

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

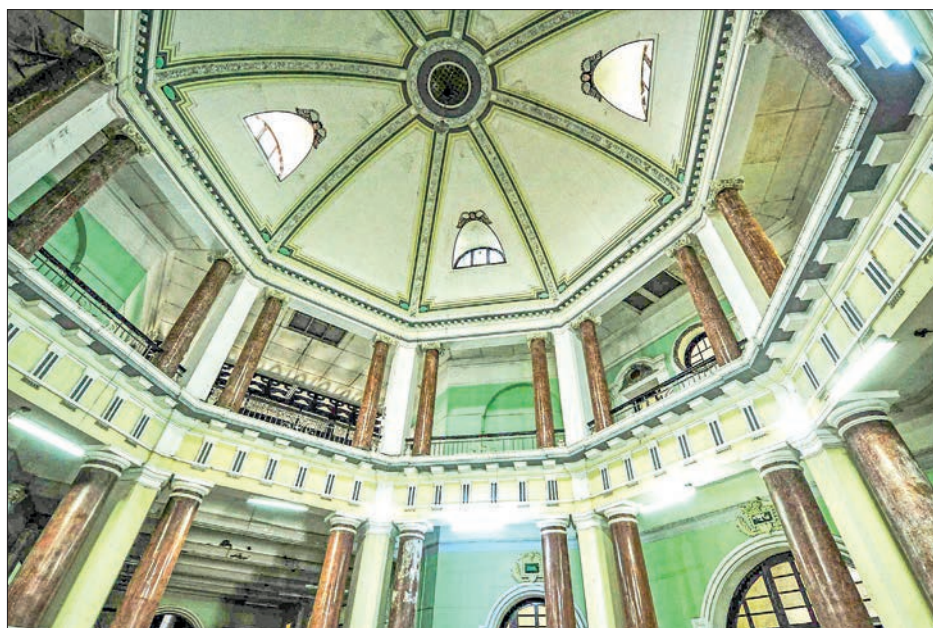


This photo showcases the century-old Hon Lim Chin Tsong's OBE Palace, a popular tourist destination in Bahan Township, Yangon Region.

## Chin Tsong Palace transformed into National Art Museum

**T**HE Hon Lim Chin Tsong's OBE palace in Bahan Township, Yangon Region, has been renovated and maintained since the 2022-2023 financial year to transform it into a national art museum that preserves, collects, and exhibits works of art from all over Myanmar, thereby promoting a greater understanding of the value of art, according to Director of the National Museum (Yangon) Daw Nan Laung Ngin.

"In 2018, at an art exhibition held at the Hon Lim Chin Tsong's OBE palace, prominent artists, including U Lun Gywe, presented a proposal to the State to establish a large art museum at the palace that would showcase works of art from across the country. This structure is also a popular destination for international tourists, which prompted the request. As a result, the large-scale renovation of the facility was initially planned to begin in the 2020-2021 financial year, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was delayed and began in the 2022-2023 financial year. Only a few major renovations remain. The building will be ready when the museum opens soon. We have already collected many art objects,



A look inside the palace, showcasing its architectural beauty and design.

including paintings and sculptures, and are collaborating with art organizations to open the museum as soon as possible," said Daw Nan Law Ngin.

Arrangements are being made to open 11 galleries on the first floor and eight galleries on the second floor. The remaining floors will house coffee

shops, libraries, painting studios, meeting rooms, offices, and souvenir shops.

The construction of the Hon Lim Chin Tsong's OBE palace, a five-story octagonal building that blends European, Asian, and Chinese architectural styles, began in 1915 and was completed in 1917. — ASH/TH

## OPINION

Let's elevate prestige of Myanmar with a legacy worthy of Thanaka

PAGE 8

### NATIONAL PAGE 3

Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
State Administration Council  
Law Amendment to Court Fees Act  
(State Administration Council Law 3/2025)

### NATIONAL PAGE 4

Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
State Administration Council  
Private Security Service Law  
(State Administration Council Law 4/2025)

### NATIONAL PAGE 11

PDF members reunite with families, rejoin legal fold

### NATIONAL PAGE 12



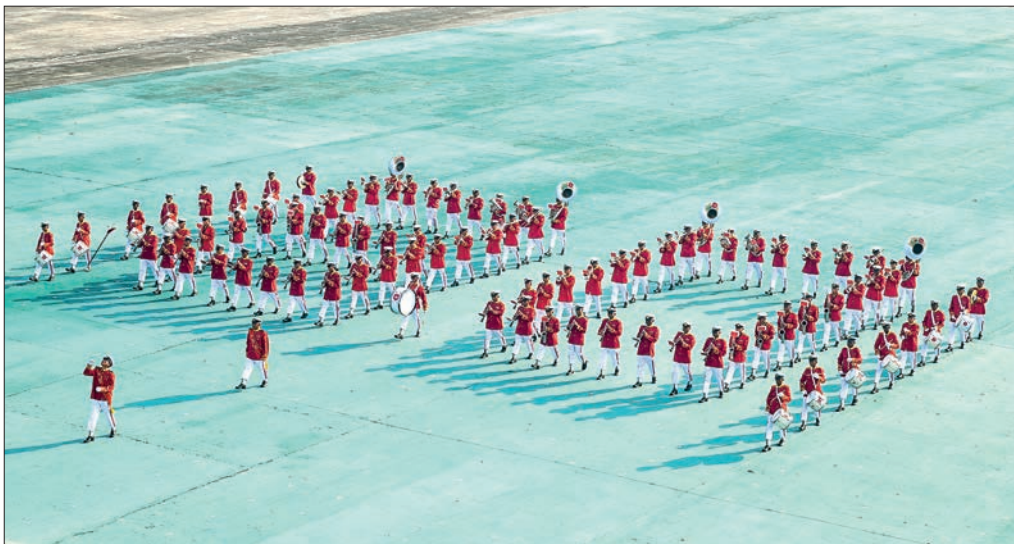
Myanmar's Thanaka nears UNESCO intangible heritage listing

# NATIONAL

## The Lifeline of Knowledge: The Essential Role of Literary Wisdom in Life

"A Myanmar proverb says one can survive seven days without food but not a single morning without water. Similarly, a lack of literary knowledge leads to a life of misery. Therefore, literary knowledge is essential for a fulfilling life."

*(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with senior officer instructors, senior officer lecturers, faculty members, officers and cadets from the Defence Services Technological Academy on 29 May 2024)*



The fourth-day event of the 31<sup>st</sup> Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, and Air) Military Band Competition to hail the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day in action yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

## Fourth-day Tatmadaw military band competition held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE fourth day of the 31<sup>st</sup> Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, and Air) Military Band Competition, commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day, was held

yesterday morning at the Nay Pyi Taw Transit Centre parade ground.

The Defence Services Academy band competed in Level A, while Level B fea-

tured band (1) from Yangon Command, the South-West Command band, and band (2) from the Coastal Region Command.

The event was attended by members

of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, and Air) Military Band Competition Committee, judges, contestants, and guests. — MNA/MKKS

### Law Amendment to Court Fees Act issued

THE State Administration Council issued the Law Amendment to Court Fees Act as Law No 3/2025 of the SAC on 17 February 2025. The law will come into effect starting from 1 April 2025. — MNA/TTA

### Gold Market Rate as of 18 February 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,490,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

### Daily newspapers available online

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

*News and Periodicals Enterprise*

### MSME loans available for application

MSME business owners in Nay Pyi Taw, the Union Territory, as well as in regions and states, can apply for the necessary loans to expand their businesses, purchase machinery, and procure raw materials. These loans are provided by the Myanmar Economic Bank, Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank, and 16 private banks.

The annual interest rates are three per cent for loans where at least 30 per cent is used for fixed capital, four per cent for loans used entirely 100 per cent as working capital and five per cent for loans issued under the Credit Guarantee Insurance (CGI) system.

MSME business owners who wish to apply for loans are advised to contact the relevant MSME agencies in Nay Pyi Taw, the Union Territory, regions, and states.

**MSME Development Fund Management Committee**

## 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.

*(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)*

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Law Amendment to Court Fees Act (State Administration Council Law 3/2025)

5<sup>th</sup> Waning Day of Tabodwe 1386 M.E.  
(17 February 2025)

THE State Administration Council enacts this Law under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

1. This Law shall be called the Law Amendment to the Court Fees Act.
2. This Law shall come into effect starting from 1 April 2025.
3. Schedule 1 of the Court Fees Act shall be substituted as follows: -

#### SCHEDULE I AD VALOREM fees

Number		Proper Fee
1. Complaint, written statement pleading set-off or counterclaim or, memorandum of appeal (not otherwise provided for in this Act) or of cross-objection presented to any Civil Court or Revenue authority except those mentioned in section 3.	(a) When the amount or value of the subject matter in dispute does not exceed 100,000,000 Kyats (Hundred Million Kyats);	- 0.5 percentum on the amount or value specified in such document.
	(b) When such amount or value exceeds 100,000,000 Kyats (Hundred Million Kyats), up to 1,000,000,000 Kyats (One Billion Kyats);	- 1,000,000 Kyats (Ten Hundred Thousand Kyats) fixed fees.
	(c) When such amount or value exceeds 1,000,000,000 Kyats (One Billion Kyats), up to 3,000,000,000 Kyats (Three Billion Kyats);	- 1,500,000 Kyats (Fifteen Hundred Thousand Kyats) fixed fees.
	(d) When such amount or value exceeds 3,000,000,000 Kyats (Three Billion Kyats).	- 3,000,000 Kyats (Thirty Hundred Thousand Kyats) fixed fees. Provided that the maximum fee leviable shall be 3,000,000 Kyats (Thirty Hundred Thousand Kyats).

4. The phrase "Kyat 500,000" in the appropriate column of the act under Schedule 1, Serial Numbers 11 and 12 of the Court Fees Act shall be replaced with the phrase "Kyat 3,000,000 (Thirty Hundred Thousand Kyats)" respectively.

I hereby sign this under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing  
Senior General  
Chairman  
State Administration Council

## Union Health Minister meets WHO Resident Representative

UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win received Mr Thushara Fernando, WHO Resident Representative to Myanmar, yesterday afternoon at the meeting hall of the ministry.

The meeting, held in a frank and friendly atmosphere, focused on healthcare cooperation between the ministry and the WHO, the ministry's healthcare priorities for 2025, and future collaboration.

Also present on the occasion were the deputy minister and directors-general from the Ministry of Health, and officials from the WHO office. — MNA/MKKS



The WHO Resident Representative calls on Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win yesterday.

# NATIONAL

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Private Security Service Law (State Administration Council Law 4/2025)

6<sup>th</sup> Waning Day of Tabodwe 1386 M.E.  
(18 February 2025)

THE State Administration Council enacts this Law under Section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

### Chapter I

#### Title and Definitions

1. This law shall be called **the Private Security Service Law**.
2. The following expressions in this Law shall have the meanings given below:
  - (a) **State** means the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
  - (b) **Private Security Service** means the service provided for personal and property security in any place including individuals, organizations, offices, houses, warehouses, companies, factories, workshops, hotels, banks, schools, markets, hospitals, transport, businesses, public ceremonies or religious edifices;
  - (c) **Service Client** means those who receive private security service from the licence holder;
  - (d) **Licence** means a licence issued under this Law to provide the private security service with fees and the private security service training courses;
  - (e) **Permit** means a permit issued under this Law to appoint more than 10 private security servants for the private business or branch not concerned with the private security service;
  - (f) **Private Security Servant** means a servant appointed under prescribed criteria to provide private security service. Such expression includes a servant appointed by the licence holder under the prescribed criteria to perform security duties;
  - (g) **Security Equipment** means communication devices, technological security equipment and security-related accessories allowed by the central committee under the existing laws to use them in private security services;
  - (h) **Ministry** means the ministry which implements the matters mentioned in this Law;
  - (i) **Central Committee** means Central Supervisory Committee on Private Security Service formed under this Law;
  - (j) **Supervisory Committee** means the Region or State or Union territory Supervisory Committee on Private Security Service.

### Chapter II

#### Objectives

3. Objectives of this Law are as follows:
  - (a) to ensure that private security services contribute to the security of the State, the rule of law and public peace and tranquillity;
  - (b) to ensure that private security services cooperate systematically with security organizations of the State;
  - (c) to ensure the development of human resources related to private security services and to establish international-level private security services;
  - (d) to oversee and prevent the misuse of private security services systematically;
  - (e) to ensure cooperation between private security services and international and regional organizations.

### Chapter III

#### Formation of Central Committee, Functions and Powers

4. (a) The Union Government shall form the Supervisory Central Committee for Private Security Service as follows:
 

(i) Union Minister	Chairperson
Ministry of Home Affairs	
(ii) Chief of Myanmar Police Force	Vice-Chairperson
Ministry of Home Affairs	
(iii) Director-General	Member

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Directorate of Posts and Telecommunications |                 |
| Ministry of Transport and Communications    |                 |
| (iv) Director-General                       | Member          |
| Information and Cybersecurity Department    |                 |
| Ministry of Transport and Communications    |                 |
| (v) A representative                        | Member          |
| of the Ministry of Defence                  |                 |
| (vi) Director-General                       | Member          |
| General Administration Department           |                 |
| Ministry of Home Affairs                    |                 |
| (vii) Director-General                      | Member          |
| Bureau of Special Investigation             |                 |
| Ministry of Home Affairs                    |                 |
| (viii) Director-General                     | Member          |
| Fire Services Department                    |                 |
| Ministry of Home Affairs                    |                 |
| (ix) Director-General                       | Member          |
| Internal Revenue Department                 |                 |
| Ministry of Planning and Finance            |                 |
| (x) Director-General                        | Member          |
| Directorate of Investment and               |                 |
| Company Administration                      |                 |
| Ministry of Investment and                  |                 |
| Foreign Economic Relations                  |                 |
| (xi) Director-General                       | Member          |
| Ministry of Legal Affairs                   |                 |
| (xii) Director-General                      | Member          |
| Immigration Department                      |                 |
| Ministry of Immigration and Population      |                 |
| (xiii) Director-General                     | Member          |
| Labour Department                           |                 |
| Ministry of Labour                          |                 |
| (xiv) Director-General                      | Member          |
| Trade Department                            |                 |
| Ministry of Commerce                        |                 |
| (xv) Deputy Chief of Police                 | Secretary       |
| Myanmar Police Force                        |                 |
| Ministry of Home Affairs                    |                 |
| (xvi) Police Chief of Staff                 | Joint Secretary |
| Myanmar Police Force                        |                 |
| Ministry of Home Affairs                    |                 |

- (b) The Central Committee may be re-formed if necessary.

5. The Functions and Powers of the Central Committee are as follows:
  - (a) adopting policies and supervising private security services with the approval of the Union Government;
  - (b) guiding, supervising and making decisions regarding measures taken by the supervisory committee;
  - (c) forming necessary working committees and defining their functions and powers;
  - (d) verifying to allow or deny the submissions of licence holders through the supervisory committee to provide private security service training courses, in accordance with the stipulations;
  - (e) supervising the purchase, sale, keeping in hand or use of necessary security equipment by the licence holder in the private security services;
  - (f) seek approval from the National Defence and Security Council if the licence holder applies for holding arms and ammunition due to work

# NATIONAL

- demand in providing private security services;
- (g) setting licence fees, licence renewal fees, service charges, licence and permit conditions;
- (h) setting conditions for banning licence, cancelling licence or revocation of permit;
- (i) verifying to allow or deny the submissions with the remarks of the supervisory committee for applying for a licence or renewal of a licence;
- (j) verifying to allow or deny the submissions with the remarks of the supervisory committee for applying for a permit or renewal of a permit;
- (k) cooperating with international and regional organizations in the provision of private security services;
- (l) encouraging the establishment of international-level private security service training courses;
- (m) verifying to allow the organizational setup of private security servants of the licence holder;
- (n) approving uniforms, badges and rank insignia of private security servants;
- (o) setting charges to be paid for private security services, from time to time;
- (p) performing duties of private security services assigned by the Union Government from time to time.

## Chapter IV

### Formation of Supervisory Committee, Functions and Powers

6. The Central Committee:
- (a) shall form the Region or State Supervisory Committee as follows:
    - (i) Minister of Security and Border Affairs                      Chairperson
    - (ii) Region or State Chief Officer                                      Member  
Directorate of Posts and Telecommunications
    - (iii) Region or State Chief Officer                                      Member  
Directorate of Transport
    - (iv) A representative    Member  
of the relevant military command
    - (v) Region or State Administrator                                      Member  
General Administration Department
    - (vi) Director    Member  
Region or State  
Bureau of Special Investigation
    - (vii) Region or State Chief Officer                                      Member  
Fire Services Department
    - (viii) Region or State Revenue Officer                                      Member  
Internal Revenue Department
    - (ix) Region or State Law Officer    Member  
Regional or State Advocate-General's Office
    - (x) Region or State Chief Officer    Member  
Immigration and Population Department
    - (xi) Region or State Chief Officer    Member  
Labour Department
    - (xii) Region or State Chief Officer    Member  
Consumer Affairs Department
    - (xiii) Region or State Police Force Commander                                      Secretary  
Myanmar Police Force
    - (xiv) Staff Officer (Grade I) (S, A, Q)                                      Joint Secretary  
Region or State Police Force
  - (b) shall form the Union Territory Supervisory Committee as follows:
    - (i) A council member    Chairperson  
assigned by the Chairperson  
of the Nay Pyi Taw Council
    - (ii) Deputy General Manager    Member  
Myanma Posts and Telecommunications  
Nay Pyi Taw
    - (iii) Director    Member  
Road Transport Administration Department  
Nay Pyi Taw
    - (iv) A representative    Member  
of the Nay Pyi Taw Command HQ
    - (v) Administrator    Member  
General Administration Department  
Nay Pyi Taw
    - (vi) Director    Member  
Bureau of Special Investigation

- Nay Pyi Taw
- (vii) Director    Member  
Fire Services Department  
Nay Pyi Taw
- (viii) Union Territory Revenue Officer                                      Member  
Internal Revenue Department  
Nay Pyi Taw
- (ix) Director    Member  
Prosecution Department  
Ministry of Legal Affairs
- (x) Director    Member  
Immigration Department  
Ministry of Immigration and Population
- (xi) Director    Member  
Labour Department  
Nay Pyi Taw
- (xii) Chief Officer of Department    Member  
Consumer Affairs Department  
Nay Pyi Taw
- (xiii) Commander    Secretary  
Nay Pyi Taw Police Force
- (xiv) Staff Officer (Grade I) (S, A, Q)                                      Joint Secretary  
Nay Pyi Taw Police Force

- (c) may re-form the Region or State Supervisory Committee and Union Territory Supervisory Committee if necessary.

7. The Functions and Powers of the Supervisory Committee are as follows:

- (a) verifying licence application or renewal of licence, and submitting them to the Central Committee with remarks in accordance with the stipulations;
- (b) issuing licence or renewing licence in accordance with the decision of the Central Committee;
- (c) taking action against the private security services which violate conditions or are not in conformity with criteria;
- (d) supervising licence holders to systematically provide services and follow conditions;
- (e) verifying submissions of licence holders to provide private security service training courses and submitting them to the Central Committee;
- (f) inspecting training of the private security services and giving lectures if necessary;
- (g) verifying and submitting uniforms, badges and rank insignia of private security servants to the Central Committee;
- (h) verifying to allow applications for issuance of the copies for damage or loss of licences;
- (i) verifying applications for permit or renewal of permit in accordance with criteria and submitting them to the Central Committee with remarks;
- (j) verifying to allow application for copy of permit regarding damage or loss of permit;
- (k) submitting recommendations for a report on changes in the strength of private security servants;
- (l) performing duties of private security services assigned by the Central Committee from time to time.

## Chapter V

### Application for licence

8. The licence applicant shall:
- (a) be a company registered under the Myanmar Companies Law;
  - (b) has the right to register under the Myanmar Companies Law if it is a foreign company;
  - (c) not be a company which is notorious for undermining security and the rule of law of the State;
  - (d) deposit a minimum of 100 million kyats as a business guarantee at the Myanma Economic Bank while providing a private security service. If the applicant is a foreign company, an equivalent amount of 100 million kyats in foreign currency shall be deposited as a fixed deposit.
9. The licence applicant shall submit the following data to the relevant supervisory committee:
- (a) name of the applicant;
  - (b) a brief biography;
  - (c) a permanent address and contact address, telephone number, e-mail

# NATIONAL

- address;
- (d) an emblem of the company;
- (e) list of Board of Directors;
- (f) objective of the company;
- (g) work procedure of the company;
- (h) proposed strength of private security servants (male/female) and their full biographies;
- (i) three proposals for uniforms, badges and rank insignia of private security servants;
- (j) facts about experience of private security services;
- (k) the registration certificate of the company and true copies of excerpts on the performance of the company within one month;
- (l) true copy for deposit of the private security service;
- (m) other separate submission (if any); (for example: whether it will use arms and ammunition);
- (n) date of application;
- (o) relevant facts occasionally established by the Central Committee from time to time.
10. If a foreign company wants to provide a private security service, it shall apply for a licence to the relevant supervisory committee, stating not only the criteria outlined in section 9 but also the name of the country where the company's head office is located.
11. If an applicant applies for a licence under sections 9 and 10:
- (a) the relevant supervisory committee shall review the application in accordance with the specified criteria and submit it to the Central Committee with its remark;
- (b) the Central Committee may either approve or reject the issuance of a licence in accordance with the criteria after reviewing the submissions by the relevant supervisory committee;
- (c) the relevant supervisory committee shall issue the licence to the applicant upon the payment of the prescribed licence fee if the Central Committee grants permission for licence issuance;
- (d) the decision of the Central Committee under subsection (b) is final and conclusive.
12. The licence validity period is three years from the date of issuance.
13. (a) If the licence holder wants to continue providing a private security service, they must apply for renewal of a licence to the Supervisory Committee in accordance with the specified requirements at least three months in advance before the licence expires.
- (b) when applying for renewal of a licence under subsection (a), the relevant supervisory committee shall verify the application in accordance with the prescribed criteria and submit it to the Central Committee along with its remarks;
- (c) In default of renewal, the licence shall be deemed cancelled from the date of its expiration.
14. If a person whose licence has been revoked under subsection (c) of section 13 wants to continue to provide a private security service, they may apply for a new licence in accordance with sections 9 and 10.
15. (a) If a licence holder's licence is damaged or lost, they may apply for a copy of the licence to the relevant supervisory committee in accordance with the prescribed criteria.
- (b) The relevant supervisory committee, upon receiving the application for a copy of the licence under subsection (a), shall issue the copy of the licence after verifying the application and ensuring the prescribed service fee is paid, after which.
- duties;
- (iii) a person who holds a labour registration card issued by the relevant government department or organization;
- (iv) a person provides a certificate of criminal clearance record issued within the past 30 days, along with a self-declaration;
- (v) a person who does not fail to meet any qualifications as stipulated by the Central Committee from time to time.
- (e) shall direct the persons who are selected and appointed as private security servants to attend the private security service training, which is opened with the permission of the Central Committee.
- (f) In the appointment of foreign nationals as private security servants:
- (1) shall ensure that they comply with the criteria set by the Ministry of Labour;
- (2) shall ensure that they have the endorsement of the relevant country's authorities confirming their criminal record is clear;
- (3) shall ensure that they are not a member of any armed forces of a foreign country.
- (g) shall acquire technology and equipment related to private security services from international organizations through the relevant supervisory committee, providing necessary information about the organization and obtaining approval from the Central Committee, if assistance is required.
- (h) shall submit to the relevant supervisory committee, in line with the established criteria, the name of the private security service company, the location where the service will be provided, the number of private security servants to be assigned, and the duration of the service.
- (i) shall display the licence in a visible location within the company office for public viewing.
- (j) shall carry out any changes in the managing director or office location under the Myanmar Companies Law and submit such changes to the relevant supervisory committee for approval.
- (k) shall systematically maintain full personal details and duty performance records of each private security servant.
- (l) shall report to the relevant supervisory committee any changes in the number of private security servants due to increases or decreases.
- (m) shall clearly outline the disciplines to be followed by private security servants and the actions to be taken in the event of violations.
- (n) shall immediately notify the relevant authorities if a private security servant is found to have violated any existing law.
- (o) shall submit the licence for closure to the relevant supervisory committee for approval before taking any action, if there is no intention to continue the private security service.
- (p) shall follow licence regulations as occasionally adopted by the Central Committee.
17. If the licence holder is a foreign company, at least 75 per cent of the hired private security servants must be Myanmar citizens.
18. Licence holder:
- (a) may provide private security services by signing an agreement with the client to provide private security services;
- (b) shall carry out the purchase, sale, possession, or use of communication equipment, technological security support tools, and other related materials, which are authorized by the Central Committee, in accordance with the existing laws, licensing regulations, and rules, with the permission of the Central Committee.
- (c) shall order the private security servant to wear the uniform, badge, and rank insignia, as approved by the Central Committee, during their duty hours.
- (d) If it is a plan to open a training course for private security services, the curriculum, subjects to be taught, training duration, schedule, and training location must be submitted to the Central Committee through the relevant supervisory committee for approval.
19. Regarding the training measures, those who have been granted to open private security service courses:
- (a) shall appoint training instructors who must have at least five years of experience related to security services for private security services;
- (b) training instructors shall have recognition certificates for relevant subjects concerning the technologies;
- (c) course instructors shall be recruited sufficiently for relevant lessons;
- (d) If security personnel for a private business or branch are allowed to attend private security services training, this may be arranged and

## Chapter VI

### Duties and entitlements of licence holder

16. A licence holder:
- (a) shall provide the private security service in accordance with licence conditions;
- (b) shall provide services in accordance with rules and regulations, bylaws, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued under this law;
- (c) when cooperating with national security organizations, shall cooperate systematically under the plans of the relevant supervisory committee and the national security organizations;
- (d) when appointing a personal security servant, shall appoint the person who meets the following qualifications:
- (i) a person who has attained at least the age of 18;
- (ii) a person who is in good health and capable of performing security

# NATIONAL

- permitted accordingly;
- (e) Upon successful completion of the private security services training, a certificate of completion shall be issued to the trainee.
20. The licence holder, when engaged in private security services, shall comply with the requirements for carrying arms and ammunition and related equipment. This is subject to the approval of the Central Committee and shall be carried out under the Weapons Law, the regulations for carrying arms and ammunition, and applicable existing laws.

## Chapter VII

### Application for permit and duties of permit holder

21. A person who wants to deploy more than 10 security members for their own business or branch not for personal security services shall apply for a permit to the relevant supervisory committee including the following data:
- (a) name of the applicant;
  - (b) a brief biography;
  - (c) a permanent address and contact address, telephone number, email address;
  - (d) an emblem of business and type;
  - (e) working licence or permit if permission is needed;
  - (f) location of business, address, telephone number, email address;
  - (g) numbers of private security members (men, women) and personal data of security members;
  - (h) uniform, badge and rank of private security members;
  - (i) date of application;
  - (j) specific requirements set by the Central Committee occasionally.
22. If a person who applies for a permit under section 21:
- (a) The relevant supervisory committee shall analyze the permit applications as per the requirement and submit them to the Central Committee with remarks.
  - (b) The Central Committee may grant or refuse the permit after reviewing the reports of the relevant supervisory committee.
  - (c) The relevant supervisory committee shall issue the permit to the applicant upon approval by the Central Committee after the applicant has paid the fixed service fee.
23. The duties of the permit holder are as follows:
- (a) In appointing private security servants, only those who meet the qualifications specified in subsection (d) of section 16, shall be selected and appointed.
  - (b) The licence holder shall manage private security servants to attend the private security service training with the approval of the Central Committee.
  - (c) The increase and reduction in the number of private security servants shall be submitted to the relevant supervisory committee.
  - (d) The permit holder shall ensure that the private security servants wear the uniform, badge and rank insignia permitted by the Central Committee on their duty time.
  - (e) The permit licence shall be hung obviously in the working area.
  - (f) The personal data and duty record of every single private security servant shall be saved systematically.
  - (g) Measures to be taken shall be prescribed if the private security servants breach the rules and regulations that they should follow.
  - (h) The location of the private industry or branch where the private security servants are assigned, and the numbers of servants shall be reported to the relevant supervisory committee in accordance with the specifications;
  - (i) All the regulations set by the Central Committee shall be followed.
24. The validity period of the permit shall be three years from the date of issuance.
25. (a) If the permit holder intends to appoint more than 10 private security staff, they must apply for a permit extension to the relevant supervisory committee in accordance with the prescribed requirements at least three months in advance before the permit expires.
- (b) If they apply for permit extension under subsection (a), the relevant supervisory committee shall analyze and submit to the Central Committee with comments.
- (c) If they fail to extend the permit, it shall be deemed that the permit is revoked on the day of expiration.
26. The person whose revoked permit under subsection (c) of section 25 may re-apply for the permit under section 21.
27. (a) If the permit holders' permit is lost or damaged, they may apply for a

- duplicate permit to the relevant supervisory committee in accordance with the requirements.
- (b) The relevant supervisory committee shall review the permit application under Subsection (a) and issue duplicate permit when the applicants pay the service fee.

## Chapter VIII

### Duties and Powers of Private Security Servants

28. (a) The private security servants shall:
- (i) perform the private security duties only in their duty areas assigned by relevant private security service companies, private industry or branch;
  - (ii) wear the fixed uniform, badge and rank slide fully on duty time;
  - (iii) hold the security-related equipment provided by the licence holders in offering private security services;
  - (iv) hold the arms and ammunition provided by the licence holders for certain situations under the Arms Act, arms policy and existing law;
  - (v) arrest the offenders who commit crimes in duty areas, buildings or compounds in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure and report and hand over to the nearest police station;
  - (vi) defend himself or herself against the person or materials that are harmful to him or her despite the private security services to them under the Penal Code;
  - (vii) report to the nearest police station when he or she knows certain information that affects the State security and rules of law while performing private security duties.
- (b) The private security servants appointed by the permit holders are not concerned with clauses (iii) and (iv) of subsection (a).

## Chapter IX

### Settlement of Disputes

29. If disputes arise between the licence holder and service client:
- (a) they shall negotiate first;
  - (b) If the dispute cannot be settled under subsection (a), further action can be taken in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

## Chapter X

### Taking Administrative Action

30. (a) If the relevant supervisory committee finds that a license holder fails to comply with any duty stipulated in sections 16 or 23, it may impose one or more of the following administrative penalties:
- (i) issuing a warning;
  - (ii) imposing a specified fine;
  - (iii) suspending the licence or permit with a specific time limitation.
- (b) If the licence holder fails to follow the duties mentioned in subsection (a) again, the committee shall cancel the licence, revoke the permit or cancel the licence or revoke the permit after entering the blacklist.
31. If the person is not satisfied with the order made by the relevant supervisory committee under section 30, he or she may appeal to the Central Committee in accordance with the stipulations within 60 days from the day that order is made.
32. The Central Committee will investigate the appeal under section 31 and may approve, amend or cancel the decision of the relevant supervisory committee.
33. The decision of the Central Committee under section 32 is final and conclusive.

## Chapter XI

### Prohibitions

34. No one shall:
- (a) establish a private security service industry without a licence;
  - (b) appoint not more than 10 security servants for their own business and branch without a permit.
35. The licence holder shall not purchase, sell or possess the security-related equipment without the approval of the Central Committee.
36. No one shall:
- (a) mention false data in applying for a licence;
  - (b) make misleading advertisements relating to the licenced industry.

# OPINION

## Let's elevate prestige of Myanmar with a legacy worthy of Thanaka

**T**HANAKA is a traditional cultural cosmetic item of Myanmar that provides warmth in winter and coolness in summer while emitting a pleasant fragrance. It has been cherished for over 2,000 years as a valued cosmetic used by Myanmar women for beauty and skincare.

The refreshing scent of Thanaka from the Shinmataung area applied by a woman is soothing and delightful. Even in the modern era, where Western beauty products are widely favoured, many Myanmar women still deeply appreciate and prefer Thanaka,

The survey on public opinions regarding Myanmar Thanaka will continue, and the findings are set to be submitted to UNESCO on 31 March. Therefore, all Myanmar people should show their appreciation and respect for Myanmar's Thanaka by actively working to ensure it is included in the UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage List, thus elevating the honour of the country and the people through Thanaka.

with Union Day, a historic day that strongly symbolizes national unity. On this special day, it is a source of pride that the Myanmar Thanaka Public Movement was initiated, an event highly valued by the ethnic communities of the Union.

As a way to preserve invaluable intangible cultural heritage for the country, the government has designated an annual observance of Myanmar's traditional Thanaka day. In honour of Myanmar Thanaka Day, a traditional Thanaka ceremony and a Thanaka performance competition were held at the bund of Inya Lake in Yangon with participation of hundreds of Myanmar people.

At the Thanaka Day public movement, a public opinion survey was conducted to gather views on the value, benefits, and usage of Thanaka across different age groups, as well as to support its recognition by UNESCO. To commemorate Myanmar Thanaka Day, the public movement has encouraged nationwide activities throughout February, designating it as "Thanaka Week" or "Thanaka Month".

The survey on public opinions regarding Myanmar Thanaka will continue, and the findings are set to be submitted to UNESCO on 31 March. Therefore, all Myanmar people should show their appreciation and respect for Myanmar's Thanaka by actively working to ensure it is included in the UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage List, thus elevating the honour of the country and the people through Thanaka.

...serving as a testament to its cultural significance and enduring legacy.

All efforts to highlight the distinctive characteristics of Myanmar's proud and long-standing cultural tradition of Thanaka and to nominate it for UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list should be welcomed. Since 2020, efforts have been underway to have Myanmar's Thanaka culture recognized as an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO. However, additional supporting documents and public participation evidence are required. As such, public movements related to Myanmar's Thanaka were organized in Yangon and Mandalay on a recent full moon day.

The Full Moon Day of Tabodwe (on 12 February) is not only a traditionally auspicious day but also a significant occasion as it coincides

# The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

## EPISODE:58

### Volcanoes of Narcondam and Barren Island

This article continues from Episode 57, highlighting key points from HL Chhibber's 1934 account of Volcanoes of Narcondam and Barren Island.



Central Cone and Caldera of Barren Island, from the west. Source: HL Chhibber, 1934

The farther south, though outside Burma, is situated on the same line, with the volcanic islands of Narcondam and Barren Island, which deserve special mention for several reasons. Firstly, their rocks bear a very close similarity to those of Burma, and in reality, the volcanoes themselves form a southern continuation of those of Burma. Secondly, they are the only volcanic islands in the Bay of Bengal, while Barren Island, perhaps, constitutes the only instance of an active volcano in these seas. Both of them rise abruptly out of comparatively deep water and may furnish material for the modern petrologist who desires to study the nature of magmas that have not been affected by surface contamination and assimilation. It is regrettable that being situated in rather out-of-the-way places, they have not yet received the full treatment they deserve.

### Narcondam.

**Topography:** Narcondam lies about 75 miles NNE of Barren Island. Like the latter, it rises abruptly out of deep water, with depths of about 450, 565, and 562 fathoms being noted on the chart within about one kilometre from the island in various directions. Its area is 2.78 square miles, and it has an oval outline. Its greatest length, northeast-southwest, is about 2.5 miles, and its greatest width is about 1.75 miles. It has a roughly conical form, with sides deeply scored by ravines. The summit, 2,330 feet above the sea, is rather to the south of the centre of the island, and it bears no crater. The culminating portion of the volcano includes three hummocks, of which the northern is the highest. The shore is cut away by wave action into cliffs, up to several hundreds of feet high.

The lavas that build Narcondam, according to HS Washington, are very uniform in composition. Mallet described them as hornblende-andesite, but Washington, under modern terminology, designated them dacite, as his analyses showed that the silica content is much too high

for andesite, although little or no quartz is visible.

**Hornblende-Andesites:** The specimens of lava collected from the highest point of the mountain and different localities on the slopes and around the coast are all compact or very slightly vesicular rocks,

varying from about 600 feet above sea level on the northwest to 1,160 feet on the southeast. On the western side, there is a deep breach, giving entrance to the interior of the crater. It has a diameter of about a mile, and its floor has altitudes above sea level of about 80 feet near the landing place to 319 feet east of the central cone. Towards the southeast, the slopes, rising to a height of 700 and 900 feet above the floor of the crater, or some 1,100 above the sea, are well wooded. On the north, they are much less steep and high, with rounded outlines towards the top, and are largely covered with loose, black, naked ash. **Central Cone:** In the centre of the crater, the central cone rises to a height of about 1,015 feet above the sea, or about 700 to 900 feet from its western foot with, as seen from the west, an almost perfectly symmetrical outline, the sides preserving an even slope of 20°. The truncation at the summit marks the site of the crater, and here, a thin column of stream rises slowly into the air.

**The Recent Crater:** The recent crater is ovoid, with the major axis lying about S by W-N by E. The highest points of the edge, to the north and south, are 78 feet above the floor. The material inside the crater is loose blocks of lava, scoriae, and ash, but to the southwest of the bottom, there is a mass of solid lava, which is probably in connection with a flow down the side of the cone, which has been covered over by the latest eruption of fragmentary material. The floor has a diameter of 60 feet.

**Streams of Lava:** Almost encircling the base of the cone are streams of lava, one of which has poured through the breach into the sea. They are all covered with rugged black and scoriaceous crusts and with fissured and hummocky surfaces.

The crater rim is higher on the southeast. Mallet ascribed the fact that the northwestern half of the volcano is of lower elevation than the other half to a bodily sinking of that side.

But it may equally well have been lowered by one of the explosive outbursts, during which the northwestern side was partially blown away. Similarly, the northern side of Mount Popa is of lower elevation than the other sides and also has a breach in that lower wall, and probably the same explanation applies. Moreover, the evidence of the Akyab coast and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands points to a recent uplift of land and not to a subsidence.

**Lavas of the Ancient Cone:** The ancient cone of Barren Island is largely made up of lava. The specimens described by Mallet are more or less vesicular, with small crystals of white translucent feldspar and small granules and crystals of bottle-green, translucent augite disseminated through a dark-grey groundmass. Brownish-yellow olivine is frequently present also. The feldspar is triclinic and contains glass enclosures and numerous black opaque particles, many of which have the shape of magnetite crystals. The groundmass is microcrystalline and is made up of minute crystals of plagioclase feldspar, with augite and nearly or quite opaque specks, which appear to consist of more or less decomposed augite with some magnetite.

**Fragmentary Ejectamenta of the Ancient Cone:** Fragmentary ejectamenta interstratified with the lavas of the ancient cone are exposed in some good sections along the coast. In some places, the scoriae are rudely interbedded with irregular layers of lava. One hundred yards northwest of the landing place, a somewhat contorted bed of black volcanic ash is interstratified with a similar alternation of scoriae and lava. They show miniature faults of a few inches throw by which the bed has been dislocated.

**Recent Ash on Ancient Cone:** A considerable part of the ancient cone, including both the walls of the crater and the exterior slopes, are covered with ash ejected from the central cone. The greater pro-

portion occurring to the north and northeast may be ascribed partly to the influence of the southwest monsoon and partly to the crater rim being lower there. The newer ash differs from most, the older in being nearly or quite black instead of dull red.

**Flows of the Central Cone:** According to Mallet, there are three distinct flows of quite recent lava, which may be distinguished as the eastern, the southern, and the northern streams. In general appearance, they are all very similar to one another, presenting the same exceedingly rough, hummocky, and fissured surfaces with the black scoriaceous crust broken into pieces of every size up to those many tons in weight. The lava streams have lateral and terminal banks, so they are frequently noticed in the case of Mount Popa and other volcanoes.

The recent lavas, like those of the ancient cone, consist of white, translucent, triclinic feldspar crystals and bottle-green translucent augite with frequently a little olivine in a microcrystalline groundmass composed of triclinic feldspar, augite, magnetite, apatite, etc. This description compares perfectly with the recent olivine basalts of the Twintaung type from the Lower Chindwin and Mount Popa areas.

**Southern Flow:** The southern stream broke out a little more than halfway up the cone, at a point now marked by a slight projection. After pouring down the side of the cone, it followed the course of the valley into the sea, which has since then cut the face into a cliff 10 or 15 feet in height. This was the largest flow of all, a considerable part of the area covered by it being obscured by the sand which has been down from the old crater walls to the south.

**Northern Flow:** The northern stream broke through at about 250 feet below the crater; close to the point of issue, there is a solfatar with an opening eight or nine inches in diameter. From the mouth, steam issued copiously. From the point of issue the molten rock, after reaching the base of the cone, flowed down the valley and over the previous stream from the south, the termination of the later flow being marked by a bank a little to the west of the cone. Mallet believed that the lava had been emitted within a quite recent period, almost certainly within the last century.

**Recent Aqueous Deposits:** In the lower part of the main gorge, which debouches to the south of the alluvial plain, there is an agglomerate composed of rounded and angular lumps of volcanic rock in the finer matrix which appears to be a deposit of the stream itself. At the mouth of the gorge to the north of the anchorage, another aqueous deposit may be seen, and doubtless, there are many others on the island.

**Hot Springs:** There are springs of hot water, with a temperature of 116° F in 1884, which gush forth on the beach at the landing place. The shore between the cliffs of ancient lava and the recent stream has a length of about 40 yards, and along it the hot water issues in numerous places from the shingle. The level of the springs rises and falls with the tide, and when first observed in 1832 the rocks were so hot that the "stones on the shore, and the rocks exposed on the ebbing of the tide, were smoking and hissing and water was bubbling all around them."

**Physical and Geological History of the Volcano:** The physical and geological history of the volcano can be divided as follows:

- (1) The first and important phase must have formed the volcano, which is now represented by the outer amphitheatre. It is made up of scoriae, ash, agglomerates, and basaltic lava.
- (2) The second stage consisted of a great paroxysmal eruption when part of the crater was blown off, and the present breach was formed. Probably, the sea invaded the inner part of the volcano at the same time.
- (3) The third stage built up the central pile, which consists of newer fragmentary ejectamenta, ash, scoriae, agglomerate, and lava flows.
- (4) Lastly, the flows of recent lava welled out, some of which Mallet believed were not even a century old.
- (5) Since the welling out of lava streams, the volcano has been seen in activity by several observers, ejecting red-hot stones, flames, smoke, steam, and Sulphur vapour. The last is responsible for the deposits of Sulphur seen in the solfataras.

**References:** Chhibber, H L, 1934: *The Geology of Burma, Macmillan and Co Limited, St Martin's Street, London.*



# NATIONAL

## FROM PAGE 7

37. The licence holder shall not sell, rent, pawn or transfer the whole, part or licence of the private security service industry and private security service training that can be operated with licence to others.
38. The license holder shall not open a private security service training within a densely populated urban area.
39. Any licence holder shall not:
- rent or transfer their security-related equipment;
  - expose, inform or communicate to others regarding the news and information of their clients;
  - display the advertisements or printed documents that falsely resemble those of governmental departments or governmental organizations;
  - pretend as a governmental department and governmental organization in serving private security services or permit, assist, encourage or cooperate with the private security staff in impersonating the governmental department and governmental organization;
  - refuse the notice made by the relevant supervisory committee or State security organization to cooperate with the security organizations of the State;
  - wear the prohibited uniform, badge and rank insignia, use security-related equipment or vehicles or allow the private security staff to use them.
40. The private security servants shall not:
- fail to inform the nearest police station if he or she receives certain information that affects the security and rule of law while serving duty;
  - impersonate, pretend or resemble a government employee;
  - use the permitted uniform, security-related equipment and vehicles for purposes unrelated to their assigned duties or in unauthorized locations;
  - rent or transfer the security equipment to others, and not rent the security equipment of others;
  - expose, inform or send the news and information of the clients to others.
41. The permit holder shall not:
- allow or send the private security staff who are appointed for their own business or branch for others;
  - sell, rent, pawn or transfer the permit to others.

## Chapter XII Offences and Penalties

42. Whoever is convicted of any prohibitions in subsection (a) of section 34, section 35 or section 37 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term from a minimum of one year and to a maximum of three years or a fine of 10 million kyats. If the perpetrator is a company or organization, the company or organization shall be fined a minimum of 100 million kyats and a maximum of 300 million kyats.
43. Whoever is convicted of any prohibitions in subsection (b) of section 34 or section 41 may be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or with a fine from a minimum of 10 million kyats to a maximum of 50 million kyats, or with both.
44. Whoever is convicted of any prohibitions in section 36, may be punished with imprisonment for a term of two years or with a fine for 50 million kyats, or with both. If the offender is a company or organization, the company

or organization shall be fined from a minimum of 50 million kyats to a maximum of 100 million kyats.

45. Any licence holder who is convicted of any prohibitions in section 38 or section 39 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years and a fine of 50 million kyats. If the offender is a company or organization, the company or organization shall be fined a minimum of 50 million kyats and a maximum of 100 million kyats.
46. Any private security servant who is convicted of any prohibition in section 40 shall be imprisoned not less than two years or fined 300,000 kyats, or both punishments must be imposed.

## Chapter XIII Miscellaneous

47. If the licence holder, service client, permit holder or private security servant breaks any existing law in providing or receiving the services, commits, orders, attempts, encourages, assists or cooperates in unlawful operations, action will be taken against them under the relevant existing law.
48. If the foreigner or foreign companies are convicted of commission of any offence in this Law and face imposed with a fine by the court or by the relevant supervisory committee under administrative means actions, they shall pay the fines in accordance with the existing financial rules and regulations and procedures of the country using the account transfer method for payment and foreign currency that is recognized to liquidate by the Central Bank of Myanmar.
49. Any person providing the private security service shall apply for a licence within six months from the date this Law is enacted in accordance with the stipulations.
50. Any person deploying more than 10 security servants for their own business or branch before the enactment of this Law shall apply for a permit within six months from the date this Law is enacted.
51. The actions taken in accordance with administrative means under this Law shall not apply to civil or criminal proceedings.
52. The company that runs private security services shall pay the taxes as per the existing law.
53. The licence or permit holders shall follow the orders and directives issued by the Central Committee.
54. The offences mentioned in this law are recognized as cognizable offences.
55. In implementing the provisions of this Law:
- The ministry may issue rules, regulations, and bylaws with the approval of the Union Government.
  - The ministry and Central Committee may issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.

I hereby sign under section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing  
Senior General  
Chairman  
State Administration Council

## ‘Gangaw Ni’ romance film set for release this month

THE upcoming Myanmar film named ‘Gangaw Ni’, based on a well-known university romance novel by writer Min Lu, is set to hit theatres in the fourth week of February.

Renowned scriptwriter Lwin Min Ank has adapted the popular love story, which takes place in a university setting into a film. The production is handled by Khaye Phyu Film Production, with Academy winner Wyne directing.

Since the film stays true to the original title and storyline, it is expected to resonate deeply with audiences nostalgic for classic university love stories. It



Scenes from the ‘Gangaw Ni’ film.

revolves around the romantic journey of Khin May Tint, a technical institute student and Soe Chit, a Myanmar literature student from Yangon University.

The movie boasts a talented cast, including Alin Yaung, Academy winner Phway Phway, Chan Min Ye Htut and Shwe Thamee along with a strong supporting lineup. — ASH/KZL

## L Seng Zi to perform solo at Yangon’s Judson Entertainment Bar

A solo concert by prominent Kachin singer, L Seng Zi, will be held, according to the singer.

The concert will take place at Judson Entertainment Bar in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, on 22 February, starting at 6 pm.

“On Saturday, 22 February, I’ll be ready to entertain my fans from 6 pm onwards. We’ll be spending the Yangon winter night with some familiar, nostalgic songs,” said L Seng Zi.

The songs performed by L Seng Zi at her solo concert will be accompanied by the Judson Music Band. — ASH/MKKS

# NATIONAL

## MSWRR Union Minister speaks at 77<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-Russia Diplomatic Forum

TO mark the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and the Russian Federation, a forum on disaster preparedness and emergency response was held yesterday afternoon in Saint Petersburg, Russia. Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win participated in the event via videoconferencing and delivered a speech.

In his address, Union Minister Dr Soe Win highlighted Myanmar's efforts in managing natural disaster risks, noting that Myanmar faces the impact of climate change like other countries. He emphasized the government's commitment to disaster mitigation, resilience-building and recovery, following the guidance of the national leadership.

He also mentioned Myanmar's disaster management law and bylaws, established in 2013 and 2015 and discussed the roles of the National Dis-



Union Minister Dr Soe Win (top left) virtually joins the disaster preparedness and emergency response forum in hailing the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Russia.

aster Management Committee (NDMC) and local committees in addressing disaster risks. He explained that effective preparedness can minimize disaster losses and help communities become more resilient.

The Union Minister shared

information about Myanmar Disaster Alert Mobile Application, which provides early warnings for natural disasters. He also mentioned the installation of Single Side Band (SSB) communication systems in areas prone to frequent nat-

ural disasters, ensuring that alternative communication methods are available during emergencies.

The speech also acknowledged Russia's humanitarian assistance during the 2023 Mocha Cyclone and the 2024

Typhoon Yagi flooding in Myanmar and expressed gratitude for the support. The Union Minister assured that Myanmar would continue to strengthen partnership with Russia in disaster management in the coming years.

During the ceremony, Myanmar Ambassador to Russia U Thit Linn Ohn and Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Iskander K Azizov delivered welcome addresses. Representatives from Myanmar's Ministry of Home Affairs, the Myanmar Police Force and the Fire Service also participated.

Diplomatic representatives from both countries discussed sector-specific issues and the audience participated in a question-and-answer session before the event concluded.

Students from Myanmar in Saint Petersburg, along with representatives from the Russian Fire Service and local universities also attended the ceremony. — MNA/KZL

## MoFA Deputy Minister receives Bangladeshi Ambassador

DEPUTY Minister for Foreign Affairs U Lwin Oo received Dr Md Monwar Hossain, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

They exchanged views in a frank and cordial manner on further consolidation of bilateral relations and expansion of mutually beneficial cooperation in various areas between Myanmar and Bangladesh. — MNA



Bangladesh's Ambassador Dr Md Monwar Hossain calls on MoFA Deputy Minister U Lwin Oo yesterday.

## U Zaw Oo concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Myanmar to Iran

STATE Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Zaw Oo, Am-

bassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of India, concurrently as Ambassador

Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Islamic Republic of Iran. — MNA

## PDF members reunite with families, rejoin legal fold

A ceremony was held on the morning of 17 February at the Yangon Region government office to welcome back PDF members who entered the legal fold without committing crimes. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen Pyae Sone Lin, officials and PDF members' families attended.

The chief minister gave a speech and officials had nine men and one woman sign pledg-

es before handing them over to their families. Officials also gave foodstuffs and drinks to them. A family representative thanked the authorities.

The government has announced that any group including PDFs can return to normal life by surrendering and following the rules. Authorities in different regions are continuing to reunite non-offending returnees with their families.

— MNA/KZL



The ceremony to warmly receive PDF members in progress on 17 February in Yangon.

# NATIONAL

## Myanmar's Thanaka nears UNESCO intangible heritage listing

THE Myanmar traditional Thanaka culture is now one step closer to being recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage. The documentation required for the application has been completed, according to Daw Sanda Khin, Chair of the Myanmar Cultural Heritage Trust.

To support the nomination of Thanaka as a World Intangible Cultural Heritage, the full moon day of Tabodwe month has been designated as Myanmar Thanaka Day. Commemorative events celebrating the Thanaka tradition are be-

ing held at national museums, cultural museums and national libraries across the country. Public opinion surveys are also being conducted and the results will be submitted to UNESCO.

“The process of having Myanmar's Thanaka culture recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage began in 2020. This year, we continue to fulfil the requirements set by UNESCO and supplement the evidence of public participation. The completed documentation will be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> March. In addition to the documentation, the Myan-

mar Cultural Heritage Preservation Association will also be submitting a documentary film to UNESCO,” said Daw Sanda Khin.

Thanaka has been used as a traditional cosmetic in Myanmar for over a thousand years. It continues to be a living tradition and is valued and preserved as a cultural symbol of the entire nation. Myanmar's Thanaka tradition meets the five criteria set by UNESCO for recognition as a World Intangible Cultural Heritage. The application process began in January 2020. — ASH/MKKS



Photos showcase damsels applying Thanaka at a Myanmar Thanaka Day event.

## Sitagu Eye Hospital restores vision in 10<sup>th</sup> donation drive



Eye patients during the 10<sup>th</sup> time eyesight donation at the Sitagu Eye Hospital.

SITAGU Eye Hospital in Yangon helped people with poor eyesight through its eyesight donation for the 10<sup>th</sup> time, 13,245 patients received medical examinations, 4,031 patients underwent surgery and 236 patients sought laser treatment.

The 10<sup>th</sup> time donation was successfully concluded from 10 to 17 February, it said.

Medical examinations for outpatients were performed from 10 to 13 February, surgeries were carried out from 12 to 16 February and re-check for all

patients provided on 17 February. During the 10<sup>th</sup> time, 1,881 patients were provided medical examinations, 487 were provided surgery and 17 were provided laser treatment, it said.

It is thanks to eye surgeons, physicians, nurses, medical assistants, the Red Cross members, donors and volunteers, said the hospital.

The 11<sup>th</sup> time is approximately planned on 26 March and enquiries for registration can be made around 15 March, it said. — MT/ZS

### Counter-argument to false information

## Misinformation spreads about security forces' airstrike in Kani



This screenshot reveals fabricated stories.

SUBVERSIVE news media have falsely reported that security forces conducted an airstrike on 17 February at the Chindwin River ferry port in Muhtaw, east of Kani Township, Sagaing Region, causing casualties and destruction. The misinformation

claims that the attack resulted in injuries to a monk and two residents while also damaging vehicles and motorcycles.

Upon verification with officials and residents, the reports were entirely false. Security forces did not target civilian areas where residents live and travel.

Meanwhile, terrorists continue to carry out acts of destruction, including planting explosives on roads and bridges, attacking vital infrastructure such as power stations and electricity pylons and setting off bombs in crowded public areas. They have also used drones to drop explosives. Malicious media outlets are spreading false information to conceal the terrorist activities and mislead the public about security forces' actions. — MNA/KZL

## 9 wounded in terrorists' mine blast in Taninthayi

TERRORISTS exploded a pilgrimage bus near Panetnge village in Taninthayi Township, Taninthayi Region, yesterday afternoon.

Driver U Myo drove the pilgrimage bus, a light truck, heading to Myeik Township from Nyaungpinkwin village in Taninthayi Township. When the bus arrived near Panetnge village, terrorists exploded the bus, resulting in injuries to nine passengers – one man and eight women. The injured were taken to the general hospital in Myeik for medical treatment.

Security forces conducted mine clearance measures and security activities for the people's safety and also accelerated security operations by cooperating with dutiful civilians. — MNA/KTZH



Incident location map.



This image above shows the damaged vehicle after the mine explosion by terrorists hit civilians.

# Tokyo stocks rise on weak yen, firm banks amid higher interest rates

TOKYO stocks ended higher Tuesday, supported by buying of exporters on a weaker yen and banks on rising long-term yields in Japan.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ended up 96.15 points, or 0.25 per cent, from Monday at 39,270.40. The broader Topix index finished 8.61 points, or 0.31 per cent, higher at 2,775.51.

On the top-tier Prime Market, gainers were led by bank, electric power and gas, and air transport shares. The US dollar briefly climbed to the lower 152 yen range in Tokyo after

a Federal Reserve governor expressed caution Monday about further rate cuts, leading to speculation that the US-Japan interest rate differential will remain wide, dealers said.

At 5 pm, the US dollar fetched 152.05-06 yen compared with 151.37-38 at 4 pm in London and 151.87-89 yen in Tokyo at 5 pm Monday.

The euro was quoted at \$1.0463-0464 and 159.10-14 yen against \$1.0482-0484 and 159.20-24 yen in Tokyo late Monday afternoon. US financial markets were closed Monday for a public holiday.

The yield on the benchmark 10-year Japanese government bond rose 0.045 percentage point from Monday's close to a new 15-year high of 1.430 per cent, as the debt continued to be sold on speculation of additional rate hikes by the Bank of Japan following recent stronger-than-expected gross domestic product data. Stocks were boosted by the yen's depreciation, which benefited automakers and other export-oriented shares, as a weaker yen increases their overseas profits when repatriated. — Kyodo



Pedestrians look at electronic sign boards showing the Japanese yen's rate against the US dollar (L) and the closing numbers of the Tokyo Stocks Exchange (R), along a street in downtown Tokyo on 18 January 2023. PHOTO: AFP

## Pakistan's textile exports up over 10% in first 7 months of FY 2025

PAKISTAN'S textile exports surged by over 10 per cent in the first seven months of the current fiscal year from July 2024 to June 2025, compared to the same period of the last fiscal year, officials from the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) said on Monday.

The textile exports were recorded at US\$10.77 billion in July to January of the ongoing

fiscal year as against the exports of \$9.74 billion in July to January of the fiscal year 2023-24, showing growth of 10.6 per cent, the PBS officials said.

On a year-on-year basis, textile exports went up by 15.9 per cent in January 2025 to \$1.69 billion dollars against exports of \$1.46 billion in January 2024, according to PBS.

Similarly, on a month-on-month basis,

the textile exports witnessed an increase of 14.1 per cent in January 2025 compared to the exports of \$1.48 billion in December 2024.

The PBS said that cotton cloth, knitwear, bedding, towels, ready-made garments, tents, canvas, and tarpaulins were among the commodities that contributed to the trade growth in the textile sector. — Xinhua



In this picture taken on 20 July 2023, textile workers arrange thread rolls at Kohinoor Mills in Lahore. Pakistan's industrial manufacturing sector — like elsewhere in the world — has suffered from the slowdown in global consumption and the rise in energy costs following the outbreak of war in Ukraine. PHOTO: AFP

## Thai banking sector resilient amid loan contraction in Q4

THAILAND'S banking sector has remained resilient in the final quarter of 2024, supported by robust levels of capital, loan loss provisions and liquidity amid loan growth contraction, the central bank said on Tuesday.

According to the Bank of Thailand (BOT), loan growth across the country's licensed banks and subsidiaries fell 0.4 per cent year on year in the October-December period, an

improvement from the 2 per cent decline recorded in the previous quarter, driven by loan expansion among large corporates. Small- and medium-sized business loans shrank at a slower pace, while consumer loans continued to drop, especially auto loans, which remained affected by structural challenges and slow income recovery for vulnerable groups, the central bank said in a statement. The banking

system's gross non-performing loans (NPLs) decreased to 552.1 billion baht (about US\$16.39 billion) at the end of December, equivalent to an NPL ratio of 2.78 per cent, down from 2.97 per cent at the end of September, mainly due to business loan recoveries, banks' loan portfolio management and ongoing debt assistance programs, said BOT Assistant Governor Suwannee Jatsadasak. — Xinhua

Advertise

with us /  
Hotline



09 255597511,  
09 454237515

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (X2504E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (X2504E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-2-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S TI2 LOGISTICS PTE LTD

# ROLLING UPDATES

## MIDEAST/ASIA

## Humanitarian needs in Gaza overwhelming: UN



Palestinians are seen living among the rubble of destroyed houses in Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip, 16 February 2025. (PHOTO BY MAHMOUD ZAKI/XINHUA)

THE needs in Gaza, where the ceasefire is holding, are overwhelming, humanitarians said on Monday, adding that continuing Israeli operations in the West Bank are still producing casualties.

“As the UN and its humanitarian partners continue to deliver life-saving assistance across the Gaza Strip, the scale of needs remains overwhelming, requiring urgent and sustained support,” the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said.

OCHA said the Palestinian Ministry of Health reported that oxygen supplies are critically needed to keep emergency, surgical and intensive care services running at hospitals

throughout Gaza, including Al Shifa and Al Rantisi in Gaza City. Health partners are engaging with the authorities to bring in generators, spare parts and equipment required to produce oxygen locally.

The office said that shelter partners distributed tarpaulins to more than 11,000 families in northern Gaza over the weekend. In Khan Younis, some 450 families received sealing-off kits, kitchen sets and hygiene kits at a displacement site in Al Mawasi.

OCHA said education activities are expanding, with its partners reporting that more than 250,000 people are enrolled in a distance learning programme produced by the

UN’s relief agency for Palestinian refugees. Humanitarian partners reported that 95 per cent of school buildings were damaged during the hostilities, forcing many students into makeshift tents and open spaces in winter temperatures. In the West Bank, OCHA said that since the Israeli military operations began on 21 January, the most extensive in two decades, 36 Palestinians reportedly were killed, 25 in Jenin and nearly a dozen in Tulkarm. The operation is causing high casualties and significant displacement, especially in refugee camps. Critical infrastructure has also been severely damaged, driving humanitarian needs even higher. — Xinhua

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Japan pledges to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 60% in fiscal 2035

THE Japanese government approved a new basic energy plan Tuesday, emphasizing the country’s targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 60 per cent in fiscal 2035 and by 73 per cent in fiscal 2040.

Japan’s cabinet said it will aim to reduce the country’s greenhouse gas emissions by 60 per cent in fiscal 2035 and 73 per cent in fiscal 2040, compared with levels in fiscal 2013 ended March 2014, to achieve carbon neutrality in calendar 2050.

Meanwhile, nuclear power is expected to account for about 20 per cent of Japan’s total energy output in fiscal 2040, around the same level as the fiscal 2030 target of 20 per cent to 22 per cent, marking a departure from the government’s earlier resolve to minimize reliance on nuclear energy following the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster.

Renewable energy sources will account for around 40 per cent to 50 per cent of the country’s energy mix in fiscal 2040, almost double the 22.9 per cent recorded in fiscal 2023, according to the plan. — Xinhua

#### Efforts ongoing to release more Gaza hostages this week: Israeli, Palestinian sources

EFFORTS were underway to secure the release this week of all remaining living hostages eligible to be freed from Gaza under the first phase of the Israel-Hamas ceasefire deal, an Israeli official source said Tuesday.

Of the 33 hostages set to be freed under phase one of the deal, 19 have already been released and Israel says eight are dead. That leaves just six living hostages slated for release in the current stage.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin “Netanyahu is making tremendous efforts to release all six remaining living hostages” this week, and to secure the bodies of four others, the Israeli official source told AFP.

A Palestinian source close to the negotiations said that “a proposal was presented by the mediators in recent days” for Gaza militants “to deliver the bodies of several Israeli prisoners before Friday, and to increase the number” of living captives to be released during the seventh hostage-prisoner swap on Saturday.

“The mediators are continuing their efforts as they aim for this step to create a positive atmosphere, insisting on the continuation of the ceasefire and the implementation of the agreement,” the Palestinian source added. — AFP

## Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway transports over 8 mln passengers

THE Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway (Whoosh) has transported 8.01 million passengers as of Monday since its commercial launch on 17 October 2023, according to PT Kereta Cepat Indonesia China (KCIC) on Tuesday.

KCIC data shows that the average occupancy rate currently stands at 60.73 per cent, with a single-day passenger record of 24,400.

To accommodate increasing demand, daily trips have been increased to 62 as of 1 February,

providing more flexible and frequent departures. With trains running every 30 minutes, Whoosh continues offering commuters a fast and reliable travel alternative.

In response to growing commuter demand, KCIC has also launched the Frequent Whoosher Card, a subscription pass designed for greater flexibility and affordability. To further enhance the passenger experience, KCIC has introduced several new services. — Xinhua



Passengers check in at Halim Station of Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway in Jakarta, Indonesia, 17 February 2025. The Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway (Whoosh) has transported 8.01 million passengers as of Monday since its commercial launch on 17 October 2023, according to PT Kereta Cepat Indonesia China (KCIC) on Tuesday. PHOTO: XINHUA

# SPORTS

## Ancelotti: Nobody at Real Madrid thinks we have easy task vs Man City

REAL Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti doesn't accept Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola's calculation claiming Real Madrid has a 99 per cent chance of reaching the last 16 of the Champions League while the English side has just one per cent possibility of making it to the knockout stage of the competition.

Ancelotti spoke to the press on Tuesday ahead of the return leg of its Champions League play-off tie, after Madrid last week scored two late goals to win in Manchester, in a game that showed Man City's defen-

sive problems this season. Guardiola has played down his side's chances of progressing at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium on Wednesday night, but Ancelotti was less sure.

"I don't think he (Guardiola) really thinks that, but I am going to ask him before the games," said the Real Madrid coach.

"We don't think we have 99 per cent chance of qualifying; we have a slight advantage and we have to try and take advantage of it and play the same level as in the first leg, because it worked out well," commented Ancelotti.

The Italian said he expect-



Real Madrid's Italian coach Carlo Ancelotti (C) leads a training session on the eve of their UEFA Champions League football match against Manchester City at Real Madrid Sports City in Valdebebas, in the outskirts of Madrid, on 18 February 2025. PHOTO: AFP

ed a game that was "entertaining and difficult."

"We are trying to prepare well for it and get players back from injury. We know how hard these games where you play for everything in 90 minutes are,"

he added.

The coach explained that having a first-leg lead was a "physiological question", and that it was best "not to make calculations, but you can't forget that you have an advantage".

The coach also commented that Antonio Rudiger had recovered from his hamstring injury and would be able to start, but added Lucas Vazquez was not fully fit, although the full-back could be on the bench. — Xinhua

## Cambodian participants praise China for "magnificent" Asian Winter Games

CAMBODIAN participants on Tuesday lauded the "magnificent" Asian Winter Games in Harbin, northeast China's Heilongjiang province, saying that the event signified peace, unity, solidarity, and friendship in Asia.

The Games started on 7 February and ended on 14 February. Cambodia, a tropical and hot country, sent a team of athletes to take part in the games for the first time in the kingdom's history.

Speaking to Xinhua after returning from the games, slopestyle snowboarder Phin Meng Choing, 16, said he was proud to be the first athlete of the country to contest in the Asian Winter Games.

"It was amazing for us because we had never participated in such a big event before," he told Xinhua. "I had exchanged experience with other athletes and gained insight into Chinese culture."

Meng Choing said China

had organized the games well, providing participants with accommodation, food, and other services perfectly.

"I contested in the sport of snowboard slopestyle. Although my result is not good, I am happy to accept it as it gives me new experience and knowledge," he said.

Another slopestyle snowboarder Pisey Panhasith, 15, said the games had not only provided him new experience and good memories, but also created friendship among athletes from other teams.

He said beyond the games, he had visited a museum and gained insight into culture and daily life of people in Harbin.

"For my next goal, I want a scholarship to get trained abroad because I want to be a strong athlete," he said.

Snowboard slopestyle coach Kosal Pisey said the games had created unity, solidarity, friendship and cooperation among Asian teams. — Xinhua

## Liverpool can handle title tension: Slot



Liverpool's Egyptian striker (11) Mohamed Salah (R) scores but sees it disallowed for offside during the English Premier League football match between Liverpool and Wolverhampton Wanderers at Anfield in Liverpool, north west England, on 16 February 2025. PHOTO: AFP

ARNE Slot insists Liverpool can handle the mounting pressure of the Premier League title race after the leaders were hampered by nerves in their tense win against Wolves.

Slot's side head to Aston Villa on Wednesday knowing a victory would move them 10 points clear of second-placed Arsenal in their bid to clinch a record-equalling 20<sup>th</sup> English title.

But Liverpool, in dynamic form for much of the season, have looked less secure of late

and almost blew a two-goal lead in Sunday's 2-1 win over lowly Wolves at Anfield.

The Reds had already suffered a costly collapse in the Merseyside derby draw just days earlier when Everton's James Tarkowski scored a stoppage-time equalizer.

Liverpool's reserves also crashed out of the FA Cup with an embarrassing fourth-round loss at second-tier Plymouth recently, leading to fears the treble chasers are beginning to crack as expectations increase.

Reds left-back Andrew Robertson admitted after the Wolves game that it was natural for the players to be nervous as they get closer to the finish line.

But Slot pointed to Liverpool's ability to grind out several wins by a one-goal margin already this season as proof they won't crumble under pressure.

"It is because we are going to the end of the season, not because of us but what people make of it," Slot told reporters on Tuesday. — AFP



**T**HE UN nuclear watchdog chief will visit storage facilities for vast quantities of soil contaminated in the 2011 Fukushima disaster for the first time this week.

Japan's government must decide what to do with the soil — enough to fill 10 baseball stadiums — scraped from the wider Fukushima region as part of efforts to remove harmful radiation.

That is on top of the monster task of decommissioning the Fukushima Daiichi plant, which went into meltdown after being hit by a tsunami in the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl.

Rafael Grossi, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), will tour the plant on Wednesday. He will also be shown some of the 13 million cubic metres of soil and 300,000 cubic metres of ash from incinerated organic material.

For comparison, the capacity of the Tokyo Dome arena, where pop superstar Taylor Swift performed last year, is 1.24 million cubic metres.

Japan plans to recycle roughly 75 per cent of the removed soil — the portion found to have low radioactivity levels.

If this material is confirmed safe, authorities want to use it for building road and railway embankments among other projects.

The remaining soil will be disposed of outside the Fukushima region ahead of a 2045 deadline. The central government has said it intends to confirm the disposal site this year, with Fukushima's regional governor reportedly urging it to come up with a plan quickly.

The IAEA published its final report on the recycling and disposal of the soil in

## UN nuclear chief to view contaminated Fukushima soil



This aerial picture shows storage tanks used for storing treated water at TEPCO's crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Okuma, Fukushima prefecture on 24 August 2023. PHOTO: AFP

September, saying that Japan's approach was consistent with UN safety standards.

### Chernobyl contrast

The Fukushima plant on Japan's northeast coast was hit by a huge earthquake-triggered tsunami in March 2011

that killed 18,000 people.

Although almost all areas of the Fukushima region have gradually been declared safe for residents, many evacuees have been reluctant to return because they are worried about persistent radiation or have

fully resettled elsewhere.

Stripping topsoil from the land was "very effective" to decontaminate areas close to waterways, said Olivier Evrard, research director at France's Atomic Energy Commission. — AFP

## Rubio discusses Gaza deal with Saudi crown prince: US

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Monday, during talks with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin

Salman, that any deal on the future of war-torn Gaza must boost regional security, the US State Department said.



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio (2<sup>nd</sup>-R) meets with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (R) in Riyadh on 17 February 2025. PHOTO: EVELYN HOCKSTEIN / POOL / AFP

Rubio, who arrived from Israel accompanied by National Security Advisor Mike Waltz and special Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff, met the de facto ruler ahead of talks expected on Tuesday with a Russian delegation in the Saudi capital.

But the 500-day-old Israel-Hamas war dominated discussions, according to a State Department statement.

Rubio and the crown prince "reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the ceasefire in Gaza and ensuring that Hamas releases all hostages, including American citizens", the statement said. — AFP

## Vietnam's top legislature approves new governmental structure

THE new Vietnamese government after the apparatus overhaul will consist of 14 ministries and three ministerial-level agencies, according to newly-adopted resolutions. The resolutions were approved by lawmakers at the National Assembly's ongoing extraordinary session in the capital Hanoi on Tuesday.

The 14 ministries and three ministerial-level agencies include the Ministry of National Defence, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Justice,

the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, the Ministry of Construction, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Education and Training, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Ethnic Minorities and Religions, the State Bank of Vietnam and the Government Inspectorate and Government Office. They will officially begin operations from 1 March, Vietnam News Agency reported. — Xinhua