

The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**

# 1,954 buildings in Mandalay, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw need major repairs, quake retrofits

A TOTAL of 1,954 buildings in Mandalay, Sagaing, and Nay Pyi Taw require major repairs and reinforcement to withstand future shocks following the Mandalay earthquake, according to the Myanmar Earthquake Committee.

The committee invites interested engineers to volunteer for systematic inspections of buildings damaged by the

Mandalay earthquake and is organizing earthquake clinics in major cities, including Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, and Sagaing, starting on 9 April.

The committee, with the help of volunteer engineers from the earthquake clinic, is conducting a first-stage assessment of the reusability of damaged buildings in Sagaing, Mandalay, and Nay Pyi Taw, having surveyed about 20,000

buildings across these regions to date.

According to these surveys, there are a total of 14,604 reusable buildings in the three earthquake-affected areas of Mandalay, Sagaing, and Nay Pyi Taw, representing 75 per cent of the total number of damaged buildings. Additionally, 3,000 buildings require detailed inspection, and 1,954 buildings need major renovation and earthquake retrofitting. — ASH/TH



This photo captures volunteer engineers from the Earthquake Clinic inspecting earthquake-battered buildings.

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China donates 95 operation rooms, 1,804 modular houses for earthquake recovery

# Tour blending art, music, poetry, and nature in the works

THE Maha Giri group is planning to launch the Art & Nature Thawtasin (listen) Vol-III tour, which combines art, music, and poetry with nature.

This Art & Nature tour is organized by Lwin Iz Elephant and Maha Giri in Myindike village of Kalaw Township, which is popular among tourists.

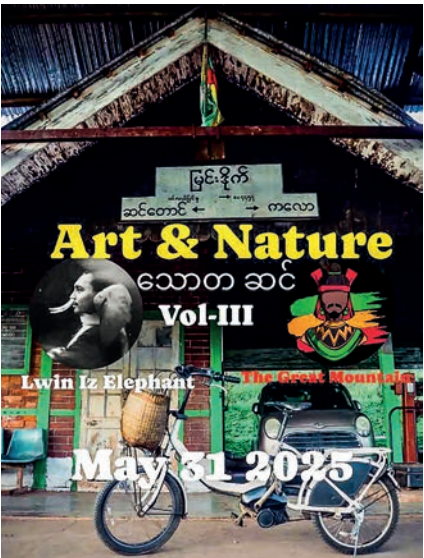
“We will take a train from

Myindike station. We will enjoy the natural beauty along the Kalaw-Myindike railway, stop at Ko Lwin’s art gallery, talk calmly about art or music with Lwin Iz Elephant, listen to songs, relax, and recite poems,” said an official from the Maha Giri group.

The tour will not include forest visiting and mountain climbing programmes, but

will only be planned to relax peacefully with natural beauty, he said.

The Art & Nature tour will be available for sale starting 31 May and is limited in number. For inquiries about the tour, people may contact Community Base Geotourism Services, Mount Popa National GeoPark 09 989823435. — MT/ZN



A tour advertisement that combines art with nature.

# NATIONAL

## State Designates MNDA, TNLA, AA as Terrorist Groups: Collaboration Equals Terrorism

THE State designated the MNDA, TNLA, and AA armed groups as terrorist organizations on 2 September 2024. Therefore, anyone who engages with these terrorists is also participating in acts of terror.

(Excerpt from the guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting hall of the Eastern Command Headquarters on 3 September 2024)

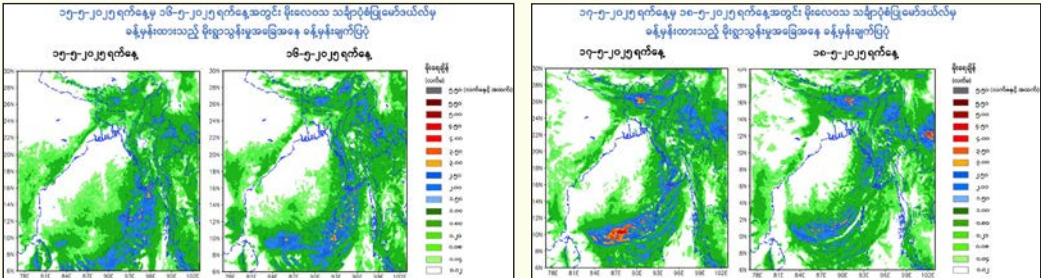
### Myanmar Gazette

#### Head of Service Organization transferred and appointed Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations

1. The State Administration Council has transferred U Soe Min Tun, Director-General of the Department of Promotion and Propagation of Sasana under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, as Director-General of the Department of Religious Affairs of the same ministry from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
2. The State Administration Council has appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Zaw Lin	Director-General
Deputy Director-General	Progress of Border Areas and National Races
Education and Training	Department
Department (Head Office)	Ministry of Border Affairs
Ministry of Border Affairs	
(b) U Thein Win	Director-General
Deputy Permanent	Department of Promotion and Propagation of Sasana
Secretary	Ministry of Religious
Minister's Office	Affairs and Culture
(Religious Affairs)	
Ministry of Religious Affairs	
and Culture	

## Weather



### Heavy Rainfall Warning 8

Issued at 7 pm MST on 14 May 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, due to the unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal, continuations of southwest monsoon advancement and development of the convective clouds, rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States from tonight to 17 May 2025 and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Chin, Rakhine, Shan States and scattered in Bago, Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin and Mon States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in some areas during 18 May 2025 to 20 May 2025.

#### Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strike, lightning, hails, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flights. — DMC

### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Wednesday 14 May 2025)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 15 May 2025:** Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Magway, and Lower Sagaing Regions and Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Continuations of thundery activities in the Deltaic Myanmar areas.

**FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15 May 2025:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15 May 2025:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15 May 2025:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

## U Kyaw Kyaw Min appointed as Myanmar Ambassador to UAE

THE State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Kyaw Kyaw Min, Charge d'Affaires/Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Israel, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Arab Emirates. — MNA

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

SAC Member provide aid to IDPs

STATE Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung, together with ministers from the Ayeyawady Region government, yesterday attended a ceremony to present funds provided by the National Disaster Management Committee to civilians displaced due to acts of violence in various areas in Pantanaw Township held at the Shwe Naw Thiri Hall (Community Centre) in the township.

The SAC member first re-

marked to open the event.

SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung, Ayeyawady Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Moe Min Naing, Ethnic Affairs Minister U Saw Lin Khel, and Maubin District Administration Body Chairman U Myint Naing presented cash and rice to the internally displaced people. A total of 273 displaced individuals each received K40,000 and one Pyi (1.6-1.8 kilogrammes) of rice. — MNA/KTZH



State Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung delivers the speech at the ceremony to present funds provided by the National Disaster Management Committee to displaced persons from various areas in Pantanaw Township yesterday.

DPM MoFA Union Minister receives ICRC Resident Representative



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister U Than Swe meets Resident Representative of the ICRC Mr Arnaud de Baecque at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Arnaud de Baecque, Resident Representative of the International Committee

of the Red Cross (ICRC), yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw. They exchanged views on matters relating to the ICRC's support to the earthquake victims and future work plans of

the ICRC in the areas affected by the powerful Mandalay earthquake. Also, present at the meeting were senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

MoLA Union Minister inspects container house installation processes

UNION Minister for Legal Affairs and Union Attorney-General Dr Thida Oo, the deputy minister and deputy attorney-general, directors-general, and the deputy permanent secretary inspected the China-aided container house installation site for the staff in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. The Chinese expert first

briefed the installation processes with a video clip, and officials raised questions regarding the practical construction processes. The Union minister then expressed gratitude to Chinese experts for installing the container houses and observed the temporary shelters. — MNA/KTZH

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# NATIONAL

## NDMC Vice-Chairs inspect emergency shelter installation

VICE-CHAIRS of National Disaster Management Committee Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win and committee member Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant inspected the prefabricated office installation and progress of work at the Ministry of Legal Affairs, the Union Supreme Court and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday.

Union Ministers went to the Ministry of Legal Affairs, and Chinese experts explained the models, data, and engineering techniques for the installation of prefabricated offices.

They then observed installation sites in the office com-



Vice-Chairpersons of the National Disaster Management Committee Union Ministers Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and Dr Soe Win and committee member Union Minister U Myo Thant inspect the installation of prefabricated offices at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

pound.

At the Union Supreme Court, Union Ministers inspect-

ed the progress of prefabricated office installation and ongoing work plans.

They proceeded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and they observed the completed prefab-

ricated office installation and ongoing work plans. — MNA/KTZH

## Chinese Embassy donates office facilities, equipment to MSYA

THE Chinese Embassy to Myanmar donated the office facilities and equipment to the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Chinese Counsellor Mr Li Qianguo clarified the donation. Deputy Minister U Zin Min

Htet, on behalf of the Union minister, expressed gratitude for the donation of office facilities and equipment following the destruction caused by the Mandalay earthquake.

He added that the discussion on Myanmar's participa-

tion in the World Games, scheduled to be held in Chengdu, China, will be submitted to the Union minister. Counsellor Mr Li Qianguo presented the donated items to the deputy minister and received the certificate of appreciation. — MNA/KTZH



Deputy Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Zin Min Htet accepts the donation of the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar through Counsellor Mr Li Qianguo in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

## Local, global aid continues flow to Myanmar after March quake

AS of 14 May, a total of 3,723 people died, 5,104 were injured, and 84 remain missing in six regions and states of Myanmar that were severely affected by the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March.

Search and rescue teams from the Myanmar Fire Brigade, along with local and international rescue organizations, have been carrying out emergency operations in the affected areas without delay. So far, 653 people have been rescued alive from collapsed buildings, and the bodies of 800 deceased persons have been recovered.

Both local donors and philanthropic individuals have been providing financial aid and relief supplies to those

affected by the disaster. Similarly, foreign governments, international organizations, and charitable donors have been offering monetary and material assistance.

Between 5 pm on 13 May and 5 pm on 14 May, various forms of international assistance arrived at Yangon International Airport. Pillow, blanket, dried noodles, biscuits, and canned fish weighing 0.358 tonne from Kri Sakthi Nyanaethira Kanimadam Yogi Ram-suratkumar Shiramam and Persatuan Renganut Devi Shri Karumariamman Temple in Malaysia.

These relief items will swiftly be distributed to the affected communities to ensure timely support. — MNA/MKKS

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

# China donates 95 operation rooms, 1,804 modular houses for earthquake recovery

THE vessel MTT Sapangar, carrying 95 donated operation rooms from the People’s Republic of China for Myanmar’s earthquake recovery efforts, arrived at Thilawa (MITT) Port at 6:30 pm on 12 May. The Southern Venture ship, transporting 1,804 modular (prefabricated) houses, reached the port at 6:38 pm on 13 May.

The donations were a part of China’s 14<sup>th</sup> batch of aid to Myanmar and were officially handed over yesterday morning at Thilawa Port. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Public Health Department, the Department of Disaster Management under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and local authorities attended the handover ceremony. The equipment was received from Mr Ouyang Daobing, Economic Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy.

The Ministry of Health will distribute the 95 operating rooms to earthquake-affected



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein accepts the Chinese government’s 14<sup>th</sup> batch of humanitarian aid donation from Mr Ouyang Daobing, Economic Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy at the handover ceremony. **PHOTO: ZWE HTET KO (IPRD)**

regions. Meanwhile, the 1,804 modular houses are offloaded from the Southern Venture ves-

sel using cranes and are transferred to the train for transportation to affected areas. Yangon

Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and his team inspected the ongoing offloading and

coordination efforts and gave necessary instructions. — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KZL

## Myanmar extradites 90 Ethiopians, detains 11 more illegal foreign entrants

MYANMAR deported 90 Ethiopians for their involvement in telecom fraud and criminal activities via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday.

Myanmar authorities officially handed the deportees the necessary legal documents to ensure their smooth repatriation.

Authorities detained further 11 undocumented foreign entrants who illegally entered the Myawady-Shwe Kokko, KK Park, and Kyaukkhet areas yesterday.

Officials collected the personal data and records in just one day to transfer them to their respective countries as quickly as possible.

Between 30 January and 14 May 2025, a total of 9,070



This photo shows officials inspecting the handover process of detained foreigners.

illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 8,222 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 848 individuals. These indi-

viduals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

### Public Notice

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


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

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

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

Anti-Corruption Commission

Answer “1111” to fight against corruption



Answer “1111” to improve services

NATIONAL

Quake recovery materials on sale in Nay Pyi Taw



People visit booths at the Iron, Steel, Cement and Construction Materials Exhibition and buy the construction materials at fair prices at the Tabaung Ground near the Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: PHO PYAE SONE

CONSTRUCTION materials necessary for rebuilding efforts in areas affected by the recent earthquake are sold at fair prices at the Tabaung Ground near Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw.

The sales event, which began on 12 May and will run until 18 May, entered its third day yesterday and is attracting earthquake victims and locals from various regions.

Following the major earthquake that struck Mandalay on 28 March, efforts were made to provide steel, iron, cement and other construction materials to the public at reasonable prices

and with assured quality. The initiative is aimed at assisting people in rebuilding homes and structures damaged by the disaster.

Yesterday's sales event

included booths from the Myanmar Cement Manufacturers Association, the Myanmar Steel Entrepreneurs Association, the Myanmar Iron and Steel Association and vendors of construction and household items. International-quality kitchenware, furniture, solar panels, paint and both small and large generators were also on sale and appealing to the public.

The sales are jointly organized by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), Myanmar Steel Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Iron and Steel Association, Myanmar Cement Manufacturers Association and the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association. — Jai Law (MNA)/KZL

50 tonnes of cement donated for earthquake recovery in Shan State

A total of 50 tonnes of cement were donated for post-earthquake reconstruction efforts between Shan State (East) Special Region 4 and the Inlay region of southern Shan State, according to sources.

The donation aims to support the rebuilding and repair of essential infrastructure in areas severely affected by the recent earthquake.

A representative from Special Region 4 stated, "This support reflects our

belief in unity and kinship. It is not only a life-saving emergency action that transcends administrative boundaries, but also a practical demonstration of cultural solidarity and mutual compassion among ethnic communities".

They also noted that Special Region 4 will continue to provide relief items to help restore normal living conditions for people in earthquake-hit areas. — ASH/KZL



Members of the Special Region 4, alongside vehicles transporting cement bags for residents affected by the earthquake in the Inlay region.

Filming begins for 'Min Htin Shar & Home 666' at Shwephonepwint Pagoda



This photo captures the scene from the launch ceremony of the film series.

THE launch ceremony for the film series titled 'Min Htin Shar & Home 666' was held on 13 May at the Shwephonepwint Pagoda in Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, according to actor Henry San, who is participating in the series.

The story of the series was written by Director Alice (The Witch), while the script was penned by Yoon Thakin. Directed by Alice (The Witch), the mini-series will consist of eight episodes and will begin filming on 22 May in Yangon.

Actor Henry San remarked, "Since the title 'Min Htin Shar & Home 666'

suggests an intriguing plot, I decided to take part. It's about a family moving into a new house and the mysterious events that unfold. As it's a blend of horror, I believe the audience will find the story captivating."

The series, produced by Alice Animated Artistry Films Production, will feature a cast including Henry San, Ye Mon, Shin Min Set, May Khon Ah, May Thaw Chit (Hmonnatha), Pann Ingyin, U Win Mying, Academy Award winner Khin Moh Moh Aye, Htet Lin, child actor San Thit Hein and many other artistes. — ASH/MKKS

# CBM to sell Forex to fuel importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 13 May that it would sell US\$23.67 million to fuel oil traders and 50 million baht to importers.

CBM sold over \$1.62 million on 13 May and over \$820,000 and 1.5 million baht on 12 May.

CBM also injected over 3.6 million baht on 9 May again in the financial market after over 5.3 million baht and 723,000 yuan on 8 May, and \$710,000 on 7 May into the financial market.

CBM announced on 6 May that it would sell \$33 million and 200 million baht to those engaged

in the fuel oil industry. CBM sold 397,843 yuan on that day.


CBM injected over \$42 million, over 20 million baht and 500,000 yuan in April, over \$126 million, 320 million baht and 3.6 million yuan in March, over \$88 million, 7.5 million yuan and 161 million baht in February and over \$124 million, over 13.8 million baht and over 4.8 million yuan in January. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been collab-



File photo shows oil bowzers departing the Thilawa Port.

orating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

# MMFA to conduct Voluntary Savings Mobilization Training (Batch 10) on 27 May



## Saving Mobilization Training (Batch-10)


**Date & Time:**

- 27-28 May 2025 (Tue & Wed)
- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Online(Zoom)

**Trainer:**

**U Thurein Htoo**

**Register Now:**



**Contact Information:**

www.myanmararmfa.com  
09-965 209 010

Photo shows the advertisement of Voluntary Savings Mobilization Training (Batch 10) course. **PHOTO: MYANMAR MICROFINANCE ASSOCIATION FACEBOOK**

THE Myanmar Microfinance Association (MMFA) will offer a Voluntary Savings Mobilization Training (Batch 10) from 9 am to noon on 27-28 May.

The course is tailored to Loan

Officer & Above positions in the microfinance company and those who are interested in exploring a career in the microfinance sector.

This online training will cover

Concept of savings and its importance, Introduction to savings mobilization, Importance of the savings mobilization in MFI, Savings Landscape and Savings products in Myanmar, Marketing, and Promotion of savings products, Legal compliance for savings products, Management of savings (calculation of Interest on savings and bookkeeping), Financial Analysis of an MFI focusing on Savings Mobilization (Efficiency, Profitability & sustainability) and Importance of Solvency ratio for MFIs' Depositors, with a trainer U Thurein Htoo, Freelance Microfinance Trainer and Consultant.

The training fee is K45,000 for non-members. Members can enjoy a K15,000 discount. Those enthusiastic can enrol in the course by 21 May 2025 through <https://shorturl.at/aAjzA>. Individuals can enquire about details via the contact number of MMFA at 09 965209010 during office hours. — NN/KK

# Department of Mines seeks bids for 300MT of cathode copper

THE Department of Mines under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation invited a tender under an open procedure to sell 300 metric tonnes of cathode copper with kyat payment, according to the tender committee. The department will sell 300 metric tonnes of cathode copper (30 Lots) to domestic manufacturing businesses and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The floor price of the cathode copper will be set according to the global reference prices on the London Metal Exchange LME. The prices must be mentioned as (LME+ premium) in US dollars. Those with the highest offers will be announced as the tender winner. Cathode copper can be claimed in Yangon. Tender winners must bear transportation and loading and unloading costs from the mining site to Yangon.

The tender submission will be closed by noon on 20 May 2025. Tender opening will be held at 3 pm on that day. Individuals can enquire about tender forms at Office 19, Nay Pyi Taw, through the contact numbers of the ministry at 067 3409378, 067 3409372, and 067 3409377. — NN/KK

# Trainees invited for Certificate in Food Technology (CHRD) course

THE Department of Industrial Chemistry, University of Yangon, will open a certificate course in Food Technology under the Centre of Human Resource Development (CHRD) programme for the 2024-2025 financial year.

This course will take three months, starting at 7-9 am from 20 May 2025 every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The course fee is K100,000, and the number of trainees is limited to 100.

The application needs to be submitted by 16 May to the department. Those interested can also enquire about details through the contact numbers of the department at 09 943849415 and 09 883491890. — NN/KK

## Initiate family-oriented policies for sustainable development

AS THE world looks ahead to the Second World Summit for Social Development in November 2025, the International Day of Families (IDF) will highlight the importance of family-focused policies in driving sustainable development. Under the theme “Family-Oriented Policies for Sustainable Development: Towards the Second World Summit for Social Development,” the event will share key insights from national and regional initiatives, underscoring families’ crucial role in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 2025 observance will emphasize the crucial role of integrating family-focused policies into national development agendas to tackle key global megatrends, including technological transformation, demographic shifts, urbanization, migration, and climate change.

As part of the 2025 International Day of Families theme, countries around the world must address social challenges and family-related issues. Their efforts will help establish prosperous families and stronger societies. Therefore, it is essential for everyone to support the initiatives of global countries in celebrating and implementing the International Day of Families, with the goal of building a more confident and cohesive society while enhancing their capacity to overcome unexpected family problems.

ensuring full participation by everyone”.

In implementing family-oriented policies, each country must prioritize social development to enhance both the physical and mental well-being of individuals while addressing undesirable social issues. At the same time, countries, including Myanmar, need to alleviate poverty, as it can contribute to the emergence of social problems. Only by alleviating poverty can people fully benefit from improved well-being, especially in developing and underdeveloped countries. In doing so, societies will be better positioned to prevent social issues effectively.

As part of the 2025 International Day of Families theme, countries around the world must address social challenges and family-related issues. Their efforts will help establish prosperous families and stronger societies. Therefore, it is essential for everyone to support the initiatives of global countries in celebrating and implementing the International Day of Families, with the goal of building a more confident and cohesive society while enhancing their capacity to overcome unexpected family problems.

IF YOU managed to view the last White House meeting between Ukrainian Zelensky and Trump/Vance, you would probably notice how Zelensky had to put up with Trump and Vance bullying him with alternate truths and slight shoves and pushes by Trump. He was not given time to respond. The meeting was undiplomatic at best, but Zelensky needed the funding. He has no choice but to put up with the antics. Simply because he is poor. He needed the money to fight the war. His people needed that.

The same thing happened to China and India a couple of decades ago. Both were poor by today’s standards then. Now China and India stand at par with countries of the West, not taking any potshots lying down. Oh, what a difference money can make.

I can imagine Myanmar leaders having to put up with richer ASEAN neighbours and some preachers from the West, trying to scold and bully them in meetings and in public, simply because the country is poor and in need of funds and investments.

Now you get my drift on why we would need poverty alleviation as a national strategy, right after putting development over peace as our priority.

### How about a top-down approach?

Well, we have tried that, e.g., in dispensing the COVID loans. Some of these recipient companies’ bosses used the loans for themselves and converted them into US dollars to invest in overseas properties and assets. Now the government is left with K160 billion (US\$40 million) worth of

potential bad debts.

There are still some business leaders who believe that a top-down approach of funding or giving money to them would create employment opportunities and, hence, somehow help the poor get out of the poverty trap. When I asked them whether she (the boss) is willing to employ someone bedridden because of tuberculosis, disabled or someone who can only come on irregular days to work, because he/she has to take care of the sick parents or siblings, she has no answer.

Businesses and companies are best helped by the government creating an environment that promotes enterprise and investments in the country. Giving them funds and incentives would not get Myanmar out of poverty, as COVID evidence has shown.

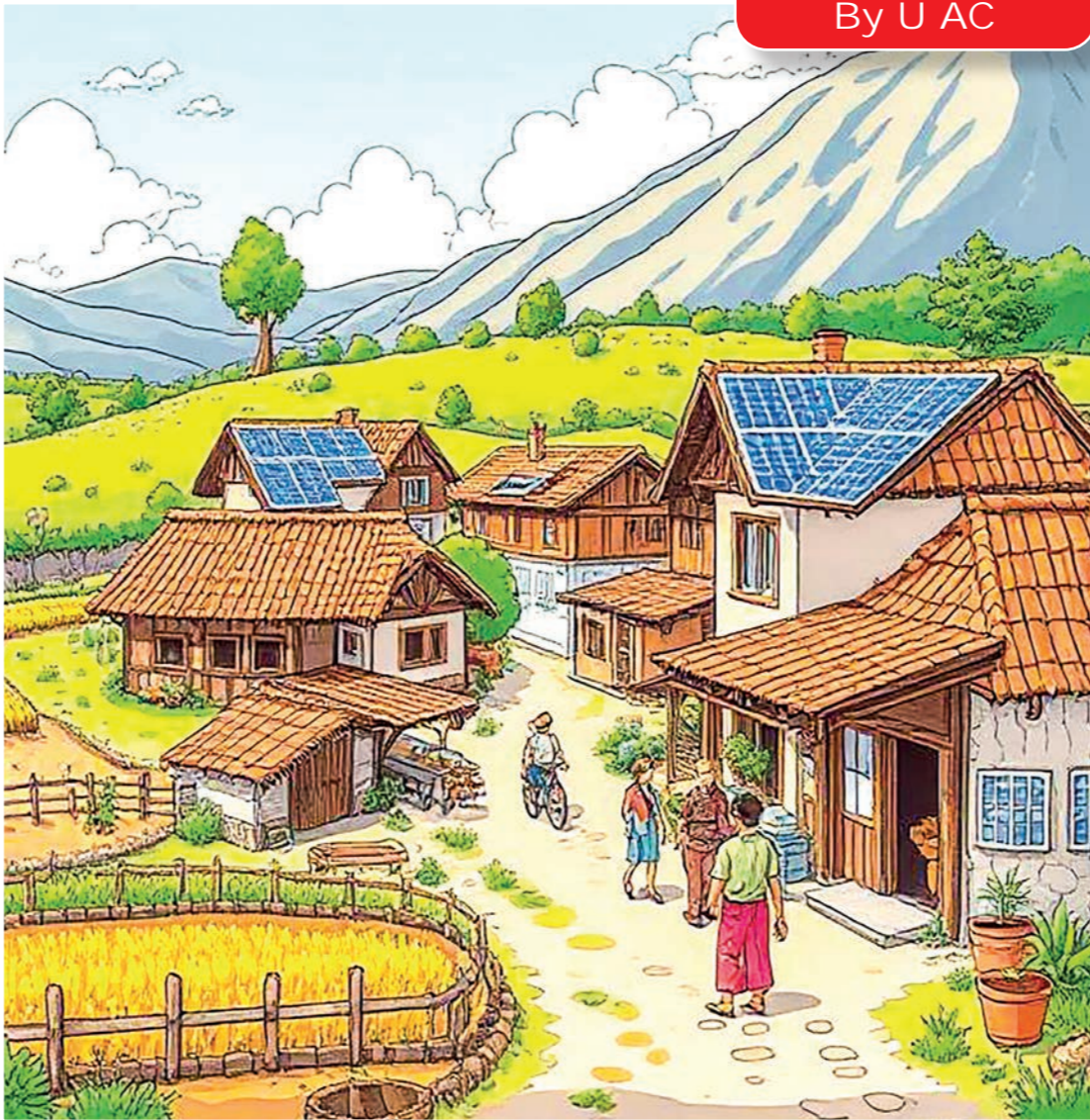
Hence, we need to strategize an alternative approach to mass poverty alleviation. Who better to learn from than China? GDP per capita of China has gone up from \$300 four decades ago to \$12,000+ at present. It now possesses the biggest economy in the world! In terms of property alleviation en masse, no one has done it better than China in the history of this world. And contrary to the usual communist and socialist ideologies, they are not using the top-down approach to help the poor.

### What foundations do we need?

First and foremost, we need to identify the poor. COVID loans in Myanmar may have been dispensed in a ‘who knows who’ format, but this certainly is only going to enrich those who are

# Poverty Alleviation

By U AC



Village-level industrialization, combined with targeted property alleviation programmes, fosters sustainable economic growth PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUA PURPOSE/CONCEPT ART

already not poor. So, identifying the poor correctly is the first step in targeted poverty alleviation.

At the same time, being poor is not static. The poor today may not be poor the next day. Your circumstances can change. Hence, we need dynamic management that accompanies the identification process.

As with Mao’s campaign, the success of the project depends on the grassroots support. With village residents’ assistance and participation, the works of poverty alleviation are more likely to be successful.

Last, the support team of civil servants and partisans. They are the strength that is going to make the ideal work. The government can only give out policies, guidance and funding. It is the government officials who will implement and carry out the whole plan to make it a success.

### How do we know who is poor?

When it comes to getting free handouts from the government, everyone wants to be poor. Just look at how the earthquake handouts were quickly snapped up again and again by repeaters. We need a systematic and scientific way of actually identifying the poor, so that the decision is not left to the whims and whimsical choices of ward administrators and village heads. The current corrupt practices by some of them in the selection of military conscripts came to mind.

China, when it started the programme, used the famous four looks to determine those in need: a house, food on the plate, able-bodied labour in the household and presence of a school-go-

ing child. Scores and weights are given for details of each look. Later, ‘having a bedridden patient’ is added to the list. Some provinces added a negative list to remove certain populations from the poor list, too. An example of a negative list would be ownership of a machine or motorcycle.

### Dynamic management, residents’ assistance and support

After identifying the poor, the dynamic nature of life requires that the list needs verification at the village or ward level, nomination by representatives, appraisal by higher authorities, announcement to the public, correction if needed, arbitration if disputed and review if necessary.

The support of the programme by all residents would ensure that the poor themselves are motivated to get out of poverty. The mindset has to be altered from getting as many handouts as possible to being motivated to determine one’s destiny. The assistance by capable and well-off residents would also help in the team effort to alleviate poverty.

The team of civil servants implementing the scheme is also critical to the success of the program. They must love the people, act with integrity at all times, work hard, be scientific in their approach, yet realistic, unafraid to face challenges and love the country enough to fully dedicate themselves to this cause. They will be the contact points between the central government and the village. They will provide all the services the programme needs and supervise all the aspects of the programme.

### How do we do that?

The key is to combine village-level industrialization with targeted property alleviation. China industrialized the villages in four key ways: -

- Upgrading the planting and breeding industries by improving productivity and providing access to the market.
- E-commerce facilitates the village wares and produce to be sold throughout the whole country using e-commerce platforms.
- Tourism by promoting unique village attractions, nature and the surrounding environment.
- Photovoltaic cells sell electricity generated by solar energy to other regions and provinces in need.

### Is that all?

Many books have been written on the triumph of targeted poverty alleviation in China. Even President Xi Jinping has a book, ‘Up and Out of Poverty’, specifically putting down his own experiences on the programme.

The programme is large, nationwide and requires unwavering commitment from all those involved.

In the later parts, we shall look at the other essentials of its success, entrepreneurship and employment, ecological issues, human resource development, mobilisation, reforms, public services and exit and prevention of return to poverty.

Myanmar may be slow at this point in tackling this face-saving issue, but as Confucius said, “It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop”.

## Providing Psychological Support to Mandalay Earthquake-Affected People

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

AT 12:51 pm on 28 March 2025, a powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 7.7 on the Richter scale struck Myanmar. As a result of this Mandalay earthquake, the National Disaster Management Committee declared emergency conditions in the affected areas, including Sagaing Region, Mandalay Region, Magway Region, the north-

eastern part of Shan State, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, and Bago Region.

The recent earthquake in affected areas had left deep scars not only on the land and infrastructure but also on the hearts and minds of its people. As rescue operations and rebuilding efforts continue, it is vital to recognize that emotional healing must be

addressed alongside physical recovery. Providing psychological support to those affected is essential for restoring a sense of safety, hope, and resilience in the community.

❖ Understanding the Psychological Impact: Natural disasters often trigger intense emotional responses. Victims may experience fear, helplessness, grief, anxiety, and even guilt for surviving. Children may become withdrawn or clingy, while adults

might suffer from insomnia, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The emotional toll is often hidden but can be long-lasting if not properly addressed. Therefore, psychological support should be an integral part of any disaster response strategy.

❖ Immediate Psychological First Aid: In the aftermath of the Mandalay earthquake, the first step is to provide Psychological First Aid (PFA). This involves creating a calm and supportive

environment where survivors feel safe and heard. Trained volunteers and health workers can offer emotional comfort, listen without judgment, and guide individuals toward available services. Providing accurate information and reconnecting people with loved ones also helps reduce anxiety and confusion.

❖ Creating Safe Spaces and Community Support: Establishing safe spaces for different age groups is crucial.

Child-friendly areas allow children to play, express themselves, and regain a sense of normalcy. For adults, group discussions, religious ceremonies, or storytelling sessions can foster mutual support and healing. Cultural and spiritual practices play an important role in the psychological recovery process and should be respectfully incorporated into support efforts.

SEE PAGE 10



Psychological support, including trauma-informed care and stress management programmes, is essential throughout all phases of disaster response and recovery to promote healing and resilience. ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY

NATIONAL

ARTICLE

Providing Psychological Support to Mandalay Earthquake-...

FROM PAGE 9

❖ **Educating for Mental Wellness:** Psycho-education is a powerful tool in disaster response. Short community sessions can explain that emotional reactions are normal and temporary. People should be taught coping strategies such as deep breathing, maintaining routines, and talking about their experiences. It is equally important to dispel myths and reduce stigma

around seeking mental health support.

❖ **Professional Counseling and Long-Term Support:** While many people recover with community support, others may require professional mental health care. Individuals showing signs of severe trauma, such as persistent nightmares, panic attacks or thoughts of self-harm, should be referred to psychologists or counsellors. Collaborating with local healthcare providers and NGOs ensures a coordinated and sustainable mental health response.

❖ **Caring for Caregivers and Volunteers:** Those working on the front lines, rescue workers, doctors, and volunteers are also vulnerable to emotional exhaustion. Regular rest, peer support, and access to counselling should be provided to prevent burnout and secondary trauma.

❖ **Rebuilding with Hope:** Psychological support does not end when the rubble is cleared. Long-term recovery should include community-building activities, education, and job training. When people feel a sense of purpose and connection, their mental health improves. Remembering and honouring the lives lost through memorials or ceremonies can also aid emotional closure.

Moreover, disasters like the Mandalay earthquake, the wounds left on the mind are as real as those on the body. Providing psychological support helps survivors not only to cope but also to rebuild their lives with strength and dignity. By addressing mental health needs with compassion and cultural understanding, we support the foundation for true healing and resilience.

Japan Foundation to host mental health event for quake victims

A mental health support event will be held at the Japan Foundation in Bahan Township on 17 May to provide relief to those suffering from mental health issues, including the earthquake victims.

Dr San San Oo and Dr Aung Min from the Aung Mental Health Initiative, with mental health expertise on disaster and trauma, will be hosting a support group to provide comfort to those suffering from stress and emotional distress due to unfortunate events.

It will take place from 1:30 to 4:30 pm at the Japan Foundation, No 70, Natmauk Lane 1, Bahan Township, Yangon, and is expected to help those in Myanmar struggling with mental health issues.

Mental Health  
&  
Art Seminar



Guest Speaker

Dr. Aung Min, Dr. San San Oo  
(Aung Mental Health Initiative)

17th May 2025 (Sat)

1:30PM - 4:30PM

Hybrid

40 seats (in person)

100 seats (Zoom)

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED  
FOR IN-PERSON PARTICIPANTS

The Japan Foundation, Yangon

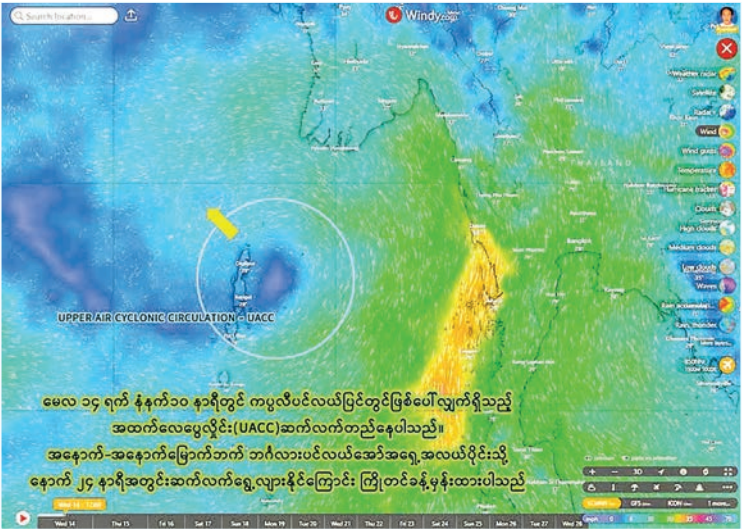
No(70), Nat Mauk Lane 1, Bahan Township,  
The Japan Foundation, Yangon



Dr San San Oo, a holder of a Master of Science in Mental Health (MSc, 2023) and an attendee of many international trainings, including the Disaster Mental Health (HITS, Kobe, Japan), is currently working as a Counselling Psychotherapist and EMDR Psychotherapist. Dr Aung Min graduated from Yangon University of Medicine, has worked as a doctor for three decades, and currently provides care to patients as an art therapist. Aung Clinic has been working with Tokyo Soteria since 2023 to provide mental health support programmes.

Free registration can be made at <https://forms.office.com/r/RLkft7bwW8>. For a limited number, those who register first will be contacted by phone to attend, and the event is also available for online viewing. — MT/ZN

An announcement of the mental health support event at the Japan Foundation.



Upper air cyclonic circulation is forming over the Bay of Bengal on 14 May morning.

Meteorologist predicts 70% storm chance over Bay of Bengal on 17 May

THERE is a 70 per cent likelihood of forming a cyclone in the east-central Bay of Bengal on 17 May morning, meteorologist U Win Naing forecast.

He quoted that the ECMWF Cyclone Activity (including genesis) chart showed on 14 May morning that the possibility of forming a cyclone had a 70 per cent chance on 17 May.

On 14 May morning, the upper air cyclonic circulation (UACC) has remained 5,000 feet above the sea level over the Bay of Bengal and is forecast to move to the west-northwest in 24 hours, he said. The Thai Meteorological Department's weather chart has shown the likelihood of a low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal.

Due to UACC and the southwest monsoon, rain is forecast from moderate to heavy in the northern Tanintharyi Region, Mon State, Kayin State, Bago Region, Yangon Region and southern Ayeyawady Region, from 14 May noon to 15 May noon (in 24 hours). — MT/ZS

# Cruise unleashes ‘Mission: Impossible’ juggernaut at Cannes

*The blockbuster is set to ramp up adrenaline levels and promises to somewhat lighten the tone at Cannes.*

TOM Cruise’s “Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning” powers into the Cannes film festival for its premiere on Wednesday on a steamroller of hype.

With some fans fretting that the \$400-million epic — the eighth in the high-octane franchise — could be the last, Cruise and director Christopher McQuarrie have been teasing up the tension by dropping contradictory clues about its future.

Cruise, 62, has also been sharing heart-stopping footage of the stunts he did for the movie on social media, including discussing a freefall jump from a helicopter at 10,000 feet (3,000 me-

tres). He is seen jumping from the chopper high over a South African mountain range and putting himself into a high-speed spin with a camera strapped to his stomach.

The blockbuster is set to ramp up adrenaline levels and promises to somewhat lighten the tone at Cannes.

The festival’s highly political opening day began with accusations that Hollywood was ignoring “genocide” in Gaza, while the conviction of French screen legend Gerard Depardieu for sexual assault in a Paris court on day one also dampened the mood. — AFP



Tom Cruise has been sharing heart-stopping footage of the stunts he did for ‘Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning’ on social media. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Princess Catherine says nature her ‘sanctuary’ amid cancer recovery

NEARLY 14 months after she announced her cancer diagnosis, Britain’s Princess Catherine has launched a video series about nature, hailing it as her “sanctuary” over the past year.

Catherine, also known as Kate, who said last Sep-

tember that she had finished chemotherapy, used the first of her series of “Mother Nature” videos to urge people to reconnect with the world around them.

Her voiceover for her “Spring” video is set to a soundtrack of piano music

interspersed with sounds from the natural world from the beating of birds’ wings to the sound of the wind and waves.

The video images posted on X on Monday feature rural and coastal landscapes as well as trees in blossom in city parks and streets.

“Over the past year nature has been my sanctuary,” Catherine said in the video.

Nature also enabled us to understand “the importance of balance and the importance of renewal and resilience”, she added, without making any direct reference to her own cancer recovery.

Acclaiming spring as the season of “rebirth of hope and new beginnings”, Catherine added: “Just as nature revives and renews, so too can we.”

Catherine, 43, announced she had been diagnosed with an unspecified cancer and was having chemotherapy in March 2024. — AFP



Catherine, whose main work has focused on early years child development, has been making a gradual return to public life since September. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Kim Kardashian recounts her robbery incident from Paris Fashion Week 2016

AMERICAN media personality Kim Kardashian delivered her testimony in a Paris courtroom in a case related to the robbery incident during the Paris Fashion Week in 2016. She recounted the traumatizing incident where, in the middle of the night, the accused burst into her hotel room and restrained her at gunpoint.

As per Variety, the robbers accused of holding Kim Kardashian at gunpoint in her hotel room and stealing US\$6 million worth of jewellery were face-to-face with her Tuesday, as the mogul delivered her testimony in a Paris courtroom. While recounting the harrowing incident, the media personality Kardashian said that, wearing only a bathrobe, she was zip-tied and her mouth was taped shut, as quoted by an article of the Washington Post.

“I was certain that was the moment that he was going to rape me. I absolutely did think I was going to die,” said Kardashian as quoted by the Washington Post. The thieves originally arrived at



American media personality Kim Kardashian delivered her testimony in a Paris courtroom in a case related to the robbery incident during the Paris Fashion Week in 2016. **PHOTO: ANI**

the hotel dressed as police officers and handcuffed a concierge before swarming into Kardashian’s room.

“I thought it was some sort of terrorist attack,” said Kardashian as quoted by the Washington Post. She also described praying for her family and friends as she thought she wasn’t going to live through the incident, telling the robbers at one point. — ANI

ECONOMY  
WORLD

# India’s defence exports saw 34-fold jump over the past decade: Rajnath Singh

*India’s defence production has reached record levels, largely due to the “Make in India” initiative.*

DEFENCE exports from India are at all-time highs, having risen a whopping 34-fold over the past decade.

“India exported defence goods worth Rs23,622 crore in 2024-25 — a 34-fold rise as against just Rs686 crore in 2013-14,” Defence Minister Rajnath Singh’s office said in a post on X.

The defence minister’s office asserted that India’s defence sector is growing stronger than ever, driven by the spirit of a self-reliant or Atmanirbhar Bharat.

As part of its ‘Atmanirbhar’ and Make in India plans, the

government launched various schemes, including the production-linked incentive (PLI), in various sectors to make Indian manufacturers globally competitive, attract investments, enhance exports, integrate India into the global supply chain, and reduce dependency on imports.

With the government’s thrust on the Make in India initiative, defence production has surged to historic highs. This rise in defence manufacturing has also led to substantial returns for investors in major defence manufacturing PSUs over the past years. — ANI



Akash is a medium-range mobile surface-to-air missile (SAM) system developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO). **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AKASH MISSILES**

## US inflation cooled in Apr as Trump began tariff rollout

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday hailed cooler-than-expected April inflation data and reiterated his call for the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates, as analysts warned that his tariffs may still fuel price hikes in the months ahead.

The April data covers the

early days of Trump’s new levies against most countries — including steep duties on China — which spooked financial markets and raised fears of a spike in US prices.

Trump has since scaled back some of the duties and paused others, helping to soothe nervous investors,

though tariffs remain well above their recent historical average.

The consumer price index (CPI) eased to 2.3 per cent in April from a year ago, a tick below the 2.4 per cent figure recorded in March, the Labour Department said in a statement.



The price of US household furnishings and operations jumped in April 2025. **PHOTO: SAUL LOEB/AFP**

The April CPI release was the smallest 12-month increase since February 2021, and was slightly lower than the median estimate from surveys of economists conducted by Dow Jones Newswires and The Wall Street Journal.

“No Inflation, and Prices of Gasoline, Energy, Groceries, and practically everything else, are DOWN!!!” Trump wrote on social media.

He also took aim again at Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell over the central bank’s recent decision to continue holding interest rates steady. — AFP

## US may reduce oil production because of sluggish demand and falling crude prices: S&P

UNITED States may reduce its oil production which could lead to an annual decline in output in 2026 due to the sluggish demand and falling crude prices, according to a new analysis by S&P Global Commodity Insights.

The report further added that slowing global oil demand, extreme uncertainty about the future of US trade and a com-

ing supply surplus are expected to hobble US oil production growth.

The S&P Global Commodity Insights Global Crude Oil Markets Short-term Outlook adds that global oil (total liquids) demand growth to average 750,000 barrels per day (b/d) in 2025, a downward revision of 500,000 b/d from the prior outlook. — ANI

## Vietnam sets timeline for Lao Cai-Hanoi-Hai Phong railway project

THE Vietnamese government has called on relevant localities and agencies to finalize the feasibility study for the Lao Cai-Hanoi-Hai Phong railway project by August 2025, aiming to begin construction by December, the Vietnam News Agency reported Tuesday. A government resolution issued the same day out-

lines the project’s key timeline, including the completion of the technical design within May 2025. The railway project, which is set to pass through nine Vietnamese provinces and cities, is expected to play a key role in enhancing regional connectivity and promoting economic development in northern Vietnam. — Xinhua

# Indonesia’s retail sales expected to dip in Apr after Eid surge

RETAIL sales in Indonesia were forecast to decline in April on a month-on-month basis, mainly due to the normalization of public demand following the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

According to a survey by Bank Indonesia released on Wednesday, sales in several categories, including information and communication equipment, household equipment, as well as food, beverages, and tobacco,

were expected to fall. In contrast, continued growth was projected in areas such as spare parts and accessories, motor vehicle fuel, and clothing. Inflationary pressures over the next three and six months are

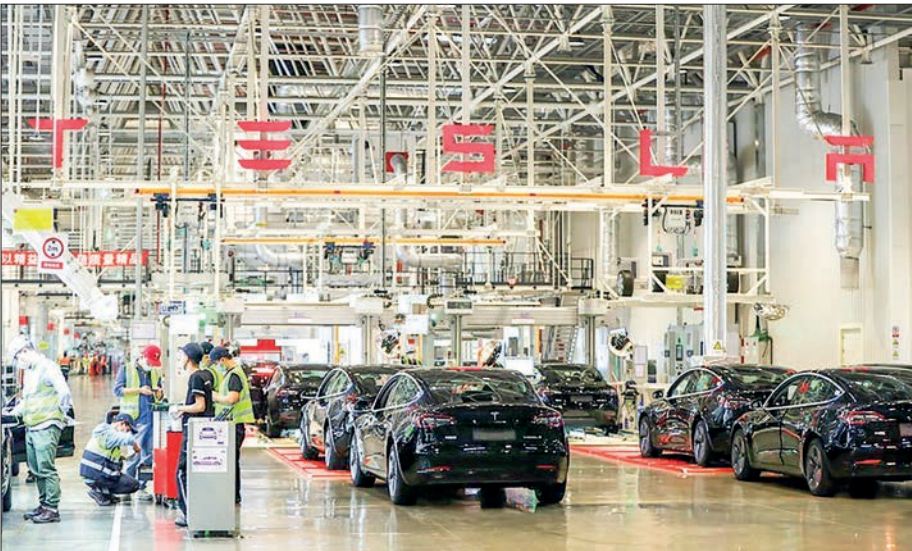
expected to ease, as reflected in the General Price Expectation Index, which declined to 146.4 for June and 153.1 for September, from 148.3 and 155.5, respectively, in the previous period. —Xinhua



Inflationary pressures over the next three and six months are expected to ease.  
PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE

# Tesla’s Shanghai Gigafactory reports strong exports in Apr

The New Model Y was launched in China in January 2025 and is now being exported to Australia and several Asian markets, including the Republic of Korea (ROK).



Employees work at the Tesla Gigafactory in Shanghai, east China, 20 November 2020.  
PHOTO: DING TING/XINHUA

TESLA’S Shanghai Gigafactory exported nearly 30,000 vehicles in April, marking its highest monthly export volume in the

past 12 months, the company said on Wednesday. This achievement comes as the China-made Model Y gains strong popularity

in overseas markets. The New Model Y, which made its global debut in China in January this year, is now being exported to Aus-

tralia and multiple Asian markets including the Republic of Korea (ROK), according to Tesla.

The US electric auto giant’s first-quarter earnings report revealed that the New Model Y helped the company achieve a record-high single-day order volume in the Asia-Pacific market following its launch.

In the ROK alone, the New Model Y sparked a buying frenzy on the very first day orders opened.

Tesla’s official website briefly crashed due to overwhelming traffic, while Korean consumers lined up outside showrooms in large numbers. —Xinhua

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development (MCRD)  
Department of Rural Development (DRD)

**Project Title:**  
"Scaling Up Innovative Model Village for Village-Level Poverty Reduction among LMC Countries in Delta Region Project"

**Position:**  
National Service Provider (Lump-Sum Payment)  
The Department of Rural Development (DRD) invites qualified candidates to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the position of **National Service Provider** to support the implementation of the above-mentioned project. The Service Provider for this position must have one staff member who has the following requirements:

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Assist DRD in project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.
  - Conduct field visits, data collection, and analysis.
  - Prepare annual M&E reports and a final completion report.
  - Participate in workshops, seminars, and technical meetings.

- Qualifications & Experience:**
- **Education:** Bachelor’s degree (Master’s preferred) in development studies, social sciences, political science, or related fields.
  - **Experience:** Minimum **15 years** in development projects (experience with internationally funded projects preferred).
  - **Skills:**
    - o Strong Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) expertise.
    - o Excellent English proficiency (written and spoken).
    - o Advanced computer and report-writing skills.
    - o Experience in stakeholder engagement and capacity building.

- Submission Requirements:**  
Interested candidates must submit:
1. Updated **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** highlighting relevant experience.
  2. Copies of academic/professional certifications.
  3. Contact details (email, phone number).

- Submission Deadline & Address:**
- Deadline: May 30, 2025 (4:00 PM Myanmar Time).
  - Submission Methods:
    - o **Email:** mlc.drd.myanmar@gmail.com (cc: procurement@ncddpmyanmar.org).
    - o **Mail/In-Person:**  
Attn: U Kyaw Swa Aung (Director)  
Department of Rural Development  
Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development  
Office No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar  
\*Tel/Fax: +95 67418637\*

**Note:** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. DRD reserves the right to amend or cancel this solicitation.

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NEGAR VOY.NO. (SCY1178)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NEGAR VOY. NO. (SCY1178)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-5-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:  
**M/S LAND AND SEA INTERMODAL LOGISTICS SDN HD LINE**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (259N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (259N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-5-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:  
**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

# ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

## Canada: Mark Carney unveils 38-member cabinet; Anita Anand named Foreign Affairs Minister

Mark Carney, sworn in as Canada's 24<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister in March 2025, emphasizes a strong commitment to protecting Canada's sovereignty.



Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney speaks in Ottawa after his cabinet was sworn in. PHOTO: AFP

CANADIAN Prime Minister Mark Carney on Tuesday unveiled a 38-member cabinet, comprising 28 ministers and 10 Secretaries of State.

The Cabinet is also supported by 10 Secretaries of State who will provide dedicated leadership on key issues and priorities within their minister's portfolio.

Following the unveiling of the new Cabinet, Carney outlined the government's top priorities — creating new economic and security relationships with the United States, tackling the cost of living, and strengthening Canada's economy.

Sharing a post on X, Carney wrote, "Canada, meet your new Cabinet. This is a team that is empowered and expected to lead. Together, we will create a new economic and security relationship with the United States and build a stronger economy — the strongest economy in the G7." In another post, he wrote, "Canadians elected this new government with a strong mandate: to define a new economic and security relationship with the United States, bring down the cost of living, and build a stronger economy. This new cabinet is focused, ready, and built for this moment." — ANI

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Harvard hit by \$450m federal cut over antisemitism claims

THE US administration announced it will terminate \$450 million in grants to Harvard University, a day after the institution's president criticized the government for threatening key freedoms.

The latest cuts, announced by the Joint Task Force to Combat Antisemitism on Tuesday, are on top of more than \$2.2 billion in federal funds that were frozen last month. Harvard is suing the US administration over demands the government made over its academic and disciplinary policies.

Harvard University President Alan Garber wrote to Education Secretary Linda McMahon on Monday to deny her allegation that the school has a partisan political bias, warning that government "overreach" is threatening key freedoms.

The government coalition slammed Harvard in a letter on Tuesday for failing to confront "pervasive race discrimination and antisemitic harassment". — Xinhua

#### Israel PM says army entering Gaza 'with full force' in coming days

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the military would enter Gaza "with full force" in the coming days, a statement from his office said Tuesday.

"In the very coming days, we are going in with full force to complete the operation. Completing the operation means defeating Hamas. It means destroying Hamas," Netanyahu said during a meeting with injured reserve soldiers in his office late Monday.

"There will be no situation where we stop the war. A temporary ceasefire might happen, but we are going all the way," he added. — AFP

#### Peruvian PM resigns ahead of no-confidence vote

PERUVIAN Prime Minister Gustavo Adrianzen submitted his resignation Tuesday, hours before Congress was set to debate at least three motions seeking his removal.

"In consideration of the nation's higher interests, I feel duty-bound to present my irrevocable resignation from the position of president of the Council of Ministers," Adrianzen said in a televised address.

He was joined by his cabinet and President Dina Boluarte, who has consistently defended him and praised his performance. — Xinhua

## S Korea Starbucks in a froth over presidential candidates names

STARBUCKS in South Korea has banned customers from using the names of the country's presidential candidates — or the disgraced ex-president — for their orders, the coffee giant told AFP on Wednesday.

South Korea is holding snap presidential elections on 3 June, to decide who will replace impeached former president Yoon Suk Yeol, ousted last month for his disastrous attempt to impose martial law in December.

In South Korea, Starbucks stores run a "Call My Name" service, which allows customers to select a nickname — which they input via the Starbucks app — that baristas use to announce orders when complete.

Customers will not be able to use the names of all seven presidential candidates, including frontrunner Lee Jae-myung, and main conservative rival Kim Moon-soo, until after the vote, the company said.

Starbucks said that they had taken the action, which was announced this week as official campaigning started, based on past experience of customers misusing the "Call My Name" feature during previous elections. — AFP



Starbucks in South Korea has banned customers from using the names of the country's presidential candidates — or the disgraced ex-president — for their orders. PHOTO: AFP

SPORTS

Boxing: Injured Tsutsumi to be named "champion in recess" by WBA



WBA bantamweight champion Seiya Tsutsumi. PHOTO: WBA/FILE

WBA bantamweight champion Seiya Tsutsumi of Japan said Wednesday he is set to become a "champion in recess" after undergoing eye surgery.

When a champion is unable to defend his title within the prescribed period for medical reasons, he may be considered champion in recess and required to return to activity within a limited time frame under the World Boxing Association rules. Failure to do so may result in the loss of that recognition.

"As reported in news articles, I'll become a champion in recess," the 29-year-old boxer said on the social media platform X.

"I've been fighting eye problems for the past two years. But I've now had surgery. I'm recovering well."

In February, Tsutsumi successfully defended his belt with a hard-fought draw against compatriot Daigo Higa.

After that, Tsutsumi was unable to arrange a unification match against interim champion Antonio Vargas of the United States, which had been ordered by the WBA. Tsutsumi is expected to face Vargas when he returns to the ring. — Kyodo

Masters champion McIlroy to headline Australian Open

MASTERS champion Rory McIlroy will play in the Australian Open for the next two years, the world number two said Wednesday, ending a long absence from the tournament.

The Northern Irishman became just the sixth golfer to complete a career grand slam of all four majors with his dramatic play-off win at Augusta last month.

On the eve of the second major of the year, the US PGA Championship at Quail Hollow, McIlroy announced he will tee up in the Australian Open from

4-7 December this year at the world-renowned Royal Melbourne course.

The 36-year-old will return to Australia in 2026 when the prestigious event moves to the nearby Kingston Heath course.

"I'm proud to be committing to the Australian Open for the next two years, especially with it being played on the world-class Melbourne Sandbelt, somewhere I've always wanted to play professionally," McIlroy said.

The success of the 121-year-old tournament is "important for the global game", he said. — AFP



Rory McIlroy celebrates winning the Masters last month. He will play in the Australian Open this year for the first time since 2014. PHOTO: AFP

Sinner moves through gears to reach Italian Open quarters

JANNIK Sinner came through the first true test of his comeback from a doping ban with Tuesday's straight-sets win over Francisco Cerundolo which took the world number one into the Italian Open quarterfinals.

Italian Sinner bested 17<sup>th</sup> seed Cerundolo 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 in a match which was delayed by a couple of hours due to a torrential downpour to set up a last-eight clash with either Casper Ruud or Jaume Munar.

Cerundolo knocked out Sinner in the last 16 the last time he played here in 2023, but that was before the 23-year-old had become the tournament-winning machine he is today.



Sinner got past Francisco Cerundolo to reach the quarterfinals of the Italian Open in Rome. PHOTO: AFP

Sinner is finding his feet in Rome, his first tournament since the end of a three-month suspension accepted in February from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) following two positive tests for traces of clostebol in March last year. His true target is the French Open which follows his home event and he showed some signs of rediscovering the form which has won him three Grand Slams and last year's ATP Finals. — AFP

Australian champion cyclist Dennis gets suspended sentence after wife's road death

AUSTRALIAN Olympic cyclist Rohan Dennis received a suspended jail sentence after pleading guilty to dangerous driving in a road incident that led to the death of his wife, fellow Olympic Melissa Hoskins.

A judge in South Australia handed down a suspended sentence of nearly 17 months citing his guilty plea, his remorse and his role as sole carer of their young children.

Australian former world champion cyclist Rohan Dennis avoided jail Wednesday for

driving in a way "likely to cause harm" before his car struck and killed his Olympic wife Melissa Hoskins.

Dennis, 34, admitted last year to an "aggravated act likely to cause harm" over the December 2023 road incident, which ended in retired track cyclist Hoskins' death.

Dennis, an Olympic medalist in 2012 and 2021, was not charged with causing her death. — AFP

Canada: Mark Carney unveils 38-member cabinet; Anita Anand named Foreign Affairs Minister  
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# WORLD

## China, EU seek stronger bond as ties mark 50 years

**D**IPLOMATS and experts from China and the European Union (EU) on Wednesday called for strengthening cooperation amid rising global challenges, as the two sides celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations this year. Organized by the EU Delegation to China, the conference titled “Encouraging Balance, Upholding Commitments, Embracing Responsibilities” brought together around 500 participants from both sides in Beijing.

Michel Barnier, former prime minister of France and former EU commissioner, delivered a keynote speech, noting that the EU and China must work together on economic stability, global free and fair trade, as well as climate change and other global challenges. He underscored people-to-people exchanges as the foundation for fostering deeper relations.

Li Jian, director general for European affairs with China’s foreign ministry, said that over the past 50 years, China-EU relations have become more mature and resilient. “As long as both sides respect each other, engage in equal consultations, and address each other’s legitimate concerns, we will certainly overcome difficulties and resolve differences,” Li added.

Speaking with Xinhua, Jorge Toledo Albinana, EU ambassador to China, said that EU-China relations have developed into one of the most consequential relations in the world. — Xinhua

*Li Jian, China’s director-general for European affairs, highlighted the maturity and resilience of China-EU relations over the past five decades.*



Michel Barnier emphasized EU-China collaboration on economic stability, trade, and climate challenges. This photo shows staff workers dusting photovoltaic panels after windy weather at a photovoltaic power station in Yinchuan, northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, 25 March 2023. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ WANG PENG/XINHUA/FILE**

## US, Saudi Arabia ink massive \$142 billion arms deal: statement

THE US and Saudi Arabia signed a mammoth arms deal Tuesday that the White House called the largest “in history”

amid a raft of agreements inked by Donald Trump and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in Riyadh.



US President Donald Trump and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman look on during a bilateral meeting in Riyadh on 13 May 2025. **PHOTO: BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI / AFP**

The Saudis escorted Air Force One into the kingdom with fighter jets before bringing out long-stretching guards of honour and sending flag-waving cavalry to accompany Trump’s motorcade to the palace.

Under imposing chandeliers, Trump welcomed a promise by Saudi Arabia’s de facto ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, for \$600 billion in investment and quipped that it should be \$1 trillion.

The White House said that Saudi Arabia would buy nearly \$142 billion in weapons in what it described as the largest-ever weapons deal, although Trump in his first term trumpeted a larger, longer-term figure. — AFP

### ERDOGAN’S SUPPORT

#### Zelensky says he will meet only with Putin, not other Russian officials

UKRAINIAN President Volodymyr Zelensky will not meet with any Russian official other than President Vladimir Putin in Türkiye, Interfax-Ukraine reported on Tuesday, citing Ukrainian presidential advisor Mykhailo Podolyak.

According to Podolyak, a lower-level bilateral meeting in Istanbul would be “pointless”, as Russian ministers likely lack the authority to make substantive decisions. On Sunday, President Putin proposed resuming direct negotiations with Ukraine on 15 May in Türkiye. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan reiterated his support for a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine during a meeting with NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte in Ankara on Tuesday, according to the Turkish presidency.

Erdogan said that Türkiye is stepping up its diplomatic efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace, noting that he has spoken with both Putin and Zelensky, said a statement issued by the presidency. Erdogan emphasized that Türkiye maintains its neutral stance in the conflict and urged that the opportunity for peace should not be missed. — Xinhua