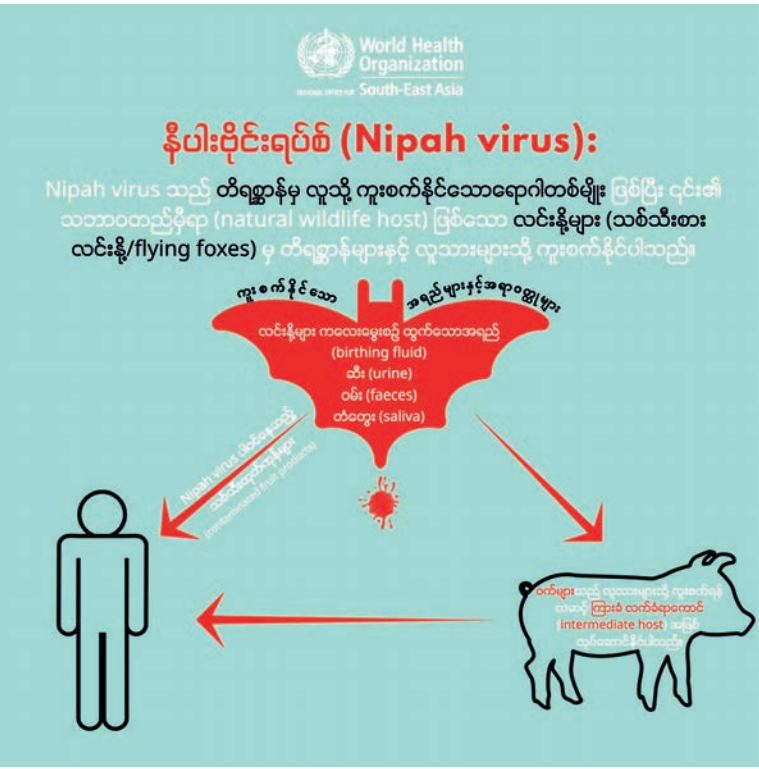
Testing must be conducted in specialized facilities with appropriate biosafety measures due to the highly infectious nature of the virus.

Current Treatment Options
Currently, there are no approved vaccines or specific antiviral treatments for Nipah virus infection. Treatment is primarily supportive and focuses on:

- Psychological support for patients and families
- Some experimental treatments have shown promise in animal studies, including monoclonal antibodies and antiviral drugs, but these have not been conclusively proven effective in humans. The WHO has prioritized Nipah virus for urgent research and development of therapeutic interventions.

6. Risk Factors and Mortality
Case Fatality Rate
Nipah virus infection is characterized by an extremely high mortality rate, ranging from 40

- Speed of diagnosis and supportive care initiation
- Overall health status of affected individuals
- **High-Risk Groups**
Certain populations face elevated risk of Nipah virus infection:
- Healthcare workers caring for infected patients
- Family members and caregivers of confirmed cases
- People living in or near fruit bat habitats
- Individuals who consume raw date palm sap or fruits that may have been contaminated
- Pig farmers and slaughterhouse workers (in areas with infected pig populations)



per cent to 75 per cent depending on the outbreak location and available healthcare resources. This makes it one of the deadliest emerging infectious diseases known to humanity. The mortality rate can vary significantly based on:

- Strain of the virus (Bangladesh strain appears more deadly)
- Access to intensive care facilities
- Border residents and travelers between endemic areas
- **Long-term Complications**
Survivors of Nipah virus encephalitis may experience long-term neurological consequences, including persistent seizures, personality changes, and cognitive impairment. Some survivors have experienced late-onset encephalitis months or even years after initial infection, highlighting the

need for long-term medical follow-up.

7. Prevention Strategies
Personal Protective Measures

Individual prevention is crucial in areas where Nipah virus is known to occur or during outbreaks:

- Practice frequent hand hygiene with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially after any potential exposure
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid direct contact with sick animals, particularly bats and pigs
- Stay away from areas where fruit bats roost, especially caves and trees with large bat colonies

Food Safety Practices

Given the role of contaminated food in transmission:

- Avoid consuming raw date palm sap or toddy. If consumed, ensure it has been boiled
- Thoroughly wash all fruits before consumption and peel them when possible
- Discard any fruits that show signs of bat bites or contamination
- Avoid consuming fruits found on the ground or partially eaten
- Do not drink unpasteurized fruit juices of unknown origin

Healthcare Setting Precautions
For healthcare workers and caregivers:

- Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including N95 masks, gloves, gowns, and eye protection when caring for suspected or confirmed cases
- Implement strict isolation procedures for confirmed cases
- Follow proper infection control protocols for handling specimens and contaminated materials
- Ensure proper disposal of medical waste

Community-Level Prevention

- Surveillance systems should be strengthened to detect cases early
- Contact tracing and monitoring of exposed individuals

SEE PAGE 10

Nipah Virus: A Global Emerging Threat and Its Implications for Myanmar

FROM PAGE 9

- Public education campaigns about transmission risks and prevention
- Quarantine measures for individuals with known exposure
- Restriction of movement in affected areas when necessary

8. Public Health Advisory for Myanmar Citizens

Given the current outbreak in West Bengal, India, the following advisory is issued for Myanmar citizens, particularly those living near the Myanmar-India border or planning travel to affected areas:

For Border Area Residents and Travellers

- Myanmar-India border residents and travellers should exercise heightened caution:
- Submit to health screening: When returning from India or crossing the border, comply fully with health screening at border checkpoints. Do not attempt to bypass screening points.
 - Report travel history and symptoms: If experiencing symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle pain, difficulty breathing, or confusion, openly inform healthcare workers about travel history to India so appropriate testing and treatment can be provided.
 - Follow quarantine instructions: If directed by health authorities to stay at a designated quarantine center or self-isolate at home, comply systematically with these requirements for the specified period.

General Public Health Guidelines

All Myanmar citizens should

- observe the following preventive measures:
- Maintain personal hygiene: Wash hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
 - Practice food safety: Since Nipah virus can transmit from fruit bats, do not consume any fruits suspected of being bitten by bats. Wash all fruits thoroughly before eating and peel them whenever possible. Avoid drinking raw date palm sap or any beverages that may have been exposed to bat contamination.
 - Avoid animal contact: Avoid direct contact with bats, sick pigs, or other animals. Do not

enter areas where bats roost.

- Watch for symptoms: If you or family members develop severe fever, headache, muscle pain, vomiting, difficulty breathing, or confusion, immediately seek medical attention at the nearest health facility, hospital, or doctor. Be sure to inform healthcare providers about any travel history or potential exposure.

Stay Informed

Stay alert to updates from the Ministry of Health and follow official instructions. By actively cooperating with health measures, you can protect not only yourself but also your family and community from this dangerous disease.

The public should avoid unnecessary visits to areas where Nipah virus is currently spreading (for example, West Bengal State, India). Those currently in areas where the disease is occurring should avoid unnecessary hospitalization, especially in facilities with high numbers of sick individuals. Those who have

recently traveled to areas where the disease is occurring should watch for symptoms and experience suspected symptoms such as fever and headache, cough and difficulty breathing, confusion, or drowsiness upon returning.

နီပါးဗိုင်းရပ်စ် (Nipah virus) ကူးစက်မှုကို မည်သို့ ကာကွယ်မလဲ?

လင်းနို့များမှ တစ်စိတ်တစ်ပိုင်းစားထား၊ ကိုက်ထားသော ရောဂါပိုးပါရှိနိုင်သည့် သစ်သီးများကို စားသုံးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။ ထန်းပင်မှ ဝင်ကျထန်းရည် (raw date palm sap) ကို မကျိုချက်ပဲ သောက်သုံးခြင်း မှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။

လက်ကို ဆပ်ပြာ၊ သန့်ရှင်းသော ရေဖြင့် မကြာခဏ ဆေးကြောပါ။

Nipah virus ကူးစက်ရသော လူနာများနှင့် ထိတွေ့ဆက်ဆံရာတွင်

- လူနာနှင့် အနီးကပ် ထိတွေ့မှုကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- လူနာအနီးသို့ သွားရာတွင် mask တပ်ပြီး နှာခေါင်းနှင့် ပါးစပ်ကို ခနစ်တကျ ဖုံးအုပ်ထားပါ။
- လူနာကို ထိတွေ့ကိုင်တွယ်ပြီးနောက် ဆပ်ပြာနှင့်ရေဖြင့် လက်ကို ခနစ်တကျ ဆေးကြောပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ထမ်းများအနေဖြင့်

Nipah virus ကူးစက်မှုကို သံသယရှိသော (သို့) အတည်ပြုထားသော လူနာများကို ကိုင်တွယ်ရာတွင် ကူးစက်ရောဂါထိန်းချုပ်ရေး စည်းမျဉ်းများ ကို တင်းကြပ်စွာ လိုက်နာရပါမည်။

 World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR South-East Asia

If symptoms appear within 14 days of returning from an affected area, it is necessary to immediately contact a healthcare facility and be sure to inform the doctor regarding the travel history to the affected area so that one can receive the necessary test and treatment promptly.

9. Conclusion

Nipah virus represents a significant public health threat due to its high mortality rate, person-to-person transmission capability, and lack of specific treatment or vaccine. The current outbreak in West Bengal, India, serves as a reminder of the ongoing risk this pathogen poses to the region, including Myanmar. While no cases have been detected in Myanmar to date, the country's proximity to endemic areas and shared ecological

conditions necessitate continued vigilance. The Myanmar Ministry of Health has appropriately strengthened surveillance activities in border areas and implemented screening procedures at entry points.

peutics, and vaccines for Nipah virus. Until these tools become available, our response relies on early detection, rapid isolation of cases, meticulous contact tracing, and community engagement in preventive practices.

By working together – health authorities, healthcare workers, and the general public – we can minimize the risk of Nipah virus entering Myanmar and protect our communities from this deadly disease. Vigilance, preparedness, and cooperation are our best strategies in the face of emerging infectious disease threats.

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Online platforms offer filtering to fight AI slop

AS “AI slop” floods the internet, efforts are mounting to stem an online deluge of shoddy images and videos made using increasingly advanced tech tools. Easily accessible genera-

tive artificial intelligence tools, such as Google’s Veo and OpenAI’s Sora, enable the creation of realistic imagery using just a few descriptive words. Images of cats painting, ce-

lebrities in compromising situations, and cartoon characters endorsing products are among the AI-generated detritus proliferating on social networks and video-sharing platforms.

“The rise of AI has raised concerns about low-quality content — also known as AI slop,” YouTube chief executive Neal Mohan said of the irksome phenomenon.

Such content is “cheap, bland and mass-produced,” Swiss engineer Yves, who declined to give his last name, told AFP, echoing discussions on social media website Reddit. — AFP

NATIONAL

Myanmar delegation participates in
Global Labour Market Conference 2026

A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyaw Hoe attended the Global Labour Market Conference 2026, held on 26-27 January in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and arrived back in Yangon on 28 January.

The conference was convened with the aim of addressing challenges currently faced by labour markets worldwide and creating better employment opportunities for the future.

The first section of the conference took place at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Riyadh on 26 January, and Mr Ahmed bin Sulaiman Al-Rajhi, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development of Saudi Arabia, delivered an opening speech.

During the Ministerial Roundtable themed “From Policy to Practice: Opening Immediate Pathways to Work Amid Rapid Change”, the Union minister stated that the Global Labour Market Conference was first initiated in 2023 to prepare young people for technology, and



Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe speaks at the Global Labour Market Conference 2026 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

that at the 2025 conference, eight effective action plans were successfully adopted. For developing countries, the challenge is no longer limited to future planning alone, but now requires the implementation of practical measures to respond effectively to rapid automation, climate change, and economic pressures.

He continued that Myanmar is prioritizing the four key areas to change the policies into practice.

The first one is that efforts are being made to transform businesses from the informal sector into the formal sector in order to ensure that employment opportunities are accessible and inclusive for all.

The second is to provide workers with appropriate skills. The government is collaborating with the private sector through the National Skills Standards Authority (NSSA) to develop occupational skills standards and

to implement the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) system, which assesses skills and issues recognized certification.

The third one is that policies are being adjusted to maintain balance in order to nurture adaptable and resilient labour markets, and the fourth is to effectively utilize technology and data, strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation frameworks to connect cross-border labour demand and supply.

In doing so, digital literacy should be prioritized and efforts should be made to transform the brain drain into a brain gain situation by creating the chance for migrant workers returning from foreign countries to be able to share and apply their experiences and technologies for the development of the country.

Afterwards, the labour ministers from 40 countries coordinated the discussion.

At noon, the Union minister attended the opening ceremony of the conference held at the King

Abdulaziz International Conference Centre. In the evening, the Union minister attended the cultural show and dinner event.

On 27 January, the Union minister met Mr Abdulwahab Alageel, General Supervisory Executive for the Domestic Services Sector of Saudi Arabia, to discuss labour-related matters between the two countries.

He also attended the Labour Award Ceremony, which honoured outstanding individuals and organizations in areas such as workplace environment improvement, occupational safety and health, skills and training development, promotion of national workforce utilization, and high-level management excellence within Saudi Arabia’s labour market.

The conference was attended by 40 ministers of labour, alongside leaders from ILO, World Bank, international organizations, academia, the private sector, and civil society. — MNA/KTZH

3rd Myanmar-Russia Biosafety Meeting boosts biotech cooperation

THE third Myanmar-Russia Coordination Meeting on Biosafety was held yesterday morning at the Ministry of Science and Technology in Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting aimed to facilitate the exchange of research and assessments on emerging biosafety threats across the Asia-Pacific region and worldwide.

The meeting was opened by Dr Aung Zeya, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology and Chair of the National Authority for Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). Myanmar acceded to the BWC in 1972 and ratified it on 1 December 2014, becoming the 171st State Party. Since this onset, Myanmar has complied with BWC provisions and submitted

Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) to the Implementation Support Unit on eight occasions between 2016 and 2025, contributing to trust-building among countries each 15 April.

Given historical experience and contemporary biological hazards, biosafety is a sector of critical importance for ensuring the long-term survival of humanity. Threats may emerge from animals, plants, genetically modified crops and products, as well as AI-based biological technologies. The meeting is regarded as a key step in fostering strategic, long-term cooperation between Myanmar and Russia to address such risks.

Officials from the Russian Federation also attended, ref-



The third Myanmar-Russia Biosafety Meeting is underway yesterday, addressed by Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya.

erencing the ten chapters of the BWC and discussing areas of bilateral cooperation in biosafety, strengthening regulatory measures, participation in international forums, and establishing communication channels to enhance national biosafety

for the benefit of both countries.

During the discussions, the Deputy Minister provided additional guidance and presented a commemorative gift to the Russian delegation leader.

The meeting concluded with outcomes expected to

strengthen the Myanmar-Russia strategic partnership, promote long-term mutual trust, and enhance Myanmar’s biosafety sector through advanced biotechnology cooperation with Russia, a global leader in the field. — MNA/KZL

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, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

127 foreigners linked to telecom fraud, gambling repatriated

A total of 127 foreign nationals involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities were repatriated to their respective countries through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II in pursuit of legal procedures, humanitarian considerations, and friendly relations between nations.

The group comprised 91 Indonesian nationals and 36 Kenyan nationals who had illegally entered Myanmar via border routes after transiting through Thailand and some neighbouring countries. They committed illegal online gambling, telecom fraud, and other criminal offences in the Myawady-Shwe Kokko area of Kayin State. The repatriation was carried out via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II.

To ensure the systematic and smooth implementation of the repatriation process, Myawady District Administration and Management Committee Member Lt-Col San Shwe and departmental officials verified lists and data for accuracy and completeness, and carried out necessary coordination measures.

The handover ceremony then continued with the attendance of Assistant Director U Thant Zin from the Ministry of Immigration and Population, Deputy Ambassador Mrs



Immigration processes ongoing for the deportation of undocumented foreign immigrants.

Nancy Wanjiru Mwangi and officials from the Embassy of the Republic of Kenya to Thailand, Counsellor Mr Vinsky Wattimena and officials from the Embassy of Indonesia to Thailand, and officials from the Tak Province Immigration Office of Thailand. Responsible officials from Myanmar systematical-

ly handed over the relevant repatriation and acceptance documents to representatives of the respective countries.

The Government of Myanmar is actively cooperating with neighbouring countries, regional nations, and international organizations to identify, arrest, and take effective and severe action against those involved in online scam centres and foreign nationals who mastermind such activities. At the same time, it is also effectively coordinating efforts to ensure the prompt repatriation of foreign nationals facing hardship for various reasons and those who have been trafficked. — MNA/KZL

Yangon-Mandalay Expressway enforces 23-tonne cap, bars overloaded vehicles



A general view of the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.



This image shows the Bailey bridge supports being installed on the outbound lane of the Swa Creek Bridge on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

THE Yangon-Mandalay Expressway allows a maximum gross weight of 23 tonnes per vehicle, including passengers and cargo, and any overloaded vehicles exceeding this limit will not be permitted to use the expressway under any circumstances, according to the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway

Pyi Taw to Yangon is currently being rebuilt.

“The bridge on the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw route is presently being used on an emergency temporary basis, with props installed beneath the bridge and Bailey steel beams fitted on the deck. Therefore, to ensure safe use until the completion of the reconstruction by the end of March 2026, only vehicles with a total weight of up to 23 tonnes, including passengers and cargo, are permitted to cross,” said a responsible official from the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Maintenance and Supervision Committee.

It is understood that at expressway toll-gate weighbridges, large passenger buses and authorized cargo vehicles are permitted to carry a maximum total load of 23 tonnes, including the vehicle, passengers and goods. For each permitted vehicle category, the allowable number of passengers and the specified cargo weight limits are also clearly displayed in tabulated form.

Vehicles with a total weight exceeding 23 tonnes will not be allowed to use the expressway at all and must instead travel via alternative routes, it has been announced. — MNA/KNN

2025 YBS accidents claim 32 lives, injure 54 as casualties decline

IN response to a query from The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM), the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC) stated that during 2025, YBS accidents resulted in 54 injuries and 32 deaths, marking a decrease in casualties compared to the previous year.

There were a total of 72 incidents (64 collisions and eight other cases) between January and December. Monthly breakdown shows: January: seven collisions, two others (12 injuries, five deaths), February: three collisions, one other (four injuries, one death), March: three accidents, another one (one injury, three deaths), April: two collisions (two deaths), May: six collisions (six injuries, two deaths), June: four collisions, another one case (three injuries, two deaths), July: six collisions, another one case (five injuries, five deaths), August: eight collisions (eight injuries), September: 11 collisions (five injuries, four deaths), October: five collisions (seven injuries, three deaths), November: three collisions, another one case (one injury, two deaths) and December: six collisions, another one case (two injuries, three deaths).

In 2024 (from 1 January to 15 December), there were 70 YBS accidents resulting in 36 deaths and 136 injuries.

YRTC stated it is continuously working towards its primary goal of providing “Safe Public Transport to All” and establishing a secure, high-quality public transport system. — MT/ZN



An accident involving a YBS bus and a private vehicle is pictured on 3 January 2026.

Myanmar pulses supply capacity wins trust from India

SMT Nidhi Khare, Secretary of the Department of Consumer Affairs, during the 4th South Asia Agri Forum 2026 held in Yangon, addressed how reliable Myanmar's supply of black gram (urad) and pigeon pea (tur) is.

Myanmar is highly trusted as a consistent source of various pulses, including black gram and pigeon pea. The five-year Myanmar-India pulses trade agreement brought mutual benefits to the two countries, showing a strong trade partnership, the Secre-

tary stated. She also conveyed the possibility of further diversifying bilateral trade between India and Myanmar in other agricultural commodities.

According to a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2021, India has been importing 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon pea from Myanmar for five consecutive years from the 2021-2022 financial year to the 2025-2026 financial year. This government-to-govern-



Participants are seen attending the 4th South Asia Agri Forum 2026.

ment pact contributes to the growing demand in India and strengthens market access.

Myanmar exports various

pulses, including peanuts and maize, fishery products, timber and rubber. India-Myanmar bilateral trade grew to US\$2.1

billion in the 2024-2025 FY from \$1.9 billion in the 2020-2021 FY, with a target to reach over five billion in 2030. — ASH/KK

CBM to sell THB30M to importers, \$23M to fuel oil importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 28 January that it would sell US\$23 million to fuel oil-importing companies and 30 million baht to importers. CBM sold over \$2.13 million to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM sold over \$3.3 million to edible oil-importing companies on 27 January again, in addition to an injection of \$430,000, 137,970 yuan and over 2.47 million baht into the market.

CBM sold over \$3.29 million to edible oil-importing companies on 26 January, along with selling over 565,900 baht.

CBM sold over \$1.96 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$3.45 to fuel oil-importing companies on 23 January, after pumping over 4.88 million baht into the market.

CBM sold over \$1.09 million to edible oil-importing companies and over

\$452,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 22 January, in addition to an injection of over 292,000 yuan and over 4.5 million baht into the market on that day.

CBM pumped \$34 million, 11 million baht and 300,000 yuan into the market in December 2025.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



Vehicles are seen refuelling at the petrol station.

MGMA invites members to join Greater Bay Area Textile, Clothing Fair

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) invited members to participate in the DTC2026 Greater Bay Area International Textile and Clothing Industry Fair, which is scheduled to take place on 25-27 March at the Guangdong Modern International Exhibition Centre in Hourie, Dongguan, China.

The fair is the premier industrial event held annually in the Greater Bay Area, bringing together leading manufacturers and suppliers of the textile industry. Automation and smart technology to improve efficiency in the textile and garment manufacturing sectors will be showcased.

It is a great platform to provide a major network for industrial professionals, showcasing textile machinery,

intelligent garment systems, sewing equipment, embroidery and printing equipment, shoe machinery and Footwear Materials.

Two representatives from each member factory can join the Buyer Delegation Programme led by officials of MGMA to feature their products at the fair through the MGMA booth. They will also provide pickup/drop off services, a two-night stay and Fast Track entry for the fair. They need to bear flight tickets and other general costs themselves.

They need to register by 12 February 2026 to prepare a visa, logistic arrangement and accommodation. Individuals can enquire about details through Ma Khin Thandar Aung (Event & PR Officer) at 09 758451158. — NN/KK

Union-Level MSME Expo connects MSMEs nationwide

THE Ministry of Commerce stated that the Union-level MSME Product Fair that is scheduled to take place on 8-12 February 2026 in Nay Pyi Taw, will provide a great platform for those engaged in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises to foster business connections and drive collaborations.

The Commerce Ministry will open booths to build business networking for MSMEs, retailers, wholesalers, exporters and importers, share export/import business knowledge, work procedures

between Customs Department and exporters/importers, explain manufacturing process in the Promotion Zone of Thilawa SEZ, showcase MSMEs from regions and states, collaborate with private banks and introduce online consultant services with Myanmar economic attaches to the respective countries, copyrights and international exhibition related matters.

Those interested MSMEs, exporters and importers, entities that want to expand businesses are invited to come and observe at the fair. — NN/KK

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD/AD

Macron: Greenland tensions ‘strategic wake-up call’ for Europe



French President Emmanuel Macron, wearing sunglasses, delivers a speech during a ceremony to award the Chevalier of the French Order of Merit at the Elysee Palace in Paris on 28 January 2026. PHOTO: AFP

Rising diplomatic tensions between Europe and the United States over Greenland's strategic importance in the Arctic.

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron said on Wednesday that escalating tensions with the United States over Greenland constitute a strategic wake-up call for Europe as a whole, while reiterating France’s solidarity with Denmark and Greenland.

“Recent events confirm that the situation in Greenland is a strategic wake-up call for all of Europe: on asserting our European sovereignty, on our contribution to Arctic security, on combatting foreign interference and disinformation, on the fight against climate change, and on a privileged partnership for sustainable development and reducing strategic dependencies,” Macron said at a joint press conference with the leaders of Denmark and Greenland in Paris.

Macron said France is deeply committed to the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity with all its partners in the European Union, adding that France will continue to defend these principles in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. — Xinhua

Russian scholars, journalists launch Eurasian education project

A new educational initiative titled “In the Language of Good” has been launched in Moscow, focusing on the personalities, ideas and intellectual traditions that shaped the emergence of a common Eurasian sociocultural space and contributed to the understanding of Russia’s historical path.

The project is a collaborative effort of the Modern Russian portal, the TV BRICS International Media Network, and the Eurasia Today information and analytical platform. Its launch coincides with the 25th anniversary of the Eurasian Media Group, which will be marked on 11 July.

As cited by TV BRICS, the project envisions a series of analytical and educational publications devoted to the theory of Eurasianism and to addressing fundamental questions concerning Russia’s identity and its role in global history. — ANI

Kremlin on situation in Iran: Military actions can result in chaos in region



Military equipment is displayed during the Army Day parade in Tehran, Iran, 18 April 2025. PHOTO: SHADATI/XINHUA/FILE

MILITARY actions in Iran can create chaos in the region and lead to the destabilization of the situation in the entire region, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Thursday.

“Any forceful actions can only create chaos in the region and lead to very dangerous consequences in terms of destabilizing security systems throughout the region,” Peskov told reporters.

The official called on all parties to exercise restraint and abandon the use of force to resolve the issue, noting that the negotiating potential on the situation around Iran is far from exhausted.

The New START (New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) is about to expire, and the United States has not yet responded to Russia’s initiative under this treaty, Dmitry Peskov said.

“We keep waiting, but the deadline is running out. There was no response from the United States,” Peskov told reporters, adding that Moscow will see how the situation around the treaty will develop. — SPUTNIK

DCM YANGON COMPANY LIMITED

Call for proof of debts or claims

(Pursuant to Insolvency Rule 9)

Following the approval of the company’s voluntary winding-up and the appointment of U Kyaw Tin as liquidator, all persons claiming to be creditors of the above named company are hereby requested to submit details of their claims together with any documentary evidence in their possession to the liquidator at the address given below not later than 12 February 2026.

U Kyaw Tin

Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Serial No. 108

Liquidator

Liquidator’s Office: Uniteam Marine Office Building, 8th Floor, Unit#1, No. 84, Pan Hlaing Street, Sanchaung Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar, 11111

SPORTS

Football: Ito joined by Endo, Morita in Champions League last 16

JAPAN'S Hiroki Ito was joined by Wataru Endo and Hidemasa Morita in reaching the Champions League last 16 with their respective clubs on Wednesday as the league phase concluded with the top eight of 36 teams securing qualification.

Ito started as left back and played the full 90 minutes in already-qualified Bayern Munich's 2-1 win at PSV Eindhoven. The German giants finished the league phase second on 21 points, behind only Arsenal who amassed 24 points with eight wins. Japan captain Endo came off the bench four minutes into the match for Liverpool, replac-

ing injured Jeremie Frimpong at right-back, with a 6-0 home hammering of Qarabag moving them up to 18 points and third in the table.

Midfielder Morita was introduced in 54 minutes for Sporting CP as they trailed by a goal away to Athletic Bilbao. The Portuguese powerhouse grabbed a late 3-2 win to secure qualification in dramatic fashion, finishing seventh on 16 points.

English sides Tottenham Hotspur, Chelsea and Manchester City all made the top eight, with Barcelona also through after a 4-1 comeback win at home over Copenhagen. — Kyodo



Bayern Munich's Hiroki Ito (L) vies for the ball during a Champions League league-phase match against PSV Eindhoven at Philips Stadion in Eindhoven, the Netherlands, on 28 January 2026. PHOTO: KYODO

Myanmar fighters set to headline ONE Friday Fights 140 in Thailand



PHOTO: ONEFC

MYANMAR fighters Thway Lin Htet and Son Rak are set to compete in the main event and co-main event, respectively, at ONE Friday Fights 140, taking place today in Thailand at 5:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time.

The event features these two Myanmar athletes at the top of the card: Thway Lin Htet headlines the main event, while Son Rak features in the co-main event.

ONE Championship continues to provide consistent opportu-

nities for Myanmar's fighters, frequently scheduling them to headline consecutive events. Last Friday, at ONE Friday Fights 139, four Myanmar athletes competed, with Soe Lin Oo leading the card in the main event.

In today's bouts, Thway Lin Htet faces Thai fighter Kongchai, while Son Rak takes on another Thai opponent, Buakhiao.

Thway Lin Htet has competed in seven bouts under the ONE Championship banner, recording five wins and two

losses. After a streak of four consecutive victories, he suffered a defeat on points in his most recent outing against the veteran Thai fighter, Sam-A. His opponent, Kongchai, brings significant experience to the ring, having won nine of his 15 bouts in the promotion.

Meanwhile, Son Rak enters his 15th ONE Championship appearance with a record of eight wins and six losses, facing Buakhiao, who has secured six wins from his eight fights. — Shine Htet Htet Zaw/KZL

No handshake as Sabalenka sets up repeat of 2023 Melbourne final

BELARUSIAN world number one Aryna Sabalenka crushed Ukraine's Elina Svitolina in a politically charged Australian Open semifinal on Thursday and faces Elena Rybakina for a third Melbourne title.

There was no handshake after Sabalenka dismantled Svitolina 6-2, 6-3, before Kazakhstan's Rybakina was also a straight-sets winner, over Jessica Pegula of the United States.

The ruthless Sabalenka will take some stopping as she pur-

sues a third Melbourne crown in four years.

She is on an 11-match win streak this year, having come into the first major of 2026 on the back of claiming the title in Brisbane.

The hard-hitting 27-year-old is into her fourth Australian Open final in a row and yet to drop a set all year.

Sabalenka and Moscow-born fifth seed Rybakina have met 14 times, with the Belarusian winning eight of them. — AFP



Petrosian, 18, is the only female Russian figure skater the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has authorized to compete at the games. PHOTO: AFP

Russia's Petrosian skates in Valieva shadow at Milan-Cortina Olympics

ADELIIA Petrosian will be in a fierce spotlight when she takes to the ice at the Milan-Cortina Winter Olympics four years after the doping debacle involving fellow Russian teenager Kamila Valieva overshadowed the Beijing Games.

Guided by controversial coach Eteri Tutberidze, who also trained Valieva, 18-year-old Petrosian will be bidding to keep the women's gold medal in Russian hands for a fourth

consecutive Winter Games.

But the shadow of Valieva's positive doping test and her subsequent collapse in the free skate routine still looms large.

Then 15, Valieva was favourite for the women's title, but a drugs test that she failed in December 2021, two months before the Beijing Games, only came to light just before Russia were due to be awarded gold in the team event in which she competed. — AFP



Xi: China will never pose threat to other countries no matter how it grows

Xi urged both nations to practice "true multilateralism" and cautioned that international law is only effective if all countries abide by it.

CHINA will never pose a threat to other countries no matter how it grows and develops, Chinese President Xi Jinping said when he met British Prime Minister Keir Starmer in Beijing on Thursday.

Emphasizing China's commitment to peaceful development, Xi said China has never initiated a war, nor occupied an inch of foreign land.

The two countries agreed to develop a long-term and stable comprehensive strategic partnership.

Xi called on both China and Britain, as supporters for multilateralism and free trade, to jointly advocate and practice true multilateralism. International law can only be truly effective when all countries abide by it, he added.

He also said that major countries should take the lead in particular; otherwise, the world would risk regressing into the law of the jungle.

Xi urged extending frontiers in mutually beneficial cooperation with Britain in education, medicare, finance and the service industry. — Xinhua



Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer shake hands as they meet in Beijing, China, 29 January 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

India-EU FTA enables global affordable medicine supply



The Serum Institute of India (SII) is the world's largest vaccine manufacturer by volume. Based in Pune, India, the company produces approximately 1.5 to 1.9 billion doses annually, supplying vaccines to over 170 countries. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ AFP/FILE**

THE conclusion of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (India-EU FTA) has opened major opportunities for the two regions to emerge as a global supplier of affordable and quality medicines, according to the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA).

Speaking on the significance of the agreement, Sudarshan Jain, General Secretary, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance, said that the India-EU FTA is a landmark development, particularly for the pharmaceutical sector. "The conclusion of India-EU FTA is a landmark moment as it covers 25 per cent of the global GDP and 23 per cent of the world population. This FTA is very important in the context of pharmaceuticals. It will further strengthen the relationship between India and the EU," he said. — ANI

French Senate adopts bill to return colonial-era art

FRENCH senators adopted a bill on Wednesday to simplify the return of artworks looted during the colonial era to their countries of origin.

The draft legislation was unanimously approved by the upper house and will next be sent to the National Assembly lower house before it can become law. France still has in its possession tens of thousands of artworks and other prized artefacts that it looted from its colonial empire. President Emmanuel Macron has gone further than his predecessors in admitting past French abuses in Africa. — AFP