

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



This photo shows delegations from China and Myanmar attending the China-Myanmar bilateral medical exchange programme.

China and Myanmar strengthen healthcare cooperation through medical exchange programme

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, bilateral medical exchanges and joint training programmes were conducted between China's Bishan District People's Hospital in Chongqing and Myanmar's North Okkalapa General Hospital.

changes and joint training programmes were jointly organized and arranged by the Foreign Affairs Office of Chongqing Municipal People's Government, the Consulate-General of Myanmar, and Bishan Hospital.

The programme aimed to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two hospitals, as well as to promote medical exchanges and joint training programmes, by inviting a delegation of

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Nay Pyi Taw Achieves 49.69% Matriculation Pass Rate as Top Students Share Success Tips

Nay Pyi Taw recorded a 49.69 per cent pass rate in the 2026 matriculation examination, with 7,021 of 14,131 candidates passing, according to results released nationwide yesterday morning.

Students, parents and teachers gathered at examination centres across the Union Territory from early morning to check the results.

Among the eight townships, Ottarathiri achieved the highest pass rate at 56.40 per cent, followed closely by Pynmana with 56.37 per cent and Tatkon with 50.40 per cent.

School heads said efforts were already underway to improve next year's performance. U Win Myint Oo, headmaster of No 5 Ba-



Students are seen viewing exam results for the 2025-2026 academic year at Basic Education High School No 14, Shwekyarbin, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday. **PHOTO: PO PYAE SONE**

sic Education High School, said his school recorded a 42.31 per cent pass rate, with 21 students earning distinctions, including three with distinctions in all six subjects.

"We hope to raise the pass rate further and produce more distinction winners next year," he said.

Headmistress Daw May Yin Mon of No 6 Basic Education High School said

her school achieved a 42.64 per cent pass rate and had begun providing additional tuition to current Grade 12 students from the start of the academic year.

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Female student from Mandalay secures nationwide first with 562 marks

ACCORDING to an official announcement released by the Department of Myanmar Examinations yesterday morning, a total of 255,228 candidates sat this year's matriculation examination nationwide.

Of these, 133,673 passed, giving an overall pass rate of 52.37 per cent. It was also announced that Ma Thiri Soe, a student from CAE Private High School in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Region, achieved the highest score in the country with 562 marks.

"When I first started studying, I never imagined I would achieve something like this. How-



Ma Thiri Soe, who achieved the highest score nationwide, is pictured with her parents.

ever, by continuing to work hard, I was able to succeed, and I am extremely happy. My headmistress was also delighted and telephoned to congratulate me. All my teachers at school taught us every lesson thoroughly

without leaving anything out. I am deeply grateful to my headmistress, my teachers and my private tutors. I am planning to study at the University of Medicine, Mandalay," Ma Thiri Soe told the media. — TWA/KNN

Policy introduced to diversify fuel import sources amid reliance on a single trading hub

DEPUTY Minister for Electricity and Energy U Kyaw Naing Win stated at the Pyithu Hluttaw session held on 25 June that Myanmar's fuel requirements rely on foreign imports and that the country currently depends on Singapore as its sole trading hub for fuel imports.

He added that, to ensure the nation's energy security, the government is implementing policies to diversify energy imports by exploring new sources and routes, as well as to promote energy trade with countries around the world.

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175 ancient religious structures damaged by Mandalay earthquake fully repaired

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Zalun disburses K56M under MSY Project using MMQR system

NATIONAL

175 ancient religious structures damaged by Mandalay earthquake fully repaired



This photo depicts officials inspecting religious buildings currently undergoing repairs.

AN official from the Department of Archaeology and National Museum, under the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture said that 175 ancient pagodas, stupas, temples, and religious buildings damaged by the 2025 Mandalay earthquake have been fully repaired over the past year.

A total of 1,799 ancient pagodas, stupas, temples, and religious buildings were damaged by the earthquake, with most of the affected structures located in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago regions, and Shan State.

“A total of 1,799 ancient

buildings were affected and damaged in Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, Bago Region, and Shan State. So far, we have secured donors for only 260 of them. Of those, 175 have been fully repaired and completed. Restoration work is ongoing on 98 buildings, while the remaining structures are yet to receive repairs. In Nay Pyi Taw, the Bagan pagodas in Nyaungpingyi have been completed. In Mandalay, the NanOo Pagoda inside the palace walls has also been completed. In addition, repair and maintenance work on

the Mandalay Royal Palace wall, funded through natural disaster relief funds, has been fully completed. These projects are now 100 per cent finished,” the official said.

Among the prominent heritage structures that have been restored are the Bagan pagodas in Nay Pyi Taw, the NanOo Pagoda inside the Mandalay Royal Palace, and the Mandalay Royal Palace wall.

Public donors have contributed over K1.319 billion towards the restoration of the ancient pagodas, stupas, temples, and religious buildings. — ASH/TH

Policy introduced to diversify fuel import ...

FROM PAGE 1

To prevent fuel shortages and maintain domestic price stability, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy is also negotiating long-term supply agreements with neighbouring and partner countries.

Furthermore, the ministry is using and monitoring digital systems to improve the management of the fuel supply chain and reduce unnecessary costs. These measures include installing Automatic Tank Gauge (ATG) systems in storage tanks, using GPS tracking sys-



This photo shows an oil tanker from Singapore at the port.

tems in fuel tankers, implementing QR code systems at retail stations, and conducting real-time monitoring.

The ministry is also closely monitoring and su-

pervising the entire fuel supply chain to ensure that the public can purchase fuel at reasonable prices while maintaining an adequate supply without shortages. — TWA/TH

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations on the expiry of one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
1. Dr May San Yi	Rector University of Foreign Languages, Yangon Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education
2. Dr Khin Kay Khaing	Rector University of Magway Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Press Release 7/2026

1. Education is not only a fundamental human right of every individual but also one of the essential pillars that supports the social, economic, and political development of a nation.
2. The right to education is guaranteed under Section 366 (a) of the 2008 Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Article 26(1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 28 and 29 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Myanmar is a State Party, Section 20 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law (2015), and Sections 46 and 47 of the Child Rights Law (2019).
3. The results of the 2025-2026 Academic Year Matriculation Examination were officially announced on 28 June 2026. Of the total successful candidates, representing a nationwide pass rate of 52.37 per cent, 36 inmates from Insein Central Prison under the Prisons Department successfully passed the examination. Including this year's achievement, Insein Central Prison has maintained a 100 per cent pass rate for five consecutive years. In addition, 10 inmates from Mandalay Central Prison also passed, bringing the total number of successful inmate candidates to 46. Among them five candidates obtained distinctions in three subjects, six candidates with distinctions in two subjects, and six candidates with a distinction in one subject. Furthermore, trainees from youth training schools and schools for persons with disabilities under the Department of Social Welfare also achieved successful examination results. These included two visually impaired students from Kyimyindine Daing School for the Blind, three trainees from Kyaikwaing Youth Training School, one trainee from the Girls' Training School in Mandalay, one trainee from Labutta Youth Empowerment Training School, and four trainees from Mandalay Youth Training School.
4. Investment in education is an indispensable investment not only for the future of each individual but also for enhancing a nation's competitiveness and ensuring its sustainable development. Therefore, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission extends its heartfelt congratulations to all students who successfully passed the 2025-2026 Academic Year Matriculation Examination. The Commission also expresses its confidence that continued efforts will be made to ensure the right to education for inmates in prisons, children in youth training schools, and persons with disabilities attending special schools.

MNHRC

NATIONAL

MSME Panel Pushes Fast-Track Production Wins

VICE-PRESIDENT U Nyo Saw, who chairs the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Work Committee, outlined the need to implement the guidance given by the President at the ceremony to mark the World MSME Day at the Work Committee meeting 1/2026 at the Ministry of Industry and MSME Development in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

He also emphasized the efforts to boost production of cotton, bamboo, rubber and coffee products, considering raw materials, technology, capital and skilled labour for the production of quality marketable products, to increase the quality and quantity of agricultural products, and exhibit further new items of MSME products from regions and states at the shows.

The Vice-President urged all to expand agricultural activities in



Vice-President U Nyo Saw delivers a speech at the meeting of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Work Committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

regions and states, grow oil crops in regions and states to ensure oil security, use domestic raw materials in production activities in implementing the One Region-One Product scheme, manage the supply of water and electricity, provide infrastructure and apply AI technology to operate MSME businesses to secure the Quick Win.

Work Committee Secretary Deputy Min-

ister Dr Aung Zeya and the MSME Agency Chair briefed the meeting participants on the accomplishments of the decisions made at the Work Committee 1/2025 meeting.

Vice-Chair Union Minister Dr Charlie Than reported on the work procedures of the work committee under the State policies.

The meeting participants discussed efforts

to develop the trading and service chain and beef up the bamboo, cotton, rubber and coffee industries.

The meeting ended with remarks given by the Vice-President.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, chief ministers of regions and states, deputy ministers and officials. — MNA/TTA

MSMEs Urged to Embrace Digital Shift as Myanmar Marks World MSME Day

THE World MSME Day commemorative event continued at Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC-I) in Nay Pyi Taw on its second day yesterday with expert discussions focused on strengthening Myanmar's small and medium-sized enterprises and their role in national economic growth.

Presentations covered topics including supporting MSMEs for economic development, future growth strategies, and the role of digital adoption in



Union Minister for Industry and MSME Development Dr Charlie Than meets regional MSME agency chairpersons at the World MSME Day commemorative event at MICC-I in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

building Myanmar's digital economy by 2030-2031.

At the closing ceremony in the evening, Un-

ion Minister for Industry and MSME Development Dr Charlie Than said the event reflected Myanmar's commitment to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals and strengthening international recognition of its policy direction.

He stressed the importance of digital transformation for modern MSMEs, highlighting a six-stage pathway: visible, trusted, paid, market-ready, delivered and growing.

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China and Myanmar strengthen healthcare ...

FROM PAGE 1

medical experts, doctors, nurses, and hospital management representatives from North Okkalapa General Hospital in Yangon, Myanmar, to Bishan District People's Hospital in Chongqing, China.

According to the reports, the Consulate-General of Myanmar in Chongqing is actively working to further expand cooperation between the two countries in the medical and education sectors, and the China-Myanmar

medical exchange programme will lay a solid foundation for broader cooperation in public health, medical services, research, and people-to-people exchanges.

The medical exchange programme was attended by Chinese officials, Consul-General U Kyaw Zeyar Lin of Myanmar in Chongqing, and a delegation from North Okkalapa General Hospital led by Professor Dr Nay Aung Tun. — ASH/TH

Tonzang development and repair works under review



Officials visit the Tonzang People's Hospital (50-bed) while the doctor examines a child at the Tonzang People's Hospital (50-bed).

DEPUTY Minister for Construction U Myo Myint, accompanied by members of the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee, inspected the progress of reconstruction work in Tonzang yesterday.

During an inspection of the Tiddim-Tonzang road, he instructed officials to improve drainage, construct culverts where needed, prevent rainwater damage and landslides, and ensure the road's long-term durability.

At the Tonzang Township General Administration Department,

he urged staff to follow laws and procedures, coordinate with relevant organizations and uphold the ministry's reputation, while addressing issues raised by departmental staff.

He also inspected the town's cyclone shelter and the Tonzang Township Hospital (50-bed), where he discussed operational needs with medical staff, reviewed outpatient services and preparations for inpatient admissions, and presented financial assistance and coffee packs to patients and hospital staff, according to official sources. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

Yangon Records 49.48% Pass Rate in 2026 Matriculation Examination

YANGON Region achieved a 49.48 per cent pass rate in the 2026 matriculation examination, with 23,203 of 46,889 candidates passing the exam, the results of which were released simultaneously at 103 examination centres across the region yesterday morning.

Yangon Region Education Office Director Daw San San Wai said the pass rate had fallen by four percentage points compared with last year but pledged to improve



Students and people check results of matriculation examination at BEHS 6 Botahtaung, Yangon, yesterday. **PHOTO: KANU**

results in the 2027 examination through targeted

measures to raise academic standards.

Among Yangon's townships, Kamayut

Township recorded the highest pass rate at 78.42 per cent, followed by Lanmadaw Township with 75.05 per cent and Bahan Township with 67.75 per cent.

At No 6 Basic Education High School in Botahtaung Township, 150 of 289 candidates passed, giving the school a 51.9 per cent success rate. Headmistress Daw Thin Thin Aung said the result marked an improvement on last year and that the school would

continue strengthening teaching to achieve even better results in 2027.

Education officials said support teams would visit lower-performing schools during the 2026-2027 academic year to identify shortcomings and provide assistance. The regional education office also plans to work with universities to deliver additional training for teachers as part of efforts to improve future matriculation results. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/ST

Mandalay Tops Nation in 2026 Matriculation Results as Highest Scorer Urges Students to Persevere

MANDALAY Region achieved the country's highest pass rate in the 2026 matriculation examination, with 28,393 of 45,635 candidates passing, giving the region an overall success rate of 62.22 per cent.

Students gathered at examination centres across Mandalay from 6 am yesterday to check their results, while teachers assisted with the orderly release of the results.

Dr Than Htike Soe, headmaster of No 16 Basic Education High School, said the school's pass rate had improved by about five percentage points compared with last year, while the number of students gaining five distinctions had risen from one to four.



Dr Than Htike Soe. **Photos: Ko Myo**

"Both our pass rate and the number of distinction winners increased. It reflects the hard work of our teachers and students," he said. The nation's highest-scoring student, Ma Thiri Soe, who earned distinctions in all six subjects, said her success was built on consistent daily study and repeated practice using past examination papers.

"I worked hard but never expected to finish first.



Ma Thiri Soe

If you keep trying, you can achieve your goals," she said.

National second-place student Maung Sithu Bo also credited his achievement to the support of his teachers and parents.

"Regular practice was the key. This success is not mine alone but the result of everyone who supported me," he said.

Several other top performers echoed the impor-



Maung Sithu Bo

tance of steady preparation rather than last-minute revision, encouraging future candidates to study consistently throughout the academic year. Meanwhile, all 10 candidates who sat the examination at Mandalay Central Prison passed, with four earning distinctions in three subjects, five gaining distinctions in two subjects and one receiving a distinction in one subject. — Myo Thant (Mandalay Daily)/ST

Nay Pyi Taw Achieves 49.69% Matriculation Pass Rate as Top...

FROM PAGE 1

Successful candidates attributed their achievements to consistent study and disciplined preparation. Six-distinction winner student Maung Myat Htet Oo said he revised each day's lessons immediately after school and repeatedly practised weaker subjects.

"Don't be intimidated by the Grade 12 examination. Regular revision and practice will help you achieve your best," he said.

Another top-performing student, Ma Myint Myat Thazin, encouraged future candidates to follow a study timetable while taking care of their health.

"Study calmly, stay organised and avoid unnecessary stress," she said. — Aye Aye Thant/ST



Students are seen viewing exam results for the 2025-2026 academic year in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday. **PHOTO: PO PYAE SONE**



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

NATIONAL

2026 matriculation exam results released

THE results of the 2026 Matriculation Examination and the 2026 Industrial, Agricultural, and Livestock Matriculation Examination were officially released yesterday morning across the

nation. The results were published online at 4 am via www.myanmarexam.org, where candidates can view results by examination centre, and at result.dme.gov.mm,

where results can be checked using candidate roll numbers. In addition, result lists were made available at respective examination centres and township education offices start-

ing from 6 am for public viewing. A total of 255,228 candidates sat for the matriculation exam, with 133,673 passing, resulting in a pass rate of 52.37 per cent. For the industrial,

agricultural, and livestock matriculation exam, 3,364 candidates sat, with 1,672 passing, giving a pass rate of 49.70 per cent. The results, including regional breakdowns and the top 10 highest

scorers by subject combination, have also been uploaded to www.myanmarexam.org for easy public access, according to the Department of Myanmar Examinations. — MNA/KZL



Dawbon, Yangon Region.



Gyobingauk, Bago Region.



Kalaw, Shan State.



Kyaikto, Mon State.



Mawlamyinekyun, Ayeyawady Region.



Minbu (Saku), Magway Region.



Mohnyin, Kachin State.



Myeik, Taninthayi Region.



Myitkyina, Kachin State.

Yangon Produces Three National Top-10 Matriculation Achievers

YANGON Region recorded three students in the national top 10 of the 2026 matriculation examination, with outstanding performances in both the Science and the Arts and Science combination streams.

A total of 46,889 students sat the examination in Yangon, of whom 23,203 passed, giving the region an overall pass rate of 49.48 per cent.

The region also produced 79 students with distinctions in all six subjects, 297 with five distinctions, 641 with four, 988 with



Dr Sandar Mya Nyein. Photos: Zwe Marn



Ma Thet Hnin San.



Ma May Myat Thae Khine.



Maung Kaung Khant Zaw.

three, 1,175 with two and 2,479 with one distinction.

Among the national top performers, a student from No 14 Basic Education High School in Hline-thaya (East) secured first place in the Arts and Science combination stream.

In the Science stream, a student from No 1 Basic Education High School, Dagon Township, ranked fourth nationwide, while another student from Mahosadha Private High School in Hlegu Township placed fifth in the Arts

and Science combination stream.

Dr Sandar Mya Nyein, headmistress of No 1 Basic Education High School in Dagon Township, said the school achieved a 75.5 per cent pass rate, with 188 of its 249 candidates

passing, including 86 students with distinctions. She attributed the success to close cooperation between teachers, parents and students, supported by regular assessments and targeted assistance for weaker pupils.

National Science stream fourth-place winner Ma Thet Hnin San said her achievement was the result of consistent daily study, guidance from her teachers and unwavering support from her parents. She advised future candidates to maintain a balanced study routine,

practise essay writing regularly and allow time for rest while staying focused.

Other top Yangon achievers, including regional fourth-place student Ma May Myat Thae Khine and regional seventh-place student Maung Kaung Khant Zaw, also credited disciplined study habits, systematic preparation and the encouragement of their families and teachers for their success. Both expressed hopes of studying medicine and serving the country in the future. — Thitsar (MNA)/ST

NATIONAL

Specialist medical teams extend healthcare services in Taunggyi

UNDER the programme organized by the Ministry of Health, a medical team comprising senior specialists from Mandalay General Hospital and the 550-Bed Mandalay Children's Hospital and Mandalay Children's Hospital provided free medical treatment at Sao San Htun General Hospital in Taunggyi, Shan State (South) for two days, on 27 and 28 June, along with specialists from Sao San Htun General Hospital.

During this outreach, a total of 1,642 patients received treatment, including individuals from 11 townships in Shan and Kayah states. The medical conditions treated ranged from cardiac diseases, gastrointestinal issues, and neurological ailments to orthopaedic



The specialist and health staff perform medical checkup on the patient with the aid of diagnosis machines in Taunggyi on 27 and 28 June.

and dermatological problems, among others.

Additionally, medical check-ups included procedures such as Echocardiography, Oesophago-Gastro-Duodenoscopy (OGD) Scope, Colonos-

copy, CT scans, X-ray examinations, laboratory tests, ultrasound scans, and electrocardiograms (ECG). Some patients requiring further treatment were referred to relevant hospitals.

Ministers of Shan State Government Col Sein Win and Daw Nang Kham Lu and other officials comforted the patients and provided locally produced gifts to the medical mission. — MNA/KZL

Up to 120 Myanmar EPS workers sent to ROK

UNDER the arrangement of the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA), over 120 Myanmar EPS workers arrived in the Republic of Korea, said the Myanmar Embassy to the Republic of Korea on 25 June.

Among them, the arrival of 22 manufacturing workers and 61 construction workers was seen on 16 June and the arrival of 45 manufacturing workers was seen on 24 June.

The labour attaché from the embassy in Seoul welcomed them, advised them what they should



More than 120 Myanmar EPS workers are seen arrival at the Incheon International Airport.

follow and provided necessary assistance. Upon their arrival, Chargé d'Aff-

aires/Ambassador U Myo Myint Maung greeted those workers via a vid-

eo call.

He urged workers to take care of health and be aware of workplace safety and to respect existing laws of the two countries. He also told workers to contact the embassy if they have any difficulty, said the embassy.

In addition, 11 agriculture workers and three service workers arrived on 9 June, 99 manufacturing workers and five construction workers arrived on 10 June and a re-entry worker arrived on 11 June, according to the embassy. — MT/ZS

MSMEs Urged to Embrace Digital Shift ...

FROM PAGE 3

The Union minister also outlined ongoing financial support measures, including low-interest, collateral-free MSME loans in cooperation with nine local insurers at a five per cent interest rate. He added that businesses could access global market information through the ASEAN Access online platform.

He further noted upcoming opportunities for exporters, including a 8 July training session on exporting to Germany and a China-ASEAN

business matchmaking event scheduled for 15-16 July.

All stakeholders must work together under a strong global partnership to drive national economic growth, the Union minister said, calling for closer coordination among government bodies, associations and entrepreneurs.

He also held discussions with regional MSME agency chairpersons on development plans and support measures for small businesses across the country. — MNA/ST

JLPT won't accept name, DOB correction only on exam day

FOR the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) July, name and date of birth correction will be accepted on exam date 5 July but it won't be accepted until certificates come out, said the JLPT organizing committee of the Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA).

Test takers who want to correct name and DOB will have to apply themselves at the office of the test site after all sections end, and original test voucher, original ID (passport, driving licence, citizenship scrutiny card) are required.

Test taker will have to fill in the correction

form and only name and date of birth are eligible to make correction. The correction is not allowed if name and date of birth are different in ID and test voucher.

The correction period will be unavailable during the certificate issuing period. It will take 2-6 months for applications after the certificate issuing period and may be longer depending on the number of applications.

A correction per certificate is allowed and it is only eligible within a year after the exam date, said the JLPT organizing committee. — MT/ZS

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



NATIONAL

Basic sewing training completion ceremony held in Magway Township

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development held a concluding ceremony for the Basic sewing training in Aungmyaygon Village, Magway Township, on the morning of 27 June at the village monastery's Dhammayon hall.

The training was conducted as part of the 2026-2027 financial year, with the aim of creating job opportunities for rural women, supporting their livelihoods, and improving their living standards.

In his opening remarks, U Kyaw Zaw Hein, Head of the Magway Region Department of Rural Development, encouraged the graduates

to utilize the basic sewing skills they had acquired to generate income for their families and urged them to continue pursuing advanced training in the field. Officials presented awards to the top three outstanding trainees and issued certificates of completion to all participants.

U Kyaw Zaw Hein explained that the training was provided free of charge for 45 days to 20 trainees. The curriculum included both theoretical and practical instruction in basic sewing techniques, tailoring, and the making of pillowcases, children's trousers, children's shirts, and women's blouses. — Nyein Thu (Rural)



The concluding ceremony of basic sewing training in progress in Magway Township.

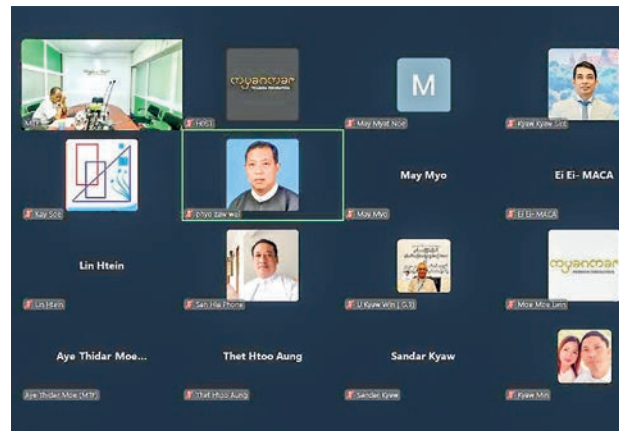
MSMEs tea talk to discuss tourism sector challenges

AN MSME 'Tea Talk' on small and medium-sized enterprise development in the tourism sector will be held on 30 June at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

The discussion aims to address challenges facing tourism MSMEs and strengthen cooperation among stakeholders. A virtual coordination meeting held on 24 June covered policy

issues, stakeholder engagement, capacity building and funding support.

The Tea Talk will be held in two sessions, with the outcomes forming the basis of a seminar involving relevant ministries and officials. The findings and recommendations will be compiled into a report and submitted to the relevant authorities to support the long-term development of tourism MSMEs through policy assistance. — TWA/KZL



A coordination meeting for the MSMEs "Tea Talk" held via virtual conference (online meeting) in preparation for the event.

Zalun disburses K56M under MSY Project using MMQR system

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Ayeyawady Region, held a ceremony to disburse the revolving fund under the Mya Sein Yang Village Project through the MMQR Digital Payment System in AbyinleOo Village, Zalun Township yesterday. The funds were provided with the aims of improving rural people's access to digital financial services and reducing administrative burdens through the mobile banking system.

Zalun Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw May



An official presents loans to members of Mya Sein Yang Village project in Zalun Township.

Myo Han and officials met project members and explained that under the MMQR Digital Payment System, loan disbursement, interest collection, and principal repayment will all be carried out digitally. Project staff then

briefed the participants on the benefits of using MMQR, highlighting that it eliminates the handling of large amounts of cash, reduces transport costs, and ensures accurate transactions, and afterwards, the digital fund transfers were

successfully processed.

The committee members and officials disbursed K56 million of the project funds through the MMQR Digital Payment System directly to project members. Of the total amount, K56 million was provided to 105 project members in Abyinleoo Village, including 56 agricultural beneficiaries receiving K30.3 million, 48 livestock beneficiaries receiving K25 million, and one vocational beneficiary receiving K700,000, all of whom are operating and expanding their income-generating activities with support from the project funds. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Sunday 28 June 2026)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and the South Bay of Bengal and moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 29 June 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing regions and Kayah State, scattered in Shan State, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Mon and Rakhine states. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Yangon, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (Northern and Eastern) Shan states. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet off and along the

Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 June 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 June 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 June 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80 per cent. — DMH

OPINION

Create jobs and produce citizens with working abilities

As domestic and foreign investments increase, employment opportunities will be created, and domestic production activities will also develop. While efforts should be made to enhance production sectors further, it is also necessary to continuously sustain existing production industries. Through such efforts, the country's domestic production will improve and expand.

Myanmar already possesses abundant natural resources both above and below ground, as well as a wide range of valuable assets. These resources should be processed from raw materials into intermediate goods, and further transformed into finished products through the use of appropriate technologies. Not only MSME enterprises, but also heavy industries are required to make efforts to promote and enhance production.

The primary requirement is the ability to work and a willingness to work, and in fact, actual work must be carried out. To enable

Knowledge and technical abilities are of importance for working skills. Therefore, relevant departments and organizations must open and provide vocational training courses and technical training programmes in order to produce skilled workers. Since a basic level of education is necessary to attend on-the-job training and technical courses, every citizen should make prior efforts to at least obtain a KG+9 education system. Only then will they have the capacity to understand and master the lessons provided in such training programmes.

Knowledge and technical abilities are of importance for working skills. Therefore, relevant departments and organizations must open and provide vocational training courses and technical training programmes in order to produce skilled workers. Since a basic level of education is necessary to attend on-the-job training and technical courses, every citizen should make prior efforts to at least obtain a KG+9 education system. Only then will they have the capacity to understand and master the lessons provided in such training programmes.

It is necessary to prioritize that all industries are fully operational and that production increases across regions and states. Relevant authorities must support businesspeople in addressing their needs for financial assistance, labour, and technology. Only then will production increase, the country will develop, and production and development will mutually reinforce each other, leading to further growth of the national economy.

this, entrepreneurs must create and develop workplaces and employment opportunities. Only when citizens can obtain job opportunities within the country's workplaces can the outflow of the workforce to foreign countries be prevented. This will also strengthen the domestic labour force and contribute to the production growth.

The willingness to work concerns everyone, and since employment opportunities are necessary for people to be able to work, the State will implement and create job opportunities. Relevant authorities need to create favourable conditions to encourage a willingness to work, while citizens should also properly utilize their working abilities for the benefit of the country. Citizens capable of working must strive to improve both their workplace performance and their skills. The development of one's abilities is a personal benefit, and individual skill enhancement is not only beneficial to one's workplace but also to the country as a whole.

ONE of the most difficult questions many parents face is this: Should they transfer all their wealth and property to their children once they reach old age? Many people believe that giving everything to their children is the ultimate expression of parental love. However, is it truly an act of love, or could it unintentionally create hardship for both parents and children in the future?

As people grow older, they inevitably face the realities of ageing. No one can escape the natural laws of birth, ageing, illness, and death. When we reach our sixties and beyond, our physical strength gradually declines. Tasks that once seemed effortless become more difficult. Health problems may arise unexpectedly, and our ability to earn income becomes increasingly limited.

Unfortunately, many elderly parents make a critical mistake during this stage of life. Out of love and trust, they transfer all their savings, property, and assets to their children while they are still alive. While this decision may appear generous and loving, it often results in the loss of something far more valuable than money. It can lead to the loss of independence, freedom of choice, personal dignity, and security.

The saddest part is that many parents only realize this mistake when it is too late to reverse the situation.

As people age, they often fear losing their independence more than they fear poverty itself. A person may be able to live a simple life, wear ordinary clothes, and eat modest meals. Material comforts become less important with age. However, having no money at all can create a different kind of suffering.

Imagine becoming ill suddenly and not having enough money to buy medicine. Imagine needing medical treatment but having to wait until your children are available to help. Imagine wanting to make a small donation at a temple, buy a gift for a grandchild, or simply enjoy a cup of tea with friends, yet being unable to do so without asking someone else for money.

Such situations can create deep emotional pain. After spending an entire lifetime working hard and caring for others, being unable to make even the smallest personal decision without depending on others can be heartbreaking.

Many parents believe that giving all their assets to their children is a symbol of love. However, when illness, emergencies, or unexpected difficulties arise, they often discover that leaving themselves with nothing is not an act of wisdom. Instead, it can become a burden both for themselves and for their children.

This does not mean that parents should not help their children. Helping family members is a no-



ble and admirable thing. However, genuine love should be balanced with wisdom. Before giving away everything, parents should ensure they have sufficient resources to support themselves for the rest of their lives.

When we are young, financial mistakes can often be corrected. We have time to work, recover, and rebuild our lives. But in old age, financial mistakes can have lasting consequences. A single careless decision can affect the quality of life for many years.

The Buddha taught that each person must ultimately be their own refuge. While family support is important, complete dependence on others often leads to vulnerability. Children may love their parents deeply, but they also face their own responsibilities, financial pressures, family obligations, and life challenges. No one can predict

Growing Old with Dignity

By Min Min Zan

what difficulties they may encounter in the future.

Therefore, maintaining financial independence after age 60 is not selfishness. It is wisdom. It is an act of personal responsibility. It also helps prevent children from carrying unnecessary burdens later in life.

So, what kinds of financial resources should older adults preserve?

The first and most important fund is a healthcare fund. As the body ages, medical expenses become increasingly common. Conditions such as high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, and other health problems may appear without warning. Having dedicated savings for healthcare allows elderly individuals to seek treatment promptly and maintain their dignity without feeling like a burden to others.

The second essential fund is an emergency reserve. Life is unpredictable. Family disagreements, financial crises, or unexpected living situations can occur at any time. Having a reserve fund provides security and peace of mind. It creates options and prevents elderly individuals from feeling trapped by circumstances beyond their control.

The third important category is personal spending money. This may seem small compared to major savings, but it plays a significant role in maintaining independence and self-respect. Being able to buy small gifts for grandchildren, enjoy tea with friends, make charitable donations, or participate in religious activities without asking others for money contributes greatly to emotional well-being.

Saving money is important,

but using it wisely is equally important.

Many elderly people become excessively cautious about spending. While prudence is valuable, there are certain areas where spending money is an investment rather than an expense.

Health should be a priority. Nutritious food, comfortable bedding, proper footwear, eyeglasses, medical checkups, and other necessities improve quality of life and help prevent larger health problems in the future. Money spent on maintaining health is money well invested.

Another worthy use of money is personal happiness and spiritual development. Reading meaningful books, attending meditation retreats, visiting sacred places, supporting charitable causes, and participating in religious activities can bring peace and fulfilment dur-

ing the later years of life.

After all, wealth cannot be taken beyond this life. What remains are the good deeds we perform, the kindness we show, and the peace we cultivate within ourselves.

At the same time, there are certain financial mistakes that older adults should avoid.

One of the most dangerous mistakes is giving away all emergency savings to support a child's business venture, property purchase, or financial project. While helping children is understandable, parents must first secure their own future. Younger people have time to recover from setbacks; older people often do not.

Another serious mistake is transferring ownership of one's home too early. Many parents transfer their property to children in an attempt to avoid future inheritance disputes. While their intentions may be good, circumstances can change unexpectedly. Financial difficulties, family conflicts, or changing relationships can create situations where parents lose control over the very home, they depend on.

There is a significant difference between living in a home you own and living in a home where your security depends entirely on others. Maintaining ownership of one's residence for as long as possible helps preserve independence and peace of mind.

Finally, elderly individuals should be especially cautious of investment scams and promises of unrealistic profits. Fraudsters often target older adults, offering schemes that claim to double money quickly or generate extraordinary returns. A lifetime of hard-earned savings should never be risked on investments that are poorly understood or appear too good to be true.

In conclusion, managing money wisely after the age of sixty is not a sign of selfishness or a lack of love for one's children. Rather, it is an expression of wisdom, self-respect, and responsibility. Financial independence allows older adults to maintain their dignity, make their own choices, and avoid becoming an unnecessary burden on those they love.

As Buddhists and as human beings, we should remember that all things are impermanent. Wealth, possessions, and even our bodies will eventually pass away. Therefore, we should use our resources wisely, support our well-being, cultivate merit, and prepare for the later years of life with both practical wisdom and inner peace.

May all people grow old with dignity, security, and tranquillity. May they enjoy not only financial stability but also the priceless wealth of a peaceful heart.

IN OFFICES, tea shops and family homes across Myanmar, one often hears a familiar concern: "Young people today are always complaining." They complain about bureaucracy, low pay, routine work, demanding supervisors, lack of promotion, and jobs that do not match the dreams they formed during their education.

From Complaining to Competence: Understanding Our Young Professionals

By U Khin Maung Myint

It is easy to dismiss this as laziness or lack of resilience. Yet that judgement may be unfair. Behind many complaints lies a genuine psychological struggle: the difficult transition from student life to professional life.

At school and university, the path is relatively clear. Study hard, pass examinations, obtain certificates, and progress to the next stage. Young people are often taught, directly or indirectly, that achievement will bring recognition and opportunity. When they enter employment, however, they

may discover a different reality. The first years of work can involve repetitive tasks, paperwork, routine duties, office politics and limited authority.

This gap between expectation and reality can create what psychologists call cognitive dissonance: an uncomfortable conflict between what a person expected and what they actually experience. A young graduate may think, "I have worked hard and gained qualifications; why am I spending my day doing tasks that seem unimportant?" The complaint may not be a sign of idleness. It may be a sign that ambition has not yet

found a practical direction. However, constant complaining can become a trap. Sharing frustrations with colleagues may initially provide relief, but repeated negative conversations can gradually create an atmosphere in which every difficulty appears larger and every opportunity smaller. When people bond mainly through dissatisfaction, they may begin to see themselves as victims rather than learners.

This does not mean that young employees should remain silent about unfair treatment, poor working conditions or exploitation. Genuine concerns

must be heard. Employers have a duty to provide reasonable pay, respectful management, proper training and a clear path for development. A workplace that demands loyalty but offers no guidance or recognition should also examine its own failures.

Yet young professionals must also understand that mastery begins with ordinary work. The doctor first learns basic clinical routines. The teacher begins with lesson preparation and marking. The engineer studies details before leading a project. The businessperson learns administration before managing an enterprise.

No craft can be mastered without patience.

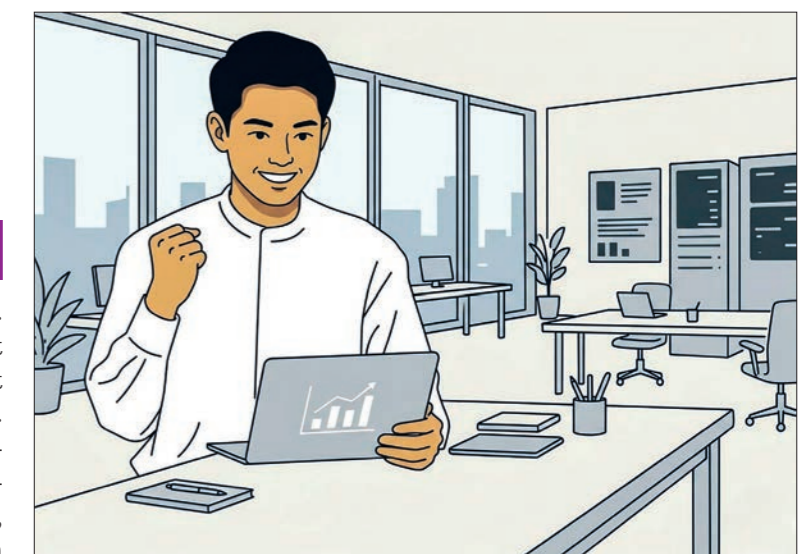
A routine task is not always a dead end. It may be a foundation. Small duties, performed carefully, teach discipline, reliability, communication and attention to detail. These qualities are often less visible than academic certificates, but they are what eventually build trust and leadership.

Employers can help by explaining the purpose behind routine work. A manager who merely gives instructions may create resentment. A manager who explains how a task contributes to the wider organization gives the

employee a sense of meaning. Young people do not only want money or titles; many also want to know that their effort has value.

Families also have an important role. When a young person returns home frustrated after work, parents and elders should listen sympathetically. But instead of encouraging only anger; they may ask constructive questions: "What did you learn today?" "What skill are you developing?" "What could you do differently tomorrow?" Such questions can turn frustration into reflection.

Myanmar needs capable, ethical and resilient young profes-



sionals. They will be the doctors, teachers, engineers, civil servants, entrepreneurs and community leaders of tomorrow. Their complaints should not simply be dismissed, but neither should complaint become their identity.

The challenge is to move from moaning to mastery: from

seeing work only as a burden to seeing it as a training ground for competence, character and service. The future will not be built by those who never complain, nor by those who complain without action, but by those who learn, adapt and steadily improve.

DELICACY/WORLD

Stuffed Fish Cakes and Stuffed Fried Tofu

This week, we are introducing two light, delicious, and easy-to-make Myanmar snacks: stuffed fish cakes and stuffed fried tofu.

Although they are two different dishes, they are often sold together at snack stalls, and many people enjoy ordering both at the same time. A bite of tangy and spicy stuffed fish cake, followed by a sip of hot Myanmar green tea, makes for one of Myanmar's most popular traditional snack combinations.

For those who would like to prepare them at home, here are the recipes for these delightful afternoon snacks.

Stuffed Fish Cakes

Ingredients

1. 25 grammes fish paste (fish cake mixture)
2. 1 wedge cabbage, finely shredded
3. A small handful of fresh coriander (cilantro)
4. A small handful of fresh mint leaves
5. 2 green chillies
6. 1 wedge lime
7. A pinch of salt
8. Cooking oil (for frying)

Method

- Pound the fish paste until smooth and elastic.
- Shape it into small cylindrical rolls by hand.
- Heat cooking oil in a frying pan.
- Deep-fry the fish rolls until they turn golden yellow.
- Remove them, drain well, and allow them to cool.
- Thinly slice the cabbage, coriander, mint, and green chillies.
- Place them in a bowl, add a little lime juice and salt, and toss well. Using a sharp knife, carefully slit each cooled fish cake lengthwise without cutting all the way through.
- Stuff the opening with the prepared vegetable mixture.
- Serve the stuffed fish cakes with a pot of fragrant hot Myanmar green tea.

Stuffed Fried Tofu

Ingredients

1. 2 large blocks of firm tofu
2. Fish sauce, as needed
3. Roasted chickpea powder, as needed
4. Chilli powder, as needed
5. Garlic oil, as needed
6. Green chillies, as needed
7. Fresh coriander (cilantro), as needed



Traditional Myanmar Delicacy

8. Cabbage, as needed
9. Carrot, as needed
10. Roasted peanuts, as needed
11. Tamarind juice (prepared from ripe tamarind), as needed
12. Cooking oil (for frying)
13. 1/3 teaspoon turmeric powder (for seasoning the tofu)
14. 1/2 teaspoon salt (for seasoning the tofu)
15. 1 teaspoon seasoning powder (for seasoning the tofu)

Preparing the Fried Tofu

- Rinse the tofu and drain thoroughly.
- Season it gently with the salt and seasoning powder.
- Cut the tofu into triangular pieces.
- Heat the cooking oil with the turmeric powder.
- When the oil is hot, reduce the heat to medium and fry the tofu pieces in batches.
- Turn each piece over once one side is golden.
- When both sides become evenly golden brown, remove and drain well.

- Repeat until all the tofu has been fried.

Preparing the Filling

- Finely shred the cabbage, wash, and drain.
- Using kitchen scissors, carefully cut a slit along one side of each fried tofu piece to form a pocket.
- Peel and finely grate the carrot.
- Wash the ripe tamarind and soak it in hot water to extract the juice.
- Wash and finely chop the coriander.
- Remove the skins from the roasted peanuts.
- Wash and thinly slice the green chillies.
- Have the garlic oil, roasted chickpea powder, and chilli powder ready.

Assembling

Open the slit in each fried tofu pocket. Fill it generously with the prepared vegetables and seasonings.

Once filled, the stuffed fried tofu is ready to serve and enjoy as an exceptionally tasty traditional Myanmar snack. — MOON



Children interact with a robotic dog outside the KOID Shop in New York City. PHOTO: XINHUA

A pop-up store dedicated to general-purpose robots has opened in Lower Manhattan of New York City, where humanoid robots that walk, talk and interact with people have attracted crowds,

General-purpose pop-up robot store opens in New York

showcasing the rapid development of robotics technology with a strong presence of Chinese manufacturers.

Located at 188 Lafayette Street in SoHo neighbourhood, the KOID Shop was jointly launched by KraneShares, an investment management firm, and OpenMind, an open-source artificial in-

telligence initiative. The pop-up store opened on Thursday and will remain open until Sunday.

Robots from several Chinese companies, including Unitree, AGI-Bot, Booster, LimX and Galaxea, were displayed alongside OpenMind's software platform, demonstrating potential applications in homes,

workplaces and the service industry.

Visitors stopped to watch humanoid robots walk across the showroom floor, respond to voice commands and interact with guests, with many lining up to take photos alongside the machines. Asia is "a little bit ahead" in the field, said Brendan Ahern, chief investment

officer of KraneShares, noting that leading robotics companies have emerged in China, South Korea and Japan.

He cited Unitree robots handling baggage at Tokyo's Haneda Airport as an example of how humanoid robots are beginning to move from demonstrations into real-world applications. — Xinhua

Thousands ride through Rome as Vespa celebrates 80 years

The Vespa is a way of life, a sense of carefree living, enjoying the moment, discovering scenery – it's a lifestyle.

AN icon of the Italian way of life, the Vespa celebrated its 80th birthday on Saturday, as thousands of riders paraded through Rome on the legendary scooters.

A few donned biker jackets despite the scorching heat while others opted for t-shirts, the hum of their machines filling the capital with a colourful buzz.

Some rode solo, others in pairs, whizzing through the city centre — even along streets usually closed to private traffic.

“We brought our Vespa over from the Unit-



Vespa means wasp in Italian and one enthusiast dressed up his motorbike to reflect this. **PHOTO: AFP**

ed States. We travelled through Germany, then via Vienna ... and I then rode my Vespa from Austria to Rome, a journey that took two weeks,” Texas resident David Baamonde told AFP-TV on Saturday.

“For me, the Vespa is a way of life, a sense of carefree living, enjoying the moment, discovering scenery — it's a lifestyle,” said Italian Andrea Musco.

Featuring in cinema classics like “Roman Holiday” and “La Dolce Vita”, the Vespa has a long association with the Eternal City.

“The history of the Vespa, which accompanies the birth and rise of Italy after the Second World War, is in a way an iconic symbol of our history, of our culture,” said Roberto Gualtieri, the Italian capital's mayor.

The Vespa, which means “wasp” in Italian — a reference to the sound of its engine — was born on 23 April 1946, when the first patent for its manufacture was filed in Italy by Piaggio. It is still produced at the Pontedera site in Tuscany. — AFP

In Cairo, art leaves the stage and meets the people

THERE was no stage, no curtain, no velvet rope. Just a microphone in a side street in downtown Cairo.

When Merna Zin-hom, an Egyptian music student, began to sing on Al-Sherifein Street, the distance between performer and audience vanished instantly.

Some in the crowd mouthed the lyrics with her. Others clapped. Many raised their phones to capture the moment.

For Zin-hom, a student at the Higher Institute of Music, this



A puppeteer presents a show in downtown Cairo, Egypt on 20 June 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

was more than a performance: it was a step toward a simple dream — to reach people directly, without barriers.

“This is different from the theater,” she told Xinhua, “Here in the street there is no barrier between the stage and

the audience. It makes me so happy when people gather around me, interact with me. To me, it means my art has reached them and they like it.”

Her performance was part of the government-backed Art Street initiative, which has turned the small street in the heart of Cairo's historic Khedival district into an open-air cultural venue for live performances, quick sketches, paintings, handmade accessories and decorative crafts. — Xinhua

American “horse whisperer” explores grassland horse culture

AMERICAN horseman Clayson Benally, dubbed a “horse whisperer,” has a gift for communicating with horses through body language and other nonverbal cues. When involved in the filming of a Chinese documentary series, he became fascinated by China's grass-

land horse culture after learning about a young woman and her Mongolian horses.

Benally and his family made a trip to Xilingol League recently to experience local traditions and exchange their minds on horse culture with local herders. — Xinhua



Clayson Benally (L) chats with a herder in West Ujimqin Banner of Xilingol League, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, 26 June 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Drug traffickers exploit tech and instability

IN its World Drug Report 2026 released Friday, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) said drug traffickers are exploiting technologies and global instability to introduce novel drugs, experiment with different trade routes and methods, and aggressively push into new markets.

“We have seen an unprecedented spike in new types of drugs on the market, and worryingly, some are more potent or dangerous than before,” said UNODC Executive Director Monica Juma. “And, we are already suffering the impact: millions of premature deaths and healthy years of life needlessly lost; drug trafficking networks that are distorting economies; the destruction of lives, communities and livelihoods; and the compounding of insecurity and violence.” — Xinhua

Istanbul gay bar shut down

TURKISH authorities ordered an Istanbul gay bar to close over unspecified violations, the governor's office said, following protests by Islamic groups against the bar's owner.

The office said in a statement on X Saturday that inspections carried out found that the venue, operating under the name “Tek Yon” in the Cihangir neighbourhood, had engaged in practices that did not comply with applicable regulations, without providing further details.

The closure comes after Islamist groups took to social media to protest a planned cruise ship tour aimed at LGBT travellers, claiming that the Turkish leg of the programme was being organised by Mustafa Dogan Yilmaz, the bar's owner. The ship had been scheduled to dock in Istanbul on 8 July.

Pro-government daily Yeni Safak reported on Saturday that inspections were ordered after an LGBT party on the Bosphorus was announced, resulting in the venue organising the event being sealed. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

Strong refining capacity shielded India from energy shocks

The country's reliance on imported crude oil surged past 90 per cent in FY26 as domestic crude production dropped to 26 million metric tonnes.

INDIA'S strong crude oil refining capacity helped reduce the impact of the recent West Asia-led energy crisis on the domestic economy by avoiding the need for large-scale imports of refined petroleum products, according to a report by EY (Ernst & Young LLP).

The report highlighted the evolution of India's petroleum economy, stating that while the country's dependence on imported crude oil has increased over the years, it has successfully built a significant refining capacity to convert crude oil into petroleum products.

It stated, "India may continue to augment its



India's expanding crude oil refining capacity protected its domestic economy from a West Asia-led energy crisis. **PHOTO: ANI**

refining capacity, which has helped save refining costs had India been forced to directly import refined petroleum products". According to the report, India's dependence on imported crude oil rose to more than 90

per cent in FY 26 from 54.9 per cent in FY 1999. At the same time, domestic crude oil production declined to 26 million metric tonnes in FY26 from its peak level of 35.9 million metric tonnes in FY12.

The report noted that growing demand for petroleum products has increased the need for imports. Domestic consumption of petroleum, oil and lubricants (PoL) products rose sharply to 243.2 million metric tonnes in FY26 from 90.6 million metric tonnes in FY1999.

Despite the increase in crude oil imports, India has steadily expanded its refining capabilities over the years. The report said this refining capacity has helped save costs that would otherwise have been incurred if India had been forced to directly import refined petroleum products. — ANI

Japan mulls expanding govt bonds for individuals

JAPAN'S Finance Ministry is considering expanding its lineup of government bonds available to individual investors, with experts pushing for new products such as inflation-linked bonds amid rising prices, its officials say.

Bond purchases by individual investors have been soaring as the Bank of Japan moves to raise interest rates. The ministry is also eager to diversify buyers of its debt given that the BOJ is reducing bond purchases as part of its monetary normalization following a decade of unorthodox easing.



File photo taken on 3 May 2026 shows the Finance Ministry in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

During a meeting among experts on managing government bonds, some attendees called for offering super long-term bonds with 20- or 30-year maturities to individual investors.

Currently, there are

three types of government bonds for individual investors in Japan.

One is the 10-year floating rate bond, whose applicable interest rate changes every six months in line with market interest rates.

The two others are five-year fixed-rate bonds and three-year fixed-rate bonds, whose interest rates remain unchanged until maturity. The interest for these bonds is paid every six months, and the principal returned at maturity.

A ministry survey recently showed that the holdings of fixed five-year bonds have increased across all age groups. But the ministry wants to reach out more to relatively younger, working-age people under 30 as well as those in their 40s, according to a ministry official. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

MSMEs vital for Cambodia's growth

CAMBODIA is committed to strengthening micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as a key pillar of economic growth, job creation, and national competitiveness, Minister of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation Hem Vandy said here on Saturday.

Vandy said MSMEs have played and would continue to play an increasingly important role in Cambodia's next phase of development as the country advances toward its long-term development ambitions.

"As Cambodia prepares to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in 2029 and advances toward Cambodia Vision 2050, strengthening MSMEs is no longer a choice, but a necessity," he said at the third National MSMEs Day event. Cambodia has approximately 753,670 business establishments, including more than 60,500 small and medium enterprises, according to the country's latest economic census. — Xinhua

Cycling industry bets on smart bikes to boost sales

AT the Eurobike trade fair, industry insiders are optimistic about the potential of AI-enabled bicycles to revive a sector struggling with declining sales. The integration of artificial intelligence into cycling technology is gaining momentum, spanning from electric motors to safety features and service innovations.

Avinox, a maker of e-bike motors, showcased a sensor-equipped system that monitors rider movements and terrain, automatically adjusting assistance levels for a safer, more comfortable ride.

Riders can even transmit their heart rate to tailor assistance dynamically.

Safety remains a key focus, with companies like Canyon unveiling prototypes of bikes equipped with cameras and radars that detect unseen obstacles or hazards, alerting cyclists via visual signals, vibrations, or helmet audio.

Canyon is also collaborating with Volkswagen on a system to enable bicycles to communicate with cars and infrastructure, though widespread adoption faces hurdles due to the limited vehicle readiness. — AFP



A foldable bike is seen at the booth of Dahon at the EUROBIKE 2026 fair of the international bicycle industry in Frankfurt am Main, western Germany on 24 June 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

Swiss nuclear plant shut down due to heatwave

THE reactors at Europe's oldest nuclear plant were shut down Friday, its Swiss operator said, after the heatwave roasting Europe sent temperatures soaring in the river used for cooling.

"The temperature of the Aare River reached 25C again yesterday and today. Sufficient cooling is not in sight," energy company Axpo said on its website.

As a consequence, the Beznau nuclear plant in northern Switzerland, near the German border, "has temporarily shut down both reactors", it said.

Axpo said it was "continuing to monitor the Aare's temperature". "Once the river cools

down or sufficient cooling is forecast, (Beznau) can plan to restart its reactors," it said, adding that the restart would take place after relevant authorities give the green light.

The announcement came as a deadly heatwave choked 150 million people across western Europe with temperatures above 35C.

On Friday, Switzerland beat its June heat record for the second day running, measuring a temperature of 38.8C in Basel, not far from Beznau, a day after measuring 38C at the same station and crushing a record that had stood for nearly 80 years.

— AFP



The temperature of the Aare River reached 25C.
PHOTO: AXPO

Rents in Portugal rise in first quarter

THE median rent on new lease contracts in Portugal reached 9.46 euros (US\$10.78) per square meter in the first quarter of 2026, a 9.1 per cent increase compared with the same period last year, national statistics institute INE said Friday.

Analysts consulted by Xinhua have pointed to a chronic structural imbalance between high demand and scarce housing supply as the primary driver of sustained price increases. New construc-

tion remains insufficient to meet current market demand, while foreign investors with greater purchasing power compete directly with local buyers, further squeezing availability and pushing prices higher. Used properties have appreciated faster than new builds due to the lack of ready-to-occupy options, and the median bank valuation for mortgage purposes has surpassed a record 2,200 euros (\$2,508) per square metre. — Xinhua

China-Europe Railway Express spurs trade, logistics development in Poland

MORE than a decade ago, Filip Grzelak spent Christmas night at a border crossing, waiting for one of the first freight trains linking Chengdu in southwest China with Lodz in central Poland.

For Grzelak, the long wait was more than just a demanding work shift. It marked the beginning of a business partnership that his family believed would grow into a lasting connection.

"It required a great deal of effort," he recalled. "But it marked the beginning of cooperation that



A reach stacker lifts a container at Inbap's container terminal in Malaszewicze, Poland, 24 June 2026.
PHOTO: XINHUA

has continued to develop ever since."

That early optimism has since evolved into a

vast logistics network spanning Eurasia.

Since the China-Europe Railway Express was launched under a unified brand in 2016, annual train journeys have increased nearly twelvefold, from 1,702 in 2016 to 20,022 in 2025, according to China State Railway Group Co Ltd. The range of goods transported has expanded as well, now covering more than 50,000 products across 53 categories. In 2025 alone, cargo valued at US\$ 67.7 billion was shipped via the network. — Xinhua

Binance to suspend crypto services in several EU countries

CRYPTOCURRENCY exchange Binance said Thursday it will suspend services in several European countries from next week as it has been unable to secure regulatory approval to operate in the European Union.

Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange by volume, said it had applied for authori-

sation to operate under the EU's crypto assets regulation MiCA in Greece, but told clients that it has now withdrawn that application and would apply in another EU country.

MiCA imposes a common framework in the EU in terms of investor protections and anti-money laundering measures regarding the trading of crypto assets

in the bloc.

It entered into force in 2024 but crypto exchanges had until 30 June to obtain approval from a regulator in an EU country, but most have not applied or received authorisation by the deadline.

"Binance France is no longer in a position to accept new clients and from 1 July 2026, will no longer

crypto asset services in France," the company said in an email to clients on Wednesday.

"This is not specific to France, similar communications have been sent to affected users in other EU markets," the company said Thursday, adding it had until 30 June to obtain the necessary authorizations. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BAL XIAMEN VOY.NO. (104W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BAL XIAMEN VOY.NO. (104W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-6-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0097N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PELICAN VOY.NO. (0097N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-6-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

IDF prepares for long-term Lebanon deployment

Lebanon and Israel signed a framework agreement in Washington with US mediation to resolve the ongoing conflict.

THE Israel Defence Forces (IDF) are preparing for a long-term deployment in the security zone in southern Lebanon until the complete disarmament of Hezbollah, Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said on Saturday. On Friday, Lebanon and Israel signed a framework agreement in Washington with US mediation to resolve the ongoing conflict. “[Israeli] Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu] and I instructed the IDF to prepare for



This photo released on 31 May 2026 shows Israeli ground forces conducting a military operation in the Beaufort Ridge, southern Lebanon. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

a long-term stay in the security zone and to prepare accordingly to protect the soldiers and eliminate threats to the northern settlements,” Katz said in a video address.

Katz also said that the signed agreement in particular envisages that Israeli forces will not withdraw from southern Lebanon until the Hezbollah is fully disarmed across the country and the security of northern Israeli residents is ensured. — SPUTNIK

Japan, S Korea advance defence equipment cooperation

JAPAN and South Korea agreed Sunday to advance talks on defence equipment and technology cooperation as the two US allies deepen security ties amid improving relations.

Meeting in Seoul, Japanese Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi and his counterpart Ahn Gyu Back agreed to move forward with the discussions, following Tokyo’s April revision of its de-

fence equipment transfer rules. The ministers also welcomed the resumption earlier this month of a joint search-and-rescue exercise between the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force and

the South Korean Navy for the first time in about nine years, as well as the launch of talks between their defence authorities on artificial intelligence, Japan’s Defence Ministry said. — Kyodo

Asia’s vendors grapple with rising costs of ever-present plastics

FOOD vendors across Asia who rely on plastics for everything from bags to cups and containers are grappling with their rising costs, the result of the energy crisis sparked by the Middle East war.

While the United States and Iran have reached a deal to halt the conflict, it will take time for markets to recover and supply flows to return to normal, with persistent concerns over traffic through the economically vital Strait of

Hormuz.

A key raw material

for many of these plastic goods is ethylene,

which is derived from naphtha, an oil by-product. Around 60 per cent of the naphtha imported to Asia comes from the Gulf.

Faced with tight supply and soaring prices due to the monthslong closure of the Strait of Hormuz, petrochemical companies mainly in South Korea and Japan have scaled back production capacity, sending the cost of basic goods such as plastic bags surging. — AFP



Several vendors do not have a practical alternative to the plastic products they use on a daily basis. **PHOTO: PIXABAY**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Netanyahu says to seek broad coalition after October elections

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at a press conference on Saturday that after the general elections expected in October this year, he wants to form a broad national government.

Netanyahu currently heads a narrow coalition that includes far-right and ultra-Orthodox factions. Most recent polls in the Israeli media have predicted that the current coalition factions will gain at most 53 seats in the 120-seat parliament, not enough for him to form a coalition again in the current structure.

He noted that a broad coalition is preferable to a left-wing government “that would be dependent on Arab parties.” According to the polls, the main opposition parties will be able to form a government only in cooperation with the Arab parties. Some opposition parties, however, refuse such cooperation, claiming the Arab parties do not recognize Israel as a Jewish state. — Xinhua

Iran condemned Italy for supporting US war logistics

ESMAEIL Baqaei, Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran on Sunday lashed out at Italy for claiming they never enabled the US for its war on Iran, but it provided ‘technical and logistical’ support.

Baqaei called it a blatant act of aggression and a serious violation of international law.

In a post on X, he said, “This is a glaring contradiction and a fellacious argument aimed at evading responsibility for complicity in a grave internationally wrongful act: publicly denying any aid or assistance to the aggressors, while openly acknowledging the ‘technical and logistical’ support that enabled and facilitated the unlawful American-Israeli war of aggression against Iran. Providing ‘technical and logistical’ support to the aggressors constitutes nothing less than a clear and direct contribution to the commission of an illegal war of choice — a blatant act of aggression and a serious violation of international law.” — ANI

Fresh earthquake hits Venezuela

THE European-Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC) detected an earthquake of magnitude 5.6 off the coast of Venezuela.

The 5.6-magnitude earthquake impacted the waters off the coast of Aragua with the seismic event occurring days after the region experienced twin earthquakes that reportedly resulted in the deaths of nearly 1,500 individuals.

The earthquake occurred at a depth of 30 kilometres.

Meanwhile, US Department of State’s Spokesperson Tommy Pigott said, “By bringing international disaster response programmes under the State Department, the US government is able to respond more rapidly and more effectively to disasters. After the earthquakes in Venezuela, the US immediately mobilized, activating urban search and rescue teams and the delivery of humanitarian and medical supplies.”

Acting President of Venezuela, Delcy Rodriguez thanked United Arab Emirates President, Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan for his condolences to the affected families. — ANI

SPORTS



A poster for Professional Boxing Matches 10 (PBM 10), organized by the Ministry of Sports.

MBC to hold novice fights and PBM 10 selection bouts

THE Myanmar Boxing Commission (MBC) will hold the Professional Novice Fight 3 on 10 July and the Professional Boxing Matches 10 (PBM 10) on 11 July, both starting at 2 pm. PBM 10 will serve as the selection event for a championship title fight in November.

Medical examinations and weigh-ins are compulsory. Weigh-ins for the Professional Novice Fight 3 will be held at 12 pm on 9 July, while PBM 10 boxers must weigh in at 12 pm on 10 July. Competitors must bring their own mouthguards, groin protectors and boxing shoes.

The MBC also reminded boxers that exceeding the weight limit by even 0.1 kilogramme will not be permitted and urged them to manage their weight carefully before the official weigh-in. — ASH/KZL

Rangoon Cycling Club wins 64th national cycling championship



Cyclists compete in the men's long-range race.

RANGOON Cycling Club won the overall title at the 64th National Cycling Championship, which concluded yesterday at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon.

Held from 26 to 28 June under the directives of the Ministry of Sports and the Yangon Region Government, the championship was organized by the Myanmar Cycling Federation in cooperation with Myan Shwe Pyi Tractor Ltd. More than 200 cyclists competed in mountain bike, road race and criterium events.

After the races, officials presented cash prizes, medals and awards to the top three finishers and the best male and female cyclists. Rangoon Cycling Club claimed the overall title after recording the highest combined points in the men's elite 100-kilometre road race and 26-kilometre criterium. — Bala/KZL

Leo Onana joins MFF academy as goalkeeping head

THE Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) has appointed Guinean coach Leo Onana as Head of Academy Goalkeeping for its football academies.

He will oversee the development of young goalkeepers through a structured coaching programme.

Menzsports Academy welcomed the

appointment, saying Onana's expertise and experience would strengthen youth football in Myanmar.

It added that his appointment marks an important step in developing the next generation of Myanmar goalkeepers and wished him every success in his new role. — TWA/KZL



Guinean coach Leo Onana after his official appointment as Head of Academy Goalkeeping for the MFF football academies.

Messi scores again as Argentina head into World Cup last 32 on a high

LIONEL Messi came off the bench to score his sixth goal of the tournament as Argentina warmed up for their World Cup knockout match with Cape Verde by beating Jordan 3-1 on Saturday.

The ageless Messi tops the scoring charts in North America as the tournament heads into the last 32. Cape Verde's players will be wondering how they can stop Messi when the debutants ranked 67 face the champions on 3 July in Miami.

With qualification already in the bag, Messi



Argentina celebrate midfielder Giovani Lo Celso's goal. PHOTO: AFP

started on the bench but came on after an hour in Texas to huge cheers to get his side's third with a free-kick. Argentina finished emphatically top of Group J

with maximum points after also beating Algeria 3-0 and defeating Austria 2-0, all those goals coming from Messi.

The holders and their

39-year-old talisman look formidable, albeit in one of the weaker groups.

Coach Lionel Scaloni said Messi could have played the full game.

"But he chose to let his teammates have minutes, he chose to think about what's coming, and that speaks volume about him," he said. Giovani Lo Celso, who scored Argentina's first of the evening, said it had been almost the perfect group stage.

"We knew we had very tough opponents, that it wasn't going to be easy," he said. — AFP

Wissa sends DR Congo into World Cup last 32 clash with England

YOANE Wissa scored twice as DR Congo beat Uzbekistan 3-1 to secure a first

ever World Cup win on Saturday and set up a meeting with England in the last 32.



Yoane Wissa scored twice in DR Congo's 3-1 win over Uzbekistan PHOTO: AFP

Eldor Shomurodov's lob over Lionel Mpsi gave the Uzbeks a perfect start in Atlanta. But Newcastle striker Wissa levelled from the penalty spot before Fiston Mayele's goal sent the mainly Congolese crowd into a frenzy. Wissa rounded off a historic night for the Africans with a fine strike in stoppage time for his third goal of the tournament.

"We love our national team. We love what we represent. I think tonight we just showed what it means

for us is just to fight no matter what," said Wissa.

"It's not easy in our country. There's a war in East Congo. Every day, every time we wear this shirt, we think about them.

"That's why tonight what we show is just to say that guys, no matter what, we need to keep going."

Uzbekistan knew before kick-off they were all but eliminated given the massive swing in goal difference they would need to progress. — AFP



Trump unveils commemorative US passport featuring his image

UNITED States President Donald Trump revealed a fresh design for a limited-edition American travel document produced to honour the country's 250th anniversary, displaying a unique variant that incorporates his own image.

Publishing the template on Truth Social on Friday, Trump posted, "The USA's New Passport, which says, 'Welcome, but be good!'"

The prototype passport page distributed by Trump exhibits a depiction of the President positioned prominently over the Resolute Desk, overlaying the text of the historic Declara-

tion of Independence, with his signature embossed at the base.

The facing page presents John Trumbull's renowned artwork, "The Declaration of Independence."

The newly publicised layout seems to utilise a depiction of Trump inspired by his portrait displayed at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington.

This version contrasts with previous mock-ups put forward by the US Department of State earlier this year, which represented the President using an alternate graphic. — ANI

World's largest particle smasher halts for upgrade

THE world's most powerful particle accelerator will Monday shutter operations for four years of renovations to dramatically boost its collision-capacity and the potential for unlocking one of the greatest mysteries of the Universe: dark matter.

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) — a 27-kilometre proton-smashing circular tunnel at the heart of Europe's physics lab CERN near Geneva — has most famously been used to prove the existence of the Higgs boson, dubbed "the God particle".

In the tunnel, running about 100 metres below the French-Swiss border area, superconducting magnets and accelerating structures propel particles to extreme energies and then smash them

together at phenomenal speeds.

But from Monday, activity will stop, as the extraordinary device undergoes upgrades aimed to further increase the precision and intensity of particle collisions.

Once completed, the enhanced particle smasher, donning the enhanced name of High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC), is scheduled to begin operations in June 2030, and to run for about a decade.

"This is a very important moment. From Monday, we will be entering a new phase," HL-LHC project chief Markus Zarlauth told reporters.

"We still have lots of physics questions without answers. There are still many discoveries to be made." — AFP

PM Modi calls for an 'Ocean of Opportunity' in Indian Ocean Region

PM Modi described the Indian Ocean as a shared responsibility.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India envisions an Indian Ocean where maritime security goes hand in hand with economic prosperity, with partnerships built on mutual respect and trust rather than size.

Addressing a joint press statement with Seychelles President Patrick Herminie following bilateral and delegation-level talks in Victoria, the Prime Minister said India's vision is to transform the Indian Ocean into an "Ocean of Opportunity".

"We believe the Indian Ocean is our shared home; its security, sustainability and prosperity are our shared responsibility. This sentiment forms the foundation of our MAHASAGAR vision," PM Modi said.

He added, "The mes-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Seychelles President Patrick Herminie, in Victoria on Sunday.

PHOTO: NARENDRA MODI PHOTO GALLERY/ANI

sage of my Seychelles visit is clear: India envisions an Indian Ocean where maritime security is ensured alongside economic prosperity; where our partnership is not based on size, but on mutual respect and trust; and where we do not go country-to-country, but move forward together. Our vision is to make the Indian Ocean an Ocean of Opportunity."

The Prime Minister said the Joint Vision for Sustainability, Economic Growth and Security through Enhanced Linkages (SESEL), adopted during President Herminie's State Visit to India in February this year, has laid the roadmap for future cooperation between the two countries.

"The joint vision issued during the President's visit to India has

laid the blueprint for our future partnership. Building upon this, our cooperation across all sectors is strengthening," he said.

PM Modi said India and Seychelles discussed ways to make bilateral economic cooperation more resilient and future-ready by exploring new opportunities for industries in both countries.

He also emphasised the importance of improving connectivity between the two nations, saying stronger links would boost trade while enhancing engagement with East Africa and the wider Indian Ocean region.

"Efforts will also be made to enhance connectivity between India and Seychelles. This will not only boost our trade but also strengthen ties with East Africa and the Indian Ocean region," he said. — ANI

Iran warns against interference in Strait of Hormuz

IRANIAN Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Sunday warned against interference in the situation in the Strait of Hormuz following an exchange of fire with the US, saying it could delay the reopening of the route.

"Any interference in this matter; any attempt to create a separate order [of shipping] will complicate the situation and delay the process of opening the Strait of Hormuz, and also increase tensions," Aragh-

chi said at a press conference with Iraqi Foreign Minister Fuad Hussein.

Iranian Foreign Minister arrived in Iraq on 28 June. The official is



Boats anchored off Oman's northern Musandam Peninsula near the Strait of Hormuz. PHOTO: AFP

scheduled to have talks with Iraqi officials on regional and international developments, as well as ties between the two countries, Iranian Foreign Ministry said.

The US Central Command said American forces carried out strikes against 10 targets in Iran on 27 June. CENTCOM claimed the strikes were carried out in response to Iran's alleged drone attack on the Panama-flagged M/T Kiku. — SPUTNIK