

Historic Wazira Theatre Reopens as Myanmar’s International-Standard Red-Carpet Theatre



President U Min Aung Hlaing presses the ceremonial electric button to inaugurate the Wazira Theatre in Yangon.

MYANMAR’S historic Wazira Cinema in Yangon has been officially reopened as an international-standard Red-Carpet Theatre following a major renovation project to preserve its cultural and architectural heritage. The reopening ceremony of the 103-year-old landmark, located on Bogyoke Aung San Road in Kyauktada Township, was attended by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, Union ministers, the speaker and deputy speaker of the Yangon Region Hluttaw, the commander of Yangon Command, regional government officials, cultural attachés from foreign embassies, officials from various organizations and prominent artistes. In his congratulatory speech at the opening ceremony of the Wazira International-Standard Red-Carpet Theatre, the President said he was deeply honoured and pleased to witness the successful restoration and upgrading of the historic Wazira Cinema, a more-than-century-old heritage landmark regarded as the cultural heart of Yangon, into an international-standard Red-Carpet Theatre while preserving its original architectural character and legacy. Originally constructed in 1923 as the Excelsior Theatre by the Madan Theatre Company, the venue has witnessed many important chapters

SEE PAGE 3

Placement Tests Open Path for OverAge Students

THE Ministry of Education will conduct placement tests in the second week of August as a special measure to prevent learning disruption among over-age children who are outside the formal basic education system in border areas and some regions and states during the current academic year.

SEE PAGE 6



Students attending regular classes in a classroom of the school.

Silent Classic ‘Mya Ga Naing’ Opens Wazira Red-Carpet Theatre

TO commemorate the opening of the Wazira Red-Carpet Theatre, the classic silent film Mya

Ga Naing was screened at 1.30 pm yesterday at the theatre on Bogyoke Aung San Road in Yan-

gon, attracting a large audience of film enthusiasts.

SEE PAGE 10

Mandalay to host largest free youth festival on 1-2 Aug

THE largest-ever Youth Festival-Mandalay Edition, open free of charge to anyone with a youth-

ful spirit, including young people aged between 15 and 25 in Mandalay, will be held at the Mandalay

Convention Centre on 1 and 2 August.

SEE PAGE 5

OPINION

Leverage efforts to control Hepatitis diseases

PAGE 8

NATIONAL PAGE 3



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Health and Sports Committee members

NATIONAL PAGE 10



Security operations underway to reopen Kalay-Tamu route

NATIONAL

Amendment to Law Related to Drafting and Submitting Union Budget (2026)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No 1

13th Waxing of Second Waso 1388 ME
27 July 2026

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has enacted this law.

1. This Law shall be called Amendment to the Law Relating to Drafting and Submitting the Union Budget (2026).
2. The expression “Ministry of Planning and Finance” stated in the law shall be substituted with “Ministry of Finance and Revenue”.
3. The expression “before 15 July” in Section 2 shall be substituted with “before 15 January”.
4. The expression “before 31 July” in Section 3 shall be substituted with “before 30 January”.
5. The expression “before 21 August” in Section 4 (a) and (b) shall be substituted with “before 15 February” respectively.
6. The expression “before 30 April” in Section 5 shall be substituted with “before 31 October”.
7. The expression “before 10 May” in Section 6 shall be substituted with “before 7 November”.
8. The expression “before 24 May” in Section 7 (a) and (b) shall be substituted with “before 15 November” respectively.
9. The expression “no later than the last week of May” in Section 18 shall be substituted with “in October”.

I hereby sign under the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Amendment to Law Related to Drafting and Submitting Region or State Budget (2026)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No 2

13th Waxing of Second Waso 1388 ME
27 July 2026

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has enacted this law.

1. This Law shall be called Amendment to the Law Relating to Drafting and Submitting the Region or State Budget (2026).
2. The expression “Budget Department of Region or State “ stated in Section 3 shall be substituted with “Region or State Budget Department”, whereas “7 March” with “7 September”.
3. The expression “1 February” in Section 17 shall be substituted with “1 August”.
4. The expression “by the last week of May” in Section 21 shall be substituted with “by the end of November”.
5. The expression “Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry” in Section 23 (a) shall be substituted with “Ministry of Finance and Revenue”.

I hereby sign under the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

2026
DIFFERENT
CONTEXTS,
COMMON
ASPIRATIONS

2026 International Youth Day

“ Different Contexts,
Common Aspirations

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Monday, 27 July 2026

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Deep Depression area over the Northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining (West Bengal-North Odisha) Coast (India) has moved northwards and is crossing the West Bengal Coast near Haldia, India. Monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy over the Southwest Bay of Bengal and cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 28 July 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Sagaing Region and Kachin, Kayah and Northern Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-12 feet in Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Squalls with rough seas are likely at times in the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet in Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of continuation of increase in rain in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 July 2026: Some rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 July 2026: Some rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 July 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Flood Warning

Issued at 4 pm MST on 27 July 2026

ACCORDING to the 2:30 pm MST observation today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk is observed as more than 0.5 foot below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next two days.

This is an especially alert to the people who settle near the river banks and low lying areas in Madauk, to take precautionary measures and to stay away from the flood-prone areas in time if the water level will rise. — DMH

NATIONAL

Historic Wazira Theatre Reopens as Myanmar's ...

FROM PAGE 1
in Myanmar's entertainment history. It was later renamed Yangon Cinema during the Japanese occupation period, became A-1 Cinema after World War II, and was officially renamed Wazira Cinema in 1969.
The name "Wazira" comes from the Pali word "Vajira", meaning something as precious and strong as a diamond. Over the decades, the theatre has become more than just a place for film screenings, serving as a

symbol of Myanmar's artistic, cultural and social history.
The building is recognized for its Beaux-Arts architectural style, featuring grand Ionic columns, detailed ornamentation, and elegant European-inspired designs. Its interior was also specially designed to accommodate both cinema screenings and live performances, with a large proscenium stage similar to traditional European theatres.
Throughout its long history, Wazira Theatre

has been an important venue for Myanmar's film and performing arts industries. It hosted the screening of the 1929 film "Su Htoo Pan", one of Myanmar's early landmark films, and later became a major stage for famous plays and performances by renowned writers and artistes.
During the World War II period, when film production and imports were disrupted, Wazira played a key role in the development of Myanmar theatre. Many famous

stage productions and performances by leading artistes were presented there, providing entertainment and encouragement to audiences during difficult times.
After nationalization in 1968, the theatre continued showing popular Myanmar films and remained a cultural hub for the public. In later years, it was also revived as a theatre venue, hosting memorable stage productions and musical performances.
President U Min Aung Hlaing said the

restoration of the Wazira Theatre was an effort to preserve a valuable national heritage site while adapting it for modern use. He said the renovated theatre would become a national-level cultural centre where Myanmar traditional arts, films, theatre, music and other performances could be presented to both local audiences and international visitors.
The upgraded theatre now combines its original historic architecture with modern facilities, includ-

ing new cinema seats, LED display systems and advanced sound technology. It is expected to serve as a cultural hub for film festivals, traditional performances, heritage exhibitions and other artistic events.
The restoration of the Wazira Theatre marks a new chapter for one of Yangon's most iconic cultural landmarks, preserving its legacy while creating a new platform for future generations of Myanmar artistes. — MNA/ST

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Health and Sports Committee members



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi holds talks with the members of the Health and Sports Committee, also attended by Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn.

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi, accompanied by Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn and relevant officials, met the members of the Health and Sports Committee.
The Speaker said that the committee has been working closely with the relevant ministries to help representatives gain a better understanding of the government's activities. He said that, in carrying out the committee's duties and achieving its objectives, cooperation with the relevant departments will be essential to promote

the health and sports sectors and to strengthen national spirit through information, media, and entertainment activities.
He added that the Health and Sports Committee should carefully assess the current situation in the country and seek practical solutions to improve the health and sports sectors so that the Hluttaw could make meaningful progress. He noted that although laws have been enacted for individual sectors, they are not yet comprehensive enough to fully cover all

related issues. Therefore, the committee also needs to conduct detailed studies on laws that require amendment, supplementation, repeal, or new legislation.
He also stressed the importance of working together with the relevant ministries, associations, and organizations to ensure that citizens become healthier and stronger. He further said that internationally recognized medical and health professionals living in Myanmar should be viewed as valuable human resource-

es, and that mechanisms similar to a National Accreditation System should be studied to facilitate the recognition of professional qualifications. He added that the Hluttaw had already prepared a draft five-year strategic development plan, and that the activities of the committees would be incorporated into and assessed under this plan.
He urged the committee to work closely with relevant ministries and international organizations to improve the health and sports sectors.
He called for field visits to health centres, private hospitals, clinics, and local sports departments to identify needs. He also emphasized supporting the government's efforts to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by strengthening primary healthcare services, expanding mobile clinics, telemedicine, and teleconsultation in remote areas, and improving laws to combat counterfeit and

SEE PAGE 7

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Nepal to deepen cooperation in religious affairs

UNION Minister for Religious Affairs U Tin Oo Lwin received Mr Harishchandra Ghimire, Ambassador of Nepal to Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.
They discussed religious cooperation between Myanmar and Nepal, future plans for continued collaboration, the relief and assistance provided for the damage caused

by the Mandalay earthquake, the joint efforts by the two countries to repair the damaged stone inscriptions within the Maha Muni Buddha Image compound in Mandalay, the completion of the restoration works, and the successful organization of the stone inscription reopening ceremony. — MNA/KTZH



The Nepali ambassador calls on Union Minister U Tin Oo Lwin.

ADVERTISE
with us / Hot Line :
0 9 9 7 4 4 2 4 8 4 8

NATIONAL

Space technology helps Myanmar achieve further development

Myanmar needs to gain knowledge and understanding of space technologies and be able to apply them effectively for beneficial purposes.

THE handover and practical demonstration ceremony of the technological projects completed by the Myanmar Space Agency (MSA) took place yesterday morning at the Myanmar Space Agency (MSA) in Hline Township, Yangon Region.

On the occasion, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing remarked that as the world is continuously developing and changing every day, it is essential to acquire knowledge and understanding of space technologies and be able to apply them effectively for beneficial purposes.

The Chief Executive of Myanmar Space Agency reported to the President on the efforts of the agency in implementing the projects in cooperation with international space partner organizations, companies and universities and colleges at home and abroad, and relevant ministries.

The MSA Chief Executive explained the scale model of MAH-1 ERS of the agency. The President observed measures on the control camp for MAH-1 satellite built by the agency further processes, systematic implementation of the Earth Remote Sensing (ERS) Application Platform, reviews



President U Min Aung Hlaing provides guidance while looking into the display at yesterday's event.

over environment of Bago Township and regional development measures with

the use of earth remote sensing technology, satellite-based search and

rescue operations, use of AI in space technology of the agency, advanced bot-

otic system, e-library bilateral connection between MSA and the library of Belarus, library facilities, designing and building the solar sensing device by the agency, solar system, satellite control, electronic workshop, space weather exploration, space intelligence system, automatic alarming system for space danger near the earth, valuable minerals and resources of the moon, plans of the agency to explore the moon orbit, a research construction of a small aircraft to land at the Mars, and tests for the AI-based lunar landing space craft and gave necessary guidance.

SEE PAGE 6

NSPNC meets ALP for peace process

THE meeting between the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and the Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) was held yesterday morning in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said that discussions had already been held with the NCA-Signatory EAOs Negotiation Team on the next steps in the peace process. He stated that the door remains open for peace talks with any organization and that discussions with the NCA-Signatory EAOs Negotiation Team would continue. Bilateral meetings would also be conducted with individual organizations, and their needs would be addressed in coordination



The National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and the Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) meet for the peace process.

with the relevant ministries in accordance with the respect policies.

ALP Chairperson Saw Mra Yaza Lin said the talks were being held so that the people could live in peace. She said the party had followed the path of peace since 2010 and had taken a leading role throughout the implementation of the Nationwide Cease-fire Agreement (NCA).

The party has continued working for peace until today. The discussions were aimed at ending conflict and that the time had come to work towards building a Union based on democracy and a federal system, in line with the political goals set out in the NCA. She also said that now is a good opportunity to move the peace process forward and that the party will continue its

efforts to achieve lasting and sustainable peace for the benefit of the people.

The participants discussed matters relating to building a Union based on democracy and a federal system in line with political outcomes, cooperating with the government and the Tatmadaw to promote peace, stability, and development, preventing actions that could undermine mutual trust, improving the livelihoods of people currently in Sit-tway Township, Rakhine State, and Ayeyawady Region and delivering humanitarian assistance.

NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing discussed the peace policies adopted under the new government, the reforming of the relevant committees,

SEE PAGE 7

CI sheets, school uniforms provided in Falam

CORRUGATED iron sheets and school uniforms were provided yesterday morning to residents and students who had temporarily fled Falam and have since returned to the town.

During the donation ceremony, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo delivered remarks and, together with committee members, provided 1,200 CI sheets to residents whose homes had been damaged or destroyed after returning from temporary displace-

ment. A total of 3,000 sets of school uniforms were also donated to basic education students.

Afterwards, the deputy minister and officials met Christian religious leaders and town elders at the meeting hall of the District General Administration Department.

Falam elders outlined local development needs, while the deputy minister and officials responded with explanations and discussions on the issues raised. — MNA/MKKS



Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo warmly greets town elders in Falam, Chin State.

NATIONAL

National Museum and National Library represent nation’s history and cultural values

PRESIDENT of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing yesterday afternoon visited the National Library (Yangon) and the National Museum (Yangon).

The President visited the National Library (Yangon) in Pabedan Township. The in-charge of the library reported to the President on the work process of the library, implementation of the digital library, library service and dissemination of library science, functions of the children’s library, arrangements for students to visit the library, conducting the library management diploma course, raising public awareness about copyrights, and cooperation with international libraries and organizations.

In providing guidance, the President said that the National Library (Yangon) is one of the nation’s historic libraries. It is necessary



President U Min Aung Hlaing views around the National Library (Yangon).

to preserve and maintain valuable historical books and publications comprehensively. Historical records serve as the cultural values and true reflections

of the nation. It should be a library that houses books, literature, and records that contribute to the study of history, and it should become a meaningful and

valuable library.

The President inspected the digital library on the first floor of the National Library (Yangon), the reference reading

room, general reading room, and rare literary reading room on the second floor, the children’s library on the third floor, the data centre, bookshelf and small museum on the ground floor, where he viewed the books and publications. The President presented cash awards to librarians.

At the National Museum (Yangon) on Pyay Road in Dagon Township, Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum reported to the President on the display of artefacts, visits of people and students, staging the internal and international shows, Efforts to submit Myanmar’s Thanaka and tea cultural tradition for inscription on the UNESCO list, visits of the State level dignitaries, efforts to emerge the digital museum, conducting the post-graduate museum diploma courses, and

cooperation with international museums.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the National Museum serves as a place that represents the history and cultural values of the nation. Visitors will be able to see the strong and rich historical heritage of the country. Those who come to observe the museum will gain knowledge and understanding of the nation’s history and cultural values, fostering a sense of appreciation and a desire to preserve them.

It is necessary to firmly present historical records from different eras. By continuously viewing history from one period to another, people will come to understand and appreciate their national identity, pride in their heritage, and the great traditional values of their race, religion, and culture.

SEE PAGE 7

Union Minister urges passing down of marionette knowledge to younger generation

UNION Minister for Hotels, Tourism and Culture U Maung Myint urged that in order to protect against the declining number of experts in the Myanmar marionette theatre industry, the younger generation must be taught through the passing down of knowledge and continuously cultivated.

The Union Minister made this remark at the opening ceremony of the “Myanmar Traditional Marionette Crafting Training Course,” which was jointly organized on

26 July by the ministry and the Myanmar Cultural Heritage Trust.

“In the Myanmar marionette theatre field, experts are becoming scarce; in particular, it has been observed that there are very few experts who make traditional Myanmar string puppets. To safeguard against this decline in experts, it is necessary to hand down knowledge to the younger generation,” urged the Union Minister.

He further stated that Myanmar’s marionette theatre is a heritage dat-

ing back many years, and that there are records of it having performed not only domestically but also in foreign countries.

“The art of crafting Myanmar traditional string puppets is an art and craft that combines sculpture, painting, and design. A lifelike marionette is possible only if they are harmonious and beautiful. Particularly, for different characters such as the prince, princess, ogre, and monkey, it is an art that requires dedicated efforts” he said. — MT/ZN

Mandalay to host largest free youth festival on 1-2 Aug

FROM PAGE 1

The festival will bring together a wide range of activities centred on technology, fine arts and social networking, offering young people opportunities to learn, connect and enjoy themselves in one venue.

Highlights include an e-sports zone featuring MLBB Showdown and 1v1 Arena competitions, K-pop Random Dance Battle contests, live performances by popular artistes, The Biggest Local Brand Zone showcasing more than 30 local youth-oriented brands, and networking talk shows



This photo depicts an announcement for the Youth Festival Mandalay Edition Day 1 and Day 2 Agendas.

where participants can exchange knowledge, ideas and experiences.

The festival aims to provide young people in Mandalay with valuable

opportunities and enjoyable experiences. It will be open to the public with free admission from 10 am to 5 pm on both days. — TWA/MKKS

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Lawmakers debate vehicle registration, telecommunications, teacher pay and infrastructure projects

THE Third Pyithu Hluttaw held the 30th day of its second regular session on Monday in Nay Pyi Taw, where lawmakers questioned ministers on issues ranging from expired vehicle registrations and telecommunications services to teachers' salaries, drainage systems and rural road upgrades.

Deputy Minister for Transport U Tun Lu responded to a question from Daw Maw Maw Khaing, MP for Demawhso Township, regarding the re-registration of vehicles and motorcycles in Kayah State whose registrations expired more than five years ago. He said that although the 2020 Vehicle Safety and Management Law requires registrations to be cancelled after five consecu-



The 30th-day sitting of the second regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw is underway in Nay Pyi Taw.

tive years without renewal, exceptions are being made for conflict-affected areas. Owners who can provide proof of ownership, vehicle registration documents and recommendations from local authorities confirming they were displaced by

conflict will be allowed to re-register their vehicles after inspection. He added that township committees in remote areas may also submit renewal applications in bulk to the Loikaw transport office, where registrations can be renewed

without vehicle inspections as a special measure.

Replying to a question from MP U Ma Zoe Laung Wee of Lahe Township, Deputy Minister for Digital Development and Communications U Thet Win Aung said armed conflicts in the

region had damaged microwave transmission links, disrupting phone and internet services. Temporary satellite-based systems have been installed at three mobile stations, allowing 24-hour voice calls and SMS services, although mobile internet remains unavailable because of satellite capacity limitations. He said additional satellite equipment is being transported to restore internet access, while an experienced technical officer will be assigned to Lahe Township.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw Than Than Lin responded to a question from MP Daw San San Htay of Dagon Myothit (South) Township, saying that the government has no immediate plan to increase salaries or intro-

duce special allowances exclusively for teachers. She said salary adjustments are made uniformly for all civil servants, although education personnel already receive existing allowances, including administrative and academic qualification payments.

The session also heard government responses on plans to improve drainage systems in Yangon's Insein Township and upgrade several rural roads in Bago and Ayeyawady regions. Relevant officials said the projects would be implemented in phases, subject to funding availability in the 2027-2028 fiscal year.

The Pyithu Hluttaw adjourned after the session and is scheduled to resume its 31st sitting on 28 July. — MNA/ST

Space technology helps Myanmar ...

FROM PAGE 4

The President unveiled the MAH-1 Satellite Ground Control Station and Multi-Mission Operation Command and Control (MOCC).

The President and dignitaries watched a video clip on the accomplishments of the agency.

MSA Chief Executive Dr Soe Myint Maung handed over the 3D map data of the whole Myanmar to the President, who signed it to honour the successful accomplishment of the agency.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the establishment of the Myanmar Space Agency and the ongoing progress and development of its activities represent the realization of a dream for the nation. As the world is continuously advancing and changing every day, it is essential to gain knowl-

edge and understanding of space technologies and be able to apply them effectively for beneficial purposes.

He continued that through the use of space technology, detailed information on geographical changes occurring in Myanmar and around the world, as well as natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions and floods, can be obtained. Conducting research activities using satellites in this way will bring significant benefits to the Earth and humanity.

To improve space technology, the President outlined that it is necessary to produce and nurture highly capable human resources equipped with knowledge and expertise. As the development of space technology is a matter of national prestige, all efforts should be made to ensure the success of all

related activities. Human resources, equipment, and infrastructure that can further enhance these capabilities must also continue to be developed and provided.

The President stressed that if everyone strives and works towards the development of the nation's and its citizens' interests, economic prosperity, and socioeconomic progress, Myanmar will become a nation that can take pride in and proudly demonstrate its achievements in space technology both regionally and globally.

After the ceremony, the President met astronaut candidates who were preliminarily selected to serve as Myanmar's first astronauts.

At the meeting, the President provided guidance that the candidates must continuously study

and acquire knowledge and expertise that will support their future life journeys, including general knowledge, language skills, and technological know-how that is continuously evolving in line with the times. As those who have been selected up to this stage as Myanmar's first astronaut candidates, the President expressed his great pride and joy, together with their parents, and strongly urged them to continue making further efforts and striving for success.

Also present at the ceremony were Union Ministers U Mya Tun Oo, Lt-Gen Nyunt Win Swe, U Aung Kyaw Hoe and U Myo Thant, Chairman of the Space Science and Technology Development Commission U Myat Hein, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu and officials. — MNA/TTA

Placement Tests Open Path for OverAge Students

FROM PAGE 1

Age requirements will be relaxed to allow eligible students to sit the tests and be placed in appropriate grades, according to a ministry official.

Under the supervision of regional and state education officers, township education officers are verifying applicants' educational and age records. Children from stable areas will be allowed to sit the tests after their previous educational records have been reviewed and approved.

Children from emergency zone areas

with incomplete records may sit the exams upon certification of age and schooling by local administrators, teacher heads, and health officials.

The ministry also said that students who complete Non-Formal Middle Education (NFME) Level 3 will be recognized as having passed Grade 9. Students aged 13-18 may continue at regular high schools, while those over 18, eligible under the relaxed age criteria, can sit Grades 10-12 examinations through the external system. — ASH/KNN

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw continues lawmakers' debates for 22nd day

THE Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the 22nd-day at its convention hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Min Thu replied to the queries raised by MP U Sein Shwe Min from the Magway Region Constituency 4 about the installation of high-tech machinery to check illegal goods and suspects at checkpoints. The deputy minister stated that at checkpoints, modern X-ray station machines, high-tech scanners, and electronic endoscopes are being used to search for and detect narcotic drugs, weapons and ammunition, and illegal goods, and monitoring and inspections are being carried out using the PSMS (Person Screening and Monitoring System). Additional equipment needs to be installed and utilized at these inspection checkpoints but it depends on allocation of funds from the Union budget and the respective budgets of the relevant region/state gov-



The 22nd-day meeting of the second session of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw is in progress in Nay Pyi Taw.

ernments.

MP U Aung Kyaw Min from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 4 asked to allow farmers and MSME businesses to purchase fuel on a proper quota by issuing smart cards. Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Kyaw Naing Win replied that the Ministry will also coordinate with the relevant ministries to review and facilitate arrangements to ensure that farmers and MSMEs are able to purchase and obtain the

fuel they require.

Deputy Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing responded to the questions raised by MP Daw Mie Mie Kyaw Tun from the Kachin State Constituency 4, MP Dr Banyar Aung Moe from the Mon State Constituency 7, MP U Zaw Min Htoo from the Kayah State Constituency 11 and MP U Ngwe Tun from the Taninthayi Region Constituency 6. He stated that dismantling the dangerous school building and construction of a new

school building at Khinsara BEMS Branch in Tanai Township will depend on allocation of the state government fund.

Teaching Assistant and Language Teacher for ethnic languages appointed at the schools where ethnic languages are being taught to the students are not similar to workloads of primary assistant teachers. So, they cannot be allowed at PAT level and paid PAT salary due to the organizational setup and rules of the Ministry of Fi-

nance and Revenue. Moreover, Mawlamyine University is yet to establish the Mon literature, culture and history department.

School buildings at Dawtama BEMS are enough for current student numbers. But, to finish the buildings at BEHS 5 and Dawtama BEMS, the project value change process will be undertaken under the notifications, and the finishing of the buildings will be carried out in the nearest financial year. Plans are underway to dismantle dangerous school buildings and construct new buildings at Kyunsu BEHS in 2027-28 financial year.

Lawmakers continued discussions over the motion submitted by MP U Myo Thant from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 6, urging the government to amend Rules 103, 104, 106 (a), (b) and (f), and Rule 112 (a) of Chapter XII of the Farmland Rules, 2012, issued under Notification 2/2012.

In response, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Ye Tint Tun said that although only the emergence of “new” alluvial land islands can be allocated, if the newly emerged alluvial land islands are smaller in area, the allocation of such land may become even more complicated.

Since alluvial lands are unstable, being submerged under water every year and re-emerging in varying locations, sizes, and shapes, it would be more appropriate to regard all alluvial island lands as “newly formed”. If the original right holder is allowed to continue using alluvial island land where the area has decreased, those who have been cultivating the reduced area may be left without farmland to work on, which could lead to economic inequality among villagers, a decline in community unity, and land disputes.

SEE PAGE 10

National Museum and National Library represent nation's ...

FROM PAGE 5

The President visited the booths of the museum where royal regalia and insignia, as well as ancient objects with evidence from the pre-historic era, the Stone Age, the Bronze Age and the Iron Age are put on display.

The President, in his guidance, stated that by observing the historical exhibits at the National Museum in this way, people will be able to learn about the high national pride and prestige of Myanmar, its sophisticated and rich cultural heritage, and the achievements of Myan-

mar's ethnic peoples.

He underlined that as these are invaluable historical records that cannot be measured in terms of value, it is necessary to carefully preserve and manage them to prevent any damage or deterioration. At the same time, visitors should be allowed to study and observe these exhibits in an orderly and disciplined manner through proper supervision and preservation measures.

After signing the visitors' book, the President presented cash awards for staff to an official. — MNA/TTA

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Health and Sports Committee members

FROM PAGE 3

substandard medicines and strengthen the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

He also called for reviewing traditional medicine laws to promote high-quality traditional medicines, strengthening public awareness of

preventive healthcare, and encouraging the development of healthy citizens and talented athletes. He stressed the need for laws that support cooperation among the government, the private sector, and the public in developing the sports sector. He urged

the Hluttaw and committees to work closely with relevant authorities, introduce necessary legislation, and contribute to the development of the health and sports sectors during the Hluttaw's five-year term.

The Speaker met the visitors from Lahe Town-

ship, Sagaing Region, who came to observe the 30th day of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw session in the same afternoon. During the meeting, he explained the structure and responsibilities of the Hluttaws and the legislative process. — MNA/KTZH

NSPNC meets ALP for peace process

FROM PAGE 4

and the President's guidance on peace affairs. He stressed the importance of jointly seeking solutions through discussions focused on regional

peace and stability and future peace initiatives. He also discussed how the ALP could cooperate with local military units in supporting peace and stability in Rakhine State.

The two sides then reviewed and signed the record of the discussions. Afterwards, the ALP Chairperson delivered a vote of thanks, followed by closing remarks from

NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae. The meeting concluded with the exchange of commemorative gifts. — MNA/KTZH

Leverage efforts to control Hepatitis diseases

WORLD Hepatitis Day, which falls on 28 July, is an opportunity to step up national and international efforts on hepatitis, encourage actions and engagement by individuals, partners and the public and highlight the need for a greater global response as outlined in the WHO’s Global hepatitis report of 2017.

The theme for World Hepatitis Day 2026 is “Hepatitis: Let’s Break It Down.” The 2026 campaign calls on governments,

Worldwide, approximately 50 million people are living with chronic Hepatitis C infection, with about one million new cases occurring each year. Hepatitis C can be completely cured with effective antiviral treatments, while Hepatitis B can be prevented through proper and systematic vaccination. In Myanmar, Hepatitis B prevention measures are being carried out by administering Hepatitis B vaccines to newborn babies delivered at public hospitals and providing four doses of the pentavalent vaccine, which includes the Hepatitis B vaccine component, to children under five years of age.

yellowing of the eyes, abdominal swelling due to fluid accumulation, enlarged blood vessels, vomiting of blood, black stools, and kidney failure may occur. Therefore, special attention should be paid as these complications can become life-threatening.

Worldwide, approximately 50 million people are living with chronic Hepatitis C infection, with about one million new cases occurring each year. Hepatitis C can be completely cured with effective antiviral treatments, while Hepatitis B can be prevented through proper and systematic vaccination. In Myanmar, Hepatitis B prevention measures are being carried out by administering Hepatitis B vaccines to newborn babies delivered at public hospitals and providing four doses of the pentavalent vaccine, which includes the Hepatitis B vaccine component, to children under five years of age.

Regarding the prevention and control of hepatitis, medical professionals and responsible officials have to discuss and review the challenges they encountered in hepatitis treatment for the people, and coordinate efforts to ensure the effective and beneficial use of medicines and medical supplies for patients, as well as to provide improved medical care and treatment services.

healthcare providers, and communities to make hepatitis prevention, testing, and treatment services more accessible and easier to obtain. The theme highlights the importance of addressing health inequalities, removing barriers to healthcare access, and combating stigma and misinformation surrounding hepatitis in order to achieve the goal of eliminating hepatitis by 2030.

Liver diseases can be caused by viruses known as Hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E. The liver can also be damaged by taking medicines that are toxic to the body and by excessive alcohol consumption. Hepatitis can be transmitted through the consumption of contaminated food and water; receiving blood from patients infected with Hepatitis B or C viruses, direct contact with blood and body fluids without protection, the use of non-disposable syringes, and sexual transmission.

If hepatitis is not treated effectively, it can progress to chronic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, and even liver cancer. As complications of liver cirrhosis, symptoms such as

Growth Mindset: Unlocking the Potential of Today’s Youth

By Maung Maung Myint Thein (RIT)

ing digital technologies, learning foreign languages, or acquiring professional skills.

Improves Academic and Career Success

Students who believe that effort leads to improvement generally achieve higher academic performance because they embrace challenging assignments rather than avoiding them. Likewise, professionals who continually seek feedback and develop new competencies become more productive employees and stronger leaders.

Stimulates Creativity and Innovation

Innovation begins with experimentation. Young people with a growth mindset are willing to test new ideas without fearing mistakes. Many scientific discoveries, technological breakthroughs, and successful businesses emerged only after repeated failures and continuous refinement.

Strengthens Self-Confidence

Confidence grows through achievement, not perfection. Each obstacle successfully overcome reinforces a young person’s belief in their own abilities. This creates

lasting self-confidence grounded in experience rather than temporary success.

Develops Leadership Qualities

Successful leaders never stop learning. They remain open to constructive criticism, adapt to changing circumstances, and inspire others through their example. A growth mindset nurtures humility, emotional intelligence, teamwork, and sound decision-making – all essential qualities of effective leadership.

Promotes Better Mental Well-Being

Young people with a growth mindset are less likely to fear failure because they recognize mistakes as part of learning. This perspective reduces perfectionism, encourages optimism, and contributes to stronger emotional resilience and psychological well-being.

Supports Entrepreneurship and National Development

Entrepreneurs frequently encounter setbacks before achieving success. Those who adopt a growth mindset learn from unsuccessful

attempts, improve their strategies, and continue innovating. At the national level, a generation of resilient and innovative young people strengthens human capital, drives productivity, and contributes to sustainable economic growth.

Learning from Inspiring Examples

History offers countless examples of individuals whose achievements were built on persistence rather than natural talent alone.

Thomas Edison reportedly conducted thousands of unsuccessful experiments before creating a practical electric light bulb. Basketball legend Michael Jordan was once excluded from his high school basketball team but transformed disappointment into motivation. Business leaders such as Jack Ma and Elon Musk also experienced repeated failures before achieving international success.

These stories demonstrate an important truth: failure is rarely the opposite of success – it is often one of its essential foundations.

How Young People Can Develop a Growth Mindset

Developing a growth mindset begins with simple but meaningful habits. Instead of saying, “I can’t do this,” young people should learn

to say, “I can’t do this yet.” That single word reflects optimism and acknowledges that improvement comes through effort.

Students should challenge themselves with demanding subjects rather than avoiding them. Young professionals should embrace opportunities to learn new technologies and develop additional skills. Entrepreneurs should treat unsuccessful ventures as valuable lessons rather than permanent defeats.

Parents, teachers, and mentors also have an important responsibility. Rather than praising children only for intelligence, they should recognize persistence, discipline, creativity, and hard work. Educational institutions should encourage curiosity, critical thinking, collaboration, and innovation alongside academic achievement.

Preparing Youth for the Future

According to the World Economic Forum, analytical thinking, creativity, resilience, flexibility, technological literacy, and lifelong learning are among the most valuable skills required in the future workforce. These qualities flourish naturally when young people cultivate a growth mindset.

Countries seeking sustainable development must therefore

invest not only in infrastructure and technology but also in developing the attitudes and capabilities of their younger generations. A nation’s greatest competitive advantage lies in its people – their knowledge, adaptability, creativity, and determination.

Conclusion: Growing Beyond Limits

The future belongs not necessarily to those born with extraordinary talent, but to those who never stop learning. Every challenge offers an opportunity to grow, every failure contains a valuable lesson, and every effort brings us closer to excellence.

For today’s youth, adopting a growth mindset is more than a strategy for academic achievement or career advancement. It is a lifelong philosophy that encourages resilience, innovation, confidence, and responsible citizenship.

As the world continues to change at an unprecedented pace, the ability to learn, adapt, and improve will remain humanity’s greatest strength. By embracing a growth mindset, today’s young people can unlock their full potential, contribute meaningfully to society, and become the leaders, innovators, and changemakers of tomorrow.

The Origin of Inequality and Why It Can Never Be Entirely Erased

EVERYWHERE we look, life unfolds in unequal measure. One child opens his eyes to abundance, another to hardship. One enjoys health and strength, another bears illness from birth. Some possess remarkable intelligence, beauty, influence, or long life, while others struggle despite sincere effort. These differences are not confined to humanity alone. Throughout the living world, countless forms of life come into existence under strikingly varying conditions. Diversity is woven into the fabric of existence itself.

In search of a deeper explanation beyond the visible world, it points to the universal law of moral causation – Kamma or Real Creator. In its original sense, Kamma does not mean fate, luck, or divine

reward and punishment. It means intentional action (Cetana). Every intentional act becomes a cause, and every cause possesses the potential to bear fruit when the appropriate circumstances arise.

No two beings inherit the same history of intention; therefore, no two lives unfold in the same way.

From this awareness, inequality is neither accidental nor the result of heavenly favour or punishment. Rather, it echoes the immeasurable diversity of intentional actions accumulated throughout the endless journey of Samsara, the beginningless cycle of birth and rebirth. Since no two beings have cultivated precisely the same patterns of generosity and selfishness, compassion and

cruelty, honesty and deception, wisdom and ignorance, they cannot receive identical conditions of existence. Equality before the law is one of humanity’s greatest achievements; equality of karmic theory, however, is outside human option.

The Buddhist explanation of inequality is not an argument for blame, but for causation.

No one can know another person’s whole karmic history except the Buddha, and no status quo results from only a single cause. The present state of affairs also emerges through families, communities, institutions, and the countless interactions of society. Poverty should awaken generosity, not blame. Illness should inspire compassion, not condemnation.



The proper response to suffering is always wisdom joined with kindness. Modern civilization rightly seeks to lessen inequality through education, healthcare, just laws, economic opportunity, and social reform. Such efforts embody com-

passion and deserve wholehearted support. They can relieve suffering partially. Until now, they cannot entirely eradicate inequality itself because they cannot erase the distinct moral continuum carried by each living being.



If inequality begins in intention, then hope begins there as well.

The past influences the present, but it does not imprison the future. Every wholesome intention plants a new seed. Every

act of generosity weakens greed. Every word of truth strengthens integrity. Every moment of compassion converts both individuals and surroundings. The Five Precepts, refraining from harming life, stealing, sexual misconduct, false

By Htwe Ko
PhD in Economics
Faculty of Economics, Chiang Mai University

speech, and intoxication, are profoundly hopeful for social harmony.

While complete equality of worldly conditions may forever remain beyond human reach, the freedom to cultivate wisdom, compassion, and moral excellence belongs equally to all. In that shared freedom lies the enduring hope of Buddhism, not the promise of identical lives, but the possibility that every life can move toward greater peace, deeper understanding, and ultimately, liberation.

NATIONAL

Silent Classic ‘Mya Ga Naing’ ...

FROM PAGE 1

Mya Ga Naing is a black-and-white silent film first produced in 1934 by A1 Tin Maung. It starred Chit Shwe and Myint Myint, with supporting performances by U Htwar, U Bo Thaung, Bo Saw Gyi, Phu, Sai Tin, Tha Gaung, Gyan Sein and other members of the A1 film troupe. — MNA/MKKS

Eainme’s small-scaled income-generating businesses inspected

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development (DRD) conducted a field inspection on 26 July to monitor the progress of small-scaled income-generating businesses supported under the Mya Sein Yaung (Emerald Green) Village Project in Daunggyi Village, Eainme Township.

Officials of DRD visited the village along with members of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Committee. They inspected the progress of small-scaled livestock farming businesses financed through the project’s revolving fund, reviewed project records and documentation, and assessed the overall implementation of the project. The district head of department also met project committee members and village beneficiaries to discuss their needs and coordinate necessary support.

The Mya Sein Yaung Village Project was launched in Daunggyi Village during the 2016-2017 financial year. Under the project, a total of 123 members received low-interest loans from a revolving fund of K48.8 million, including 38 farmers, 25 livestock breeders, 25 traders, and 35 people engaged in other livelihood activities. According to the Department of Rural Development, Myaungmya District, the revolving fund has been effectively managed, enabling beneficiaries to successfully operate and sustain their small-scaled income-generating businesses. — Myo Myo (Rural)



Officials oversee a small-scaled income-generating business in Eainme Township.

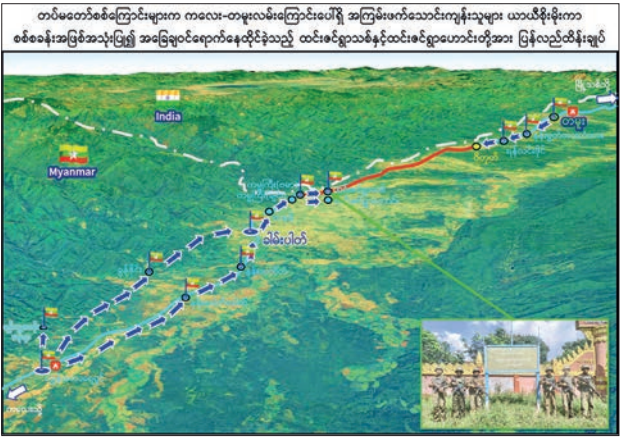
Security operations underway to reopen Kalay-Tamu route

TATMADAW columns are conducting security operations to regain control of and reopen the strategically important Kalay-Tamu route for Myanmar-India border trade.

Since 7 June, separate columns advancing from Kalay and Tamu have recaptured towns and villages along the route, including new Htinzin Village and old Htinzin Village, which had been used as temporary bases by terrorist groups.

Clashes occurred during the operations, with weapons, ammunition and related equipment seized from the groups, who reportedly withdrew after suffering casualties.

Security operations are continuing, alongside efforts to repair and rebuild damaged homes, buildings, roads and bridges in cooperation with relevant authorities. — MNA/MKKS



This map shows Tatmadaw columns regaining the control of the two villages.

777 suspects linked to online gambling arrested in Myawady

TATMADAW columns conducting area security operations in Myawady Township, Kayin State, carried out necessary security measures based on information that illegal online scam and gambling activities were being operated in the Kyaukkhat area. On 25 July, they raided the area and arrested a total of 777 people involved in online scam and gambling activities from seven one-storey zinc-roofed buildings and one three-storey zinc-roofed building. Among those arrested were 620 Chinese nationals (men), 11 Chinese nationals (women), 32 Myanmar nationals (men), and 111 Myanmar nationals (women). They were also found with equipment used for online scam and gambling activities, including one Starlink receiver, 85 computers,



This image, including an inset, features arrestees and seized scam-related materials.

and 183 mobile phones.

To identify and arrest those involved in the illegal online scam and gambling operations, military columns began preparations and security operations in Laykaekaw from 6 July. During the operations, clashes occurred with combined groups of KNLA and PDF groups, providing protection to those involved in online scam and gambling activities in exchange for payment.

The clashes occurred at about 2,000 metres south of Yathegu village in Myawady Township on 9 July, about 5,500 metres southeast of Laykaekaw on 12 July, about 8,600 metres southeast of Laykaekaw on 16 July, about 10,000 metres southeast of Laykaekaw on 21 July, and an area near the Myanmar-Thailand border, about 7,000 metres south of Minletpan village, on 25 July. As a result, buildings used for illegal online scam

and gambling operations and those involved in the activities were captured.

During the operations, clashes also took place with terrorist groups, and 13 bodies of terrorists, nine assorted weapons, ammunition, fortified concrete bunkers, temporary shelters, and related equipment were seized.

Once investigations are complete, those arrested for online scam and gambling activities will face legal action under existing laws. Seized business equipment will be processed in line with official procedures.

The government continues active cooperation with neighbouring, regional, and international partners to stamp out online scams and gambling, preventing such illegal operations from taking root in Myanmar. — MNA/KTZH

HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw continues lawmakers’ ...

FROM PAGE 7

Regarding the provision in Rule 106 (b) referring to the village determined as the one “closest to the alluvial island land”, it will be necessary to conduct comprehensive discussions and reviews from all aspects in order to

make revisions in accordance with the provisions of the existing Farmland Rules and the amended law.

Since there may still be many other matters requiring further action under the Farmland Rules in relation to the provisions of Section 11 of the Amendment to the Farmland Law 2020, it will be necessary to conduct

a comprehensive review and extensive discussions from all perspectives to determine whether amendments, additions, or repeals are required at the present time. Matters relating to alluvial island land as prescribed in the

Farmland Law will need to be further addressed and implemented accordingly.

The Amyotha Hluttaw approved the motion. The Amyotha Hluttaw will continue its 23rd-day meeting on 30 July. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Fisheries Dept warns of flood risks in fish farms

THE Department of Fisheries has issued a warning to fish farmers to take preventive measures against flooding and inundation of fish ponds.

Fish farming contributes to ensuring national food security and earning foreign revenue through exports. Heavy rainfall and river flooding might submerge fish ponds. The Department of Fisheries has advised fish farmers to follow the measures to prevent fish farms from flooding and minimize damage.

Fish farmers need to strengthen pond embankments by reinforcing weak or low areas with sandbags to prevent banks from washing away. If flooding occurs, they need to put mesh nets around the ponds to prevent fish from escaping. For ponds near water currents, farmers must drive stakes and erect bamboo fences, and place sandbags to prevent erosion. They also need to prepare fishing nets, motorboats, and equipment in advance to allow for relocation of fish if necessary, with priority given to moving broodfish.

They need to move stored fish feed and operational supplies to higher ground and maintain regular feeding to discourage fish from escaping. Constant monitoring of water outlets, overflow points, and areas where water may overtop the pond banks is required.

Fish farmers need to prepare communication methods in advance to receive real-time updates on unusual conditions. They must listen carefully to emergency weather warnings broadcast on state radio and other stations, regularly read weather news and articles in local daily newspapers and exchange information among the fish farmers. They can contact the nearest Department of Fisheries office for assistance in an emergency, the department stated.

— NN/KK

IWUMD seeks tenders for solar water pumping projects in 3 regions

THE Department of Irrigation and Water Utilization Management (Water Resources) called for an open tender to procure goods and works for solar water pumping projects in Mandalay, Bago and Magway regions for the 2026-2027 financial year.

The goods/works categories are purchase of one lot of water pumps and related accessories, one lot of electrical accessories, one lot of construction materials, one lot of diesel, one lot of cement and steel bars and one job for rental of earthmoving vehicles.

Tender forms will be available for purchase at the department until 10 August. The deadline for submitting open tenders is at noon on 11 August. The tender opening will take place at 1 pm on 14 August.

Tender forms can be obtained during the specified period from Supply Division-2 of the department, Office 50 in Nay Pyi Taw. Individuals can enquire about details through the department at 09 259271917, 09 5240217, 09 5152370 and 09 426450812.

— NN/KK

Tangyan's MSY village project loans disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Khoyaung Village, Khoyaung Village-tract, Tangyan Township, yesterday.

Tangyan Township Department of Rural Development Head U Khine Min Tun Sar explained that the revolving funds were provided with the objectives of creating employment opportunities and increasing family incomes for rural residents, as well as implementing village development activities with the interest earned from the revolving funds. Officials then explained project activities, interest rates, loan periods and rules and regulations to be followed, and handed over K68 million



A village representative receives the project fund in Tangyan Township.

in revolving funds to members of the project implementation committee.

Khoyaung, Panmikhone and Hongtauk villages are implementing systematic agricultural activities using K68 million from the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project. Under the supervision of the township department, members of the project committee disbursed the 11th round of revolving loans at low interest rates to a total of 32 project members engaged in agricultural activities in the three villages. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

Depression News No 2, 2026

Issued at 7 am MST on 27 July 2026

Depression Condition

According to the observations at 5:30 am MST today, the Depression area over the Northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining (North Odisha-West Bengal) Coast (India) has moved North-Northwestwards. It is centred at about 275 Nautical miles Northwest of Sittway (Myanmar), 80 nautical miles East-Northeast of Chandbali and 80 nautical miles South-Southwest of Canning, India.

It does not intend to move towards the Myanmar coasts at the present stage and therefore the Depression is coded as yellow stage.

Position of Depression, centre pressure and wind

The Depression is located at Latitude 21.1 degree North and Longitude 88.1 degree East, centre pressure of Depression is 994 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 35 miles per hour at 5:30 am MST today.

Next 24 hours forecast

It is likely to intensify into a Deep Depression, move northwestwards during the next six hours and may cross North Odisha and the West Bengal Coasts between Chandbali and Canning, India during next 24 hours. Squalls with rough sea are likely at times in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strikes, lightning, hails, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH

NUAC accepts applications for 1st-year admission

THE national University of Arts and Culture (Yangon) opens applications for first-year admission of Bachelor's degrees in Music, Drama, Painting, Sculpture, Cinema & Theatre, and Cultural Heritage Management for the 2026-2027 Academic Year.

Applicants must have passed the Matriculation Examination (KG+12). They must be fit and healthy. Most importantly, they must have a genuine interest in the arts. Qualified applicants must undergo an interview. There will be no preferential thresholds based on an applicant's gender. Citizens, Naturalized and Associate Citizens are eligible to apply for it.

Upon completion of the programmes, degrees will be awarded in the chosen specialization. Applicants may select their preferred field on a priority basis. The four-year bachelor's degree programmes are Bachelor of Arts in Music, Drama, Painting, Sculpture, Cinema & Theatre, and Cultural Heritage Management. Application forms can be obtained and submitted at the National University of Arts and Culture, located at 1/A, Aung Zeya Road, Ward 26, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon Region. — NN/KK

NATIONAL

MNHRC, MIDO hold joint awareness seminar on business and human rights

THE Myanmar National Human Rights Commission consistently carries out activities to effectively implement the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the provisions of Section 22 of the Commission Law. In collaboration with the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Organization (Central), the Commission jointly held the opening ceremony of an awareness seminar on Business and Human Rights on 27 July 2026 at the Myawaddy Media Centre in Yangon. Approximately 520 attendees participated in the seminar, including the chairman and members of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission; the deputy director-general and directors of the Commission Office; staff and officials of the Commission Office; the chairman and representatives of the INGO Peace organization from Japan; the chairman and executive committee members of the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central); officials from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Indus-



A joint seminar on business and human rights is underway on 27 July 2026.

try; Myanmar-Japan businesspeople, officials from relevant ministries, and invitees. Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Chairman U Thit Linn Ohn first delivered the opening address. In his speech, he stated that today's awareness seminar is a collaborative effort between the Commission and the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central). He elaborated on the objectives of the seminar, which include: promoting cooperation between the government and businesses to prevent human rights violations caused by business activities; fostering sustainable economic development; and enhancing awareness and compliance with laws related to business operations and international human rights standards. He emphasized

that while economic development is crucial for a nation, it requires the collaboration of both domestic and international businesspersons. In doing so, he stressed the importance of respecting legal procedures and proactively understanding and preventing potential human rights impacts from business activities. He pointed out that economic development, human rights protection and promotion, and environmental conservation are interconnected and inseparable vital components. He urged all stakeholders, including the government, businesses, civil society organizations, and international partners, to collaborate with mutual trust to achieve sustainable development. He also mentioned that in 2011, the United Nations adopted the UN Guiding

Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), and many countries now recognize Business and Human Rights as an important fundamental principle. Following this, Mr Hiroyuki Nakazawa, Chairman of the Ingo Peace organization from Japan, gave an introductory speech. Subsequently, U Wunna, Chairman of the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central), also delivered an address. During the awareness seminar on Business and Human Rights, the following presentations and discussions were held: Dr Nu Nu Yi, Member of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, spoke about the fundamental concepts of human rights; Dr Tin Htay Ei, Member of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, discussed about the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and the relationship between human rights and the environment; and Dr Khine Khine Win, Deputy Director-General of the Commission Office, spoke about Business and Human Rights. — MNHRC

Thanlyin's livelihood activities for rural households inspected

THE Department of Rural Development conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the progress of household income-generating activities financed under the Rural Households Livelihood Improvement Project in Sigon Village, Thanlyin Township. Deputy Director-General Daw Nyo Nyo Win from the Department of Rural Development and officials visited the village to inspect the progress of systematic livestock breeding and agricultural activities. They also met members of the village development committee to examine whether the monthly financial records had been properly completed and urged committee members to expand household income-generating activities while ensuring systematic management of project funds to prevent any loss or misuse, coordinating necessary support in response to issues raised by local residents. At present, a total of K12.6 million provided to 28 households during the first project cycle generated K18.74 million in profits, while K10 million disbursed to 23 households in January 2026 for the second cycle resulted in K21 million in profits. For the third cycle, K7.75 million will be disbursed to 18 project members in Sigon Village, who are continuing to operate and expand their livestock breeding activities with support from the project funds. — Karan (Rural)



Officials review the progress of village development projects in Thanlyin Township.

Myanmar-China Cultural Exchange Showcases Heritage at Junction City

THE 'Mountain Love, Breeze Trust' bazaar is taking place from 10 am to 8 pm from 27 to 29 July in the promotion area of the Junction City in Kamayut Township, Yangon Region, organized as part of the Myanmar-China Cultural Exchange Week. The 2026 Myanmar-China Twin City Media Forum is slated to be held concurrently. The bazaar will feature traditional Myanmar products such as Thanaka, pickled tea leaves (Laphet), lacquerware, MSME products, and traditional woven textiles, and products from Yunnan Province of China, including dried tea leaves, coffee, and handicrafts. Moreover, performances featuring songs and dances by artists from Myanmar and Yunnan Province will be presented at the event. The public is invited to come and enjoy the event. — ASH/KK

Myanmar's Azalea Stars Troupe wins Grand Prize at 2026 World Cultural Dance Festival

REPRESENTING Myanmar, the Azalea Stars troupe has brought honour to the nation by winning the highest award, the "Grand Prize," at the 2026 World Cultural Dance Festival held in the Republic of Korea. The festival took place on 10 July at the Jeonbuk National University Arts Centre in Jeonju, with dance troupes from 17 countries participating in the competition. The Azalea Stars troupe performed to the



Myanmar's Azalea Stars troupe competing at the 2026 World Cultural Dance Festival.

song "Mingalaba". They secured the highest award by artfully combining traditional Myanmar dance aesthetics, marionette string-pulling perfor-

mance arts, and intricate choreographed routines that symbolize the unity of all ethnic groups. In the competition, the second-highest awards were won by Japan (Gold Prize), Colombia (Silver Prize), Mongolia (Bronze Prize), and India (Special Prize), respectively. The Myanmar Azalea Stars Dance Team first entered the competition in 2023, winning a Bronze Prize, followed by a Silver Prize in 2024, and a Gold Prize with the song 'Rise Again' in 2025. Now, in their fourth participation in 2026, they have achieved the highest Grand Prize. — TWA/ZN

German carmaker Porsche to cut another 5,000 jobs

PORSCHE will cut a further 5,000 jobs in Germany by 2035, the German sports carmaker said Monday, marking a second round of workforce reductions. The cuts will affect po-

sitions at the company's headquarters in the Stuttgart region. In March, Porsche announced plans to cut around 1,900 jobs in Stuttgart by 2029 and allow a

further 2,000 fixed-term contracts to expire without renewal. Together with the latest plan, the company is set to reduce its workforce in Germany by about 8,900 positions. — Xinhua

New Porsche cars are ready for shipping next to the Volkswagen plant in Emden, northwestern Germany, on 23 April 2026 during a media day ahead of the National Maritime Conference. PHOTO: AFP



China's manufacturing upgrade, transformation taking shape in Beijing

INSIDE a former hardware factory in Beijing's Haidian District, space once occupied by metal-working machinery will soon accommodate fermenters, enzyme-reaction vessels and purification lines designed to move the production of complex glycans from laboratory development towards commercial use. The plant is being built by HealthSyn Biotechnology (Beijing) Co Ltd, a startup developing human milk oligosaccharides, complex glycans naturally found in human milk. Jiao Siming, founder and chief executive officer of the startup, described it



Robotic arms work in an energy storage production workshop at the Sigenergy Nantong Smart Energy Centre in Nantong, east China's Jiangsu Province, 24 July 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA as a "small but complete" demonstration facility where customers can see the production process and research teams can access pilot-scale testing services. The facility is taking shape at Jinnovation Park-Coresci, a park converted from a former hardware factory dating back to 1958. Workshops once used for conventional hardware

production are now being adapted to support research and development (R&D), pilot-scale testing and small-batch production across four fields: biomanufacturing, high-end medical equipment, advanced materials and embodied intelligence. As HealthSyn moves from laboratory research towards commercial production, the former hardware factory is taking on a new role as a base for emerging and future industries. Together, their transformations illustrate China's efforts to strengthen links between R&D, pilot-scale testing and industrial application. — Xinhua

Thailand's industrial output slips 3.1% in June

THAILAND'S industrial output extended its contraction for a third consecutive month in June, mainly driven by lower production in the automotive and petroleum sectors, official data showed on Monday. The Southeast Asian country's manufacturing production index (MPI) fell 3.10 per cent last month compared to a year earlier, marking the sharpest drop since last November, according to the Ministry of Industry. The shrinkage was compounded by volatile energy and freight costs stemming from the protracted Middle East con-

flict as well as elevated inflation, which raised living expenses and strained purchasing power and domestic demand, the ministry said in a statement. Despite that, recovering demand, particularly for consumer staples such as sugar, cleaning products, soap, and cosmetics, provided support, aided by the government's copayment stimulus and cost-of-living programme, said Supakit Boonsiri, director general of the ministry's Office of Industrial Economics. For the second quarter of 2026, the MPI dipped 1.79 per cent year-on-year, with average capacity utilization at 57.47 per cent. — Xinhua

Chinese company signs major wastewater treatment project in Kuwait

A Chinese construction company has signed a contract to develop a wastewater treatment plant in Kuwait as part of Belt and Road cooperation between China and the Gulf country. China State Construction Engineering Corporation Ltd (CSCEC) on Sunday signed the contract for the North Kabd Wastewater Treatment Plant and Related Works Project at Bayan Palace in Kuwait's Hawalli Governorate. Kuwaiti Minister of Public Works Noura Al-Mashaan said at the signing ceremony that the project is a major infrastructure and wastewater system development project in the

country and reflects deepened practical cooperation between Kuwait and China. The North Kabd Wastewater project reflects high-quality Belt and Road cooperation between China and Kuwait in infrastructure development and ecological and environmental protection. Upon completion, the project will further strengthen Kuwait's capacity for wastewater collection, transportation, and treatment and reuse of reclaimed water, while supporting the implementation of Kuwait Vision 2035 and the country's sustainable economic and social development. — Xinhua

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **Aon Holdings B.V.** a company organized under the laws of Netherlands and having its principal office at Admiralteitskade 62, 3063 ED Rotterdam, Netherlands is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark: -

A O N

(Reg: Nos. IV/5079/2001 & IV4717/2022)
(Application Number- T/2022/003537)

In respect of: - "Magazines and papers with regard to management consulting and executive search, career counselling, consulting services, personnel affairs (human resources), compilation and utilisation of mathematical and statistical data." Class: 16
"Risk management; business consulting; insurance and finance; investments; pensions and financing; financial risk analyses; assessing insurance claims; research in the areas of financing and insurance." Class: 35
"Reinsurance; investments and financial management with regard to funds; financial estimates and valuations." Class: 36
"Education; training courses; training programs; conference and seminars, with topics such as (re) insurance, risk management, executive search, employability, human resources, and personal effectiveness and development." Class: 41
Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates Company Limited
for **Aon Holdings B.V**
Phone: 09-780072249
Dated: 28th July, 2026

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HE SHUN VOY.NO. (0B82BS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HE SHUN VOY.NO. (0B82BS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **27-7-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day. Phone No: **2301185** Shipping Agency Department Myanmar Port Authority Agent For: **M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD**

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Shenzhou-23 crew reaches 60-day orbital mark with multiple science tasks



This image captured at Beijing Aerospace Control Centre on 25 May 2026 shows a group picture of the crew of Shenzhou-21 and Shenzhou-23 spaceships.

PHOTO: XINHUA

THE Shenzhou-23 crew has recently completed a study on gut microbiome changes as a result of long-duration spaceflight, as the three astronauts reached their 60th day in orbit aboard China's space station.

During this period, astronauts Zhu Yang-

zhu, Zhang Zhiyuan and Li Jiaying have also systematically carried out a range of tasks, including multiple scientific experiments, maintenance of the space station complex platform, and in-orbit health management, according to the China Manned Space Agency

(CMSA).

Using a space Raman spectrometer, the crew conducted research on microbiome and nutritional metabolism to analyze changes in intestinal flora and their effects on nutrient metabolism under extended spaceflight conditions.

They also performed a force control test to investigate the patterns of fine motor control changes and adaptive learning mechanisms during long-term orbital missions.

In-orbit rendezvous and docking training was recently carried out as scheduled, during which the crew completed image recognition exercises under various initial con-

ditions using a metacognitive training system.

The CMSA has recently opened a call for proposals for the space station's 2026 scientific research and application program, focusing on three major areas: space life sciences and biotechnology, space microgravity physics, and new space technologies and applications.

The program covers 23 specific research directions, including frontier exploration in space life sciences, mechanistic studies on material preparation processes under microgravity, and in-orbit manufacturing and construction technologies. — Xinhua

Vietnam declares emergency over flood-damaged highways in northern provinces

VIETNAM'S Ministry of Construction has declared an emergency to facilitate repairs to multiple damaged sections of two national highways in the northern provinces of Lao Cai and Lai Chau following heavy rains and flooding earlier this month, Vietnam News Agency reported Monday.

Under a decision issued by the ministry, the emergency covers damaged sections of National Highway 279 in Lao Cai and Lai Chau provinces as well as National Highway 32 in Lai Chau province.

The damage was caused by torrential rain and flooding between 15

and 17 July and poses a direct threat to the safety of drivers and vehicles, said the report.

The ministry instructed relevant authorities to inspect and assess the extent of damage to the road infrastructure, determine appropriate repair measures and issue emergency construction orders to restore the affected sections in accordance with regulations.

Heavy rain and flooding that struck Vietnam's northern region in mid-July left eight people dead in Lai Chau province, according to the Vietnam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority. — Xinhua



This photo taken and released by Vietnam News Agency (VNA) on 17 July 2026 shows rescue workers addressing the aftermath of flash floods in Muong Than Commune, Lai Chau Province, northern Vietnam. PHOTO: VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA)/AFP

Spain races to contain blazes before temperatures rise

SPAIN faces two crucial days to bring raging wildfires under control before weather conditions worsen, authorities said Monday, as Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez called on his citizens to "exercise extreme caution" ahead of a new heatwave.

Wildfires that broke out in forests around the Spanish capital at the height of the summer holidays have forced some 60,000 people to flee their homes, often with just minutes' notice, leaving pets and medicine behind.

"You run to save what you can and then you turn to defend" against the fire, said Karim Benali, 39, a volunteer who spoke to AFP on a road near Navalunga, west of Madrid.

"There were some 48 homes here, they burned," he said, surrounded by charred earth and trees blanketed with a persistent smell of smoke.

The fires devoured



A large pine tree with its hollowed trunk still burning from the inside, is seen in a scorched forest following a wildfire near La Adrada, 95 kilometres west of Madrid, on 27 July 2026. PHOTO: AFP

forests left tinder-dry by successive heatwaves and lack of rain since May.

Overnight, lower temperatures, weaker winds and higher air humidity helped make progress against the blazes west of the capital, the Madrid regional government said.

The flames have "slowed their advance", it said, while urging residents to remain "extremely cautious".

"The situation has improved slightly, but the

fire is still active," it said.

But with humidity levels set to drop and temperatures soar across Spain, hitting 40C in the centre and south according to meteorological agency AEMET, firefighters have only a small window of opportunity. **'Extreme caution'**

Interior Minister Fernando Grande-Marlaska told reporters that Monday and Tuesday "are absolutely decisive days" to control the fires, before

temperatures start rising again.

"The next two days will not bring the most favourable conditions, nor the ones we would have wanted, but they are two days in which we can take the initiative, make progress, and work towards controlling and containing the blaze."

AEMET said that from Tuesday the fire risk would "surge to very high or extreme levels across almost the entire country".

"This situation will persist, or may even worsen, in the following days," it added.

Reacting to the forecast, Sanchez said: "I ask for understanding and call on all citizens in all the country to exercise extreme caution and take every possible precaution."

"We face difficult hours, complex hours" ahead, he warned. — AFP

7 new suspected H5N1 bird flu cases reported in South Australia

AUTHORITIES in South Australia (SA) on Monday reported seven new suspected cases of the deadly H5N1 bird flu strain.

Clare Scriven, SA's minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, told reporters that all seven new suspected cases were found in greater crested terns located on the state's south-east Limestone Coast.

Of the suspected new cases, she said five were found in the same town

over two days. Samples from all seven birds were initially tested by local authorities and have now been sent for confirmatory testing by the Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness to determine if local transmission has occurred.

Once confirmed, it would take the total number of H5N1 cases in Australia to 27 after the highly pathogenic strain was first detected on the mainland in mid-June. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Inoue singles out Rodriguez, ready to move up class if no bout

UNDISPUTED super bantamweight world champion Naoya Inoue of Japan on Monday named American Jesse Rodriguez as his potential next opponent while expressing his intention to move up to featherweight should the matchup not materialize.

Inoue said during an event in his hometown of Zama, Kanagawa Prefecture, that there was a chance of facing WBA bantamweight super champion Rodriguez “around (next) February”, adding he would not fight for the rest of 2026.

Rodriguez, 24-0 in his career, will need to move up a category to face Inoue, who also has an eye on winning a world title at featherweight to conquer his fifth division if the bout does not take place.

“It’s whether the bout is on or not. I could

move up a category,” said Inoue, who is top of Ring magazine’s pound-for-pound rankings in which Rodriguez is fourth. “I’m not fixated about it (facing Rodriguez).”

“The Monster” Inoue beat compatriot Junto Nakatani by unanimous decision in May at Tokyo Dome — where both entered the blockbuster with 32-0 career records — and extended his record winning streak in world title bouts to 28.

Inoue has been having light sessions since defending his four belts in the classic encounter, having fought four times in 2025.

“I was in this position for around two years where I had my opponents already lined up once one was done,” Inoue said. “I suppose this is a period where I rest my body.” — Kyodo



Undisputed super bantamweight world champion Naoya Inoue (L) attends an event in Zama, Kanagawa Prefecture, on 27 July 2026. PHOTO: KYODO

Region/State Taekwondo Competition winners honoured in Yangon

THE finals and awards ceremony of the 2026 Regional and State Taekwondo Competition were held yesterday evening at National Indoor Stadium I in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region.

Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman and Union Minister for Sports U Ye Myint Tun, the Yangon Region minister for Social Affairs, the director-general of the Department of Sports and Physical Education and officials watched the final matches.

Athletes from Kayah, Mandalay, Mon, Ayeyawady, Shan, Kayin, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago and Chin teams received awards.

The best female athlete award went to Dee Myar from the Kayah State Team, while the best male athlete award was presented to Tun Lin Aung of the Yangon Region Team. The Yangon Region Team also won the women’s overall trophy with five gold and four bronze medals, the men’s overall trophy with seven gold and one silver medals, and the overall championship trophy with 12 gold, one silver and four bronze medals. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister U Ye Myint Tun presents the championship trophy to the Yangon Region team.

India, France, US share golds at ISSF World Cup in Hangzhou

INDIA’S Esha Singh claimed the women’s 25-metre pistol title, while France’s Carole Cormenier and William Hinton of the United States won the women’s and men’s trap events respectively at the 2026 ISSF World Cup here on Monday, with host China taking one silver and one bronze on home soil.

Singh, 20, put on a dominant display, taking the lead right from the start and never surrendering top spot with a total of 40 hits, three clear of China’s Zhang Yueyue.

Zhang got off to a slow start but found form midway through the final to climb into second place. India’s Manu Bhaker, a two-time bronze medallist at the 2024 Olympics, finished third. In the women’s trap event, Cormenier notched her first World Cup victory of the season with a composed performance. The Frenchwoman opened with a perfect first round and stayed consistent throughout the final, missing just three targets on her way to 27 hits. Rachel Tozier of the United States kept pace with Cormenier in the early stages before a handful of late misses dropped her to second place with 25 hits. Australian youngster Kiara Sioux-Lin Dean took the bronze.

The men’s trap final went down to the final series, with Hinton edging out Qatar’s Angelo Scalzone by a single hit for a hard-earned gold. — Xinhua

‘Good energy’ at Chelsea as Alonso kickstarts reign in Sydney

NEW manager Xabi Alonso said Monday there was “good energy” at Chelsea as he bids to turn around the club’s fortunes, but was reluctant to say what a successful first season would look like.

The Spaniard officially began the job on 1 July and will take charge of his first competitive fixture in Sydney on Tuesday when they face Western Sydney Wanderers.

He faces a huge task to get Chelsea back in the running for major honours after their disappointing 10th place finish last season and failure to make Europe.

They last won the Premier League a decade ago, under Italian manager Antonio Conte.

Alonso, who has made a series of pre-season signings headlined by Morgan Rogers from Aston Villa, said he liked what he had seen so far.

“We want to build a competitive team. We are in that process. We have great quality, great talent,” he said.

“We need to know what it takes to compete in the Premier League, and we want to have a squad with the right balance between quality and mentality.

“But I think that we are starting the new season with good energy, that’s going to be important.”

The former Liverpool and Spain midfielder rose to prominence as one of Europe’s brightest coaches by guiding Bayer Leverkusen to an unbeaten German league and cup double in the 2023/24 season. — AFP



English Premier League football club Chelsea’s team Manager Xabi Alonso speaks during a press conference in Sydney on 27 July 2026. PHOTO: AFP

Shenzhou-23 crew reaches
60-day orbital mark with
multiple science tasks

PAGE 14



WORLD

Xi says China ready to further strengthen bilateral, multilateral strategic coordination with Brazil

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said on Monday that China stands ready to further strengthen bilateral and multilateral strategic coordination with Brazil.

Xi made the remarks during a phone call with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Xi said in recent years, the building of a China-Brazil community with a shared future and the alignment of the two countries' development strategies have made positive progress, which has played an important role in advancing the development of both nations and improving the well-being of the two peoples, while contributing valuable stability to a volatile international

landscape.

Noting that this year marks the 105th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of China and the beginning of China's 15th Five-Year Plan, and that Brazil will usher in a key domestic political agenda, Xi said China stands ready to further strengthen bilateral and multilateral strategic coordination with Brazil, thus maintaining the positive momentum in building a China-Brazil community with a shared future.

Xi said that, in the face of new circumstances and challenges, China and Brazil, both important members of the Global South, should firmly stand on the right side of history, as well as the side of the progress of civilization, and play a



Chinese President Xi Jinping holds a welcome ceremony for Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva at the square outside the east gate of the Great Hall of the People prior to their talks in Beijing, capital of China, 13 May 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

greater constructive role in reforming and improving the global governance system, and upholding international fairness and justice.

The two sides should jointly promote the high-quality development

of greater BRICS cooperation, chart the right course for cooperation, maintain the momentum of unity, deliver more outcomes, and write a new chapter of solidarity and self-reliance for the Global South, he said. — Xinhua

Pentagon data show over 200 US troops wounded since US resumed Iran hostilities in July

FOUR US service members have been killed and 207 others have been wounded since the US military resumed hostilities against Iran in July, according to military casualty statistics updated by the Department of Defence on Sunday.

According to the Pentagon's Defence Casualty Analysis System, as of 25 July, the US military operation "Epic Fury" against Iran had resulted in 14 US military personnel killed and 417 wounded.

The database recently added a new "Overseas Operations" tracking category, which separately compiles US military casualties since 7 July, listing four deaths and 207 wounded. However, this new category only lists the names of the deceased and does not provide specific details such as the time, location, or cause

of the casualties.

Although all four deceased have been confirmed to have died in the new round of US-Iran conflict, the US Department of Defence has not yet confirmed whether all the wounded personnel are related to the US-Iran conflict.

Under US law, the president generally may not engage US forces in hostilities for more than 60 days without congressional authorization. According to media reports, the Trump administration sent a letter to Congress on 10 July stating that Iran's attack on three merchant vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz on 7 July violated a previous ceasefire arrangement. Based on this, the White House defined 7 July as the start date of a new round of hostilities with Iran. — Xinhua

No amount of western pressure can break Russia's economic or scientific backbone – Putin



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks during a meeting with members of the State Duma, the lower house of parliament, of the eighth convocation at the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

THE West is trying to undermine Russia's economic and scientific spheres, but the Russian people cannot be broken, Russian President Vladimir Putin said.

"Seeking to rattle the Russian state and provoke social division

in our country, [Western countries] have attempted to strangle our economy, financial system, and banking sector, and sought to undermine the potential of science, industry, and education," Putin said.

Having failed to pre-

vail over Russia militarily, the Western coalition is now openly employing terrorist methods against the Russian population, President Putin noted.

In the face of trials and external tribulations, the Russian people have responded with inner unity, Putin highlighted.

Putin described the past five years as difficult and extremely consequential for Russia.

Russia has long faced Western efforts to hold it back, but since 2022 the Russophobic machine has been put into full motion, Putin said. The president noted that the West is setting global "records", both in the sheer number of sanctions and in their utter ineffectiveness. — SPUTNIK

DR Congo's confirmed Ebola cases top 3,200 as outbreak remains in sustained transmission

THE number of confirmed Ebola cases in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has reached 3,200, with the death toll rising to 1,405, according to the latest situation report released by the country's health authorities late Sunday.

The report, covering data through Saturday, said the country had recorded 3,200 confirmed cases, including 1,405 deaths and 571 recoveries. A total of 773 patients remained in isolation, while 125 new confirmed cases and 51 confirmed deaths were reported over the previous 24 hours.

The report said Ituri Province remained the epicentre of the outbreak, accounting for 89 per cent of all confirmed cases.

The epidemic continues to be driven by popu-

lation movements, insecurity, artisanal mining activities, and cross-border travel with Uganda and South Sudan, according to the report. Authorities said they would continue strengthening surveillance, scaling up response measures, and limiting further spread of the virus.

The report said the outbreak remained in a

phase of sustained transmission, with a high level of virus circulation.

Treatment capacity also remained under pressure. North Kivu Province had 171 patients in isolation despite a capacity of 141 beds, corresponding to an occupancy rate of 121.3 per cent, while nationwide bed occupancy stood at 82.1 per cent. — Xinhua



Workers build an Ebola treatment centre in Beni territory of North Kivu Province, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), on 22 July 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**