

Joint Statement

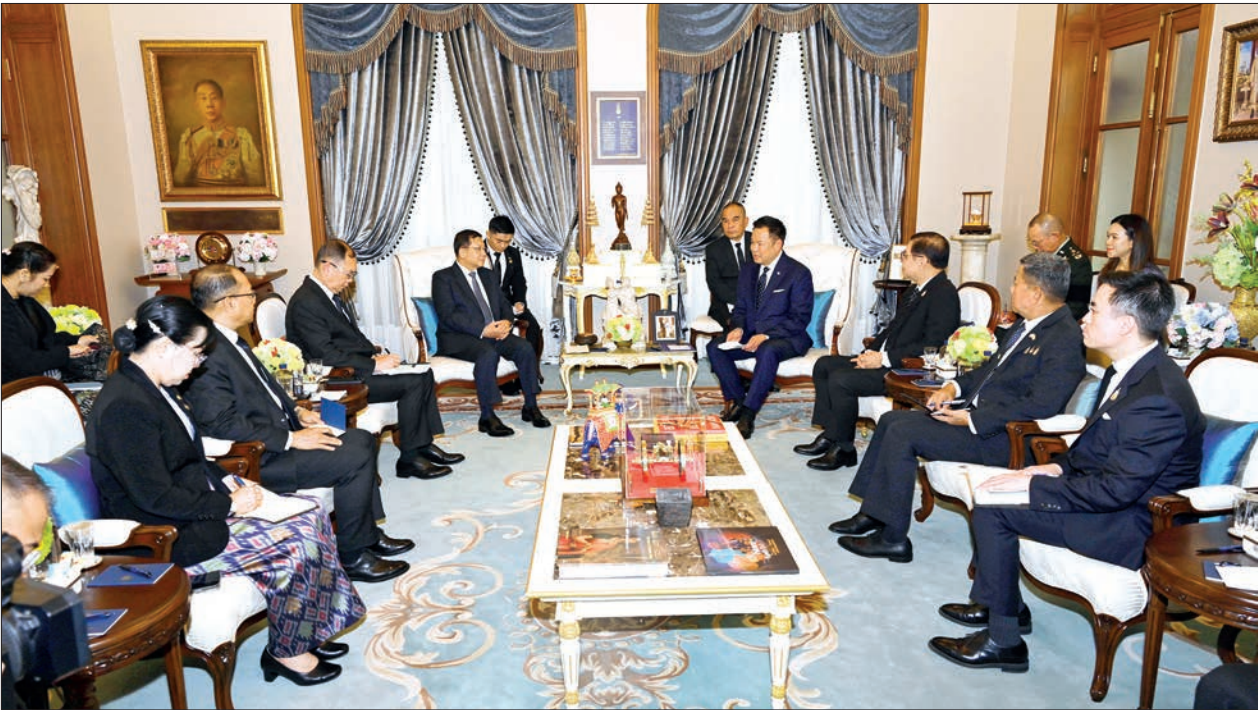
by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand on the occasion of Official Visit of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Thailand

1. His Excellency U Min Aung Hlaing, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, paid an Official Visit to the Kingdom of Thailand from 6 to 7 August 2026 at the invitation of His Excellency Mr Anutin Charnvirakul, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. During the visit, the two leaders held warm and cordial bilateral discussions.

2. The two leaders underscored with great satisfaction the longstanding ties of friendship, cooperation, and good neighbourliness between Myanmar and Thailand, and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening cooperation in all areas of mutual interest, for the shared prosperity and advancement of the two countries and the region.

3. The two leaders stressed the importance of further strengthening and deepening bilateral cooperation in the following key areas:
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Myanmar, Thailand Deepen Friendly Ties, Strategic Partnership



Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing and Thai Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul hold bilateral talks at Government House in Bangkok following the official welcome ceremony for the President's visit to Thailand.

Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Anutin Charnvirakul warmly welcomed President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing during his official visit to Thailand with a Guard of Honour ceremony at the Government House building in Bangkok yesterday morning.

Upon the arrival of the special motorcade carrying President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the lawn in front of the Government House building, Thai Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul warmly welcomed and greeted him.

They took a salute of the Guard of Honour of the Royal Thai Armed Forces while the national anthems of both countries were played.

They saluted the flag of the Guard of Honour and inspected the Guard of Honour. They introduced their respective entourages to each other.

Afterwards, the President of Myanmar paid respects to the royal portrait of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, the Queen Mother of Thailand, and signed the Guests' Book at the Government House of Thailand.

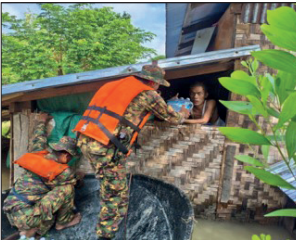
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Bago steps up safeguards for fish farms against natural disasters

NATIONAL PAGE 12



Relief operations underway in Ayeyawady Region

Myanmar eyes Pakistan market for 929 red, V3 white chickpeas

THE Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Merchants Association is making arrangements to export 929 red chickpeas and V3 white chickpeas to Pakistan, according to the association.

"We have been purchasing and collecting high-quality, sorted 929 red chickpeas and V3 white chickpeas since July in preparation for export to Pakistan. As these varieties are planted during the winter season, farmers currently do not have stocks in their hands. Instead, chickpeas stored at trading warehouses are being released for sale," said an executive member of the Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame

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929 red chickpeas and V3 white chickpeas being prepared for export to overseas markets.

NATIONAL

President U Min Aung Hlaing embarks on official Thailand visit

AT the invitation of Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Anutin Charnvirakul, a high-level Myanmar delegation led by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing left Nay Pyi Taw Airport by special aircraft yesterday morning to pay an official visit to Thailand.

The President and his entourage were seen off at the airport by Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo, Union ministers, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command and officials from the Thai Embassy in Myanmar.

The President is accompanied by Union Ministers U Khin Maung Yi, U Tin Maung Swe, U Ko Ko Lwin, U Khin Maung Soe and U Tun Ohn, Kay-in State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Zaw Naing Oo, senior Tat-



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing is pictured being formally welcomed upon his arrival in Thailand for an official visit.

madaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, deputy ministers and officials.

The special aircraft carrying the President and party landed at Don Mueang International Airport in Bangkok at 9:20 am local standard time. They were warmly welcomed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thai-

land Mr Sihasak Phuangketkeow, senior officers and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Zaw Zaw Soe and his wife, Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Brig-Gen Win Thu Lin and officials.

During the welcoming ceremony, the Guard of Honour of the Royal Thai Armed Forces stood at attention on either side

of the red carpet and rendered a salute in accordance with the established protocol and traditions for receiving visiting Heads of State. At the same time, the ceremonial artillery unit fired a 21-gun salute to formally welcome President U Min Aung Hlaing of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the start of his visit. — MNA/TTA

YFS opens applications for 10-week animated documentary training

THE Yangon Film School (YFS) has opened applications for its upcoming Animated Documentary Training, an intensive programme designed to equip creators with diverse animation techniques to bring real-life stories to the screen through new perspectives.

The 10-week, in-person training programme will run from 5 October to 12 December at the YFS, located at 5, Myayadana Street, Yankin Township. Combining theoretical lectures with hands-on production, the training will guide trainees in col-



This photo features participants who attended the first week of the YFS Beginners' Course 2020.

laborating in groups to create four short animated documentary films by the end of the course.

The training pro-

gramme will be led by Spanish visual artist and animator Imma Carpe, alongside local assistant instructors.

Applications are open to art and graphic design students, illustrators, animators, and anyone with a passion for storytelling. The YFS will select up to 20 participants, giving priority to individuals who demonstrate empathy, creativity, patience, and strong collaborative skills.

Interested applicants can apply online via the following form: https://form.jotform.com/YFS_info/yfs-student-docuanimation26. According to the YFS, the application deadline is at 5 pm on 28 August. — TWA/TH

Public Notice: Cash and In-Kind Donations Invited for Laymyethna Flood Victims

THE public is invited to donate cash and in-kind assistance to support people affected by the overflow of water caused by the subsidence of the embankment through the breach in the sandbar beneath of the Ngawun Embankment in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Individuals and organizations in Myanmar and abroad may make donations through the following channels. The date, time and venue of the donation ceremony will be announced in due course.

Contact Points

- (1) Nay Pyi Taw Council and the respective Region and State governments
- (2) Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Office 23, Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: 09 2021491, 09 254170011, 09 43054844, 09 420703647
- (3) Central Store (Yangon), Disaster Management Department, Ward 3, Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road, Yangon
Tel: 09 250123885, 09 420740160
- (4) Central Store (Mandalay), Disaster Management Department, 65th Street, between 34th and 35th Streets, Pyigyimyatshin Ward, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay
Tel: 09 420708827, 09 256061196

MPT offers free On-Net calls, data, and SMS for flood victims

MPT has started providing one-week free emergency communication services, including 1GB mobile data, 100 minutes of MPT-to-MPT calls and 100 SMS messages, for flood-affected people in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region, starting from 7 August.

Following flooding caused by the rising Ngawun River, MPT restored communication services by installing two B2B satellite terminals and a Cell on Wheel (COW) mobile station at flood relief camps in

Sayaykwin and Seitnongon villages.

MPT-KSGM Joint Operations CEO Mr Mikinor Naito said the company is prioritizing continuous communication support during emergencies and will continue working with relevant organizations to restore normal services quickly and safely.

MPT will continue providing support to ensure emergency communication and connectivity for affected communities. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

NATIONAL

Myanmar appreciates Thailand's support for Myanmar's peace process

Myanmar will continue to maintain friendly relations with neighbouring countries and regional partner countries, as well as restoring normal relations with ASEAN.

A bilateral meeting between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Thailand took place at the Pakdi Bordin Building of the Government House in Bangkok yesterday.

At the meeting, Thai Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul said that the two countries are good neighbours and good friends, and Thailand is a reliable and trusted partner of Myanmar. With the two countries sharing a long common border, peace and development are closely interconnected. Thailand wishes to see Myanmar return to its original position of participation within the ASEAN community. There are also many good opportunities for the two countries to continue enhancing mutual cooperation. Therefore, today's discussion is a beneficial



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand exchange greetings before their meeting at Government House in Bangkok.

and meaningful meeting for both countries. The Thai Prime Minister invit-

ed the President of Myanmar to engage in sincere and open discussions for

the mutual interests of the two countries. In response, Presi-

dent U Min Aung Hlaing stated that the current period can be considered an important transitional period for both countries. Just as a new government has emerged in Thailand through the election results, Myanmar is also at a time when a newly elected government has been formed. Myanmar has returned to the path of democracy and is moving forward towards a better future. The new government is currently prioritizing the restoration of stability and peace in the country, as well as national reconciliation and unity. In terms of international relations, Myanmar will continue to maintain friendly relations with neighbouring countries and regional partner countries, while emphasizing restoring normal relations with ASEAN.

About peace, the President underscored that Myanmar has been pursuing a multiparty democratic system for only about 15 years, and peace is an essential prerequisite for strengthening democracy. Therefore, the peace process is being carried out as a top priority. In this regard, Myanmar will continue to proceed along the path of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). Myanmar appreciates Thailand's willingness to support Myanmar's peace process in order to contribute to stability and peace along the border areas between the two countries. Since the signing of the NCA in 2015, Thailand has participated as an international witness and has sent representatives to attend the NCA anniversary ceremonies.

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Myanmar, Thailand Deepen Friendly Ties, ...

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The President of Myanmar and the Thai Prime Minister held a separate meeting at the reception hall of the Government House together with Union Ministers U Khin Maung Yi and U Tin Maung Swe, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Zaw Zaw Soe and officials.

At the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on political progress in Myanmar, bilateral cooperation in peace and stability of border regions between the two countries and peace process, anti-online gambling and scam activities, combatting illegal

border trade measures, cooperation on preventing transboundary haze and river water pollution, and energy sectors, the plans of Myanmar to continuously sustain positive and beneficial cooperation with ASEAN and further cooperation with each ASEAN member state based on existing friendly relations, and the enhancement of friendly relations and strategic partnership cooperation between the two countries.

After the meeting, the President of Myanmar and the Thai Prime Minister cordially greeted each other. — MNA/TTA

Thai PM hosts dinner in honour of Myanmar President

AT the invitation of Thai Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, who is on an official visit to Thailand, attended an official dinner hosted by the Thai Prime Minister yesterday at Government House in Bangkok.

Joining the President at the official dinner were members of the high-level delegation accompanying him on the visit, the Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand the Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy, and Air), and other



Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing speaks at the dinner hosted by Thai Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul.

relevant officials, as well as senior Thai government officials.

Upon arrival at the dinner venue, the Pres-

ident was warmly welcomed by the Prime Minister of Thailand and other officials. The official dinner then commenced,

during which the Prime Minister of Thailand and the President delivered welcoming remarks,

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NATIONAL

Myanmar, Thailand Reaffirm Commitment to Expanding Trade and Investment at Business Forum

Thailand will work with Myanmar to raise bilateral trade to US\$12 billion while expanding investment and economic cooperation.



Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing delivers a keynote address at the Myanmar-Thailand Business Forum in Bangkok on 6 August 2026.

President U Min Aung Hlaing reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to strengthening economic cooperation with Thailand and invited Thai businesses to expand investments across a wide range of sectors during the Myanmar-Thailand Business Forum held at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre in Bangkok yesterday. Thai Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul also pledged to deepen bilateral economic ties, saying both governments would work closely with the private sector to boost trade and investment between the neighbouring countries.

The forum was attended by President U Min Aung Hlaing and members of the Myanmar high-level delegation accompanying him on his official visit to Thailand. Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul, senior Thai government officials and business leaders from both countries. Upon arrival at the convention centre, the President and the Thai Prime Minister were welcomed by officials of the Thailand-Myanmar Friendship Association and representatives of the busi-

ness community. The event opened with welcome remarks by the presidents of the Thailand-Myanmar Friendship Association and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI).

In his keynote address, Prime Minister Mr Anutin described Myanmar as one of Thailand's key economic partners and said the two countries were ready to enter a new era of economic cooperation based on mutual trust, mutual respect and the shared interests of their peoples. He said Thai investments in Myanmar already span the energy, manufacturing, logistics, telecommunications, real estate and tourism sectors, which continue to provide a strong foundation for long-term economic growth. The Prime Minister added that both leaders had held productive discussions earlier in the day and confirmed that Thailand would host the Joint Trade Committee meeting later this year. He said Thailand would work towards increasing bilateral trade to US\$12 billion, while encouraging closer cooperation between governments, business

associations and the private sector to convert new opportunities into tangible economic outcomes. He described the forum as more than a platform for exchanging views, calling it the starting point for a new phase of government-private sector cooperation to shape the future of bilateral economic relations.

President U Min Aung Hlaing said it was an honour to address the forum, whose theme focused on opening a new chapter in promoting the Myanmar-Thailand economic partnership. He expressed confidence that stronger bilateral cooperation would enable both countries to better withstand global economic uncertainties while creating mutual benefits. The President noted that Myanmar and Thailand are not only neighbouring countries sharing long land and maritime borders but also close partners linked by common culture, traditions, religion and longstanding historical friendship. Diplomatic relations established in 1948 have now continued for 78 years, and bilateral ties were upgraded to a Natural Strategic Partnership

in 2018.

He added that both countries continue to cooperate actively through regional frameworks, including ASEAN, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), BIMSTEC, the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), Mekong-Lancang Cooperation and ACMECS.

The President said Thailand remains one of Myanmar's most important trading partners, with Myanmar exporting natural gas, agricultural produce, fisheries products and garments, while importing investment goods, machinery, vehicles, industrial products, consumer goods and pharmaceuticals from Thailand. Bilateral trade exceeded US\$4 billion during the 2025-2026 financial year and surpassed US\$1 billion by June of the 2026-2027 financial year. Since 2022, cumulative bilateral trade has reached more than US\$20.758 billion, demonstrating the importance of cross-border commerce to both economies. He highlighted border trade routes through Myawady-Mae Sot and Tachilek-Mae Sai as vital economic corridors

and called for closer cooperation to combat illegal cross-border trade, warning that illicit trade not only causes revenue losses but also allows substandard food and pharmaceutical products to enter markets.

The President also noted that Thailand is currently Myanmar's fifth-largest foreign investor, with 103 investment projects worth more than US\$4.605 billion, accounting for 6.3 per cent of total foreign investment in Myanmar. Thai investments cover agriculture, livestock, fisheries, mining, manufacturing, electricity, oil and gas, construction, transport and communications, hotels, industrial zones and services.

Highlighting Myanmar's strategic geographical position linking East Asia, South-East Asia and South Asia, President U Min Aung Hlaing said the country offers significant opportunities for regional connectivity and trade. He pointed to the ongoing development of the Thilawa, Kyaukpyu and Dawei special economic zones and deep-sea ports, the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor, the Kaladan Multimodal Transit

Transport Project, the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and Asian Highway and railway networks as projects that will strengthen regional logistics and economic integration.

The President invited Thai investors to expand investment in energy infrastructure, agriculture, livestock, agro-processing, renewable energy, education, healthcare, digital technology, fertilizer production, public transportation, electric vehicles, cement and steel manufacturing, pharmaceutical production, value-added rubber industries, logistics and border economic zones. He said the government continues to improve the investment climate by simplifying procedures, strengthening legal protections for investors, implementing intellectual property laws, promoting digital transformation through the Myanmar Digital Roadmap 2030, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, and advancing projects such as the Yadanabon Cyber City located on about 10,000 acres of land. He emphasized that Myanmar welcomes Thai investors in order to contribute to trade, investment, border trade and regional economic linkages.

Following the forum, President U Min Aung Hlaing and Prime Minister Anutin posed for a commemorative photograph before touring exhibition booths showcasing businesses from both countries. Later, the President held separate meetings with representatives of Thai business groups at his hotel to discuss further measures to enhance bilateral trade and investment cooperation. — MNA/ST

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Joint Statement
by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Prime Minister of
the Kingdom of Thailand on the occasion of Official Visit of the President
of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Thailand

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3.1 Political and Security Cooperation

- 3.1.1 Both sides agreed to further deepen dialogue at all levels and exchanges of high-level visits to strengthen bilateral cooperation in all dimensions, including the convening of the Joint Commission (JC) at an early date. They welcomed and supported the strengthening of cooperation between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs, particularly through Political Consultations, a capacity-building programme for Myanmar's newly recruited and mid-level diplomats, and an exchange programme for diplomats of the two countries as well as closer cooperation between the Myanmar Diplomatic Academy (MDA) and the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs (DVIFA) of Thailand.
- 3.1.2 Both sides welcomed the robust and longstanding partnership in defence and security cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand, and noted with satisfaction the continued progress achieved through relevant bilateral mechanisms, including the 38th Regional Border Committee (RBC) Meeting held in Kengtung from 29 June to 1 July 2026. They looked forward to the 9th High-Level Committee (HLC), to be held in Bangkok from 19 to 21 August 2026.
- 3.1.3 Both sides welcomed the upcoming Security Dialogue between the National Security Advisor of Myanmar and the Secretary-General of the National Security Council of Thailand to strengthen security cooperation at the strategic level.
- 3.1.4 Both sides expressed their joint commitment to achieve a peaceful and stable Myanmar-Thailand border, which will ensure safety, security and better livelihoods of the people on both sides.
- 3.1.5 Both sides agreed to step up joint efforts to combat transnational crimes, particularly online scams and narcotic drugs. They agreed to enhance coordination among relevant agencies to crack down on scam centres along the Myanmar-Thailand border through information sharing and joint efforts to disrupt the financial flows of transnational criminal networks. They agreed to build on existing cooperation between the anti-money laundering authorities of both countries, particularly through capacity-building programmes. The

Thai side further expressed its support for Myanmar's membership in the Egmont Group to facilitate financial intelligence sharing. Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation on prevention and suppression of narcotic drugs and related precursor chemicals.

- 3.1.6 The two leaders encouraged closer cooperation between the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of Myanmar and the National Assembly of Thailand.

3.2 Economic Cooperation

- 3.2.1 With a view to achieving the bilateral trade target of US\$12 billion, both sides agreed to closely cooperate with each other to promote and facilitate bilateral trade. The two leaders welcomed the 8th Joint Trade Commission Meeting between the two countries scheduled to be held in Thailand in 2026, with addressing regulatory barriers and issues to improve the trade flow between the two countries. The leaders also agreed to encourage their relevant authorities to explore ways to further facilitate legitimate cross-border trade and investment.
- 3.2.2 Both leaders welcomed the reopening of the border checkpoint at the Second Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge (Myawady-Mae Sot), which plays a vital role in bilateral border trade. Both sides discussed ways to facilitate and expedite cross-border trade through the said border checkpoint, which will boost trade and connectivity between the two countries. Both sides also agreed to consider reopening of additional border trade posts/ checkpoints, subject to mutual agreement and prevailing security situation on the ground in order to further promote border trade and connectivity between the two countries.
- 3.2.3 Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening connectivity through enhanced transport and infrastructure linkages. They underscored the importance of establishing a Joint Working Group on Enhancing Connectivity between the two countries to coordinate overall multi-modal connectivity plan covering road, maritime, port and cross-border linkages, and to facilitate greater coordination and, where appropriate, alignment of relevant policies, procedures and regulations, in accordance with the respective national laws of both countries. Areas for future discussion may include mu-

tually beneficial maritime connectivity between Ranong Port and appropriate ports in Myanmar; the promotion of commercially viable coastal shipping services; improvement of the Ban Phu Nam Rom-Htee Khee-Dawei transport corridor; advancement of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project, facilitation of cross-border transport and the exploration of suitable Special Economic Zones and logistics facilities along the border, subject to mutual agreement, relevant feasibility studies, and the respective national laws and procedures of both countries. These efforts are expected to enhance trade, logistics efficiency, facilitate trade and investment, and strengthen connectivity between the two countries and the broader region. Both leaders also welcomed the contribution of Thailand's Neighbouring Countries Economic Development Cooperation Agency (NEDA) to infrastructure development in Myanmar.

3.2.4 Both sides recognised energy security as a strategic priority and reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing cooperation in the energy sector, particularly in the development of natural gas resources, in order to ensure a stable and reliable energy supply and promote sustainable economic development. Both sides agreed to support the continuity of existing projects and facilitate ongoing processes related to future projects to enhance the energy security and mutual interest of both countries.

3.2.5 Both sides welcomed the signing of the new Memorandum of Understanding on Labour Cooperation and the Agreement on Employment of Workers between the two countries.

3.2.6 Both leaders welcomed the convening of the Myanmar-Thailand Business Forum in Bangkok on 6 August 2026 to strengthen networking and cooperation between the private sectors of the two countries. They encouraged closer engagement among private sector organizations, including the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), the Thai-Myanmar Business Council (TMBC), the Thai Business Association of Myanmar (TBAM) as well as direct cooperation between provincial chambers of commerce in the border areas.

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by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand on the occasion of Official Visit of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Thailand

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3.3 Cooperation on Environmental Issues

3.3.1 Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen cooperation in addressing transboundary environmental challenges, including haze pollution, open burning, and water pollution.

3.3.2 Both sides welcomed the ongoing cooperation in forest fire prevention, including through the development of forest fire monitoring systems and training programmes. They further underscored the importance of close coordination, continuous information sharing, and capacity building, including under the CLEAR Sky Strategy and through bilateral cooperation, in promoting effectiveness and sustainable solutions.

3.3.3 The two leaders welcomed the signing of the Terms of Reference for the Joint Working Group on Water Quality Management in Boundary and Transboundary Rivers between the two countries. They tasked the relevant agencies to closely cooperate in the area of water quality management and to hold the meeting of the Joint Working Group at an early and mutually convenient time.

3.4 Socio-Cultural Cooperation

3.4.1 The two leaders underscored the importance of people-to-people exchanges as a cornerstone of the longstanding friendship between Myanmar and Thailand. The two sides welcomed the continued implementation of the 2017 Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism Cooperation and agreed to further strengthen cooperation be-

tween their respective tourism authorities through the exchange of information and best practice exchanges, capacity-building, tourism promotion, tourist safety, and sustainable tourism development.

3.4.2 Both sides looked forward to the adoption of the 3-Year Development Cooperation Programme (2026-2028) between Myanmar and Thailand at the 17th Thailand-Myanmar Technical Cooperation Meeting. The 3-Year Development Cooperation Programme reflects the shared commitment to strengthening capacity-building, human resource development, and sustainable socio-economic development for the mutual benefit of the two countries, particularly in the areas of health, education, MSME development, agriculture and the environment.

3.4.3 The leaders also welcomed Thai Airways' launch of an additional Bangkok-Yangon flight in the fourth quarter of 2026, which is expected to contribute to enhanced connectivity and promote tourism and business exchanges between the two countries.

3.4.4 Both leaders welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar Space Agency (MSA) and Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA) of Thailand to enhance partnership on Earth Observation technology and its applications, particularly in the fields of disaster, agriculture and environmental management.

4. Cooperation at the Regional Level

4.1 Both sides agreed to strengthen cooperation and mutual support across regional

platforms, including ASEAN, BIMSTEC, the ACMECS and Mekong mechanisms with a view to promoting regional peace, stability, sustainable development, and shared prosperity.

4.2 Thailand reiterated its unwavering support to Myanmar for its ACMECS Chairmanship and looked forward to the successful convening of the upcoming 11th ACMECS Summit.

4.3 Thailand reaffirmed its commitment to supporting and continuing to work closely with Myanmar for Myanmar's full and equal participation in ASEAN mechanisms and processes in accordance with the ASEAN Charter, principles and procedures. Myanmar expressed its appreciation for Thailand's constructive role in facilitating the normalization of its relations with ASEAN.

5. Other Matters

Thailand welcomed Myanmar's continued commitment in advancing the peace talks with the goal of achieving lasting peace through a Myanmar-owned and Myanmar-led process. Thailand's support in this regard, in close consultation with Myanmar, was welcomed.

6. The official visit of President U Min Aung Hlaing reaffirmed the long-standing friendship and close partnership between Myanmar and Thailand and the shared commitment of both countries to further strengthen cooperation for the mutual benefit of the two countries. Both sides agreed to continue close engagement at all levels.

7. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar expressed his sincere appreciation to the Royal Thai Government for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during the visit, and extended a cordial invitation to the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand to visit Myanmar at a mutually convenient time.

Thai PM hosts dinner in honour of Myanmar President

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exchanged cordial greetings, and dined together.

During the official dinner, Thai cultural troupes presented performances featuring songs and dances that showcased the cultural

heritage of both nations. Following the dinner, the President and the Prime Minister of Thailand presented bouquets to the performers in appreciation of their performances and warmly greeted them. — MNA/TH

Myanmar eyes Pakistan market for 929 ...

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Merchants Association (Sagaing Region).

Chickpeas are sold in various forms, including whole seeds and crushed gram, as well as pro-

cessed products such as raw chickpea flour and roasted chickpea flour. Whole chickpeas and crushed gram are mainly exported to India, while they are also shipped to

countries including Pakistan, Singapore, South Korea, China and Bangladesh.

Chickpeas are an important pulse crop for both domestic consump-

tion and export, as they are widely consumed in Myanmar. Various types of chickpeas are cultivated across the country. — ASH/MKKS

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.gnlnm.com.mm/e-paper.



NATIONAL

Myanmar appreciates Thailand’s support for Myanmar’s ...

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The President expressed his gratitude for Thailand’s continued support and assistance to Myanmar’s peace process.

The President stated that Myanmar is moving forward towards the establishment of a Union based on democracy and a federal system. Based on the experiences gained throughout its history, Myanmar will adopt a region-based federal system that is suitable for the country’s own circumstances. The government has repeatedly invited ethnic armed organizations and terrorist groups to peacefully resolve political

issues through political means. Peace talks are being conducted not only with ethnic armed organizations that have signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), but also with groups that have not yet signed the agreement.

He underlined that through their friendship, as well as political and security cooperation, the two countries will further strengthen their closer partnership for the benefit of the peoples of both countries. In the future, they will be able to further consolidate the momentum of our existing cooperation and friendship.

The Thai Prime Minister

stated that Thailand has always been a trusted friend of Myanmar. Thailand will continue to address border-related matters with the interests of both countries and their peoples as the primary consideration. Regarding development matters, Thailand will continue to cooperate with Myanmar as a development partner. By continuing to implement cooperation across various sectors between the two countries, they will be able to promote the interests and well-being of the peoples of both countries.

They cordially exchanged views on the exchange of delegations

between the parliaments of both countries to enhance cooperation, further strengthening of strategic cooperation in security affairs in the defence sector of both countries, cooperation in transnational crime including border region security, anti-drug trafficking, combatting online scams, human trafficking and illegal trade, promotion of cooperation in economic affairs, trade, aviation transport, tourism, energy, cultural and environmental conservation sectors, and close cooperation in migrant worker affairs between the two countries.

After the meeting, officials from respective

sectors signed the memorandum of understanding on labour Cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand, the Agreement on the Employment of Workers, the Memorandum of Understanding on Space Technology Development Cooperation, and the Guidelines for the Joint Working Group on Water Quality Management of Border and Transboundary Rivers in the presence of the President of Myanmar and the Thai Prime Minister.

After the signing ceremony, the two Heads of State cordially greeted the attendees.

Also present at the

meeting were Union Ministers U Khin Maung Yi, U Tin Maung Swe, U Ko Ko Lwin, U Khin Maung Soe and U Tun Ohn, Kayin State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Zaw Nang Oo, deputy ministers, officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Zaw Zaw Soe, Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Brig-Gen Win Thu Lin and officials, together with senior officers from the Thai government and officials.

The Thai Prime Minister saw off the President of Myanmar, who left the Government House. — MNA/TTA

Energy Talks Bolster Myanmar-Thailand Power, Investment Ties

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Ko Ko Lwin held talks with Thai Energy Minister Mr Akanat Promphan in Bangkok yesterday to discuss strengthening bilateral energy cooperation, upcoming agreements, and expanded Thai investment in Myanmar’s energy sector.

The meeting took place at the hotel where the Myanmar delegation was staying during President U Min Aung Hlaing’s official visit to Thailand. Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin was accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Zaw Zaw Soe, while senior officials from Thailand’s Ministry of Energy also attended.

During the meeting,



Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin meets Thai Energy Minister Mr Akanat Promphan in Bangkok yesterday.

both sides exchanged views on the upcoming signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalize bilateral cooperation in the electric power and energy sectors. They also discussed opportunities for Thai companies to expand investment in Myanmar’s natural gas projects, as well as plans to strengthen

and expand the country’s power generation capacity and electricity distribution network.

Following the meeting, the Union Minister warmly greeted the Thai Energy Minister and his delegation and briefed them on investment opportunities in Myanmar’s electric power and energy sectors. — MNA/TH

DIPLOMACY

MoFA Dy Minister receives IOM delegation

DEPUTY Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw received a delegation led by Ms Ugochi Daniels, Deputy Director-General for Operations, IOM Headquarters in Geneva, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

Ms Ugochi Daniels expressed her sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for facilitating enhanced cooperation between the relevant Ministries and the IOM. Moreover, they discussed and exchanged views on strengthening bilateral cooperation between the



Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw meets Ms Ugochi Daniels, Deputy Director-General for Operations, IOM Headquarters in Geneva, yesterday.

Government of Myanmar and the IOM.

Also present at the meeting were Mr Iori Kato, Regional Director for IOM Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Mr Daihei Mochizuki, Chief of Mission of IOM in Myanmar and the respective officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

Over 1,300 patients expected at 19th Sitagu Free Eye Donation Programme

AT the 19th round of free eyesight donation, which will kick off on 1 September, more than 1,300 patients will be accepted, said the Sitagu Cakku Dana Hospital.

Including 88 elderly patients who require follow-up checkups and those who didn’t receive a token in the previous 18th round, 1,200 on the registered list on a daily basis are expected to be included in

this 19th round, said the hospital.

The hospital will contact them by phone in the last week of August. During the 18th round of eyesight donation, which was carried out from 9 to 14 June, 1,257 were provided with medical examination, 476 were provided with surgery, and 45 were provided with laser treatment, it said.

Throughout the hospital’s free eyesight donation project, up to the 18th round, 22,672 people received medical examinations while 7,045 and 439 underwent surgery and laser treatment, respectively. — MT/ZS

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OPINION

Conserve mangrove forests as green walls

Mangrove forests are naturally occurring forests found in coastal shallow waters, tidal flats, and along the banks of rivers and streams affected by seawater intrusion. They are extremely important for humans and biodiversity, and also play a significant role in addressing global climate change.

Mangrove forests are a natural resource that has played a role in an important event in Myanmar's history and has provided numerous benefits to the country. In early May 2008, the devastating Cyclone Nargis, one of the most notorious cyclones in Myanmar's history, severely struck the coastal areas of Ayeyawady Region, Yangon Region, and Mon State, causing the deaths and destruction of many people. Numerous homes, buildings, and properties were swept away by the extremely powerful storm. Despite the severity of this natural disaster, the destructive force of the cyclone was not able

to indiscriminately devastate human lives and livelihoods entirely due to the protection provided by a natural resource – mangrove forests.

The small remaining areas of mangrove forests along riverbanks and coastal areas were able to save the lives of some people. The mangroves provided a chance of survival for some who were thought to have lost their lives during the powerful storm. Therefore, without any media coverage or publicity, local communities came to clearly understand the value and importance of mangrove forests.

There are approximately 15.2 million hectares (approximately 37.56 acres) of mangrove forests, of which one to two per cent are lost every year. Myanmar, with around 1.26 million acres of mangrove forest area, ranks seventh globally and third in the ASEAN region in terms of mangrove coverage. Across the world, they are found in areas such as Bangladesh, Myanmar's coastal regions including Rakhine State and the Ayeyawady River Delta, as well as the Gulf of Mottama region and other areas.

There are two types of mangrove forests in Myanmar: delta mangrove forests and coastal mangrove forests. Delta mangrove forests are mainly found in Bogale Township, Meinmahla Island, Kadonkani, Labutta District, Myaungmya Township, Pyapon, Daye, and other townships in Ayeyawady Region. Coastal mangrove forests are found along the western coastline of Rakhine State in addition to the Myeik Archipelago, Yangon Region, and Bago Region.

Therefore, we should recognize that mangrove forests, which stand like green walls between the sea and the land, are indispensable for maintaining climate balance, keeping the environment free from pollution, protecting against natural disasters, ensuring the abundance of fisheries resources, and improving the socioeconomic lives of local communities. We should all actively participate in the conservation, protection, and restoration of mangrove forests.



TO truly understand the depth of Ko Kyaw Kha's recent wounds, one must return to the beginning of his relationship with his niece. To the outside world, she was merely his younger sister's daughter. But to him, she was the daughter he never had – the child into whom he poured his time, knowledge, and eventually, almost all of his trust.

When she was a young child, she spent every summer vacation in his town. While other children played, she sat beside him, eager to learn English. She possessed a natural curiosity and a sincere desire to improve. By high school, she had already mastered complex grammar texts. He believed education was one of life's greatest gifts, and he felt privileged to guide someone who truly valued it.

However, life rarely follows a predictable path. After her matriculation examination, her parents separated, and her grandparents passed away. Her visits became less frequent. Years passed, and when she was around twenty-four, she returned to his daily life. His health was declining, and he needed assistance. Unplanned, the young girl who had once been his student gradually became the person who shared his home.

Neither could have imagined that this arrangement would last for over a decade. Those years brought unparalleled peace. The once-empty house became organized, and the difficult solitude of

When Trust Breaks Without a Sound

By Min Min Zan

an elderly man was replaced by a profound sense of comfort. Gradually, she became involved in his English tuition classes. Recognizing her talent for teaching, he trained her seriously. She developed into a capable, respected English teacher. Seeing her stand confidently in front of a classroom filled him with pride. In his heart, he believed he had not merely helped his niece find a career, but had helped his daughter find her place in life.

For nearly ten years, their relationship seemed unbreakable. He trusted her more than anyone else — a trust that extended into

he had withdrawal authority, but trusting her completely, he arranged the account so she could access it legally. His reasoning was simple: if something unexpected happened to him, he wanted her to handle everything easily. This was not a financial decision, but an expression of absolute trust built through countless ordinary days.

But human relationships can change quietly. His niece began spending more time on her phone, having long, private conversations. Whenever he was nearby, she would move to another part of the house. Initially, he tried not

perately wanted to believe that nothing had changed.

Two months ago, he decided to speak with her openly. He approached her not with anger, but with a deep desire for honesty. She admitted she had become close to a man but quickly reassured him. She claimed it was only a casual relationship, that she had no intention of marrying, and that she had chosen someone from another town to avoid local gossip. He listened quietly and accepted her words — not because he had proof, but because trust compels us to believe the people we love.

Then came 24 July 2026, a day he believes he will never forget. Around half past twelve, while resting in his classroom, his niece casually mentioned she needed to go out. She appeared perfectly calm. Yet, driven by lingering doubts, a feeling of unease washed over him. After she left, he looked through the classroom door and saw her hurriedly climbing into a hired three-wheeled taxi. A hired taxi implied a longer journey. A question formed: where was she really going?

Thirty minutes later, he called one of her close friends, who confirmed she was still at home. The painful certainty struck him: she had gone alone, and she had lied. With a heavy heart, he called her.

"Where are you now?" he asked. "I am at Natural Life," she replied, naming a restaurant outside town. "Who are you with?" "I am with Su Myat," she answered.

Then Ko Kyaw Kha spoke, his voice trembling between disappointment and disbelief. "Please do not lie to me. I have already called Su Myat. She is at home. Tell me the truth. Are you with him?" After a short silence, she simply said, "Yes." That single word created a silence inside him louder than any argument.

At that moment, he did not feel anger that she had met someone; he understood she was an adult with the right to choose her path. What wounded him deeply was the realization that the person he trusted most had chosen to deceive him when he asked for the truth. The pain did not stem from a broken relationship, but from broken trust. He had spent over a decade treating her as his daughter, sharing his knowledge, his home, and his hopes. He had given her his complete trust, and in that moment, something precious within him was irreparably damaged.

Looking back on those ten years, Ko Kyaw Kha refuses to erase them. The happiness, achievements, and bonds were real. He still cherishes the mem-

norm, as government ministries utilize nine distinct official writing methods. According to the Office Manual published by the Union Civil Service Board, these writing methods include working papers, summaries, briefing notes, official correspondence, orders and directives, meeting minutes, travel reports, and activity records. Since these writing techniques are highly effective and efficient, we should learn and apply them in our workplace.

By understanding the Dos and Don'ts of official letter writing, mastering it becomes much easier. To begin with the

key principles, writers must first emphasize clarity and precision regarding the subject, purpose, and specific request of the document. Additionally, maintaining correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation is essential in official correspondence. It is equally important to use formal terminology and ensure that dates, reference numbers, receiver's and sender's names, positions, and departments are accurate and follow a standard format.

On the other hand, to achieve smooth office writing, certain mistakes should be avoided. Informal language and excessively

long or confusing sentences can make it difficult for the reader. Furthermore, uncertain words and personal emotions can undermine accuracy, while improper abbreviations may lead to misunderstanding.

In conclusion, being proficient in office letter writing not only provides us with a practical skill but also enhances our career opportunities. By adhering to these guidelines, we can compose effective letters with confidence and ease, ultimately contributing to better professional communication.

occupied the most special places in our hearts.

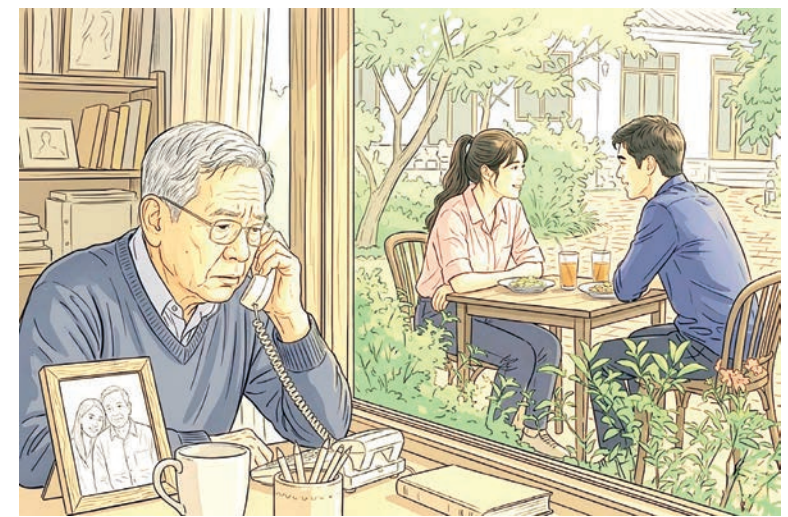
Yet, as time passed, he began to understand something vital. The years they spent together were not a mistake. A teacher does not regret teaching simply because a student chooses a different path. The deepest form of love is not possession, but the ability to accept that those we love have their own journeys. He had always believed that when

be unfair to the many beautiful years they shared. He has also learned that love without boundaries can become dependence, and trust without balance can create suffering. One should love sincerely but never forget how to stand independently.

As he grows older, Ko Kyaw Kha understands that the final chapter of life cannot be written by placing all hope in another person. Peace and strength must come from within. He has decided not to spend his remaining years looking backwards with anger or allowing resentment to define a relationship that once brought him immense joy. Instead, he chooses to be grateful for what was real and to continue living with dignity.

Perhaps the greatest challenge in life is not losing someone, but discovering how to continue after losing the future we once imagined with them. For Ko Kyaw Kha, the future he planned has changed. But a blank page is not the end of a story; it is an invitation to begin again. He still has knowledge to share, students to teach, and kindness to offer. The road ahead may be quieter and require greater inner strength, but it is still his road. With acceptance rather than bitterness, Ko Kyaw Kha begins writing a new ending.

(This is the Continuation of the article titled "When A Genuine Trust Meets Human Nature" - 9.6.2026)



hearts for change.

After everything that happened, Ko Kyaw Kha found himself standing at an unexpected crossroads. For years, he had imagined his later years spent peacefully with someone he could trust completely. He never expected perfection, only that their deep bond would endure. But life teaches lessons in unexpected ways; the greatest disappointments often come from those who

he became weak, she would be beside him. Now, he understands that no one can guarantee they will remain exactly where we expect them to be. Human beings are travellers who walk beside us for a certain distance before sometimes taking a different road.

Accepting this reality is painful, but it is a form of wisdom. Ko Kyaw Kha does not want to remember his niece only through this painful incident, as that would

NATIONAL

Renovation underway for Tiddim’s damaged staff housing



The deputy minister and officials inspect the repair work at staff housing in Tiddim, Chin State.

A two-unit, reinforced concrete (RC), one-storey staff housing building owned by the Department of Cooperatives in Tiddim Township, which was

partially damaged due to terrorist incidents, is being renovated and reconstructed with funds from the National Disaster Management Committee, according to reports.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Oo, accompanied by officials, inspected the ongoing renovation and reconstruction works.

He also attended a meeting at the Township General Administration

Department. At the event, he said that regional development activities could only be carried out when there was stability and peace. He urged town elders, departmental personnel and residents in Tiddim Township to work together for stability and peace. The deputy minister then presented food supplies and consumer goods to civil servants serving in Tiddim Township. — MNA/MKKS

PyinOoLwin’s model village project initiated; committee formed

THE Rural Development Department, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, which will implement the Model Village Project Pin-lain Village, PyinOoLwin Township, for the financial year 2026-2027, held a project introduction and committee formation ceremony on the morning of 5 August in the village.

U Set Naing Tun, District Head of the PyinOoLwin Rural Development Department, gave an opening speech.



The initiation and committee formation ceremony for model village project in progress in PyinOoLwin Township.

Daw Khin Mon Kyaw, Township Head of the PyinOoLwin Township Rural Development Department, explained to

the village the purpose and benefits of the model village project, the project process steps and the activities to be carried out

by sector, and discussed the selection of priority activities by year.

Afterwards, the project staff explained the points to be followed by the elected committee members in the project manual, as well as the committee members’ responsibilities. The villagers who attended the meeting elected the Village Development Committee members by consensus through a voting system. — Aung Ye Kyaw (Singaing)

Kayan opens free basic treadle sewing training



The opening ceremony for the basic sewing training is underway in Thanlyin District, Yangon Region.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an opening

ceremony for a free basic treadle sewing training course at Kamasein Village, in Kayan Township, yesterday.

Thanlyin District Department of Rural Development Head Daw Aye Aye Kyu delivered opening remarks, explaining that livelihood training courses are selected and conducted based on local products, market demands, labour requirements and suitable local conditions. The Pyithu Hluttaw representative and Region Hluttaw representative also delivered remarks.

Kayan Township Department of Rural Development

Head Daw Htar Htar Naing discussed future training plans, while instructors detailed the lessons to be taught. Officials then provided trainees with training materials.

A total of 20 female trainees from Kamasein Village are attending the 45-day free course, where skilled female instructors will provide theoretical and practical training in basic sewing techniques. — Karan (Rural)

DIPLOMACY

MSWRR Dy Minister receives IOM delegation

DEPUTY Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Thant Zaw Lwin received a delegation led by Ms Ugochi Daniels, Deputy Director-General for Operations at IOM Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Ministry’s meeting room yesterday.

Both sides discussed the ongoing process of signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU)

between the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and IOM to assist victims of human trafficking and vulnerable migrant workers, the potential participation of IOM in disaster emergency response and management activities, and the humanitarian assistance activities currently being carried out by the Ministry. — MNA/MKKS



Deputy Minister Dr Thant Zaw Lwin meets the IOM delegation.

DIPLOMACY

MoL Dy Minister receives IOM delegation

DEPUTY Minister for Labour U Maung Maung Than received Deputy Director-General Ms Ugochi Daniels from the headquarters of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Geneva at the ministry yesterday.

They cordially exchanged views on matters related to migration labour affairs being jointly carried out between the Ministry of Labour and the International Organization

for Migration (IOM), technical assistance for establishing a robust database system concerning information on licensed overseas employment agencies, coordination to continue implementing the Mutual Recognition of Skills (MRS) process between Myanmar and Thailand, and other programmes that the ministry wishes to undertake with support from IOM. — MNA/KTZH



Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Than meets the IOM Geneva Deputy Director-General (Operations).

NATIONAL

2nd Myanmar Auto & Parts Expo set for 25-27 Sept

THE 2nd Myanmar Auto & Parts Expo will take place on a grand scale at Yangon Convention Centre from 9 am to 5 pm on 25-27 September, showcasing a wide range of vehicles including electric vehicles, petrol, diesel and commercial models, and brand new imported and locally assembled Semi-Knocked Down models.

The expo is being organized in collaboration with the Myanmar Automobiles Manufacturers and Distributors Association (MAMDA) and the Yangon Region Automotive Components, Spare Parts & Accessories Association. Car enthusiasts have been invited to attend, browse, and support the event. Visitors can explore and purchase vehicles at special promotional prices. The auto show will bring together the manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, dealers, fleet operators and auto buyers shaping Myanmar’s fast-moving mobility market. Companies interested in participating as exhibitors can contact Silver Sea Event Management at 09 409400055, 09 409400066, or 09 409400077 for further details. — NN/KK



People visit the Myanmar Auto & Parts Expo 2025 in Yangon, Myanmar, 12 September 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA MYO KYAW SOE

YCDC invites tenders for bus station parking and restroom fees

THE Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) invited tenders for the collection of parking fees from small vehicles at the Aung Mingala Highway Bus Terminal and usage fees for shower and restroom facilities at the Dagon Ayeya Warehouse and highway bus terminal.

The parking fee collection covers designated areas along the right side of Aung Mingala Road, from Gate No 1 to Mandalay Road near the small-vehicle parking zone on Monywa and Mandalay Roads, while the restroom charges apply to facilities No 1-A and 1-B of Dagon-Ayeya Warehouse and highway bus terminal. The tender forms and regulations are available from 7 to 18 August at the Bus Terminal Management Office, Engineering Department (Roads and Bridges), 7th floor, YCDC 12-storey building, 46th Street, Botahtaung Township. Bids will be opened at 10 am on 21 August at YCDC City Hall, according to the Tender Accepting and Evaluation Committee. — NN/KK

Bago steps up safeguards for fish farms against natural disasters

FISHERY products from fish farms across Bago Region are being produced for both domestic consumption and export. To prevent fish ponds from being inundated and to minimize losses caused by heavy rainfall and flooding, the Bago Region government, together with the Regional Fisheries Federation and relevant departments, has been implementing preventive and supervisory measures.

“We are concerned about flooding caused by river water and heavy rain, so preventive measures have been put in place at the regional, district and township levels to protect fish farms from inundation. Since Bago Region has previously experienced flooding of fish ponds, we have instructed farmers through field visits to raise pond embankments, reinforce them with sandbags, install protective netting around ponds, closely monitor riv-



Officials oversee preventive measures at fish farms in Bago Region.

er water levels, and stockpile fish feed in advance. Besides flood risks, we have also warned farmers about the possibility of rising temperatures,” said Dr Su Myo Thwe, Director of the Bago Region Fisheries Department.

During September and October of the 2023-2024 financial year, flooding affected fish farms in the region. In Toungoo, 131.63 acres of fish ponds were inundated, and more than 263,000 fish fingerlings were supplied to 17 fish farmers. In Bago Township, where 2,221 acres of fish ponds were flooded, 3.312 million fish fingerlings were provided

to 32 fish farmers by the Department of Fisheries to help restore aquaculture operations.

“Although river water levels have not yet risen this year, the regional government, in cooperation with the Department of Fisheries, has already prepared response plans in case floodwaters enter fish ponds. We must remain particularly vigilant during the Wagaung season. To reduce flood impacts, streams, canals and embankments have been repaired and dredged to improve water flow. We are also continuously monitoring river water levels,” said U Tun

Tun Naing, Chairman of the Bago Region Fisheries Federation.

Bago Region has more than 30,000 fish ponds, with about 2,900 fish farmers raising various species mostly in Thanatpin, Thayawady and Letpadan.

To ensure that aquaculture operations can recover quickly if flooding occurs in the Bago River, hatcheries at the Bago Fishery Station, Thanatpin Fishery Station and Okpo Fishery Station are currently producing fish fingerlings through induced breeding techniques for future distribution. — Thit-sa (MNA)/KTZH

Oil millers eligible for MSME loans

PRIVATE oil millers can apply for development loans aimed at upgrading their facilities and acquiring necessary machinery. This programme is offered through the Di-

rectorate of Industrial Supervision and Inspection (DISI) located in Nay Pyi Taw, as well as in various regions and states, according to the Ministry of Industry and MSME

Development.

Interested oil millers who wish to obtain endorsement for importing essential machinery and spare parts for their operations can find more

information by contacting DISI at their head office, located in Office 37 in Nay Pyi Taw. They can reach the office by dialling 067 3408395 or 09 401224998. — NN/KK

Urea Fertilizer Committee coordinates with regional/state governments to stabilize urea prices

UREA Fertilizer Purchase, Distribution and Sales Steering Committee is coordinating with regional and state governments to help farmers purchase urea fertilizer at more affordable prices. The committee held discussions with representatives from the Myanmar

Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association (MFSPEA), and urea fertilizer is being sold at the Central Bank of Myanmar’s reference exchange rate, with a regulated price set at K120,000 per bag in Yangon.

The committee is

working together with regional and state governments to distribute the fertilizer at affordable prices, which are set depending on the reference prices by adding transportation and freight charges.

The committee formed a consortium to

enable collective purchasing and distribution when individual domestic companies were facing challenges amid global price volatility. The committee ensures timely supply by arranging shipments in batches to stabilize domestic prices. — ASH/KK

NATIONAL

Relief operations underway in Ayeyawady Region



HEAVY rainfall and river-bank erosion on the night of 30 July 2026 caused flooding in Laymyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Floodwaters entered five wards in Laymyethna and 72 surrounding villages. In addition, 26 villages in Hinthada Township, six villages in Yekyi Township and two villages in Kyonpyaw Township were affected, bringing the total number of flood-affected villages to 106.

Flood relief camps have been opened at 13 locations in Laymyethna



Images show ongoing relief efforts in Laymyethna Township.

Township, three in Hinthada Township, five in Yekyi Township and one in Kyonpyaw Township. Members of the local Tatmadaw units under the South-West Com-

mand and the Myanmar Police Force, firefighters, social rescue organizations, charitable groups and local ethnic communities have joined forces to assist flood victims.

Relief efforts include search and rescue operations, helping residents move their belongings to safer locations, delivering food supplies and providing necessary healthcare services to those affected by the flooding, according to reports. — MNA/KZL

Kyaiklat's MSY Village Project Loan disbursed



The loan disbursement ceremony is underway in Kyaiklat Township.

THE Department of Rural Development of Kyai-klat Township, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, disbursed the 9th revolving fund loan for the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project in Htinkwin Village, on 4 August. The project was initially launched in the village during the 2018-2019 financial year.

U Thura Shein, Township Head of the Kyaiklat Township Rural Development Department, gave a detailed presentation on the objectives and processes of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project, relevant details of the Rural Development Law, and how job opportunities and family income-generating activities supported by these

loans contribute to poverty reduction.

Daw Wah Wah Tun, Staff Officer of the Kyai-klat Township Rural Development Department, along with project officials, transferred project funds worth K44.5 million to the members of the Htinkwin Emerald Green Village Project working group.

Afterwards, the project supervisory committee disbursed a total fund of K44.5 million to 118 members as follows: Agriculture: K32.85 million to 82 members; Livestock Breeding: K1.45 million to five members; Fisheries: K2.15 million to six members; and Trading/Commerce: K8.05 million to 25 members. — Chit Oo Ko (Rural)

YR hosts Emerald Green project orientation, committee formation ceremony

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted an orientation session on the Mya Sein Yaung Project and formed the Village Project Committee at the monastery in Nyaungbintha Village, Kawhmu Township, on 5 August.



The project orientation and committee formation ceremony is underway in Kawhmu Township.

Township Department Head U Tin Ko Latt explained the objectives and benefits of the Emerald Green Project. He emphasized the importance of safeguarding the project revolving fund, maintaining accurate financial records, and systematically managing the project through a village-level committee. He also encouraged villagers to elect committee members who are honest, impartial, and committed to serving the community.

Project officials then explained the rules and regulations for committee formation, the roles and responsibilities of committee members, the duties of villagers, and the procedures to be carried out under the project.

After the discussion, village elders and local communities elected a seven-member Village Project Committee by consensus to oversee the implementation of the Emerald Green project and support community development activities.

Under the 2026-2027 financial year, Nyaungbintha Village will receive a revolving fund of K30 million through the Emerald Green project. The fund will be provided as low-interest loans to support small-scale income-generating activities, according to the Kawhmu Township Department of Rural Development. — Ah Htwe (DRD)

Thayawady opens shampoo and soap production training



The training opening ceremony is in progress in Thayawady District.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an opening ceremony for a livelihood support training course on shampoo and soap production at Letpanton Village in Thayawady Township, yesterday.

Thayawady District Department of Rural Development Head U Nyunt Zaw delivered opening remarks, and Thayawady Township Management and Administration Com-

mittee Chair U Thein Zaw Phyo Min made additional comments.

Thayawady Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Lay Lay Lwin explained the course objectives and expected benefits, after which officials handed over training materials to the trainees.

A total of 20 female trainees from Letpanton Village are attending the five-day free course, where skilled instructors will provide theoretical and practical training in various shampoo and soap production methods. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

Akita unveils plan to host one of Japan’s largest AI data centers

THE northeastern Japanese prefecture of Akita on Thursday outlined its plan to host one of the largest artificial intelligence data centers in the country, with construction costs estimated at around 2 trillion yen (\$12.7 billion).

The project will be headed by Akita-based IT company S2 Co and US startup Bitgrit and be funded by investments from the United Arab Emirates, among others, with hopes of operations beginning in the early 2030s.

The prefectural government and S2 said an industrial park in the

northern part of the city of Akita was currently being proposed as a potential location for the data centre, which will have a power capacity of up to 500 megawatts.

The prefecture expects electricity generated from its abundant renewable energy sources, including wind power, to power the facility.

The UAE’s Mubadala Investment Co is considering investing in the project. The country’s ambassador to Japan is set to visit the prefecture on 19 August to meet with Akita Governor Kenta Suzuki. — Kyodo

Commerzbank profit surges as UniCredit circles

GERMANY’S Commerzbank said Thursday that its net profit nearly doubled in the second quarter, as its Italian rival UniCredit nears the possible completion of its hostile takeover.

Net profit came in at 898 million euros (US\$1.03 billion) in the three months to end-June, up from 462 million euros a year earlier.

For the first half of the year, profit reached a record 1.8 billion euros.

Commission income

— fees from providing services like accounts or brokerage — rose, Commerzbank said, while income from interest was stable.

The results come as the battle for control of Commerzbank heats up.

UniCredit has pursued Commerzbank for the past two years, causing alarm in Germany where the bank is dear to many thanks to its reputation for financing small and mid-size industrial companies.

— AFP

McDonald’s reports slower US sales in 2nd quarter

MCDONALD’S reported slower sales growth in the US market in the second quarter as executives blamed too many simultaneous promotional offers, including a World Cup campaign that disappointed.

The fast-food chain said it remains committed to a value-oriented menu that has resonated in recent years amid inflation-weary consumers in its home market and overseas. But US restaurants were overwhelmed in the



The fast-food chain said it remains committed to a value-oriented menu. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

just-finished quarter with “too many deployments”, according to McDonald’s

Chief Executive Christopher Kempczinski. “We don’t have a strat-

egy problem,” Kempczinski said on a conference call with analysts. “We simply didn’t execute at the level we needed to in the second quarter.”

Profits edged up five percent to \$2.4 billion, while revenues rose four per cent to \$7.1 billion.

But comparable sales in the United States grew just 0.8 per cent, much below the 3.9 per cent posted in the first quarter. The average check size increased in the United States, but guest counts fell. — AFP

Siemens shares plunge on disappointing guidance raise

GERMAN industrial giant Siemens on Thursday raised its profit outlook for the second time this year after a quarter boosted by AI spending, but its shares plunged after the forecast fell short of investors’ hopes.

Along with other industrial firms such as France’s Schneider Electric and Switzerland’s ABB, Siemens has benefitted from demand for data centres that provide the computing power for AI.

The provider of electrical equipment now expects earnings per share,

a measure of underlying profitability, of 11.20 to 11.50 euros for the year (\$12.93 to \$13.28), up from a range of 10.70 to 11.10 euros given in February.

“The data centre business is especially dynamic,” chief executive Roland Busch told reporters on a call. “The rapid build-out of cloud and AI

infrastructure is continuing to drive demand high.”

But Siemens shares dropped six per cent in early Frankfurt trading, with analysts pointing to expectations of higher full-year profits, as well as fears that new AI tools will disrupt Siemens’s own software business.

The earnings “uplift appears less pronounced than peers”, RBC bank analysts wrote in a note.

“Uncertainty around factors such as the macro demand backdrop and AI software risks may still limit investor enthusiasm,” they added. — AFP



Siemens has benefitted from demand for data centres that provide the computing power for AI. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

MYANMA Port Authority “NOTICE of High Tide”

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.27 feet to 21.16 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period of August 12th to August 17th, 2026 . Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, **Aka Yarzar Co., Ltd.**, would like to change distributor of the following products, registered by PT Corteva Agrosience Manufacturing Indonesia to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar, from former distributor Myanma Awba Group Co., Ltd. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.
Aka Yarzar Co., Ltd. 09761844477

Sr No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Type of Pesticide	Registration No.	Exp. Date
1.	Endure 60 SC	Spinetoram 6% w/w SC	Provisional	P2022-5004	03-08-2027

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Pakistan, Russia, Belarus working to launch test freight rail route

Minsk-Moscow-Karachi freight rail plans await Iran transit route launch to begin operations.

PAKISTAN, Russia, and Belarus are planning to launch a test freight rail route, but the main obstacle remains the unfinished transit section in Iran, Pakistani Ambassador to Russia Faisal Niaz Tirmizi said. “We are actively working on a test freight rail route connecting Minsk, Moscow, and Karachi. The only obstacle is that the route must transit Iran, and this section has not yet been launched. We are closely cooperating on this issue and remain



Policemen walk along trains stationed on a deserted platform at the Karachi Cantonment railway station in Karachi, Pakistan on 26 March 2020. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

committed to making the Minsk-Karachi freight corridor operational,” the ambassador told Russian media. He said transportation of goods by rail is sim-

ply the most efficient and cost-effective transportation method available. He noted that establishing a permanent freight rail link between the countries is achievable. In May 2023, Russia and Iran signed documents to complete the final necessary railroad section of the western route of the Rasht-Astara corridor in Iran. The total cost is \$1.8 billion: \$1.5 billion is a loan from Russia, the rest is Iran’s funds. — SPUTNIK

Sheikh Hasina announces Dec homecoming

SIGNALLING a dramatic turn in regional politics, former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday announced her decision to return to her homeland in Decem-

ber, asserting that she is prepared to face any consequences, including arrest, imprisonment, or threats to her life. Addressing her first virtual press briefing from New Delhi since her departure from Bangladesh, the former prime minister emphasised that she could not remain abroad while her supporters and countrymen continued to face hardship.

“Whatever fate awaits me, I will return to my people. I cannot stay away while my beloved countrymen are suffering... I want to go back in December,” she said. — ANI

Foreign visitors to Japan parliament hit record high in 2025

THE number of foreign visitors to Japan’s parliament building reached 13,697 in 2025, the highest since record-keeping began in 1993, according to data compiled by both houses of the Diet. The number, nearly doubling from 7,261 in 2024, comes amid surging inbound tourism, with a record 42.7 million foreigners visiting Japan last year. The total number of visitors to the National Diet Building, including

Japanese nationals, has only once exceeded 1 million — in 2013 — and has generally fluctuat-



File photo taken in August 2025 shows the National Diet Building in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

ed between 600,000 and 900,000, according to data compiled by the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors. The number fell to about 80,000 in 2021 amid the coronavirus pandemic. It has since gradually recovered, reaching around 735,000 last year. Before last year, the highest numbers of foreign visitors to the parliament building were recorded in 2005 and 2007, at just over 10,000 in each year. Since then, figures have ranged from around 4,000 to 9,000. The number plummeted to just four in 2021. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pope Leo meets European youth in Assisi visit

POPE Leo XIV was cheered by thousands of young people Thursday before celebrating mass in the Italian city of Assisi, which celebrates this year the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis’ death. The US pontiff visited the Basilica of Saint Mary of the Angels, built around the small chapel where Francis of Assisi founded his eponymous order in the 13th century. Thousands of people from across Europe taking part in a youth event in the city greeted the head of the Catholic Church upon his arrival in the square facing the church. “For centuries the Franciscans have fostered dialogue and encouraged peaceful coexistence among Catholics, Orthodox and Muslims,” Leo said as he answered a few selected questions from young people. “Today, remaining faithful to this tradition of closeness means swimming against the current. — AFP

Trump-class battleship fleet could cost \$275 bln to build

THE US Navy’s planned fleet of 15 Trump-class battleships could cost \$275 billion to build, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) said Wednesday, making them among the most expensive American warships ever. The first of the nuclear-powered battleships would cost about \$23.4 billion in 2026 dollars, while subsequent ships, which would be purchased through 2056, would average \$18 billion, the CBO said in a report. In comparison, the USS Gerald R. Ford — the world’s largest aircraft carrier — cost about \$13.3 billion in 2008, or over \$20 billion when adjusted for inflation. — AFP

Sri Lankan pageant contestant fined over python dance

A Sri Lankan court has fined a 19-year-old beauty pageant contestant with animal cruelty after she danced on stage with an endangered python, an official said Wednesday. The snake has been released unharmed into the jungle. No further details were provided about the reptile’s history. The wildlife department prosecuted the woman, identified as Methmi Hiranya, after her act five months ago in Colombo went viral on social media, protection officer MP Sanjeeva said. — AFP

FAA probes Marine One flight close to passenger jet

THE United States Federal Aviation Administration on Wednesday said it is investigating why a passenger jet was allowed to take off from Reagan Washington National Airport just as President Donald Trump’s helicopter, Marine One, was approaching on Tuesday afternoon, in an apparent breach of safety rules adopted after last year’s deadly midair collision near the airport. In January 2025, a collision between an American Airlines jet and an Army helicopter near Reagan National killed 67 people and led to tighter separation rules and radar-based tracking requirements. — ANI

SPORTS

Arteta tight-lipped over reports Arsenal have agreed £75 mln Guimaraes deal



Bruno Guimaraes joined Newcastle from Lyon in 2022. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

WORLD Cup exits often end players' dreams and coaches' jobs. Even before the tournament finishes, several managers have resigned or been sacked after failing to meet expectations, demonstrating how unforgiving football's biggest stage can be. Recent departures include Ronald Koeman (the Netherlands), Sebastian Beccacece (Ecuador), Marcelo Bielsa (Uruguay) and Hong Myung-bo (South Korea), following earlier exits by Steve Clarke (Scotland), Miroslav

Koubek (Czech Republic) and Sabri Lamouchi (Tunisia).

Circumstances varied: some arrived under pressure, others earned praise for qualification only to see achievements quickly forgotten. Bielsa accepted responsibility after Uruguay's group-stage exit without a win; Beccacece, who had led Ecuador to second in South American qualifying and a 19-match unbeaten run, resigned after a round-of-32 loss to co-host Mexico. Hong admitted he failed to meet public expectations after South Korea's group-stage elimination.

Koeman left following the Netherlands' penalty defeat to Morocco; Clarke resigned despite recent contract renewal after guiding Scotland back to the World Cup.

Lamouchi was sacked after Tunisia's 5-1 opening loss to Sweden, becoming one of the few managers dismissed during a World Cup. The tournament's compressed format — lasting under six weeks — means years of managerial work can be judged on a handful of matches, leaving little room for error — Xinhua



Inter-ministry futsal group stage rolls on

THE group stage of the 2026 Inter-Ministry Futsal Tournament continued at the Wunna Theikdhi Futsal Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with several victories recorded.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement thrashed the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations 26-0, while the Ministry of Commerce also secured a 26-0 victory over the Union Government Office team.

The Ministry of Defence defeated the Ministry of Education 10-1, the Ministry of Religious Affairs beat the Ministry of Information 7-1, and the Ministry of Home Affairs overcame the Ministry of Transport 6-2.

The group stage will continue on 7 August with five matches, including the Ministry of Digital Development and Communications against the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue versus the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture, the Office of the Auditor General of the Union against the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy versus the Ministry of Construction, and the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations against the Supreme Court of the Union.

The tournament is jointly organized by the Department of Sports and Physical Education under the Ministry of Sports, and the Myanmar Futsal Federation. Admission is free for spectators. — MNA/KZL

Forlan named new Uruguay head coach

FORMER striker Diego Forlan has been appointed head coach of the Uruguay national team following their disastrous World Cup campaign, the country's football association (AUF) announced Thursday. Forlan will take over, reportedly on an interim basis, from Marcelo Bielsa who stepped down following Uruguay's group-stage exit from the World Cup.

"Diego Forlan is coming home (to take charge of) the Under-20 national team and the senior national team,"



Diego Forlan was named player of the tournament at the 2010 World Cup. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

the AUF said in a short statement.

The agreement with Forlan, who won the Golden Ball award for player of

contract keeps the door open for an extension, AUF sources recently told AFP.

He will be in charge of the team for friendlies in September, October and March. Two-time world champions Uruguay are reeling after failing to get out of their group for a second successive World Cup. Back-to-back draws with Saudi Arabia and Cape Verde put them in unexpected danger of crashing out, before their elimination was confirmed by a loss to eventual champions Spain. — AFP

UK Anti-Doping confirm former world champ Parker's ban lifted

FORMER world heavyweight boxing champion Joseph Parker has been cleared to return to the ring after serving a three-month drugs ban.

The 34-year-old New Zealand pugilist tested positive for cocaine on the day of his shock loss to Fabio Wardley in London in October.

"New Zealand professional boxer Joseph Parker has served a three-month ban from all World Anti-Doping Code-compliant sport following an anti-doping rule violation (ADRV) for the presence of a prohibited substance," a statement from UK Anti-Doping said.

"At the time of this announcement, Mr Parker is free to participate in sport."

UKAD's statement came a day after Parker himself announced his ban had been lifted.

"I'm pleased to confirm my provisional suspension is lifted and I'll be back in the ring soon," he said. Parker suffered an 11th-round stoppage defeat to Britain's Wardley and lost his status as WBO mandatory challenger to then undisputed heavyweight champion Oleksandr Usyk. — AFP

CAF appeals committee clears Eto'o, wipes out stadium ban and fine

THE Confederation of African Football (CAF) has overturned all sanctions imposed on Cameroon Football Federation (FECAFOOT) president Samuel Eto'o Fils, FECAFOOT said in a statement on Wednesday evening. The CAF Appeals Board set aside an earlier ruling relating to Match 46 of the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations between Cameroon and Morocco on 9 January 2026. The decision took effect immediately.

The CAF Disciplinary Board had previously found Eto'o

in breach of the governing body's statutes on loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship, imposing a four-match ban from CAF stadiums and a fine of US\$20,000. FECAFOOT welcomed the reversal, describing it as evidence of the Appeals Board's independence and commitment to impartial justice. The federation also reaffirmed its confidence in CAF's judicial bodies, saying their handling of the case demonstrated a commitment to legality and fairness in African football. — Xinhua



WORLD

Iran, Oman agree to open navigation in Strait of Hormuz

IRAN and Oman have agreed to open the navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, and the agreement must be approved by the Supreme National Security Council of Iran, Al-Hadath broadcaster reported on Thursday, citing a high-ranking source.

The agreement will be valid for 60 days.

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) earlier announced the closure of the Strait of Hormuz until the end of US interference in the

region, adding that no vessel would be allowed to pass.

Overnight into 18 June, Iran and the US signed a memorandum, providing for an end to the conflict that began on 28 February. However, since 8 July, US forces have carried out several series of strikes on Iran. The US Central Command claimed the strikes were in response to Iranian actions against commercial vessels crossing the Strait of Hormuz. — SPUTNIK



This image shows Esmail Baqaei, the spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry, at a press conference in Tehran. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

Laos boosts health systems against pandemics

THE Lao government, in partnership with development partners, has officially launched Advancing Lao PDR's Pandemic Response and Transformation (ALERT-LAO) project, a major initiative to strengthen the country's capacity to prevent, detect and respond to future pandemic threats. The project was officially launched at a ceremony held in the Lao capital, Vientiane, on Wednesday. The event was jointly organized by the Lao Ministry of Health, the Lao Ministry of Agriculture and

Environment, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The initiative reflects Laos' commitment to protecting public health through a stronger, more coordinated health security system. ALERT-LAO will enhance the country's early warning and diagnostic capabilities, improving its ability to prepare for and respond to future disease outbreaks, according to a report from the Ministry of Health on Thursday. — Xinhua

China's first 16MW typhoon-resistant floating wind power platform put into operation

The platform is engineered to endure super typhoon conditions with sustained wind speeds up to 220 km/h (~137 mph).

CHINA'S first independently-developed 16-megawatt TLP-supported floating wind power platform, named "Haiyou Anlan", has been connected to the Lufeng Oilfield power grid and is directly supplying green electricity, the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) announced Thursday. Designed and built to withstand the extreme conditions brought by a super typhoon with sustained wind speeds of up to about 220 kilometres per hour, the platform and its operation mark a major step forward for China's deep-sea floating wind equipment technology, opening a new pathway for the nation's offshore wind power development,



Haiyou Anlan, a floating tension-leg platform wind turbine developed by CNOOC, situated next to an oil platform. **PHOTO: CGTN**

the company said.

Installed about 136 kilometres from the coast in the Pearl River Mouth Basin in the northern part of the South China Sea, the wind power platform stands nearly as tall as a 110-story building and

weighs 7,800 tonnes, with a swept area equivalent to 7.5 standard football fields. Power is transmitted to the Lufeng Oilfield power grid via submarine cables. The facility is expected to generate 54 million kilowatt-hours of green elec-

tricity annually, according to CNOOC.

Compared with semi-submersible offshore wind power platforms, the Tension-Leg Platform (TLP) system can reduce the amount of steel consumption without compromising structural strength, thanks to its floating structure. It also cuts down the sea area occupied by the facility, according to the company.

China's deep-sea wind resources are abundant and critical to future offshore wind power capacity growth. The company predicts the project to save 15,000 cubic metres of fuel oil and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 35,000 tonnes per year. — Xinhua

US has refunded about \$100B in Trump tariffs

US President Donald Trump's administration has refunded about \$100 billion in tariffs since the Supreme Court struck down a wave of his duties this year, court filings show.

The figure, reported in documents Tuesday, constitutes about 60 per cent of some \$166 billion the Trump administration collected after invoking the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to impose duties.

The refunds went to importers that had paid the duties.

Trump used the act to impose sweeping tariffs

on trading partners since returning to the White House last year, but the high court ruled in February this year that he had exceeded his authority in

doing so.

This dealt a sharp blow to the president's ability to deploy tariffs at will, as he sought to use them as a tool for lever-

age against US allies and competitors alike.

The president's sector-specific tariffs, which rely on different justifications, remain intact.

In the court filing on Tuesday, a US Customs and Border Protection official said that as of 31 July, "approximately \$128.68 billion in both potential and certified refunds" had been accepted for processing.

Of that total amount, refunds of around \$100 billion had been completed and sent to the Treasury Department for disbursement, the official added. — AFP



Following a Supreme Court ruling that struck down duties imposed under emergency powers, the US administration has refunded about \$100 billion to importers, covering roughly 60 per cent of collections.