

Antique Giant Ruby Unearthed in Mogok Gem Tract

In Myanmar, several rare and precious giant rubies have been discovered over the years, including the 99.25-gramme SLORC ruby found in 1990, a massive 4,290-gramme ruby unearthed in 1996, and the 557.85-gramme NaSaKa ruby discovered in 2022; although the 1996 ruby remains the largest by weight, the recently discovered ruby is regarded as more valuable due to its superior colour, clarity, and overall quality.



President U Min Aung Hlaing examines a newly discovered antique, large, and beautifully coloured ruby from the Mogok gem tract in Mandalay Region.

General Ye Win Oo, Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi and Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan Oo, inspected the piece of ruby at the hall of the President's Office yesterday morning.

The Union Minister at the President's Office and the Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation reported to the President on facts about the piece of ruby.

The President and attendees checked the ruby.

The recently-discovered ruby weighs 2,200 grammes (11,000 carats), making it exceptionally large, rare, and difficult to find. The giant ruby has a purplish-red colour with yellowish undertones and is considered to have a high-quality colour grade. It also has moderate transparency, excellent vitreous lustre, and remains in its natural state without any treatment or enhancement.

SEE PAGE 3



A closeup view of the recently unearthed ruby.

AFTER the democratic government elected by the people through free and fair multiparty democratic general elections in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar took office, a piece of antique, beautiful, and large ruby was discovered in the gems land of Mogok in Mandalay Region, during the post-

New Year period of 1388 ME.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, together with Vice-Presidents U Nyo Saw and Nan Ni Ni Aye, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Khin Yi, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Aung Lin Dwe, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

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Agri Dept invites firms seeking registration for rice exports to China

NATIONAL

MFVP to host educational talk on Food System Thinking



This image displays an invitation to the Food System Thinking.

AN educational talk entitled 'Food System Thinking' has been planned to be held on 8 May in Yangon, according to the Myanmar Fruit, Flow-

er and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association (MFVP).

The event, which is intended to ensure Myanmar's

food security is stronger, will be led by attendees of the Regional Training Programme by the Mekong Institute, Mekong Creates Project. Experts from the food industry will discuss current challenges and exchange suggestions for the future, along with consumers.

The educational talk will take place at the Regency Office located on Pyay Road in Yangon, from 8:30 am to 1 pm. MFVP has invited all members to join.

Registrations are welcome at <https://forms.gle/75V-JpeDWBnqJg3Yt5>, and details can be requested from Myanmar Livestock Federation's phone number 09 975335206 or Email - mmlivestockinfo@gmail.com. — MT/ZS

Bamboo handicraft prices rise amid raw material shortage, labour crunch

THE demand for bamboo handicrafts is flourishing in the domestic market; however, prices are rising due to a scarcity of raw materials and a declining workforce, according to bamboo expert U Kyaw Win.

As decorating with bamboo handicrafts and utensils becomes fashionable again, domestic consumption has increased significantly compared to previous years. But, due to a shortage of skilled labour, production capacity is declining, leading to an imbalance between supply and demand.

"We are seeing more interest in the bamboo handicraft and utensil market than before. In some places, people use them for natural-style decoration to attract attention. The market is definitely there. But the challenge we face is that demand and supply don't match, as there are so few ac-



Bamboo handicraft artisans are seen at work.

tual producers. The main issue is the labour shortage," he said.

Furthermore, he noted that the prices of bamboo products have risen compared to previous years alongside the increasing cost of raw bamboo. He also mentioned that despite receiving some international orders due to this growing interest, they are currently un-

able to export.

U Kyaw Win suggested that the current scarcity of bamboo is partly due to slash-and-burn cultivation and improper bamboo shoot harvesting techniques. He emphasized the urgent need to establish private bamboo plantations to ensure a sustainable supply. — MT/ZN

The poster features the Myanmar Red Cross Society logo at the top. Below it, the text reads: 'ကမ္ဘာ့ကြက်ခြေနီနေ့ World Red Cross Day'. A dashed line separates this from the Burmese text: 'ညီညွတ်မှုအားနဲ့တို့ကူညီ လူသားချင်းစာနာတဲ့ကြက်ခြေနီ'. Below that is the English slogan 'United in Humanity' and another dashed line. At the bottom, it says '၂၀၂၆ ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ(၈)ရက်'.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Thursday, 7 May 2026

BAY INFERENCE: The weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 8 May 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region and Kachin and Chin states, fairly widespread in Sagaing Region and Kayin and (northern and eastern) Shan states, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Magway regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and southern Shan states and isolated in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Mon, Rakhine, (northern and eastern)Shan states. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hails may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon and (southern and eastern) Shan states. **FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 May 2026:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 8 May 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent. — DMH

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



NATIONAL

Antique Giant Ruby Unearthed in Mogok Gem Tract

FROM PAGE 3

In the past, the rare and precious SLORC ruby weighing 99.25 grammes (496.25 carats) was discovered in 1990,

another giant ruby weighing 4,290 grammes (21,450 carats) in 1996, and the NaSaKa ruby weighing 557.85 grammes (2,789.25 carats) in 2022 in My-

anmar. All four pieces of ruby, including this ruby, were extracted from the Mogok region of Mandalay Region. Each individual ruby possesses distinc-

tive characteristics and qualities, making them extremely valuable gemstones. Although the ruby discovered in 1996 was the largest in terms of

weight, the recently discovered ruby is considered more valuable because its colour and quality are superior in comparison. — MNA/TTA

Yangon to Expand Local Clinics to 60 Under 100-Day Health Plan

THE Yangon Region Public Health and Medical Services Department will expand the number of urban health centres in Yangon Region to 60 as part of a seven-point public healthcare programme to be implemented within 100 days.

The healthcare programme will mainly focus on maternal care services, vaccination programmes and prevention of non-communicable diseases, according to officials.

Authorities also said the

100-day healthcare plan will include surgeries for children with cleft lip and palate, ear and nose conditions, while cataract patients will receive continuous treatment through cooperation between international eye specialists and charity hospitals.

Officials stated that the programme is aimed at improving access to healthcare services and strengthening public health support across Yangon Region.

— ASH/KZL



This image depicts patients receiving treatment at an urban health centre in Yangon Region.

MoFA Union Minister receives Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar



Nepal's Ambassador Mr Harishchandra Ghimire calls on Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Tin Maung Swe yesterday.

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe received Mr Harishchandra Ghimire, Ambassador of Nepal to Myanmar, at the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They exchanged views on existing ties of friendship and cordial relations between My-

anmar and Nepal. They also discussed matters relating to expanding mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries. — MNA

MSEZ Central Working Committee holds 1st meeting

THE Myanmar Special Economic Zone Central Working Committee held its first meeting for the 2026-2027 financial year in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Kan Zaw, who is also the chairman of the working committee, said that the President had already given guidance on the processes needed to improve the socioeconomic lives of the people during the term of the new government. Therefore, special economic zones must strive through various means to contribute to the State's economic development. The special economic zones cur-



The first meeting for 2026-2027 FY of the Myanmar Special Economic Zone Central Working Committee is underway yesterday, addressed by Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw.

rently being implemented are an important component of the country's economic growth. Successfully implementing these zones is essential for creating employment opportunities for the people, increasing manufacturing output and exports, attracting more foreign investment, and earning higher foreign income.

The secretary and joint secretary of the working committee, chairmen of Thilawa, Kyaukpyu and Dawei Special Economic Zones clarified the ongoing work plans of respective zones, and the Union Minister concluded the meeting after giving proper instructions. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

MoFR Union Minister receives Nepali Ambassador

UNION Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Kan Zaw received Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Harishchandra Ghimire at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Building 26 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially discussed cooperation between Myanmar

and Nepal, ICT and digital cooperation in the banking sector, and human resource development.

Also, present at the meeting were the permanent secretary and managing director of the Myanmar Economic Bank under the ministry. — MoFR



The Nepali ambassador calls on Union Finance & Revenue Minister Dr Kan Zaw yesterday.

Nay Pyi Taw's 2024 population and household census report released

THE event to announce the Nay Pyi Taw's 2024 population and household census report was held at Zabuthiri Hall of Nay Pyi Taw Council yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing, who is also Chairman of the Central Census Commission, stated that the 2024 Population and Housing Census was successfully conducted in October 2024. The ministry released the preliminary population figures, the Union Report as the main census report, summary reports, and statistical reports for users in stages within the designated timeframes. The region and state reports were subsequently compiled, with priority given to Nay Pyi Taw,

Yangon Region, Ayeyawady Region, and Bago Region, where census collection had been completed fully and almost fully, and the Nay Pyi Taw report can be officially released now.

He continued that the Nay Pyi Taw report contains not only demographic data but also comprehensive chapters on migration, education, labour force, disability, housing conditions, births, and deaths. These data reflect current demographic changes in the region, urban and rural population conditions, educational standards, labour force and employment, migration, and the living standards of the people. He also mentioned the key role of data collected from the census.

He added that, being a

member of ASEAN, the country will also be able to contribute statistical data to ASEAN and the international statistical sectors, and provide an index for the national indicator framework. The Nay Pyi Taw census report will support the formulation of plans to improve the education sector by analyzing literacy rates, education levels, and school dropout conditions, whereas the labour force data, employment conditions, and unemployment rates will help promote the socioeconomic development of the people in Nay Pyi Taw through the effective use of census data.

Participants coordinated the discussion, and the Union minister concluded the discussion. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Myint Kyaing speaks on the release occasion of the Nay Pyi Taw's 2024 census report.



MoST Union Minister meets Pakistani Ambassador

UNION Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw received Mr Tariq Karim, Ambassador of Pakistan to Myanmar, at the Ministry of Science and Technology in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The two sides exchanged views on enhancing science and technological cooperation between Myanmar and Paki-

stan, as well as on technological development, human resource development and the improvement of the IT sector.

Deputy Minister Dr Nay Chi Lei Lei Thein and officials from the ministry, as well as officials from the Embassy of Pakistan to Myanmar, attended the meeting. — MNA/MKKS



The Pakistani ambassador calls on Union Science & Technology Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw yesterday.

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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
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NATIONAL

MoI Union Minister urges stronger public awareness of govt policies, activities

THE Ministry of Information must play a key role in ensuring that the public understands the guidelines, and activities of the Union Government and gains knowledge, said Union Minister for Information U Htein Lin during a separate meeting held yesterday morning in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw, where he gave instructions on work-related matters to the staff of Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) and the News and Periodicals Enterprise.

He also said that, as the country is based primarily on agriculture and livestock breeding, priority should be given to disseminating information that will benefit rural communities. In addition, the media sector needs to support the development of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) under



Union Information Minister U Htein Lin is seen interacting with schoolchildren at the IPRD children's reading room in Takon, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

the One Region, One Product policy and create attractive programmes to promote in-bound tourism.

He explained that all employees need to combine their

skills and artistic talents to effectively communicate the country's policies to the public, including educational and health awareness content in programmes, and adhere to

press policies.

After the meeting, the Union minister toured the MRTV facility and inspected the installation of satellite receivers and the water-cooled air-condition-

ing system, as well as facilities for employees' physical fitness and recreation.

He proceeded to view the broadcasting operations of Meyu FM Radio at Nay Pyi Taw Broadcasting Station 1 and Thapyay Radio at Station 2, inspected the radio broadcasting equipment, and presented awards to employees.

He then toured the children's reading room at the Tatkon Township Information and Public Relations Department office and the public library, where they observed students reading and inspected the orderly arrangement of books. He also presented awards to staff members and observed Book Club members conducting reading discussions. The authors presented copies of their published books to the Union minister. — MNA/TH

International Midwives' and Nurses' Day Ceremony held in Yangon



The International Midwives' and Nurses' Day Event is underway yesterday in Yangon, addressed by Union Health Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win.

THE Ministry of Health and the Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council held a ceremony marking International Midwives Day and International Nurses Day at the University of Nursing auditorium in Yangon on 7 May.

Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, regional ministers, and officials from health-related organizations and private hospitals attended the event.

In his address, the Union minister praised nurses and

midwives for their dedication and sacrifices during the global pandemic, saying they had played a key role in saving lives and providing emergency healthcare services around the clock. He also urged healthcare workers to continue striving to provide quality healthcare services to the public and to support the ministry's objectives.

During the ceremony, students from the Central Midwifery Training School and the University of Nursing performed commemorative

songs. Officials also presented honorary certificates to one recipient of the Medical Excellence Medal (Third Class) and 33 recipients of the Social Excellence Medal (Third Class) for the 2025-2026 period.

The second session included discussions on this year's themes for International Midwives Day and International Nurses Day, along with educational and entertainment programmes related to nursing and midwifery services. — MNA/KZL

MoC Union Minister receives Nepali Ambassador



Nepali Ambassador Mr Harishchandra Ghimire calls on Union Construction Minister U Myo Thant yesterday.

UNION Minister for Construction U Myo Thant received Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Harishchandra Ghimire at the guesthouse of the Ministry of Construction in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The two sides exchanged

views on cooperation in infrastructure investment, as well as digital and technological development, in order to further strengthen the friendship between Myanmar and Nepal and improve the socioeconomic lives of the people. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

MSWRR Union Minister provides aid to returning residents in Pekhon and Moebye

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win visited Pekhon Township on 7 May and provided cash assistance and relief supplies to residents returning to their homes in Pekhon and Moebye townships.

During the visit, the Union minister paid homage to the Sayadaw of Thad-dhamma Thaddhi Pariyatti Buddhism Learning Centre in Pekhon and donated offerings before meeting returning residents at the township hall.

Authorities provided K21.66 million in social assistance for elderly people aged over 75, children under five and pregnant women. In addition, rice assistance worth K130.4 million for one month was distributed to 1,816 households with a total population of 6,520 people. Relief items and tarpaulin bundles were also

handed over to the returning residents.

The Union minister later met teachers at Basic Education High School No. 1 in Pekhon and coordinated necessary support measures. He also met doctors, nurses and healthcare staff at Pekhon People's Hospital and discussed requirements with relevant officials.

On the previous day, Dr Soe Win visited Nyaungshwe in Shan State to inspect the completion of prefabricated school buildings funded through donations from ASEAN countries via the AHA Centre as part of reconstruction efforts in Mandalay earthquake-affected areas. — MNA/KZL

Union Minister Dr Soe Win presents cash assistance and relief supplies to Pekhon residents.



CBM Governor receives Pakistani Ambassador



Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Dr Khin Naing Oo meets Pakistani Ambassador Mr Tariq Karim and his delegation yesterday.

GOVERNOR of the Central Bank of Myanmar Dr Khin Naing Oo received Pakistani Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tariq Karim and his delegation at the Central Bank of Myanmar meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The two sides discussed ways to promote trade between Myanmar and Pakistan, establish correspondent banking

relationships between the two countries, provide human resources and technical assistance in banking matters, strengthen cooperation between the two central banks, and exchange views on international financial affairs.

The meeting was also attended by vice-governors and officials from the Central Bank of Myanmar. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar nationals in distress in Iraq safely repatriated with embassy assistance

THE Myanmar Government is making arrangements to ensure that Myanmar citizens living abroad can return home safely and as quickly as possible whenever they encounter difficulties overseas, by coordinating through Myanmar embassies and consulate-general with the relevant countries, as part of its commitment to valuing and protecting its citizens under all circumstances.

As part of these efforts, the Myanmar Embassy in Cairo coordinated with Iraqi Government agencies and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to assist three Myanmar women – Ma Win Win Aye, Ma Wyne Thitsa and Ma Nwe Ni Myint – who had encountered difficulties in Iraq, so that they could return to their homeland. The three departed from Baghdad by air on 6 May and arrived back at Yangon International Airport at around 8 pm on 7 May.



This image shows Myanmar nationals returning from Iraq. PHOTO: KANU

The government has been assisting Myanmar nationals facing difficulties while working abroad by arranging their return to Myanmar through the coordinated support of Myanmar embassies and consulate-general. The workers and their family members have expressed their sincere gratitude to the Government, the Myanmar Embassy and the consulate-general for their assistance and rescue efforts. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/MKKS

Trading Amount and Foreign Exchange Rate in the Market on 7 May 2026

THE number of foreign currencies traded in the Foreign Exchange market was used for the imports of edible oil, fuel oil, car/motorcycle spare parts, medicine and pharmaceutical raw materials, wheat, animal feeds, consumer goods, industrial raw materials, construction materials, and fertilizer. From the revenue of the CMP sector, US\$1 million was contributed to the LNG sector and US\$1.34 million to the edible oil sector, and US\$0.01 million to the CMP sector. — MNA

| | US\$ | Chinese yuan | Thai baht | India rupee |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Exchange rates | 3,653~3,669 | 557~558.70 | 125.3~125.70 | 43.60 |
| Trading amount in the market | 19,762,283.23 | 7,985,609.99 | 66,832,877.30 | |
| The amount sold by CBM to the market | | | | |

NATIONAL

Maritime, aviation courses underway

TO help students and youth develop their knowledge and skills during the summer holidays, and to cultivate a new generation of maritime and aviation professionals for the country, Tatmadaw (Navy) and Tatmadaw (Air) are currently conducting basic and advanced youth training courses in relevant townships starting from

27 April.

Yesterday, 95 trainees from Nay Pyi Taw Council Area's Training Branch received instruction in naval knowledge, driving, and swimming, whereas 100 trainees from Yangon camp, 35 from Cocokyun camp, 120 from Kayin State, 60 from Shan State, 115 trainees from Ayeyawady Region, 60 from

Mon State, 140 from Taninthayi Region and 75 from Mandalay Region were also undergoing practical training conducted by instructors from each area.

Similarly, under the supervision of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Tatmadaw (Air) is conducting basic aviation youth course 10 and advanced aviation youth

course 9 at 20 training camps with a total of 1,044 trainees. These included 63 trainees at the Southern Myanmar Camp in Hmawby, 50 in Yangon, 50 in Namhsan, 60 in Taunggyi, 60 in Toungoo, 50 in Monywa, 53 in Pathein, 50 in Meiktila, 65 in Nay Pyi Taw and 50 in Kengtung. Trainees are learning subjects such as basic mil-

itary training, aviation history, principles of flight, aviation-related general knowledge, airfield procedures, the history of the independence struggle, patriotism, remote control aircraft and helicopter piloting and simulator operation by qualified instructors. — MNA/KTZH

2026 Grade-11 Outstanding Students Camp (Ngwehsaung), Higher Education Students Camp (Chaungtha) open

THE opening ceremonies of the Grade-11 Outstanding Students Camp in Ngwehsaung and the Higher Education Students Camp in Chaungtha were held yesterday morning.

The events were attended by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Aye Kyaw and his wife, the South-West Command commander, officials, outstanding students, and residents.

The arch of the 2026 Outstanding Students Camp (Ngwehsaung) was officially opened, and the Region Chief Minister delivered an opening speech and presented brooches to the outstanding students.

The camp leader (Ngwehsaung) and senior outstanding students presented commemorative gifts to the Region Chief Minister and officials. The camp leader then explained matters related to the camp, and attendees enjoyed performances, including the Kayin Don dance by students and the song "Zartiman" performed by the



The opening ceremony of the Higher Education Students Camp held in Chaungtha yesterday, unveiled by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Aye Kyaw and officials.

outstanding students.

Following this, the officials attended the opening ceremony of the Outstanding Students Camp (Chaungtha), cut the ceremonial ribbon to inaugurate the arch, and presented cash prizes to the performers.

The regional chief minister and deputy minister for Education made remarks, and the camp leader (Chaungtha) briefed the camp.

The camp leader (Chaungtha) and senior outstanding students presented commem-

orative gifts to the Ayeyawady Region chief minister and officials, and the brooches were presented to the outstanding students.

Before the lunch, Pathein University students performed the 'Ma Ma Pathein Thu' song.

At the Ayeyawady Region's Ngwehsaung Outstanding Students Camp, there are 133 outstanding Grade-11 students from various regions and states attending, while 291 outstanding higher education students are at the Chaungtha Camp. Teachers and supervisors accompanying them will stay at the temporary camps from 6 to 10 May.

During evening leisure periods, students at the Ngwehsaung recreation camp are participating in sports and recreational activities such as football, volleyball, cane-ball, and swimming under the close supervision of teachers and responsible officials for physical fitness and relaxation. Arrangements are also made for the students to gain local knowledge through visits to Pathein, the Ngwehsaung region, and nearby communities, including observing local lifestyles, fish and prawn production industries, traditional handicraft businesses, and landmarks. — Region IPRD/KTZH

Myanmar Embassy to Thailand Wins "Excellent Organization" Award

THE Myanmar Embassy to Thailand has received the "Excellent Organization" award for its outstanding collaboration in helping and ensuring justice to victims in Thailand.

The Thai government recognized Myanmar Embassy's efforts in helping ensure justice for affected persons, including Myanmar nationals in Thailand, through multifaceted assistance, and conferred

the "Excellent Organization" honorary award at the Programme of the National Event: 24 Years of Prompt, Inclusive and Equitable Assistance to Victims held on 6 May at IMPACT Forum, Nonthaburi Province, organized by the Thai Ministry of Justice.

Thailand's Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul delivered a remark and awarded organizations and individuals

excellent in assisting victims under the justice system. Among foreign embassies, the Myanmar Embassy, along with the Laos Embassy and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, which have worked closely with Thailand, were selected to receive the "Excellent Organization" honorary award.

Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Zaw Zaw Soe, on

behalf of the Myanmar Embassy, received the award. The embassy's consistent efforts to ensure justice and assistance for Myanmar nationals affected in Thailand led to this recognition. — ASH/KK

The "Excellent Organization" honorary award which is conferred by Thailand on the Myanmar Embassy.



OPINION

Honour the sincere spirit and compassion of Red Cross members

THE Red Cross is not a single organization formed within one country, but a large global network composed of members and volunteers from around the world. Red Cross organizations are established with the aim of delivering timely assistance to people suffering from hardship worldwide, guided by the spirit of humanity.

Today, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement operates in nearly every country around the world, carrying out its duties with strong commitment. It works in accordance with

seven fundamental principles: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality. In 1959, the government enacted the Myanmar Red Cross Society Act, assigning it responsibilities as a permanent humanitarian organization. Under this law, the St John Ambulance Brigade was reorganized as the Myanmar Ambulance Corps. In 1989, the organization was renamed the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), and this name remains in use to this day. According to information available as of May 2026, the Myanmar Red Cross Society has established branches in more than 300 townships across the country. Supervisory committees have been formed in all states and regions, and there are approximately 250,000 trained volunteers. The MRCS is one of the oldest volunteer organizations. Its main objective is to help protect and save human lives through first aid. When a patient is found and cannot be transported to a hospital or clinic immediately, efforts are made to save their life by all possible means. Its official motto is “To alleviate suffering”.

Successfully implementing Red Cross activities helps share and ease the burden of people's suffering and reduces the impact of emergencies that threaten lives, property, and daily living conditions. Red Cross members place priority on safeguarding people's lives and property and alleviating suffering above their own interests, carrying out their assigned duties with dedication and self-sacrifice. Their actions are not driven by compulsion, but by a sincere spirit and compassion, through which they provide first aid and extend rescue and relief assistance to those facing hardship and disaster. Red Cross volunteers dedicate their time and effort – and at times risk their own lives – to go to areas affected by danger and disaster. World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day 2026 is celebrated on Friday, 8 May, honouring the birth anniversary of the founder, Henry Dunant. The 2026 theme focuses on “Keeping Humanity Alive” to honour volunteers and staff providing essential care in disasters and armed conflicts.

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“Paving the Way for Gender Equality: Myanmar’s Synergy with Women Deliver 2026 Goals”

By Dr. Aung Tun



1. Change Calls Us Here

In late April 2026, over 6,500 gender equality advocates from 180 countries gathered in Naarm (Melbourne), Australia, for the Women Deliver 2026 Conference (WD2026) — the most significant global convening on women's health and rights in years. Weeks earlier, on 8 March, the world had observed International Women's Day under the theme “Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls.” These two events, separated by weeks but united by purpose, have set the tone for what gender equality must look like in the years ahead.

This article does not dwell on the history of International Women's Day. It looks forward: at what WD2026 demanded, what the Melbourne Declaration committed to, and how Myanmar — a country with a record of genuine achievement for women — is answering that call.

2. Women Deliver 2026: The Conference that Redefining the Path Toward Global Gender Equality

“Women Deliver 2026 was held from 27 to 30 April in Melbourne, Australia — the first time the conference had been hosted in the Oceanic Pacific region. Under the theme “Change Calls Us Here”, it brought together grassroots organizers, policymakers, researchers, young leaders, and frontline health workers in a shared refusal to accept that the rollback of women's rights is inevitable.

Four pillars shaped every discussion at the conference. Each one reflects a frontier where progress is being actively contested worldwide.

Pillar 1: Adolescent Girls' Rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health

Young women's bodily autonomy was placed at the centre of the WD2026 agenda. Delegates argued that adolescent girls cannot be treated as passive recipients of health services: they must be recognized as rights-holders and active leaders. Access to quality sexual and reproductive health information and services — including safe contraception, maternal care, and protection from child marriage — was framed not as a privilege but as a non-negotiable foundation for girls' education, economic participation, and lifelong wellbeing.

Pillar 2: Climate Justice as a Gender Issue

Climate change is not gender-neutral. Women in rural and low-income communities — who bear the greatest burden of food production, water collection, and caregiving — are

disproportionately exposed to the impacts of floods, droughts, and extreme heat. WD2026 made the case that no climate solution is complete unless it centres the knowledge, leadership, and specific vulnerabilities of women and girls. First Nations women from the Oceanic Pacific region were given prominent platforms to share their communities' lived experience at the intersection of gender inequality and environmental disruption.

Pillar 3: Countering Anti-Rights Narratives

One of the most sobering conversations at WD2026 was the open acknowledgement that progress on gender equality is not linear. Around the world, organised movements are actively working to restrict women's reproductive rights, roll back legal protections against gender-based violence, and remove women from public decision-making. The conference developed evidence-based communication strategies and solidarity frameworks to help advocates, governments, and communities push back against these narratives with clarity and confidence.

Pillar 4: Multilateral Action and Feminist Leadership in Global Governance

WD2026 called for a fundamental shift in how international institutions operate: from including women's voices as an afterthought to building feminist leadership into the architecture of global governance. Governments must be held accountable through transparent tracking mechanisms. Aid funding for women's programmes — including gender-based violence response, reproductive health, and girls' education — must be protected and increased, not diverted. Cutting this funding, delegates concluded, is not a fiscal neutral act. It reverses decades of hard-won gains.

3. The Melbourne Declaration: A Roadmap, Not a Resolution

The conference concluded with the adoption of the Melbourne Declaration for Gender Equality — a collective commitment from the international development community that is notable for what it does not do: it does not offer vague aspirations or feel-good language. It makes specific, structural demands.

Melbourne Declaration for Gender Equality — Three Core Commitments

1. Systemic Change: Move from tokenistic representation to meaningful, institutionalized leadership for women. Replace vague political promises with budgeted, enforceable rights that can be measured and tracked.

2. Accountability First: Shift resources and power directly to those closest to the challenges. Governments and international actors must be held to account through transparent country scorecards — not self-reported progress, but independently verified outcomes.

3. A Feminist Future: Unapologetically reject politics of fear and division. Champion a future grounded in hope, care, and collective joy — one where women's leadership is not celebrated as an exception but expected as a norm.

The Declaration's emphasis on accountability is its most important innovation. For too long, commitments to gender equality have been made in conference halls and forgotten in budget negotiations. WD2026 demanded that every government, donor, and development organisation be measured not by what it promises at global events but by what it delivers in communities where women actually live.

“The conclusion of WD2026 marks not an end, but the beginning of a decade-long journey toward a transformative, just world for girls, women, and gender-diverse people.” — WD2026 Conference Statement

4. Myanmar and the WD2026 Call for Action: How the Country Is Responding

The Melbourne Declaration's calls are not abstract demands for Myanmar. They map directly onto initiatives, structures, and achievements that Myanmar has been building — some for decades, one of them brand new in 2026.

In 2026, Myanmar took a landmark institutional step: the establishment of a dedicated Ministry of Women's Affairs. This is precisely the kind of structural change WD2026 demanded

— moving women's issues from the margins of larger ministries into a cabinet-level portfolio with its own mandate, budget, and accountability. A dedicated ministry means that gender equality is no longer a secondary agenda item; it is a primary responsibility of government.

| WD2026 Call for Action | Myanmar's Response |
|---|--|
| Systemic Change: Move from tokenism to institutionalised women's leadership | Ministry of Women's Affairs established in 2026 — elevating gender equality to cabinet level with a dedicated mandate and budget |
| Accountability: Transparent tracking of gender outcomes | NSPAW 2023-2032 structures 12 Priority Areas with sub-committees, data collection, and multi-sector coordination under the MNCWA |
| Adolescent girls' rights and education | Girls make up 63.6 per cent of higher education enrolment; matriculation pass rate for girls reached 64.31 per cent in 2023-2024 |
| Women's health and reproductive rights | Life expectancy for women: 72.5 years (vs 63.7 for men); declining infant and under-five mortality year on year (Statistical Yearbook 2025) |
| Women in decision-making and leadership | Women hold 60.58 per cent of civil service posts; 54.75 per cent of Deputy Director-level and above positions as of 31 March 2025 |
| Ending gender-based violence; WPS agenda | Myanmar participates in ASEAN GBV prevention programmes and the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) framework; gender-sensitive disaster response plans in place |

This alignment between what WD2026 demanded and what Myanmar has put in place is not coincidental. It reflects a long-standing national commitment to gender equality that predates the Melbourne conference — from Myanmar's ratification of CEDAW in 1997, to the founding of the MNCWA, to the current NSPAW 2023-2032 implementation. The 2026 ministry establishment is the most recent and most structurally significant expression of that commitment.

5. Myanmar Women: Evidence of a Society That Invests in Its Women

Numbers alone do not tell the full story of Myanmar women's lives. But the data from the 2025 Myanmar Statistical Yearbook and national education records are striking enough to deserve clear statement.

In education, women constitute 63.6 per cent of higher education enrolment and 47.19 per cent of science and technology students — figures that challenge the global narrative of women's exclusion from STEM. At primary level, 51 per cent of girls complete the cycle compared to 42.3 per cent of boys. University attendance rates also favour women: 12.9 per cent of women reach university compared to 9.7 per cent of men. The area requiring sustained focus is the secondary transition, where female completion rates fall to 18.8 per cent at middle school and 11.7 per cent at high school. This is where targeted scholarships, improved rural infrastructure, and community engagement can make the greatest difference.

In health, a woman born in Myanmar today can expect to live 72.5 years — nearly nine years longer than a man. Infant mortality and under-five mortality have declined consistently, reflecting the impact of sustained investment in maternal and child health services across the country.

NATIONAL

MNHRC inspects Aikalaung Agriculture, Livestock and Vocational Training Camp



MNHRC members are seen during an inspection tour of the Aikalaung Agriculture, Livestock and Vocational Training Camp (Labour Camp) in Taikkyi Township, Yangon Region.

ON 7 May 2026, an inspection team from the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, led by Members U Than Win and U Ohn Khaing, carried out a field inspection of the Aikalaung Agriculture, Livestock and Vocational Training Camp (Labour Camp) in Taikkyi Township, Yangon Region. This inspection was conducted under Sections 43 and 44 of the Commission's Law.

During the inspection at

the labour camp, the team visited prisoners in their dormitories and enquired about matters relating to the fundamental rights of the prisoners, including the living and food conditions, access to healthcare services, and medical treatment for injuries sustained in the workplace. Further enquiries were made regarding the availability of sufficient purified drinking water, the arrangements for physical exercise and sports on off days,

and the measures taken to facilitate for accessing the camp library. The team also examined the right to freedom of religion, the situation of allowing family visits and the receipt of items issued by the camp and those sent by family members. Additionally, the team inspected whether there was any discrimination in work assignments, any instances of torture, and the status of workplace safety measures implemented.

The inspection team also inspected various facilities, including the dormitories, the prison clinic, the library, the kitchen, the food warehouse, water purifiers, the cleanliness of internal and external sewage systems, and the Commission donated knowledgeable books for prisoners to read and study.

The findings and recommendations from the inspection visits will be sent to the relevant department for necessary action in line with the Commission's law. — MNHRC

Myanmar, Nepal discuss cooperation in education policy, research sectors



The Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal and officials from the Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI), one of Nepal's leading think tank organizations, are pictured during discussions.

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar Ambassador to Nepal U Thant Sin and officials from the Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI), one of Nepal's leading think tank organizations, held discussions at the Myanmar Embassy in Kathmandu, Nepal, on cooperation between Myanmar and Nepal in the fields of educational policy and research.

During the discussions, the

two sides exchanged views on the possibility of holding educational policy forums between Myanmar and Nepal in the future, opportunities for knowledge-sharing and cooperation between the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) and NDRI, and an invitation for the Myanmar Ambassador to attend the 23rd anniversary ceremony of NDRI to be held in May. — ASH/MKKS

Reopening of Mandalay-Myitkyina Route Boosts Travel, Commodity Flow and Economic Activity



Tatmadaw columns are seen advancing along the Mandalay-Madaya-Tagaung-Htigyaing-Katha-Indaw-Mawlu-Mohnyin-Mogaung-Myitkyina route.

TATMADAW has regained control of the Mandalay-Indaw-Myitkyina route and officially reopened the link on 6 May. According to public opinion, this move will ease travel, accelerate the flow of goods, and foster better economic opportunities

for the people.

Currently, Tatmadaw has established full control over the entire transport artery, encompassing the following route: Mandalay-Madaya-Thabeikyin-Tagaung-Htigyaing-Katha-Indaw-Mawlu-Nantsee Aung-Mohnyin

-Mogaung-Myitkyina.

Locals noted that the route connecting Mandalay to Myitkyina is fundamental to the development of northern Myanmar. With the road now operational, transport will be faster and more convenient, helping revitalize the socio-economic lives of local ethnic communities. In Myitkyina, where residents have been struggling with high inflation, locals are hopeful that the reopening will lead to a significant drop in commodity prices.

Tatmadaw is reportedly working to repair buildings, houses, schools, roads, and bridges that were damaged along the route. — Htun Htun/ZN

3 Chinese nationals arrested over online scam operations in Mongpan

SECURITY forces arrested three Chinese nationals involved in illegal online gambling and telecom fraud operations in Mongpan Township, southern Shan State, according to reports.

Authorities said two Chinese men were arrested on 6 May about 13,700 metres northeast of Mongpan during security and inspection operations targeting online scam activities. Another Chinese national was arrested the following day, about 12,300 metres north of the town, during continued searches in the area.

The government said it is stepping up efforts to crack down on online scams and gambling operations as part of its



This image shows two Chinese nationals arrested in Mongpan, southern Shan State, on 6 May 2026, in connection with online scams.

national responsibilities and is cooperating with neighbouring countries and international organizations to prevent such activities from operating within Myanmar.

Officials said the foreign nationals involved in the cases would face legal action under existing laws after investigations are completed. — MNA/KZL

CBM to sell US\$1.99M to edible oil, CMP companies

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.73 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$253,000 to CMP companies on 6 May. CBM announced on 5 May that it would inject \$135.31 million into fuel oil businesses. CBM sold over \$1.9 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$25,791.53 to CMP companies on 5 May on the same day.

CBM sold over \$3.35 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$2 million to LNG-importing companies on 4 May, along with a transaction of 1.2 million baht in the foreign exchange market.

CBM sold over \$3.6 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$234,487 to CMP companies on 29 April, in addition to the transaction of over 6.2 billion baht in the market.

CBM sold over \$4.78 million to edible oil-importing companies, and \$5 million to LNG-importing companies and over \$168,400 to CMP companies on 28 April.

CBM sold over \$4.6 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$13,400 to CMP companies on 27 April, along with transactions of over 2.3 million baht in the market.

CBM injected foreign currencies into the market, with a view to curbing 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



US dollars being counted at a money changer in Yangon.

Agri Dept invites firms seeking registration for rice exports to China



Export rice bags are seen being loaded onto an overseas-going merchant vessel.

THE Department of Agriculture under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation invited companies wishing to apply for registration to export rice and broken rice to China to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI).

Companies seeking to export rice and broken rice to China are required to verify compliance with the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Protocol to seek registration for rice export to China, as stipulated under

the bilateral plant health requirements agreement signed between Myanmar and China. New companies seeking registration for rice export, excluding previously approved companies, can submit their EOI in both hard copy and soft copy in a Word file to the Department of Agriculture and to the Technical Working Group of Myanmar Rice Federation by 30 June. Applications are available at the Plant Protection Division located on Bayintnaung Road, West

Gyogon, Insein, Yangon, at 01 644214 and email at directorppd-doa@gmail.com or through the Technical Working Committee of the Myanmar Rice Federation Office located on the 9th Floor, UMFCCI, Min Ye Kyaw Swa Road, Latha Township at 01 218266/68 and 01 2301128/29, or email admin@mrf.com.mm. Application forms can also be downloaded from <https://www.doa.gov.mm>, <https://ppd.doa.gov.mm>, and www.umfcci.com.mm. — NN/KK

MAPCO calls EOI from companies for construction work

MYANMAR Agribusiness Public Corporation Limited (MAPCO) invited interested companies to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) to implement construction projects.

Interested companies and organizations can submit a cover letter expressing interest, company profile, business experience, and other relevant documents in soft copy in the PDF file format to admin@mapco-ygn.com and bod@mapco-ygn.com by 15 May.

Companies/organizations submitting EOIs will be evaluated and selected for further negotiation and contract signing for projects. Individuals can enquire about details through the aforementioned email address. — NN/KK

Mandalay Commercial Complex project aims to spur exports

THE Mandalay Commercial Complex project has been launched to promote exports, according to an announcement from the Export/Import Office (Mandalay), Department of Trade, under the Ministry of Commerce.

The Mandalay Commercial Complex project has been initiated at Myitnge Dry Port to boost exports to foreign countries as part of the Mandalay Region Government's 100-day operations commencing 20 April 2026. The related departments are coordinating to provide One-Stop Services (OSS) to facilitate the export of large volumes of agricultural products, horticultural crops, mineral products, and general goods, ensuring that entrepreneurs' goods reach foreign buyers in the shortest possible time.

pert-led discussions and training will be conducted on 18-20 May, covering useful trade-related topics to enable entrepreneurs to facilitate export activities.

Furthermore, efforts are underway to meet the needs of entrepreneurs in applying for Import-Export licences, in online licence applications, connecting with foreign markets, sharing market prices, and arranging necessary services for goods inspection.

Interested individuals are invited to participate in the project under the Mandalay Region government's 100-day plan to boost exports. They can enquire about details through the director in charge of the Export/Import Office (Mandalay), Department of Trade at 09 43082714, or Officer U Win Myint at 09 400004511. — NN/KK

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ARTICLE WORLD

“Paving the Way for Gender Equality: Myanmar’s Synergy with Women Deliver 2026 Goals”

FROM PAGE 9

In public life, Myanmar’s civil service figures stand out even by global standards. Women hold 60.58 per cent of civil service positions and 54.75 per cent of senior decision-making posts. In a region where women’s parliamentary representation has only just reached a historical high of 23 per cent, Myanmar’s administrative leadership data represents a real and substantial achievement.

Behind these numbers is an institutional framework that has been under construction for nearly three decades: the NSPAW, the MNCWA’s 12 specialist sub-committees, Myanmar Women’s Day on 3 July, and active engagement in ASEAN-level gender commitments. The newly established Ministry of Women’s Affairs gives this framework its strongest institutional anchor yet.

6. What the Melbourne Declaration Asks of Myanmar Next

Myanmar’s achievements are genuine — and they create a foundation, not a finish line. The Melbourne Declaration’s demand for accountability means measuring not just what has been built but what gaps remain. Three priorities stand out.

- Closing the secondary education gap for girls: Primary completion rates for girls already exceed those of boys. The same must become true at middle and high school level — through scholarships, rural infrastructure investment, and community awareness programmes that actively challenge customs that push girls out of school early.
- Matching civil service leadership with private sector opportunity: Women’s strong representation in government must be complemented by equal access to credit, entrepreneurship support, vocational training, and market linkages in the private economy. Economic empowerment cannot stop at the civil service door.
- Engaging men and boys as active partners: Preventing gender-based violence, redistributing unpaid care work, and sustaining women’s leadership at community level all require men to actively participate — not as bystanders to women’s advancement, but as committed co-builders of gender equality.

The WD2026 framework of “budgeted, enforceable rights” provides a clear standard. Myanmar’s plans —



the NSPAW, the new ministry’s mandate, the MNCWA’s coordination structure — must be backed by adequate, ring-fenced budgets that survive changes in priority and pressure. Commitments made at national and international forums must be tracked through the same transparency mechanisms WD2026 demanded of every government.

7. Working Together: From Conference Hall to Community

The most powerful line in the Melbourne Declaration is also its simplest: the conclusion of WD2026 is not an end, but a beginning. Conferences produce declarations, but declarations alone are not enough. They demand action — and action depends on people: in ministries, in communities, within families, and in the everyday choices we make about how women and girls are treated.

Myanmar’s women have never waited for perfect conditions to lead, to contribute, or to build.

Instead, they lead to create those conditions — for

their children, their communities, and their country. The establishment of the Ministry of Women’s Affairs in 2026 sends a clear signal that the state is ready to match this commitment with institutional seriousness and long-term vision.

“When women thrive, communities thrive. When communities thrive, nations thrive. This is not aspiration — it is evidence.”

Today, the call from Melbourne is unmistakable. Rights must be made real. Justice must be within reach. Action cannot be delayed. In Myanmar, the foundations to answer that call — built over decades and strengthened in 2026 — are already in place. The task ahead is to build on these foundations with urgency, accountability, and unwavering commitment to the women and girls who deserve nothing less.

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Chinese envoy calls for promoting AI for greater good

IN tackling the global governance of artificial intelligence, the international community should work together and promote AI for the greater good, said Sun Lei, China’s deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, on Tuesday.

In remarks at the 2026 AI

for Good Lab Side Event of the STI Forum, Sun said that AI, as a key driving force behind the new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation, is being increasingly integrated with the real economy.

AI is not only empowering

a wide range of industries but also starting to affect every aspect of our daily lives, thus serving as a new engine of economic growth and holding profound significance for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, he added.

— Xinhua



This photo taken on 17 March 2026 shows robots at a workshop of Inovance Group in Jiangning District of Nanjing, east China’s Jiangsu Province. PHOTO: JI CHUNPENG/XINHUA

Philips profits double in first quarter

PHILIPS said Wednesday its first-quarter profits had doubled, maintaining its sales forecasts as the Dutch electronics and medical device manufacturer seeks to turn the page on a scandal involving faulty sleep machines.

Net profits came in at 146 million euros (\$171 million), compared with a net profit of 72 million euros in the same quarter last year and 397 million euros in the fourth quarter of 2025. — AFP



Philips is turning the page on its sleep machine scandal. **PHOTO: ANP/AFP**

Costs hit record high in 2025 for entering private colleges in Tokyo area

COSTS from entrance exams to enrolment for students who entered private universities and junior colleges in the greater Tokyo area in spring 2025 hit a record high, a teachers' union survey showed Thursday.

The average total for students commuting from home was 1,647,883 yen (\$10,540), up 30,902 yen from a year earlier, while that for those living in dormitories and elsewhere came to 2,353,983 yen, up 39,202 yen. Daily living expenses for the latter, calculated by excluding rent from monthly remittances,



Waseda University (Waseda) is one of Japan's most prestigious and globalized private research universities.

PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/UASEDA UNIVERSITY

averaged 660 yen.

The Tokyo Federation of Private University Facul-

ty and Staff Unions' survey conducted between May and July in 2025 covered

parents and guardians of freshmen at 10 universities and junior colleges in Tokyo and nearby Saitama and Tochigi prefectures. It received valid responses from 3,613 people.

In Japan, the academic year for most schools begins in April. For students living at home, the expenses from entrance exams to enrolment consisted of exam fees and first-year tuition and fees. For those living elsewhere, rent, deposits and key money, and expenditure for daily necessities were added to these costs. — Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (284N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-5-2026** 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.

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Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:
M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

Notice for change of distributor

We, **Agrodan Chemical Co., Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from **Amazing seasons Co., Ltd** to **FIRST START COMPANY LIMITED**. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next two weeks.

| No | Old Distributor | Trade Name | Active Ingredient name | Registration Type | Registration number | New Distributor |
|----|--------------------------|---------------|---|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Amazing seasons Co., Ltd | Double Killer | Lufenuron 5% + Profenofos 50% EC | Provisional | P2025 - 6795 | FIRST START COMPANY LIMITED |
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| 3 | | Super Killer | Dinotefuran 20% + Pymetrozine 50% WG | Provisional | P2025 - 6765 | |

FIRST START COMPANY LIMITED. (Address: Pyi Htaung Su Road, No. 1285, (50) Quarter, North Dagon Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar. Ph no: 09 403 723 854)

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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Truce announced by Russia in operation zone will be in effect on May

Moscow expects Washington to continue to provide goodwill services in the negotiation process on Ukraine.

THE truce announced by Russia in the special military operation zone will be in effect on 8-9 May, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Thursday.

“Yes, we are talking about 8-9 May,” Peskov told reporters.

Russia is counting on the

resumption of negotiations on Ukraine, Dmitry Peskov said.

Moscow expects Washington to continue to provide goodwill services in the negotiation process on Ukraine, and currently American negotiators are focusing not on Ukraine, but on



The Victory Day military parade marking the 78th anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany took place on Tuesday, 9 May 2023. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ SPUTNIK/FILE**

other issues, Peskov said, adding that the Iranian issue is a current priority for Washington.

“We highly appreciate these services and expect that the process will continue,” Peskov told

reporters. Russia is open to continuing negotiations on Ukraine, Peskov said. — SPUTNIK

Iran's reply to US on war to be sent today through Pakistan: Reports

IRAN still has the US proposal under scanner, but a response to it is expected by Thursday, as reported by Al Jazeera.

Although there is no official deadline for the reponse, Pakistani mediators today are said to be expecting one.

A lawmaker in the Iranian parliament and Former For-

eign Minister told Al Jazeera that a response will be sent to the US.

Iran is concerning itself with cessation of war on all its fronts for now, adding that no nuclear talks are on the table. Iran wants guarantees directly from the UN Security Council, then they want sanctions to

be lifted, and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz. If that is achieved, in a second phase, they're said to be ready to discuss their nuclear programme, as reported by Al Jazeera.

In the Strait of Hormuz, Iran established a new body called the “Arabian Gulf Strait Authority”. — ANI

European carriers face worst crisis since pandemic as fuel prices soar

THE European aviation sector is facing its most severe crisis

since the 2020 pandemic, as the ongoing Middle East conflicts

have pushed jet fuel prices to multi-year highs and forced major carriers to overhaul their strategies.

In its first-quarter earnings report published on Wednesday, Germany's flag carrier Lufthansa said it had hedged around 80 per cent of its jet fuel requirements. Despite these measures, it expects fuel-related costs in 2026 to increase by 1.7 billion euros (US\$2 billion), nearly 24 per cent higher than previously forecast, mainly driven by surging energy prices and disrupted global aviation markets. — Xinhua



In its first-quarter earnings report published on Wednesday, Germany's flag carrier Lufthansa said it had hedged around 80 per cent of its jet fuel requirements. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trump halts escorts after Saudi refusal

US President Donald Trump has reportedly halted a planned naval operation to escort ships through the Strait of Hormuz after Saudi Arabia refused to allow American aircraft involved in the mission to use Prince Sultan Airbase southeast of Riyadh or fly through Saudi airspace, according to NBC News.

Citing US officials, NBC News reported that Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states were caught off guard by Trump's announcement of “Project Freedom” on Sunday. The news report said that Trump called Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman but failed to secure an agreement.

Asked whether the operation had surprised Saudi leaders, a Saudi source told NBC News, “the problem with that premise is that things are happening quickly in real time”.

The same source added that Saudi Arabia remains “very supportive of the diplomatic efforts” led by Pakistan to help broker an agreement between the United States and Iran. — ANI

CNN founder Ted Turner dies at 87

US broadcast news pioneer and CNN founder Ted Turner has passed away, the cable news channel announced on Wednesday.

Turner launched CNN in 1980 and revolutionized the way news was consumed in the US and the world by establishing the round-the-clock breaking news system, which reshaped the television industry in the late 20th century.

The Ohio native founded his media empire in Atlanta, Georgia, and after selling CNN to Time Warner, went on to become one of the most prominent business leaders and philanthropists of his era. He invested in sports teams, supported habitat restoration in the American mountain West and donated \$1 billion (roughly €850 million) to United Nations charities, among his many achievements.

No cause of death was given, but Turner had been battling Lewy body dementia, a little-known neurodegenerative disease, since 2018. — ANI

SPORTS

PyinOoLwin Junior Open Golf Championship concludes

THE PyinOoLwin Junior Open Championship (Road to Myanmar Junior National Team) concluded with its third-day competitions and prize presentation ceremony on 4 May at the PyinOoLwin Golf Course, according to the Myanmar Golf Federation.

The tournament was organized under the guidance of the Myanmar Golf Federation and hosted by Junior Golf Myanmar (JGM), with CB Bank as the main sponsor. The event aimed to develop emerging junior golf talent in Myanmar.

During the ceremony, special prizes were awarded, including cash awards for a hole-in-one achievement by Sett Naing Aung, who received multiple sponsor-backed rewards.

In the junior categories, winners were



The awards ceremony for the PyinOoLwin Junior Open Golf Championship is in progress on 4 May 2026. PHOTO: MGF

recognized across different age groups and divisions. In the Under-12 boys' category, Phone Myat Thaw secured first place. In the Under-14 girls' category, Choi Hui claimed the top position, while Hein Thant Thu won the Under-14 boys' title.

In the Under-18 girls' category, Cho Thar Aung finished first, followed by Su Hnin Phyu in second place and Nan Seng Awm Ngin in third.

In the Under-18 boys' category, Sett Naing Aung won the championship title, with Pyae Phyo Htut finishing second and Pyae Sone Aung taking third place.

Organizers said the championship is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen youth golf development and build future national-level players for Myanmar. — Chit Ko Ko/KZL

Roma's Champions League return back on as Milan, Juve wobble



Donyell Malen has scored 12 times for Roma since signing from Aston Villa. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

ROMA have a return to the Champions League firmly within their sights ahead of Sunday's trip to Parma as both Juventus and AC Milan's hopes of finishing in Serie A's top four are threatened by the resurgent capital club.

A hammering by new champions Inter Milan a month ago seemed to signal the end of Roma's hopes of ending a long absence from Europe's top club competition.

But 10 points from their subsequent four matches have taken Roma to within one point of fourth-placed Juventus, with Milan only two further points ahead in third.

"We're going well, but we know that we cannot make any mistakes if we're going to have any chance of making the Champions League," coach Gian Piero Gasperini said after last weekend's thumping of Fiorentina. — AFP

Myanmar fighters set to compete at ONE Friday Fights 153 in Bangkok

MYANMAR fighters Thway Lin Htet and Ye Yint Naung will compete against Thai opponents at ONE Friday Fights 153 & The Inner Circle, scheduled to be held on 8 May at Lumpinee Stadium in Bangkok, Thailand.

Ye Yint Naung will face Thai fighter Khunponnoy, while Thway Lin Htet will take on Seksatarn.

Thway Lin Htet is aiming to end a two-fight losing streak. He has recorded five wins and three losses in eight bouts under

ONE Championship. His opponent Seksatarn has won eight of his 10 fights in ONE, although he suffered a defeat against an Iraqi fighter earlier this year.

Ye Yint Naung will make his second appearance in ONE Championship after losing his debut bout to Malaysian fighter Ghazali. His opponent Khunponnoy has previous experience against Myanmar fighters and has defeated Son Rak, Moe Htet Aung and Thant Zin. — Chit Ko Ko/KZL



Thai and Myanmar fighters. PHOTOS: ONE

Hanthawady United set to resume home matches for new season



This photo depicts preparations underway at Grand Royal Stadium, which is set to serve as Hanthawady United's home ground. PHOTO: MNL

MYANMAR National League club Hanthawady United is preparing to host home matches again in Bago Region for the 2026-2027 season.

The club plans to use Grand Royal Stadium in Bago as its home ground after previously hosting matches there until the 2020 season. The MNL chairman and officials inspected the stadium on 4 May and discussed upgrading facilities before the new season, including improving infrastructure, pitch quality, spectator convenience and television broadcasting arrangements.

Several MNL clubs are expected to resume hosting home matches next season, with Hanthawady United and Yadanabon joining Shan United and Yangon United. As a result, four clubs are expected to host regular home matches during the upcoming season. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Truce announced by Russia in operation zone will be in effect on May

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WORLD

Trump: Iran deal possible, 'never a deadline'

"They want to make a deal. We've had very good talks over the last 24 hours, and it's very possible that we'll make a deal," US President Donald Trump told reporters.

Asked whether there was a deadline for Iran, Trump avoided setting one.

"Never a deadline. It'll happen. It'll happen. But never a deadline," he said.

"Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon. And they won't. And they've agreed to that, among other things," Trump claimed.

The remarks come after Trump paused Project Freedom while continuing the illegal naval blockade of Iran. — SPUTNIK

France approves bill returning looted art

THE French National Assembly on Wednesday approved, following a new round of debate, a draft law on the restitution of cultural property acquired through illicit appropriation.

The lower house of parliament passed the bill with 141 votes in favour and none against, although turnout was relatively low compared with the National Assembly's total 577 seats.

The bill seeks to establish a clearer and simpler legal framework for returning cultural assets acquired by France through illicit means, including looting, theft and sales conducted under coercion. It applies to cultural property acquired between 1815 and 1972, excluding military items and certain archaeological objects. — Xinhua

China to issue commemorative coins on auspicious culture

The People's Bank of China announced that the set of six coins – three gold and three silver – will be available for sale on 10 May.



The headquarters of People's Bank of China in Beijing, China, 24 September 2022. PHOTO: CFP/CGTN

CHINA'S central bank will issue a set of commemorative coins featuring Chinese auspicious culture, including two heart-shaped coins.

The People's Bank of China announced that the set of six coins — three gold and three silver — will be available for sale on 10 May.

The Chinese characters Jixiang,

meaning auspiciousness, are displayed on the face of the coins, surrounded by traditional auspicious patterns, along with the country name and year.

Since their debut in 2015, the auspicious culture coins have been issued for consecutive years, with the heart-shaped versions becoming a popular highlight.

The three-gramme heart-shaped

gold coin features wild geese and auspicious flowers on its reverse side and carries a face value of 50 yuan (about US\$7.3). Its maximum mintage is 20,000 pieces.

The 30-gramme heart-shaped silver coin has a face value of 10 yuan and a maximum mintage of 40,000 pieces. — Xinhua



This photo taken in April 2025 shows a tanker carrying Russian liquefied natural gas departing from Tokyo Gas Co's LNG terminal in Yokohama. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/KYODO/FILE

Indonesia considers potential imports of Russian LNG

AFTER reaching an agreement on the supply of 150 million barrels of Russian oil, Indonesia is also considering the potential import of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Russia, the country's Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Bahlil Lahadalia said.

"On oil, the agreement is already in place. As for LNG, the potential exists," the minister told journalists in Jakarta.

According to him, Indonesia is currently focused primarily on ensuring

the stability of national energy supplies amid the prolonged crisis in the Middle East and growing threats to global supply chains.

Earlier, Lahadalia said Russian oil would arrive in Indonesia "in the near future" under agreements reached following talks between Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto and Russian President Vladimir Putin. The total volume of supplies will amount to 150 million barrels. — SPUTNIK