

The

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

Vol. XII, No. 295, 4th Waning of Tabodwe 1387 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Thursday, 5 February 2026

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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

Myanmar's rare red pandas face extinction threat in ASEAN

An estimated 10,000 red pandas remain worldwide, with the species inhabiting the icy mountain ranges of northern Myanmar.

THE red panda, a rare species with an estimated global population of only around 10,000 individuals, is found in Myanmar alone among ASEAN countries and inhabits the glacial mountain regions of northern Myanmar.

Red pandas, which are mammals, are found in Myanmar as well as in China, India, Nepal, Bhutan and Tibet. Conservation efforts to prevent their extinction are mainly undertaken in China and India. Around 50 years ago, approximately 40 per cent of the red panda population in the western Himalayan regions died as a result of illegal hunting, largely caused by humans and snow leopards.

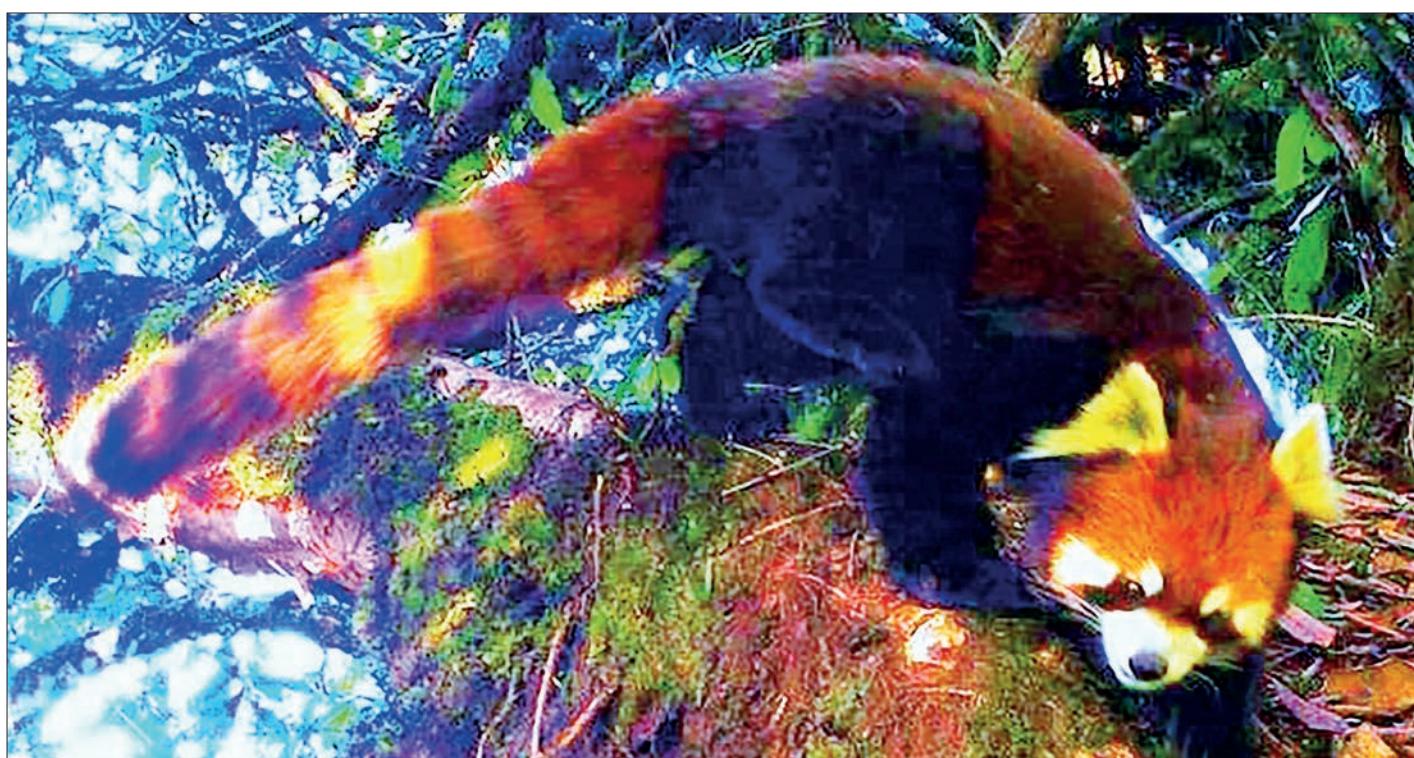
"Many red pandas are living in the Putao mountain ranges. Sometimes they are seen being brought for sale in Myitkyi-

na. Local people in that area do not rear red pandas; they eat meat. However, red panda meat is not widely sold in markets – only consumed locally. In China, red panda conservation programmes are carried out, but demand still exists for medicinal use, for hanging the skins, or for use as floor coverings. As a result, they are purchased along the border, and hunters sell them. Therefore, it is necessary to protect and conserve the rare red panda species, which is found only in Myanmar among ASEAN countries, to prevent its extinction," said U Han Saw Htun, an animal welfare advocate from Myitkyina.

Red pandas tend to live close to water sources and prefer steep forested mountains where bamboo groves grow. Experts estimate that red pandas spread across

Eurasia and North America between 18 and 25 million years ago, similar to now-extinct related species.

Covered in reddish-brown fur, red pandas are difficult to spot. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has listed them as a rare species facing the risk of extinction, with only about 10,000 individuals remaining worldwide. They are most commonly found in the eastern Himalayan region, south-western China, and the glacial mountains of northern Myanmar. As mammals, they are the only surviving species of their entire family. Although classified as carnivores, red pandas mainly feed on young bamboo leaves, similar to giant pandas, and also consume birds, bird eggs and insects. — Thitsa (MNA)/MKKS



This photo features the Hkakaborazi National Park - a habitat for Myanmar's red pandas. **PHOTO: HKAKABOZAII NATIONAL PARK**

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NATIONAL



National Objectives for 79th Union Day 2026

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

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

Mottos for 79th Union Day 2026

1. Unity is strength, Unity is power, Peace is beauty.
2. Let's build lasting peace for the Union's development
3. National brethren, let's unite and join hands for the Union
4. Unity boosts friendship Harmony brings peace

Construction Sector Development Law enacted

THE National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar enacted the Construction Sector Development Law as the NDSC Law 5/2026 on 4 February.

This law shall apply to activities within Myanmar's construction sector except buildings made of wood and bamboo, as well as the construction, expansion, renovation, maintenance, and demolition of related basic structures throughout Myanmar.

The law embodies 18 chapters. It emphasizes that in carrying out construction work, compliance must be ensured with the latest Myanmar building standards and guidelines, sector-specific prescribed standards, regulations on construction project management, and Myanmar fire safety standards. — GNL/T/TA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission

Notice

4 February 2026

PHASE III of the multiparty democratic general election was successfully held in 61 townships on 25 January 2026.

Under Section 102 of the relevant Hluttaw Election Rules, candidates who contested in the respective constituencies are required to submit their election expenditures in Form 20 within 30 days from the date on which the relevant Region or State subcommissions announce the names of the elected Hluttaw representatives. The submission must be made to the relevant subcommissions where the nomination was originally submitted, or to the district subcommissions designated by the commission.

If Hluttaw candidates who contested in the election and their election representatives fail to submit the election expenditures within the prescribed period, they will be declared disqualified under Rule 109 of the relevant Hluttaw Election Rules.

Therefore, Hluttaw candidates who contested in the election and their election representatives are urged to submit the election expenses within the specified period.

Union Election Commission

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Wednesday, 4 February 2026

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 5 February 2026: Isolated light rain are likely in Kachin State. The degree of certainty is 60 per cent. The weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 3-5 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in Mandalay, Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Chin, and Shan States.

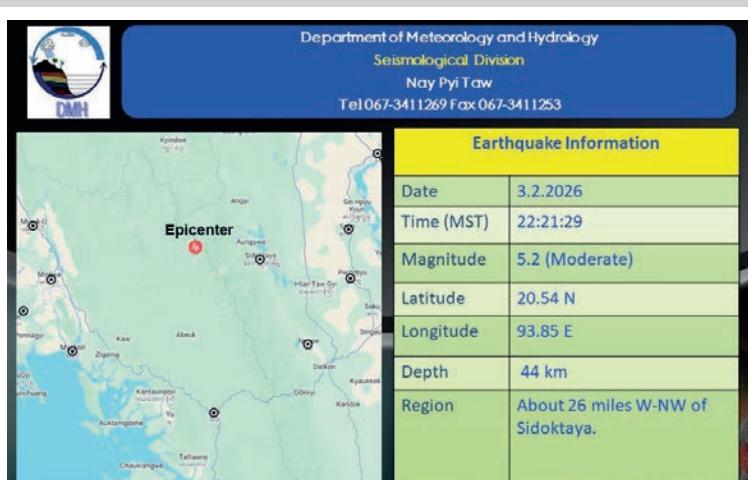
FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 February 2026: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 February 2026: A few cloud.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 5 February 2026: Partly cloudy. — DMH

A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.2 Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 26 miles west-northwest of Sedoktara), latitude 20.54°N, longitude 93.85°E, depth 44 kilometres, about (69) miles east-northeast of the Sittway Seismological Observatory was recorded at 22 hours 21 minutes 29 seconds MST on 3 February 2026. — DMH

EARTHQUAKE



NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council Union Consultative Council Law

(National Defence and Security Council Law 3/2026)

2nd Waning of Tabodwe 1387 ME
3 February 2026

THE National Defence and Security Council, exercising the legislative powers of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, hereby enacts this Law under Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Chapter I

Title and Definition

1. This law shall be called the Union Consultative Council Law.
2. The following expressions contained in this law shall have the meanings given hereunder –
 - (a) State means the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 - (b) Council means the Union Consultative Council established in accordance with this Law.

Chapter II

Objectives

3. (a) To strengthen a genuine and disciplined multiparty democratic system
(b) To build a Union based on democracy and a federal system
(c) To ensure national peace and prosperity
(d) To ensure food security and abundance

Chapter III Duty Assignment

4. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, without encroaching upon the executive power and the judicial power vested under the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, confers authority on the President to form the Council, in pursuit of the objectives of this Law, for the purpose of advising on and coordinating matters relating to Union security and the rule of law, international relations, peace affairs, and legislative affairs.
5. The President shall form this Council with suitable individuals, comprising not less than five members, including a Chair and a Secretary.
6. The President shall designate the Chair and the Secretary when forming the Council.
7. The President of the State shall prescribe the duties and powers of the Council in relation to the matters set out in Section 4.

Chapter IV General

8. The Union Government shall determine the monthly remuneration, expenses, insignia, and entitlements of the members of the Council.
9. The term of the Council shall be the same as the term of the President.
10. The President's Office shall arrange the office work of the Council.
11. The President's Office may issue necessary rules, orders, notifications, and directives for the implementation of the provisions of this Law.

I hereby sign this Law under Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Acting President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council

Amendment to the Law Protecting the Privacy and Security of the Citizen

(National Defence and Security Council Law 4/2026)

2nd Waning of Tabodwe 1387 ME
3 February 2026

THE National Defence and Security Council hereby enacts this Law under Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

1. This law shall be called the Amendment to the Law Protecting the Privacy and Security of the Citizen.
2. Subsection (b) of Section 5 of the Law Protecting the Privacy and Security of the Citizen shall be replaced as follows: -
“(b). If it is necessary, under the existing law, to enter and search an individual's residence, or any room, building, or compound used as a residence, including

buildings within the compound, or to conduct a search, seizure, or arrest of any person, such actions shall, except where urgently required for reasons of national defence, security, or public peace and tranquillity, be carried out in the presence of at least two witnesses, including one or more of the relevant ward or village-tract administrator, village head, 100-household head, or ten-household head from the respective ward or village-tract.

3. The preamble of Section 8 of the Law Protecting the Privacy and Security of the Citizen shall be replaced as follows: -
“8. Except for a person who, in accordance with the law, is vested with duties and powers to act in the interest of national defence, security, and public peace and tranquillity, no one shall, without any permission, authorization, or warrant issued under existing laws, or without the approval of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar or the Union Government.”

I hereby sign this law under Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd/ Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Acting President

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

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council

Construction Sector Development Law

(National Defence and Security Council Law 5/2026)

3rd Waning of Tabodwe 1387 ME
4 February 2026

THE National Defence and Security Council hereby enacts this Law under Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Chapter I

Name, Establishment, Relevance, and Definitions

1. This law shall be called the Construction Sector Development Law.
2. This law shall come into effect from the date on which the President issues the notification.
3. This law shall apply to activities within Myanmar's construction sector except for buildings made of wood and bamboo, as well as the construction, expansion, renovation, maintenance, and demolition of related basic structures throughout Myanmar.
4. The following terms contained in this Law shall have the meanings as specified:
 - (a) The term **construction sector** means the sector related to all construction activities. This term includes technology, management, implementation methods, the fulfilment of construction work requirements, pre-project procedures, construction processes, all those involved in construction work, types of construction works, production, import, sale, and use of construction materials, as well as the provision of services related to construction.
 - (b) **Construction-related service activities** means the construction, expansion, renovation, maintenance or demolition, preparation of design plans for construction and renovation, cost estimation, quality inspection, and construction project management activities of basic structures or other necessary construction works implemented jointly using State budget or foreign loans or aid, or State-owned resources, or private ownership, as well as the construction of public-use buildings or private residences funded with personal finances.
 - (c) The term **basic infrastructure** means buildings, roads, bridges, airports, ports, dams and reservoirs, power substations, power lines, railway stations, factories, workshops, storage facilities, city halls, economic, religious, cultural, technological and energy infrastructure, and communication networks necessary for the State.
 - (d) **Maintenance** means the process of repairing and preserving something to prevent damage or deterioration, or to improve it, so that it retains its

original quality and functionality.

- (e) The term **pre-project procedures** means preparing plans, studying feasibility, developing design models, and evaluating costs and expected outcomes.
- (f) The term **construction process** means selecting and assigning qualified experts, architects, and engineering service teams; choosing builders, construction materials, vehicles, machinery, and equipment according to prescribed rules and regulations; determining construction methods; carrying out building, repairing, maintaining, modifying usage, renovating, replacing, upgrading, partial demolishing, or complete demolishing and clearing; completing construction works; documenting them; and making adjustments as needed.
- (g) The term **public-use buildings** means structures that serve the general public, including offices, schools, universities, libraries, religious buildings, parking areas, transport and communication facilities, hospitals, cinemas, stadiums, gymnasiums, halls, markets, shopping centres, banks, and hotels.
- (h) The term **Central Committee** means the Construction Sector Development Central Committee established under this Law.
- (i) The term **Leading Committee** means the committee chaired by the relevant ministries based on work sectors under this Law.
- (j) The term **Regional Committee** means the Union Territory, Region or State Construction Sector Development Committee established under this Law.
- (k) The term **Ministry** means the ministry which implements the measures contained in this Law.
- (l) The term **relevant ministry** means any other ministry concerning the construction sector, except the above Ministry.
- (m) The term **department** means the department assigned by the Ministry to implement the measures contained in this Law.
- (n) The term **relevant department, organization** means the department or the government organization assigned by the ministry related to the construction sector.
- (o) The term **project owner** refers to the organizations which carry out inviting tenders for the construction-related projects, awarding contracts according to procedures, paying project costs, inspecting and accepting works, and using the completed projects with the State fund for the central organizations of the Union, Union ministries, region or state governments, the organizations taking responsibilities for managing the construction projects with the foreign loans or aid, or government organizations and private companies which mutually implement projects together with State-owned resources and private ownership or private entrepreneurs or companies implementing construction projects with own finance and private homeowners.

TO BE CONTINUED

Shwe Myoh Solar Power Plant to begin power generation in June 2026

THE Shwe Myoh Solar Power Plant, located in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, is expected to begin generating electricity in June 2026.

Currently, work on the solar tracker systems, including the base and tracker poles, has been completed. Of the total 60,000 solar panels planned for installation, approximately 40,000 have already been installed, and the remaining 20,000 will be installed by the end of February.

The Shwe Myoh Solar Power Project is expected to generate nearly 200 megawatts of

electricity daily starting in June. The electricity will be directly connected to the national grid and transmitted to the Shwe Myoh Substation, which is owned by the Ministry of Electric Power.

The Shwe Myoh Solar Power Project uses the latest technologies. The solar tracker system is equipped with AI technology and weather stations and includes automatic control systems that rotate the solar panels toward the sunlight and protect them from damage caused by hail and strong winds.



This photo features the Shwe Myoh Solar Power Plant in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The project was initiated in 2022 with land acquisition, soil studies, and documentation preparation, and piling work for the first phase of the project

began in April 2025.

The project is planned to generate 30 megawatts in the first phase and 30 megawatts each in the second and third

phases, for a total capacity of 90 megawatts. Upon completion, the project is expected to partially meet the country's electricity needs. — ASH/TH

NATIONAL

Taungpula Mt to host local trade fair for 6 days

A six-day trade fair featuring local products will be held at the foot of the Taungpula Mountain, an area that attracts approximately 3,000 pilgrims daily, according to its Sayadaw via his social media page.

It is scheduled to run from 12 to 17 February. The goals of the event are to allow pilgrims to purchase fresh local products at affordable prices, to create market connections.

tions for local farmers, and to ensure consumers have access to clean, fresh, local produce.

The fair is open to anyone wishing to sell local goods, including straw-

berries, avocados, garlic, onions, cauliflower, mustard greens, Khao Pote, dried soybeans, dried tofu, Sun-tan, oil tofu, dried venison, pickled mustard greens,

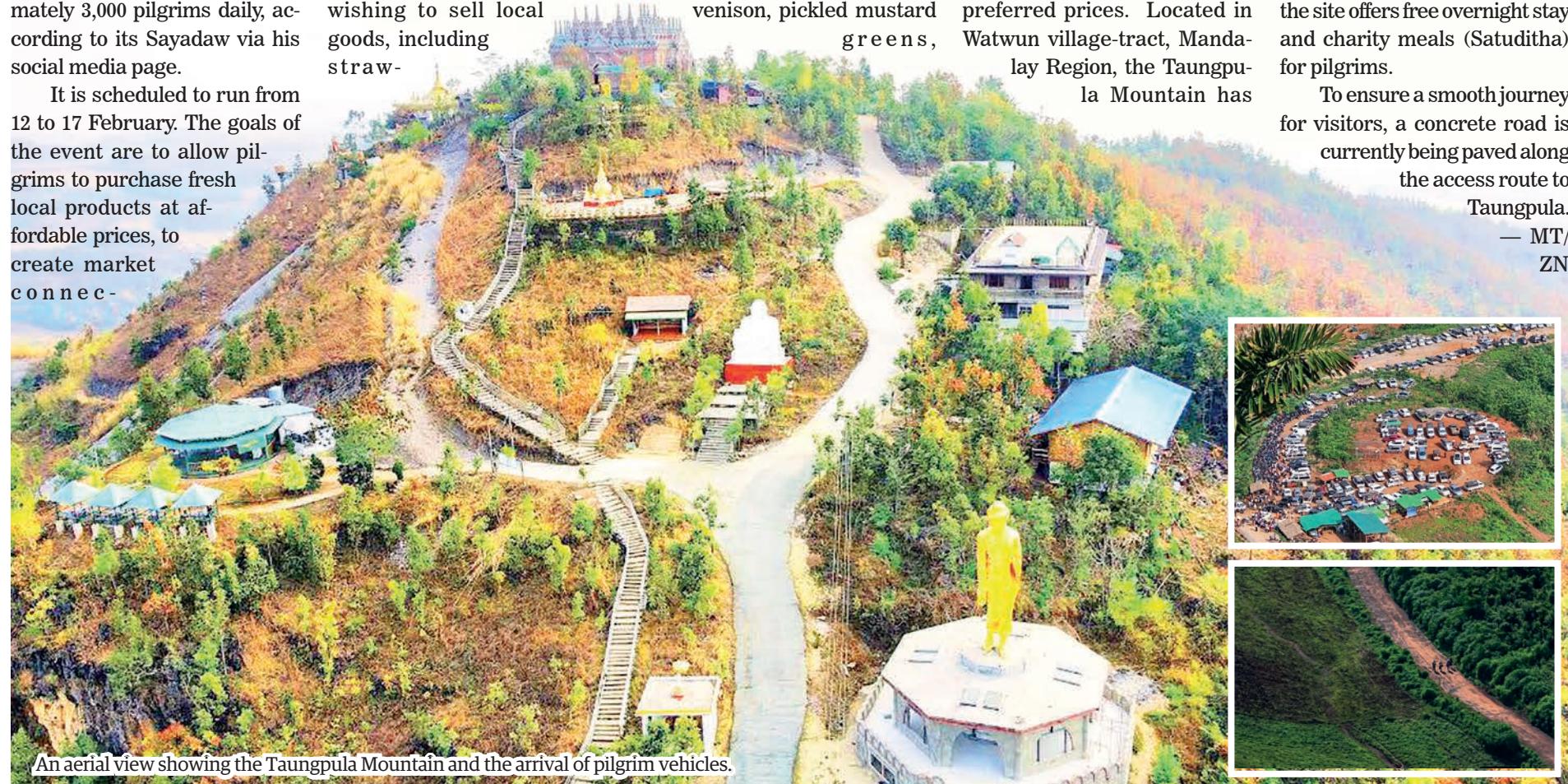
and honey.

Sayadaw has invited actual growers and producers to come and sell their goods at their own preferred prices. Located in Watwun village-tract, Mandalay Region, the Taungpula Mountain has

seen a surge in domestic tourists from Yangon and other regions since the start of the open season. To accommodate visitors, the site offers free overnight stay and charity meals (Satuditha) for pilgrims.

To ensure a smooth journey for visitors, a concrete road is currently being paved along the access route to Taungpula.

— MT/
ZN



An aerial view showing the Taungpula Mountain and the arrival of pilgrim vehicles.

Early monsoon expected; Heavy rain forecast for May and June

METEOROLOGIST U Win Naing forecasts that this year's monsoon may arrive earlier than normal, and rainfall in various states and regions during May and June could exceed the annual average level.

The 2026 monsoon entry is expected to be a few days earlier than 15 May, with heavy rain likely to develop after 20 May.

"The monsoon onset could be a few days earlier than the usual, which is 15 May. Heavy rain is expected only after 20 May. Depending on storm conditions in the Bay of Bengal, rain will arrive sooner or later. According to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) forecast on Meteoblue - Seasonal Forecast, rainfall in some states and regions is expected to be above the average in May and June," he said.

In April, light rain of five millimetres to 10 millimetres (0.2 to 0.4 inches) is expected in eastern Shan, Bago, and Kayin. In May, rainfall is predicted to exceed annual averages in Sagaing, Mandalay, Shan (South and East), Nay Pyi Taw, southeastern Magway, Bago, Ayeyawady, Yangon, Mon, Kayin, and Taninthayi. In June, Sagaing, Mandalay, Kachin, Shan, Nay Pyi Taw, southeastern Magway, Bago, Ayeyawady, Yangon, Mon, Kayin, and Taninthayi may see above-average rainfalls, he said. — MT/ZN

Myanmar Film Academy Awards to wrap up early this year

BY shortening the entertainment programme, the Myanmar Film Academy Awards Ceremony has been planned to conclude early this year, said Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization (MMPO) Secretary U Chan Thar Kyi Soe in a press conference.

The entertainment programme by movie, Thabin and music artists makes the event longer and the audience bored, that is why

this year will shorten it, he added.

The event has been scheduled to be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) in Nay Pyi Taw on 7 February, and the Ministry of Information will sponsor Academy gold statues and a gold star that weighs 5 ticals.

"Awards will be presented in accordance with the selection by the award selection team. The Ministry of Information will take

charge of the venue, accommodation and the red carpet and stage arrangement. The ministry has supported Academy statues and stars as well as for special guests and security," he said.

Including a special award, 11 awards will be presented as usual, and the lifetime film award and Myanmar Academy Fashion Award will be given. — Htun Htun/ZS



Preparations underway for the 2025 Myanmar film academy awards ceremony at the MICC I in Nay Pyi Taw.

NATIONAL

Eden's Festival set to fill National Kandawgyi Gardens with music and family fun

EDEN'S Festival will take place at the National Kandawgyi Gardens in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region, from 12 to 17 February, according to the garden's administrator, U Zaw Min Htun.

During the festival period, organizers will hold a market fair alongside daily music performances. Well-known singers and popular DJs will perform throughout the event, offering visitors a lively entertainment experience.

U Zaw Min Htun said the festival aims to help visitors create joyful memories amid the natural beauty of the National Kandawgyi Gardens in PyinOoLwin from 12 to 17 February. The festival will feature photo spots, entertainment programmes,



This photo shows the opening ceremony of the 18th Flower Festival at the National Kandawgyi Gardens in PyinOoLwin on 6 December 2025.

market stalls and a range of enjoyable activities that families,

friends and couples can experience together.

Daily performances will include singers Shwe Htoo, G-Fatt,

Mary, Joe Lay and Bhone Yati, while DJs IamTee, Kylo, 9Nine, Kris, Axel, Diary, Barani, Awba, Ayer, Valentino, Zeke, Jules, Joely and MC Hulk will also take part in the entertainment line-up.

He added that the festival offers a great opportunity for people to enjoy music while creating beautiful memories in nature during the long public holiday period, and he invited music lovers and visitors not to miss Eden's Festival.

In addition, the festival will include a garden market selling consumer goods and food products, as well as an exhibition area showcasing and selling local products that support the regional economy, including plants and flowers. — ASH/KZL

KBZ Centre Mandalay offers free haemodialysis for needy patients



KBZ Centre Mandalay provides health services, including free kidney dialysis.

THE KBZ Centre Mandalay has been providing free haemodialysis (kidney dialysis) services for financially disadvantaged patients since 2 February.

The centre has accepted application forms to pro-

vide free haemodialysis treatment, and patients who are genuinely in financial need are being screened and selected to receive the free treatment.

“At present, free haemodialysis treatment is being carried out using four machines. Once an additional 16 machines are installed, priority will be given to applicants who have already submitted their applications,” said Dr Htwe Thiri Kyaw Nyunt, Head of the Medical Team at the KBZ Centre Mandalay.

Those wishing to make enquiries or advance registrations for healthcare services provided by the KBZ Centre Mandalay, including free haemodialysis, may contact the KBZ Centre Mandalay Call Centre via 09 941600999, or dial short code 1010 for U9 operator users, between 9 am and 12 noon from Monday to Friday. — ASH/MKKS

Danyingon Market holds fifth 3-day Dhamma Puja

THE fifth Dhamma Puja preaching ceremony will take place for three days at the Danyingon wholesale market compound located in Yangon Region's Insein Township, according to Myanmar Agro Exchange Public Ltd (MAEX).

It is jointly organized by MAEX and market shop owners, and the venue of the preaching ceremony is the shophouse in the A row of the market.

The Dhamma preaching ceremony begins at 7 pm; Dhamma talks will be given by Chin Hill Missionary Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Tayza Thara on the first day, 6 February, and Thitaga Sayadaw on 7 February. Dhammakathikaguna Bhaddanta Thireinda will preach on 8 February. Danyingon market families and Buddhist devotees are urged to join in listening to Dhamma talks. — MT/ZS

Organized by Working Committee for Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

MSME

Union-Level MSME Products Exhibition and Market Fair

8-2-2026 – 13-2-2026

Nay Pyi Taw Square

Let's promote production to make the nation prosperous.

Let's support education for the nation's development.

Let's conserve the environment for a pleasant nation.

More than 100 booths, including those of ministries, region and state gallaries, associations, local and foreign companies, and ethnic traditional food stalls, along with entertainment programmes will feature at the event.

Public Notice

THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No “1111” for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via short code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.

Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at short code “1111”. Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission

People's choice of representatives should protect national interests

❖ “When casting their votes, citizens should choose representatives who can genuinely work for the interests of the country, truly uphold democratic principles, faithfully safeguard the Our Three Main National Causes, and are capable of working for the nation’s development.”

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with departmental officials and town elders in Myeik of Taninthayi Region to talk about regional development on 19 September 2025)

Livestock and Aquaculture Research Dept invites livestock research

THE Livestock and Aquaculture Research Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation invites research papers on livestock.

The department has been planning to hold a research paper reading session under the theme of “Let’s collaborate through re-

search to move towards sustainable development of the livestock sector” to mark the fourth anniversary of the department on 1 April 2026.

The paper reading session will cover the following areas: sustainable livestock production systems, high-value marketable livestock products, animal feed and nutrition, disease prevention and control measures, and socio-economic studies on livestock farming. The research papers must be submitted by 18 February 2026, the department notified.

Interested individuals can enquire about details of the paper reading session through the official website of the ministry www.moali.gov.mm and the department’s website <https://www.dlar.moali.gov.mm> or the deputy director of the department at 09 250205990, email: sawvetdlar@gmail.com or Director Dr Than Than Sint at 09 972915850, and email: sintsint1974@gmail.com.

— NN/KK



Fish workers are seen preparing fish for sale at the market.

MAPCO provides K450K per acre in rice export zone



A handover event is underway to provide K450,000 per acre, fertilizer, and seeders to farmers in Yangon Region.

THE Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation (MAPCO) has planned to offer K450,000 per acre in the rice export zone, spanning over 4,000 acres.

A ceremony to hand over agricultural costs, fertilizer and seeders to farmers engaged in the rice export zone, implemented by the MAPCO and commemorate generation of

solar energy (1,000 kilowatts) at the facility, was held at the MAPCO MFI 500-tonne modern rice mill in Hmawby Township on 30 January 2026.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, government ministries, the Myanmar Rice Federation chair, officials of the Yangon Region Agriculture Department, Agricultural Mecha-

nization Department, MAPCO’s representatives and farmers attended the ceremony.

MAPCO is to provide K450,000 per acre in the rice export zone covering 4,106 acres. A total of 212 farmers received an initial contribution of K821.2 million. The seeders were also handed over free of charge in the zone. — NN/KK

YCDC calls for tender to sell scrap and unusable materials

THE Vehicles, Heavy Machinery Management and Maintenance Department of the Yangon City Development Committee called for tenders through a competitive bidding system for the sales of unusable tyres, old batteries and irreparable machine parts and discarded metallic materials, according to the Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee.

Individuals can enquire about tender rules and regulations through the department at Ward 68, Ayeyawun Street, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township at 09 5078561, 09 5154916, and 09 443036564.

The tender form is available at the department by 18 February. The deadline for the tender submission is 20 February. Tender opening will be held on 25 February at a two-storey religious building, according to the committee. — NN/KK

CBM to sell US\$28M to fuel oil importers



Oil bowsers heading to regions and states for fuel distribution.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 3 February that it would inject US\$28 million into the fuel oil import sector.

Furthermore, CBM sold over \$691,600 to edible oil-importing companies on that day after selling

500,000 baht in the market.

CBM sold over \$1.8 million to edible oil-importing companies, along with an injection of 2.3 million baht into the market.

CBM sold over \$43 million, 65 million baht and over four million

yuan in January 2026.

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

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

Taste and observe traditional, seasonal meal Htamanè

AT PRESENT, the most prominent seasonal festival is the Htamanè festival. Traditional Myanmar Htamanè is a sweet and fragrant food made by Myanmar people using glutinous rice. Because the cooked glutinous rice is repeatedly stirred and kneaded – similar to the process of making glue or paste – it is called Htamanè. As it is prepared with generous amounts of glutinous rice, coconut, peanuts, ginger, sesame oil, and sesame seeds, it is also known as hnanè-hmanè (sesame Htamanè).

The purpose of making Htamanè during that month is that, since it is prepared from glutinous rice, the natural sticky quality of the rice, combined with the vigorous stirring required, causes heat to build up through perspiration, dispelling coldness and making it well suited to the climate of that month. During the same month, Htamanè making competitions are held in various locations by government departments and residents of wards, and villages alike, with participants wearing matching uniforms.

Such a pledge has not been newly born today. In fact, it is the great essence that continues to live on in our hearts to this day, going beyond a mere historical record. It was the commitment jointly signed by national brethren nearly 79 years ago on the land of Panglong.

During the Htamanè preparation, strong and energetic men stir vigorously, sweating as they work together in unity and joy. In doing so, they combine mutual affection with the cool seasonal weather, making the activity beneficial for their health. If one wishes to experience and appreciate the delicious taste and meaningful significance of Htamanè, friends and visitors from around the world can come to Myanmar to observe, participate, and enjoy this tradition firsthand.

said that the good taste of the Htamanè is of the success of that unity. The preparation of Htamanè is not done merely for simple enjoyment. It embodies unity, cooperation, leadership, obedience to guidance according to seniority, mutual consideration, and collective encouragement.

In Htamanè making of events, one can observe the admirable and cherished customs of Myanmar society. From such dedicated and collective effort, delicious Htamanè is produced. During the month of Tabodwe, preparing traditional Myanmar Htamanè with care and devotion and offering it to members of the Sangha, as well as sharing it with the public as an act of communal charity (Satuditha), has been a heart-warming tradition passed down continuously from ancient Myanmar times to the present day.

During the Htamanè preparation, strong and energetic men stir vigorously, sweating as they work together in unity and joy. In doing so, they combine mutual affection with the cool seasonal weather, making the activity beneficial for their health. If one wishes to experience and appreciate the delicious taste and meaningful significance of Htamanè, friends and visitors from around the world can come to Myanmar to observe, participate, and enjoy this tradition firsthand.

THE firm loyalty and mutual trust among national brethren, rather than the fully material facilities, are the most fundamental and the most valuable foundation in building a new, modern, developed nation. The future goal we aspire to cannot be shaped by the strength of a single individual or a single group alone; it must be forged through the collective strength of unity built on shared commitment. It is this very strength that will guide the nation onto a roadmap with peace and stability.

The spirit of unity demonstrated at that time was born of a strong desire to shape our own destiny, without distinction between the plains and the hills. The mutual trust placed in one another, the determination to struggle forward together hand in hand, and the collaborative strength they embodied became the foundation for our nation's independence and dignity. Today, building upon that foundation, we must revitalize the Panglong Spirit in our hearts so that we can further strengthen it and construct a new, modern, and developed nation.

The judges do not evaluate the entries solely on taste; they also emphasize the team's unity, morale, organization, cleanliness, and cooperation. In this way, Htamanè is a food that highlights solidarity and harmony. Moreover, with its rich and pleasant flavour, it is a traditional Myanmar delicacy that is especially enjoyable to eat.

The traditional Myanmar Htamanè festival is a symbol of unity, and elders have long

What our forebears signed nearly 79 years ago was not merely words written on paper, but a pledge of trust and a commitment to the future. The leaders of that time placed the national interest above personal gain and overcame hardships and obstacles through unity. Today, the younger generation has reached a moment when it must draw inspiration from that resolve and work together to rebuild and advance the nation toward modern development.

New vision which must be changed in line with the current era

Today's world is changing in digital technology, knowledge and economic sectors with unprecedented development in accord with the fourth industrial revolution. The international communities are leading to the goal of success, emphasizing humanitarian and development by enjoying the fruits of science and technology. As such, national brethren have to participate in this race with a greater active spirit. The unity being sustained for 79 years must be applied in initiating the practical development through the harmonious cooperation, not

Hailing the 79th Anniversary of Union Day:

Towards Loyalty of National Brethren and a Modern, Developed Future

By Lun Poe Eain



only in the preservation of traditional culture but also in modern education, health and economic sectors.

Endeavours to be exerted

It is necessary to systematically exert maximum effort for a country to achieve success and development; imagination alone is not enough. The national brethren must be capable of utilizing

In other words, the Panglong pledge, which has endured for 79 years, is not merely a relic of the past, but a torch for the younger generation who will build the modern era.

natural resources from all hills and plains, as well as human resources, to their best. In particular, for the younger generation, it is essential to create a conducive environment for creativity, facil-

tate the exchange of knowledge and expertise, and connect the strengths of each region to generate economic opportunities. By studying the advancing steps of the international community, we must develop our own approach to achieve faster and more dynamic progress.

Fruits of loyalty and unity

Those who nurture the bond and flourishing of kindred are those who value mutual trust. Loyalty is not only the commitment owed to the nation but also the pledge between individuals. The legacy of unity left by our forebears must be preserved and elevated towards even greater goals. History has proven that with unity, no challenge is insurmountable. Today, it is through that same unity that we must overcome poverty, backwardness, and divisions of thought, building a harmonious and prosperous society.

Encountering challenges of technology and the knowledge edge

The technological revolution, which is changing with rapid momentum at present, is a remarkable challenge as well as a notable opportunity for national brethren. At a time when the digital economy and artificial intelligence technologies are transforming daily life worldwide, ethnic youth need to have access to modern fields of expertise. Enhancing human resources, supporting an education system that fosters creativity, and integrating advanced global technologies with one's own knowledge are the very engines that will enable the nation to break free from backwardness.

Integrating the strengths of each region

Shaping the modern heritage for new generations

Thus, just as we proudly and respectfully uphold the legacy of unity left by our forebears, we must also leave an even better legacy for future generations. That legacy should not be limited to words in books, but should include advanced educational institutions, safe and secure environments, and the dignity to stand confidently on the global stage. The bonds of trust among our fellow citizens must be continually nurtured with today's efforts, ensuring that the fruits of progress and success are within the reach of the younger generation. From this very moment, we must strive tirelessly toward that goal.

In other words, the Panglong pledge, which has endured for 79 years, is not merely a relic of the past, but a torch for the younger generation who will build the modern era. The loyalty of our fellow citizens is a unity that has touched

The country's location and natural environment occupy a highly advantageous position in the world. If the natural resources and cool climate of the highland regions can be systematically connected with the fertile agricultural and trade capacities of the lowland areas, the entire nation's development is certain.

Economic cooperation and mutual support among fellow citizens must be firmly established, and efforts must be made to bring local products to international markets. Only such economic unity can ensure long-term peace and sustainable development.

Enhancement of socioeconomic life, which is one of the symbols of the unity. The spirit of unity that has been maintained for the past 79 years now needs to be transformed into practical unity and tangible socioeconomic development. All fellow citizens must work together to ensure equal access to necessities such as good transport networks, electricity, and high-quality healthcare. By fostering a familial spirit where one person's success is celebrated and supported by others, and communities in challenging areas are collectively assisted, a strong and resilient society can be built.

the heart, and faithfully passing on that pledge is, in itself, a step forward toward the goal of our shared trust and commitment.

We all have to keep the firmest milestone built of unity and mutual respect without discrimination of hills and plains in our minds. Only then must this loyalty be stood as a great fort of unity for the Union, which can never be destroyed. It is true that if we all march forward with the strength of unity based on firm loyalty, we will reach the modern, developed future we aspire to.

Taking pride in the legacy of the past, we must collectively confront present challenges and build a new nation illuminated by knowledge and technology. Through the united strength of our people, let us confidently march together towards a strong, modern, and prosperous union, standing tall in the global community in peace and harmony.

Translated.

SCIENCE/ENVIRON: WORLD



A Nature Climate Change study finds that ocean fronts in mid-to-high latitudes, covering 36 per cent of the ocean surface, absorb 72 per cent of the ocean's annual CO₂, driven by phytoplankton blooms in nutrient-rich, upwelling zones. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP/FILE**

Ocean fronts found to dominate CO₂ absorption: study

These areas, which sequester carbon in the deep ocean for centuries, are shifting poleward and absorbing carbon at twice the global average rate.

NARROW bands of ocean covering just over a third of global seas absorb nearly three-quarters of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) that oceans pull from the atmosphere, a study shows.

The study, published in *Nature Climate Change*, reveals that ocean fronts play a far larger role in regulating Earth's carbon cycle than previously understood, said a statement from Australia's Uni-

versity of Tasmania (UTAS).

The study, led by the UTAS Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS), found that these dynamic regions, where water masses meet and mix, creating turbulent zones rich in marine life, cover about 36 per cent of the global ocean but take up 72 per cent of total oceanic CO₂, roughly 1.8 billion tonnes of carbon a year, it said. "This is the first time we've been able to quantify

the disproportionate role that ocean fronts play in absorbing atmospheric CO₂ on a global scale, and it has major implications for climate modelling," said lead author Yang Kai, who completed the research during his PhD at the IMAS.

Using more than two decades of satellite data, researchers linked changes in ocean front activity to both phytoplankton biomass and CO₂ uptake. — Xinhua

Study finds rise in obesity-linked heart deaths

DEATHS from cardiovascular disease linked to overweight and obesity are rising among younger Australians, particularly in disadvantaged communities, new research has revealed.

The study, published in *BMC Medicine*, looked at premature overweight and obesity-related cardiovascular disease mortality for people aged between 35-74 years, said a

statement from Australia's University of Melbourne on Friday.

Using the Australian Bureau of Statistics death certificate data from 2007 and 2022, researchers found that low socioeconomic areas were particularly disadvantaged.

Diabetes, chronic kidney disease, obesity, lipidemias or hypertension were taken into account as contributing causes

of death, the statement said.

"These death rates are increasing fastest in younger adults, and we know this generation has experienced higher long-term obesity prevalence in childhood and young adulthood than previous generations," said Professor Tim Adair, a demographer at UniMelb's Nossal Institute for Global Health. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Moon offers view of Earth's radiation signature

A new study has revealed that observing Earth from the moon serves as a powerful way of seeing the planet's true, global radiation signature, cutting through the "noise" of local weather to capture its core climate patterns.

Earth's radiation budget, the balance between the energy it receives from the sun and the energy it radiates back into space, is fundamental to the climate. While satellites have been crucial in conducting such studies, they do face limitations. Low-Earth orbit satellites see different parts of the planet at different times, while geostationary satellites only watch a fixed hemisphere. This makes it hard to get a complete, consistent and continuous picture of Earth's entire energy output.

Published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, this new research endeavour confirms that a moon-based platform effectively overcomes these limitations by providing a permanent, full-disk view of the planet. — Xinhua

New York records 13 cold-related deaths since late January

NEW York has counted 13 hypothermia-related deaths as the city faces an exceptional cold snap that swept large parts of the United States in late January, its mayor said Monday.

The metropolis "could very well be in the middle of the longest period of consecutive sub 32 degree (0C) weather in our city's entire history," said Mayor Zohran Mamdani.

He told reporters that 16 New Yorkers have died during the cold weather spell. Hypothermia is believed to have "played a role" in 13, while three are considered drug overdoses.

None of these people were camping on the street at the time of their deaths, the mayor added. Some had previously been in contact with emergency shelter services.

Mamdani said the city has activated emergency warming centers and a fleet of 20 vehicles staffed with healthcare professionals. "As of this morning, we have made more than 930 placements to shelters and safe havens. We have also involuntarily transported 18 New Yorkers who were determined to be a danger to themselves or to others," he said. — AFP



Between 2005 and 2021, New York recorded between nine and 27 cold-related deaths per year, according to official statistics. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Sri Lanka to launch sweeping education reforms

Dissanayake announced the government's plan to launch a transformative era in education aimed at creating knowledgeable, compassionate, and technologically skilled citizens.

SRI Lanka will launch a major transformation of its education sector to build a skilled workforce and accelerate national development, President Anura Kumara Dissanayake said on Wednesday.

Addressing the 78th National Independence Day celebrations, the president said the reforms aim to create a modern, knowledge-based society capable of competing with developed nations. He said Sri Lanka must replace outdated thinking with

progress, strengthen unity, and equip young people with education, technology, and skills needed for economic growth.

Dissanayake said the government is ready to begin a "transformative era" in education to develop knowledgeable, compassionate, and technologically competent citizens, adding that human capital would be the country's main driver of development.

He stressed that national

unity, social stability, and the rule of law are essential foundations for rebuilding the economy and restoring Sri Lanka's standing in the international community.

Sri Lanka gained independence in 1948 after more than a century of colonial rule. The president said the country must now focus on rebuilding the nation through sustainable development and stronger institutions for future generations.

— Xinhua



Students are engaged in educational activities at a school in Gampaha, Sri Lanka's Western Province on 12 November 2024. **PHOTO: GAYAN SAMEERA/XINHUA/FILE**

John Cena stars undercover CIA agent in Matchbox



Apple TV+ revealed first-look images Tuesday and announced the global release date for its upcoming action-adventure comedy.

PHOTO: ANI

THE first look of John Cena's upcoming action film 'Matchbox: The Movie' is out, and it shows the actor on the run with his old gang back together.

Apple TV+ on Tuesday, unveiled the first look images from the action-adventure comedy along with the global release date. The announcement was made during TV+'s press event in Santa Monica, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

'Matchbox: The Movie' is based on the famous Mattel toy

line. The film is an action-adventure story about a group of friends who have known each other since childhood. Their simple lives soon change when their old leader, Sean, suddenly returns. Sean is played by John Cena and is now working as an undercover CIA agent. When he comes back to his small town, he pulls his friends into a fast and dangerous journey across countries. Together, they get caught in a big mission to help save the world. — ANI

Yemen's Old City of Sanaa preserves ancient heritage, continuously inhabited

YEMEN'S Old City of Sanaa, a UNESCO World Heritage site famed for its centuries-old mud-brick tower houses, is facing a fight for survival. Once a bustling center of trade and culture, the ancient district is now crumbling under the strain of war, neglect, and economic collapse.

The Old City, home to

more than 6,000 multi-storey structures decorated with distinctive white gypsum patterns, has stood for 2,500 years as a symbol of Sanaa's rich history. But since being placed on UNESCO's "in danger" list in 2015, little restoration has taken place. Residents warn that without urgent intervention, their heritage could

disappear.

AFP reports that the decline has also devastated tourism, once a vital source of income for locals. With buildings collapsing and livelihoods lost, the story highlights growing calls for international support to safeguard Sanaa's identity before centuries of history vanish. — AFP



Photo taken on 3 February 2026 shows historical buildings in the UNESCO-listed Old City of Sanaa, Yemen. Yemen's UNESCO-listed Old City of Sanaa is home to over 6,000 unique multi-storey mud-brick structures dating back 2,500 years. **PHOTO: MOHAMMED MOHAMMED/XINHUA**

ECONOMY WORLD

New Zealand unemployment hits 5.4%, highest in over decade



Bee keepers work at Matakana Village, the North Island, New Zealand, 11 February 2020.

PHOTO: SALLY CHEN/XINHUA/FILE

NEW Zealand's unemployment rate rose to 5.4 per cent in the December 2025 quarter, the highest since the September 2015 quarter when it was 5.7 per cent, Stats NZ reported Wednesday.

The unemployment rate of 5.4 per cent was up from 5.3 per cent in the previous quarter, said the statistics department.

The number of unemployed people rose by 5,000 to

165,000 over the quarter, while both employment and participation in the labor market increased, Stats NZ said.

The labor force participation rate rose to 70.5 per cent, with 19,000 more people active in the job market over the quarter, it said. "We saw higher levels of engagement in the labor market as both employment and unemployment increased," said Stats NZ

macroeconomic spokesperson Jason Attewell.

About 20,000 more women joined the labor force, with 16,000 gaining employment compared with the previous quarter, statistics showed.

Female employment rose particularly in managerial and professional roles, while clerical and administrative positions declined, Stats NZ said.

— Xinhua

Mexico's 2025 remittances drop amid weakened US labour market

REMITTANCES to Mexico from abroad dropped by 4.6 per cent in 2025, driven by the United States' weakened labour market and strict immigration measures, said

Mexico's central bank on Tuesday. According to the Bank of Mexico (Banxico), the total remittance amount declined to US\$61.791 billion in 2025 from a record \$64.746

billion in 2024. The amount in 2025 is the lowest flow of foreign currency since 2022.

Gabriela Siller, Mexican bank BASE's director of economic and financial analysis, attributed the decline to a weak US labour market and fears of deportation among migrant workers. In recent years, remittances to Mexico have become a crucial source of foreign exchange, exceeding foreign direct investment, revenues from crude oil exports and international tourism. The Mexican government estimates that about 40 million Mexicans live in the United States. — Xinhua



Western Union is a global financial services provider specializing in remittance transfers. PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ISTOCK

NEWS IN BRIEF

India, Indonesia lag as EM markets rally globally

EMERGING markets showed notable resilience despite heightened volatility at the start of 2026. However, India and Indonesia remained underperformers, even as emerging market assets delivered a strong start to the year, according to a Deutsche Bank report.

The report noted that emerging market (EM) equities posted robust gains in January, with the MSCI Emerging Markets index rising over eight per cent, supported by broad-based outperformance across regions. It stated "The only major EM equity markets down for the month were India and Indonesia - the latter under stress on concerns around governance and liquidity after MSCI warned of potentially downgrading them to frontier market status".

Markets such as Peru, South Korea and Turkey emerged as top performers during the month, reflecting improved risk appetite and catch-up in allocations amid supportive global macro conditions.

However, India and Indonesia were the only major EM equity markets to register declines. Indonesia came under pressure due to concerns over governance and liquidity, after MSCI flagged the possibility of a downgrade to frontier market status. — ANI

GSK boosted by specialty drugs, end to Zantac fallout



GSK plc is a leading British biopharmaceutical company that recently underwent a major leadership transition and strategic pivot. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

BRITISH pharmaceutical group GSK reported Wednesday a sharp rise in annual net profit, boosted by strong sales of HIV, respiratory and cancer treatments as it recovered from costly US lawsuits over its Zantac heartburn treatment.

Profit after tax more than doubled to £5.7 billion (\$7.8 billion) compared with £2.6 billion in 2024, GSK said, as revenue rose four percent to £32.7 billion.

"GSK delivered another strong performance in 2025, driven mainly by specialty

medicines," said chief executive Luke Miels, who took over from Emma Walmsley at the start of the year.

"We expect this positive momentum to continue in 2026," added Miels, who was chief commercial officer before Walmsley stepped down after nearly nine years at the helm.

Addressing journalists in an online call later, Miels said the company was in "very good shape", adding that he would look to speed up simplification of the group. — AFP

Indian auto industry records broad-based growth

THE Indian automotive sector recorded a steady climb in the first ten months of the current fiscal year, with cumulative domestic two-wheeler (2W) sales growing by 9 per cent year-on-year (YoY) to 1.5 crore units and the passenger vehicle (PV) industry posting a seven per cent YoY increase to approximately 35.2 lakh units. According to the monthly volume update for the automotive industry report by Axis Direct, this broad-based growth spanned across two-wheelers, three-wheelers (3W), passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles (CV), and tractors. The 2W segment's performance over the April to January 2026 period was bolstered by TVS, which saw a 19 per cent increase, and Royal Enfield, which grew by 25 per cent. In January 2026 alone, TVS Motors' total 2W sales rose approximately 28 per cent year-on-year, while Hero MotoCorp reported a 26 per cent increase. —ANI

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 12th and 13th FEBRUARY 2026 (The Union Day Holiday), and 16th and 17th FEBRUARY 2026 (The Chinese New Year Holiday), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 15 VOY.NO. (07N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 15 VOY. NO. (07N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-2-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0083N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0083N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-2-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

S Korea's imported car sales log double-digit growth in January

SOUTH Korea's imported car sales logged a double-digit growth in January thanks to strong demand for electric vehicles and German luxury models, industry data showed Wednesday.

The number of imported vehicles sold here jumped 37.6 per cent from a year earlier to 20,960 in January, according to the Korea Automobile Importers & Distributors Association (KAIDA).



German automaker BMW ranked first in terms of automotive sales in South Korea among foreign companies by selling 6,270 units in January. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/BMW**

German automaker BMW ranked first in terms of automotive sales here among foreign companies by selling 6,270 units in January.

German carmaker Mercedes-Benz came next with the sale of 5,121 units, followed by US carmaker Tesla with 1,966 units, Lexus with 1,464 units, BYD with 1,347 units and Volvo with 1,037 units.

— Xinhua

Shanghai sees over 320 new tech firms daily in 2025

SHANGHAI vigorously promoted scientific and technological innovation last year, with an average of more than 320 new tech firms established daily across this city in east China, according to the ongoing annual session of its municipal people's congress.

According to the municipal government work report, Shanghai's expenditure on R&D as a share of

the city's GDP reached approximately 4.5 per cent in 2025.

The total output value of its strategic emerging industries in the industrial sector increased by 6.5 per cent last year, with the combined scale of the three leading industries, namely integrated circuits, biomedicine and artificial intelligence, exceeding 2 trillion yuan (about US\$287.63 billion).

Shanghai has been continuously refining its support policies for leading technology enterprises and high-growth companies. By the end of 2025, the city was home to over 23,000 innovative small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), 13,000 specialized and sophisticated SMEs, and 1,000 "little giant" enterprises excelling in niche sectors.

— Xinhua

Notice for Change of Pesticide Trade Name

The foreign manufacturer Eastchem Co., Ltd. will import and distribute the following insecticide registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading name.

| No. | Old Trade Name | New Trade Name | Active Ingredient | Reg: Type | Reg: No. |
|-----|----------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Transit 700 WP | Taikmaung 700 WP | Niclosamide 700g/kg WP | Full | F2022-3489 |

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of pesticide.

Address- Pyinsa Crop Science Co., Ltd.
No.(95-A), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th Mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar.

Changing Trade Name For Registered Pesticide

The Pesticide manufactured by Chengdu Kelilong Bio-Chemistry Company Inc. and distributed by Agro Hero Crop Science Co.,Ltd is changing trade name as follow.

| No. | Previous Name | New Name | Registration No. |
|-----|---------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1 | Trustco Quick 15 EC | High Quick | F2023-4068 |

Any Objection regarding to this changing can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

Agro Hero Crop Science Co.,Ltd. Ph - 09-970123666

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ROLLING UPDATES



President Donald Trump signs a funding bill to end a partial government shutdown in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, on 3 February 2026. **PHOTO: SAUL LOEB/AFP**

Trump signs funding package, ending brief partial govt shutdown

DHS funding was excluded from the omnibus bill but extended for two weeks to enable ongoing immigration enforcement negotiations.

FUNDING for DHS was removed from the omnibus bill; instead, it gets a two-week extension at current levels to allow continued negotiations on immigration enforcement between Congress and the White House.

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday signed a massive funding package, ending a partial government shutdown that began Saturday. The bill narrowly passed the House of Representatives earlier Tuesday, after gaining Senate approval on

Friday. The latest package will fund multiple US federal agencies for the remainder of the fiscal year ending 30 September.

The agencies are the Department of Defence, the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labour, the Department of Transport, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Funding for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), original-

ly included in the omnibus funding package, has been removed. The department will instead receive a two-week continuing resolution at current funding levels, allowing both parties and the White House to continue negotiations on immigration enforcement.

The recent two fatal shootings by federal enforcement personnel in Minneapolis have prompted Democrats to seek changes to how immigration agencies operate. — Xinhua

World Cancer Day 2026: Doctors hope UK archive unlocks bowel cancer mystery

IN a hospital basement in northwest London, shelves hold over a century of preserved tumour and tissue specimens from Saint Mark's, the UK's national bowel hospital.

This archive, nearly destroyed a decade ago, is now central to a groundbreaking study investigating the rise of bowel cancer among younger people. Researchers from

Saint Mark's and the Institute of Cancer Research are comparing specimens from the 1960s with modern cases using advanced DNA sequencing techniques.

They hope to uncover genetic or environmental factors driving the sharp increase in cases under age 50, which have risen by more than 50 per cent in Britain over the past

25 years.

Possible causes include diet, lifestyle, pollutants, and gut bacteria, with one subtype of E. coli suspected of leaving carcinogenic DNA marks more common in younger patients.

The project aims to transform past suffering into future hope, with findings expected in three years. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

China's hybrid cargo aircraft completes first flight

CHINA'S YH-1000S, a self-made hybrid unmanned cargo aircraft, the world's first of its kind, has completed its maiden flight in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, its developer said on Tuesday.

According to the China Academy of Aerospace Aerodynamics, YH-1000S was equipped with a high-performance hybrid power system, jointly developed with a new energy vehicle manufacturer, during the debut flight. This aircraft boasts shorter takeoff-landing distances, increased payload capacity and extended flight ranges, compared with its predecessor YH-1000, which made its maiden flight in May last year. — Xinhua

Iran news outlet posts images of US bases

A prominent Iranian news agency has in recent days published without comment images of US bases in the Middle East as tensions remain high between Tehran and Washington despite the prospect of direct talks.

US President Donald Trump has threatened military action against Iran -- in the wake of its deadly crackdown on protests -- if Tehran fails to agree a deal to restrict its controversial nuclear programme.

Iranian officials have repeatedly threatened immediate retaliation if there is an attack, pointing to American military bases in the Gulf as potential targets. — AFP

Israel may back Iran strike absent US deal: Reports

Israel will support an attack on Iran if the agreement between Tehran and Washington does not include measures to limit ballistic missile production and Iran's support for proxy groups in the region, the Financial Times newspaper reported, citing a source.

Axios previously reported that US special envoy Steve Witkoff would meet with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi in Istanbul on Friday to discuss Tehran's nuclear programme amid ongoing tensions between the countries. On Tuesday, the Ynet news portal reported that Witkoff arrived in Israel for talks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. — SPUTNIK



In northwest London, Saint Mark's hospital houses over a century of preserved tumour and tissue specimens, forming a unique medical archive of bowel disease history. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ ST MARK'S HOSPITAL**

SPORTS

Italy's Olympic greats Tomba and Compagnoni to light cauldrons - report

ITALIAN sporting icons Alberto Tomba and Deborah Compagnoni will light the cauldrons for the Milan-Cortina Winter Olympics, according to a report on Wednesday. Tomba, 59, and Compagnoni, 55, are both three-time Olympic alpine skiing gold medallists and hugely popular among Italians.

Gazzetta dello Sport reported that Tomba will light one of two cauldrons at Milan's Arco

della Pace at the end of Friday's opening ceremony at the San Siro stadium in the city.

Compagnoni will be responsible for lighting the other cauldron, inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's knots, in the centre of Cortina d'Ampezzo, 250 kilometres (155 miles) from Italy's economic capital, in the Dolomites.

Known as "Tomba la Bomba", or "Tomba the Bomb", Tom-



The Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics are scheduled for 6 to 22 February 2026. **PHOTO: OLYMPICS**

ba's electric skiing made him a force in the slalom and giant

slalom, the disciplines in which he won all five of his Olympic

medals in the late 1980s and 1990s. — AFP

Olympics: Ex-Italy figure skater awaits Igaya reunion after 70 years



Manuela Angeli (L) takes part in the Milan Cortina Winter Olympics torch relay in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, on 26 January 2026.

PHOTO: KYODO

SOME seven decades after the last Winter Olympics in Cortina d'Ampezzo, former figure skater Manuela Angeli of Italy is anticipating a reunion with Japan's Chiharu Igaya, her fellow 1956 Olympian.

The then 24-year-old skier — who took silver in the men's

slalom, Japan's only Olympic medal in alpine skiing to date — stayed at the hotel Angeli's family ran at the time. The two had a chance to meet although Angeli, then 16, stayed elsewhere with the Italian national team.

"It's quite an extraordinary

thing, I must say, that we are both alive after 70 years," said Angeli, now 86, in a recent Kyodo News interview in Cortina d'Ampezzo, a mountain resort in northern Italy surrounded by the World Heritage site of the Dolomites.

Angeli qualified for what she described as "very special" games at her birthplace of Cortina despite switching from skiing to figure skating just five years earlier in 1951.

She recalled having little freedom while with her national team during the games, but said she met Igaya when going to see her parents.

"We were all very excited, being the owners of the hotel, that we had a medal in our hotel," said Angeli, whose family hosted 10 Japanese athletes at the time. — Kyodo

Newell's targets Messi homecoming

LIONEL Messi's boyhood club, Newell's Old Boys, has outlined plans to sign the World Cup winner on a short-term deal next year.

The Argentine team's vice-president, Juan Manuel Medi-

na, said the club had discussed the plan since 2024 but did not provide details of any direct negotiations with the 38-year-old.

"We are working on Leo playing for Newell's in the first half of 2027, but for now there

is nothing more than that," Medina told Argentine news outlet TN.

Messi began his youth career at Newell's in 1995 before signing with Barcelona at the age of 13 in late 2000. — Xinhua

Arteta backs Arsenal to build on 'magical' place in League Cup final

MIKEL Arteta believes Arsenal will use the "magical" feeling of reaching the League Cup to fuel their Premier League title charge.

Arteta's side beat Chelsea 1-0 in the semifinal second leg on Tuesday as Kai Havertz netted with virtually the last kick of the game to seal a 4-2 aggregate victory.

It was a cathartic triumph for the Gunners, who had lost their previous four semi-finals in the 2025 Champions League and League Cup, the 2022

League Cup and the 2021 Europa League. In their first final for six years, Arsenal will face Manchester City or Newcastle at Wembley on 22 March.

City hold a 2-0 lead over Newcastle ahead of Wednesday's second leg at the Etihad Stadium.

It is shaping up to be a memorable season for Arsenal, who are six points clear at the top of the Premier League and reached the Champions League last 16 by winning all eight of their group matches. — AFP



Chelsea's Brazilian midfielder (41) Estevao (2R) is fouled by Arsenal's Ecuadorian defender (5) Piero Hincapie (2L) and Arsenal's Brazilian defender (6) Gabriel Magalhaes (R) during the English League Cup semifinal second leg, football match between Arsenal and Chelsea at the Emirates Stadium, in London on 3 February 2026. **PHOTO: ADRIAN DENNIS / AFP**

Trump signs funding package, ending brief partial govt shutdown
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Relations between Russia, China developing regardless of international situation: Putin

REATIONS between Russia and China are developing regardless of international situation, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday.

"Regardless of the international situation, and I am confident in their [Russia-China relations'] strength and progressive development in all areas," Putin said during a videoconference with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The foreign policy connection between Moscow and Beijing remains an important stabilizing factor in the face of increasing turbulence in the world, the president said. "We are ready to continue the closest coordination on global and regional issues both on the bilateral track and on all multilateral platforms: the United Nations, BRICS, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization [SCO] and others, where the Russian-Chinese tandem plays a key role in many ways," Putin said.

China's SCO presidency has resulted in significant practical results, the Russian leader added. The relations between China and Russia are entering a new stage of development, Chinese President Xi Jinping said. "Chinese-Russian relations are entering a new stage of development," Xi said in the video call with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

China and Russia should develop a new ambitious plan for the development of bilateral relations, Xi added.

— SPUTNIK

Putin emphasized Russia-China relations remain strong and progressive despite global turbulence, serving as a stabilizing factor, with both nations committed to close coordination on bilateral, regional, and multilateral platforms like UN, BRICS, SCO.



Chinese President Xi Jinping holds a welcome ceremony for King Felipe VI of Spain at the square outside the east gate of the Great Hall of the People prior to their meeting in Beijing, capital of China, 12 November 2025. **PHOTO: XIE HUANCHI/XINHUA**

India-US trade deal supports India's manufacturing growth

INDIA-US trade deal complements India's manufacturing push under the PLI schemes, supports export diversification, and advances its goal of



The deal supports India's manufacturing push, export diversification, and ambition to climb the global value chain. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ANI**

moving up the global value chain, says a report by Axis Direct. For the US, India represents a large and dependable market, as well as a strategic manufacturing alternative in key sectors.

The report noted that for Indian markets, "the deal aligns well with its manufacturing push (PLI schemes), export diversification strategy, and ambition to move up the global value chain. For the US, India offers a large, reliable market and a strategic manufacturing alternative in critical sectors".

Talking about the growth trajectory, "The trade deal is structurally positive for India's medium-term growth and external stability. Improved market access and tariff certainty are likely to boost exports, support manufacturing investment, and strengthen inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI)." — ANI

US jet downs Iran drone, talks continue

A US fighter jet shot down an Iranian drone that approached an American aircraft carrier in the Middle East on Tuesday, Washington said, as renewed tensions on the high seas overshadowed plans for nuclear talks.

White House spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt told Fox News that US envoy Steve Witkoff is still expected "to have conversations with the Iranians late this week," despite the incident. The down-

ing of the drone was the second clash between the foes in Middle Eastern waters on the same day, after Iranian forces attempted to detain a US-flagged tanker in the Strait of Hormuz. Washington and Tehran have agreed to talks after US President Donald Trump repeatedly threatened Iran with military action – and Iran warned that it would respond with strikes on US vessels and bases. — AFP