

The **Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR**



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing unveils the stone plaque of the Sishay Bridge rebuilt in its original form near the Shishay Gate at the western wall of the Royal Mandalay City in Mandalay Region yesterday.

# Rebuilt Sishay Bridge enhances cultural heritage of Myanansankyaw Golden Palace

A ceremony to inaugurate the Sishay Bridge rebuilt in its original form took place near Shishay Gate at the western wall of the Royal Mandalay City in Mandalay Region yesterday morning, attended by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Mayor U Kyaw Hsan reported to the Senior General on the construction of the Sishay Bridge.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung presented a commemorative gift to mark the opening of the rebuilt bridge to the Senior General.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends the opening of the Sishay Bridge at the western wall of the Royal Mandalay City.

and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung, Lt-Gen Ko Ko Oo of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Director of Military Engineers Maj-Gen Zaw Naing Oo and Mandalay Mayor U Kyaw Hsan cut the ribbon to open the bridge.

The Senior General unveiled the stone plaque of the bridge and sprinkled scented water on it. The Senior General, his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and his entourage strolled along the bridge and cordially greeted residents.

Also present at the ceremony were

SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, council members and their wives, Union ministers and their wives, the Mandalay Region Chief Minister, senior Tatmadaw officers and their wives of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, and officials.

**SEE PAGE 3**

## Pwe Gauk

(BE.FALLS)

### Waterfalls Resort

# NATIONAL

## From Sitting to Walking: The Journey of Reading

- ❖ Those who do not read books are like sitting.
- ❖ Literates who do not read are like standing.
- ❖ Literates who read books are like walking.
- ❖ We must encourage everyone, especially the youth, to read.
- ❖ We need to create environments that promote reading.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony to donate books and publications to libraries across the nation and libraries of military headquarters, regiments, and units on 3 April 2024)



### National Objectives for 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Union Day 2025

1. To strive for the perpetual development of the Union through the Union spirit, patriotic values, a sublime state of mind and a genuine nationalist spirit.
2. To encourage collaborative efforts among all ethnic nationals to pursue dialogue for durable peace and to end armed conflicts.
3. To collectively advance cooperation amongst all national people, the government, and Tatmadaw to ensure stability and the rule of law.
4. To enhance collaborative efforts to ensure nationwide stability and tranquillity, enabling the successful conduct of multiparty general elections.
5. To promote balanced development across all regions and states, as well as enhance health, education and job opportunities for ethnic nationals.

### Mottos for 78<sup>th</sup> Union Day 2025

1. When all ethnic national brethren stand in unity, hand in hand, the Union will firmly stand.
2. Drifting in one boat, on the same voyage we float; Bound together in communion, the heart of the Union.
3. United in heart and soul, Marching towards the Union's goal.
4. Let's build peace to achieve prosperity.
5. Strong in unity, Ethnic national brethren ensure the nation's strength.

### Gold Market Rate as of 8 February 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,480,000 as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.



## 4 citizenship types to taxpaying Myanmar migrant workers

FOR Myanmar migrant workers who pay income tax in Thailand, the Ministry of Immigration and Population of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will provide four types of citizenship, the Myanmar Embassy to Thailand announced.

Inserting children names in the parents' household list (form 66/6) and the national personal information (form Na-ing-2), issuing 10-year-old IDs and 18-year-old ID under the law for taxpayer families

who have household lists (form 66/6) but don't have ID, replacing the 18-year-old ID with 10-year-old ID, and issuing copy of ID for taxpayers and their families when their IDs are lost or damaged or old after verifying in e-ID system, it said.

This service will not be granted if submitted documents are found incorrect or incomplete, photos are unclear, assumed counterfeit, without having any contact number or email address, and the

provided contact number and email are unavailable to access.

The fee for a birth certificate and inserting children's names in the household list is 10 baht, the fee for the 10-year-old ID and the 18-year-old ID is 60 baht respectively, fee for the replacement of the ID is 30 baht, it said. The replacement of damaged or lost ID fee is 100 baht, the fine for a one-year delay for inserting new children's names is 100 baht and

for a five-year delay is 500 baht. Payment for all the services will be collected in Thai baht.

Simple templates and necessary documents required for this service will be distributed by the Immigration Attache from the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok or can be downloaded at the embassy website <https://mebakngkok.org>. For information, [mmbkknrc@gmail.com](mailto:mmbkknrc@gmail.com) and +66 968100467 are provided. — MT/ZS

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 Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla look into health conditions of two Sayadaws of Mandalay, visit Shwekyeemyin Pagoda

As Presiding Patron of Mahawizitayon Buddhism Learning Centre from Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay Region State Ovadacariya Abhidhaja Maharaththaguru Abhidhaja Mahasaddhammajotika Bhaddanta Vicarinda Bhivamsa, aged 97, 77 vasa, has recovered his health conditions after receiving medical treatment at the Tatmadaw Hospital in PyinOoLwin, the Sayadaw resides at Mahawizitayon Buddhism Learning Centre. Yesterday morning, Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and his entourage paid homage to the Sayadaw.

As the Senior General and his wife asked about healthcare conditions, officials reported on the health recovery of the Sayadaw. The Senior General instructed officials to continuously monitor healthcare services for the Sayadaw and timely fulfil the needs. Moreover, he stressed the need to help the Sayadaw take personal hygiene and physical exercises.

The Senior General and his wife donated alms, medications, edible bird's nest, foodstuffs and cash for nine prerequisites to the Sayadaw and paid homage.

At Maha Gandayon Monastery in Amarapura Township of Mandalay, the Senior General, his wife and entourage paid homage to Chief Patron of the monastery Abhidhaja Maharaththaguru



Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accepts the Dhamma gifts from Chief Patron of the Maha Gandayon Monastery in Amarapura Township of Mandalay Abhidhaja Maharaththaguru Bhaddanta Indobhasa Bhivamsa.

Bhaddanta Indobhasa Bhivamsa, aged 93 and 73 vasa. After asking about the health conditions of the Sayadaw, the Senior General instructed officials to emphasize the health conditions of the Sayadaw.

The Senior General and his wife donated alms, medicines, nutritious edible bird's nest, foodstuffs and cash for nine prerequisites to the Sayadaw who returned Dhamma gifts.

They paid homage to Shwekye-

eemyin Buddha Image in the cave of Shwekyeemyin Pagoda together with various Buddha images from all parts of the nation, Anya Thihataw Pagoda, ShwekunOk Pagoda, Myatheintan Pagoda, Shwelinpin Pagoda and other Buddha images.

They donated cash to the fund for the overall renovation of the pagoda to the chairman of the pagoda board of trustees.

The Senior General instruct-

ed officials to systematically preserve Myanmar's traditional cultural heritage of the objects in the cave and arrange systematic obeisance of pilgrims to the images.

The Senior General inspected preparations to offer gold foils to the whole structure of the pagoda. He viewed round religious objects in the precinct of the pagoda and left necessary instructions. — MNA/TTA

Rebuilt Sishay Bridge enhances cultural heritage of ...

FROM PAGE 1

King Mindon constructed the Sishay Bridge along the western wall of the Royal Mandalay City in 1221 ME (Myanmar Era), alongside the magnificent Myanansankyaw Golden Palace. This historical project stands as a testament to the architectural and cultural achievements of the era. These were damaged in World War II. Sishay Bridge is the main exit of the western wall of the royal city. Following the guidance of the SAC Chairman Prime Minister to rebuild the bridge in its original form and ensure its long-term existence, the Directorate of Military Engineers started construction tasks in August 2024. The bridge was commissioned into service successfully yesterday. Four dimensions of the walls of the Mandalay Palace were built with three gates, totaling 12. Significant titles were given to the central one of three gates each. Thanks to the reconstruction of the Sishay Bridge, Myanansankyaw Golden Palace can be filled with better characteristics of national cultural heritage. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Vice-Senior General Soe Win reviews rehearsal for Union-level MSME Expo opening ceremony

Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win who is also Chairman of the MSME Development Work Committee inspected a rehearsal of the opening ceremony of the Union-level Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Exhibition and Competition at Tabaung Ground near Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

He looked into the rehearsal process of the opening ceremony on the agenda.

The Vice-Senior General and party also visited the ministerial booths, regional and state booths, digital corner, MSME-related business booths, the service for local businesspersons to link with economic attaches from Myanmar embassies in foreign countries at the Business Matching Hall, a demonstration



Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win observes the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation's booth yesterday.

for telecasting advertisement for businesspersons under the arrangement of the Ministry of Information, foreign machinery and product booths, the booths for small-scale industries and manufacturing cooperative societies, and coordinated necessary measures with officials.

Also present at the rehearsal process were Union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council

Chairman, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, deputy ministers, agency chairs of Nay Pyi Taw Council and regions and states, officials from associations, curators, departmental heads and ethnic cultural dance troupes.

The event will take place at Tabaung Ground, south of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw from 10 to 14 February. It will feature booths of ministries, regions and states, ethnic traditional foods, business matching facilities, technological measures, foreign machinery and products, SME and manufacturing cooperative societies, totalling 96 booths. Digital trophies, certificates of appreciation and cash awards will be handed to winners in 31 genres in the product competitions. Winners can immediately draw cash from e-banking through the digital payment system. — MNA/TTA

Union-level MSME Expo & Competition create business networks for MSME entrepreneurs

AT the business networking booth of the Union-level MSME exhibition and competition marking the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Union Day, it offered networking opportunities for local and foreign markets, capital and One-Stop Services of ministries concerned.

In doing so, the event created local market connectivity for five MSME business people from Bago, Mon and Yangon with the retailers for their instant food, elephant foot yam, dried areca nut and tea leaves, meanwhile in foreign market networks, five MSME businesspeople from Taninthayi, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Mon and Kayin and 16 economic attaches discussed to export rubber, pearl and dried elephant foot yam. Similarly, in a capital network, nine MSME business

people from Kayin, Sagaing, Bago and Shan (South) communicated with bankers for capital investment.

Moreover, the Intellectual Property Department discussed with four companies for application of trademark rights and the receiving of registration certificates after applying for the trademark rights. The Department of Food and Drug Administration discussed the FDA applications with one tamarind toffee business group from Ayeyawady Region, one dried mutton business group from Sagaing Region and one natural shampoo business group from Mandalay Region.

Similarly, the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration clarified the questions of elephant foot yam and areca nut business people from Mon



This photo shows the meeting underway among MSME businesspeople from Taninthayi, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Mon and Kayin and economic attachés to export rubber, pearl and dried elephant foot yam.

State regarding the obligations to be followed by the directors and supported the needed assistance in new company regis-

tration processes of the Ribbed Smoked Sheet industry from Kayin State. — MNA/KTZH

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

NATIONAL

DPM MoTC Union Minister inspects flood protection works along Ayeyawady River

MEMBER of the State Administration Council, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo, along with the Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region, the Regional Minister for Transport and Communications, and other officials, inspected the construction of embankments, dredging works to prevent erosion and landslides in the villages, and flood protection works in Eaikpyat Village-tract on the banks of the Ayeyawady River in Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday.

While inspecting the work on the Ayeyawady River by boat, the Union Minister and

his team were briefed by officials from the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems on the work's progress. The Deputy Prime Minister instructed that the work be completed on time, adhere to quality standards, and be carried out with proper attention to safety, as outlined in the work plan.

The General and his team then departed by speedboat to inspect the erosion and flood protection measures at Ohnkone Village on the banks of the Ayeyawady River in Letpadan Township, Bago Region, where officials from the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems



Member of the State Administration Council, Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo inspects the construction of embankments, dredging works to prevent erosion in Eaikpyat Village-tract on the banks of the Ayeyawady River in Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday.

presented potential measures. General Mya Tun Oo instructed them to carefully draft effective long-term plans (Master Plan) and implement them as soon as possible. — MNA/TH

Illegal goods, unregistered vehicles seized nationwide

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee is effectively taking action to halt illegal trade under the law.

On 6 February, combined inspection teams conducted checks and seized various goods. At the Asia Wall container inspection checkpoint, one container containing business-related items was found without any valid documentation. At Myanmar Industrial Port, three containers holding business-related items lacked the required legal paperwork. At the Thilawa Port, two containers containing two types of consumer goods and two types of industrial materials were seized. In total, goods worth an estimated K255.89 million were seized, and the action was carried out following customs procedures.

On the same day, the special team of Taninthayi Region conducted a search near Myeik District, at Johnny Island. Five wooden-hull fishing boats (with related equipment) were seized. At the same time, an unregistered Wave 100 motorcycle was seized in Kyonzu Township. In total, goods worth K23.5 million were seized, and appropriate action was taken under the laws.

On 7 February, combined

teams in Kayin State, an inspection near the Yetha temporary vehicle checkpoint led to the seizure of a motor vehicle without the required documentation. Three consumer goods were found aboard, along with a Cheng Long truck, bringing the total to K48.04 million in goods seized. The required action was done in line with Customs procedures.

In a similar effort, under the management of the task force in Sagaing Region, inspections at combined checkpoints in Sagaing resulted in the seizure of two unregistered vehicles worth K56 million. The action was taken under the Export-Import Law.

The special team in Bago Region also conducted checks in the Toungoo District area, leading to the seizure of ille-

gal timber (2.071 tonnes) and other related products, valued at K1.43 million. These items were seized in compliance with forestry laws.

In Mandalay Region, various vehicles and goods were intercepted in the area between the Paleik and Myitnge roads. Sev-

eral motor vehicles without the required documentation were found, including business-related items with a Mitsubishi Fuso truck. At another checkpoint near the Sein Si Aung oil filling station, two vehicles carrying goods were confiscated. In total, items worth K329.67 million were

seized, with appropriate action being conducted per Customs procedures.

Similarly, in Yangon Region, the special team inspected Hmawby Township, where an unregistered Honda Fit valued at K2.5 million was seized under the Export-Import Law.

Combined inspection teams also conducted checks in the Mawlamyine and Thaton Districts in Mon State. They seized four unregistered motor vehicles and two unregistered motorcycles, with an estimated value of K39 million. The necessary action was taken under the Export-Import Law.

On 6 and 7 February 2025, a total of 32 cases were seized, with goods valued at K756.03 million. The illegal importation of goods has resulted in significant harm to legitimate traders and businesses, causing a reduction in market competitiveness and tax revenue losses for the state. Consequently, the relevant authorities have vowed to enhance their efforts to prevent illegal imports and improve inspections at ports and border areas, as confirmed by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee. — MNA/KZL



Confiscated illegal items and vehicle across regions and states.

# NATIONAL

## Sri Sri Ravi Shankar visits Shwedagon, discusses peace with business leaders

INDIAN Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, the humanitarian leader and peace envoy, currently in Yangon, met with the business people at the Grand Ballroom of Chatrium Hotel in Yangon yesterday and discussed the inner peace practices.

Also present at the event were Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur, relevant officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, business people and observers.

The video clip featuring the need to adopt loving kindness for peace in the world and spiritual practices for a healthy body was first played.

The Indian Gurudev then delivered the spiritual power, successfully overcoming challenges with mind control, meditation and raising a peaceful mind gradually, and demonstrated the meditation practices with the attendees.

At noon, he attended the



Indian Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein offer oil lamps at Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday.

mindful practices and enlightenment ceremony at the National Theatre and lit with Yangon Re-

gion Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Indian Ambassador Mr Ahbay Thakur, Nepali Ambassador Mr

Harishchandra Ghimire, Cambodian Ambassador Cheng Manith and Sri Lankan Ambassador Mrs

Prabashini Ponnaperuma.

He also explained Yoga exercises, demonstrated Yoga, and introduced the “Celebrating Love” book translated into the Myanmar language.

The Indian Embassy performed Indian dance and the students of the National University of Arts and Culture (Yangon) the Myanmar traditional dance, and the Art of Living Parahita group sang a song.

The Indian Gurudev-led group visited Shwedagon Pagoda on the same evening, and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and relevant officials welcomed them.

They paid homage to the pagoda and donated oil lamps, flowers and water to the pagoda. The Gurudev signed the guest’s book and made cash donations. The pagoda board of trustees presented the Shwedagon Pagoda image as a gift. — MNA/KTZH

## MTB, MCEF sign MoU



The commemorative group photo during the signing ceremony of the MoU.

MYANMAR Tourism Bank (MTB) and Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) have signed an MoU to help MCEF’s members achieve greater success in the future via timely facilitated activities, according to the MTB.

The MTB will provide financing facilities and lending services to the members in line with the bank’s purpose of providing banking products for the development of businesses, including

quality infrastructure, factories, and housing in Myanmar’s construction sector.

This cooperation also aims to connect domestic and foreign construction organizations, experts, material manufacturers, and dealers to further develop the construction sector, to compete internationally, to create job opportunities, and to link among the association and its regional and state members, that contribute to the nation’s development goals.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 7 February at the MCEF (Head Office) in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region, by U Thein Han, Vice Chairman of the MTB and U Shein Win, Chairman of the MCEF, and witnessed by Daw Theingi Lin and U Win Lwin, Executive Director and CEO of the MTB, and Dr Nyan Thit Hlaing and U Ko Ko Lay, Vice Chairman and Secretary General of the MCEF. — MT/ZN

## FTCCI Experiential Tourism MICE Fair 2025 welcomes business community

FTCCI Experiential Tourism MICE Fair 2025, organized by the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce & Industry – FTCCI, India, will be held on 26-27 May 2025 in the heart of Deccan, India.

Myanmar is a country with a rich culture, a vast array of Buddhist temples, pagodas and enchanting landscapes. Therefore, it is a great opportunity

to show off breathtaking tourism destinations and intangible cultural heritage, establish regional and global linkage and promote cooperation.

Interested Myanmar businesspeople can register through the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408622 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

### Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

1. Ministry of Defence  
<https://www.mod.gov.mm>
2. Ministry of Legal Affairs  
<https://www.mlis.gov.mm>
3. Ministry of Information  
<https://www.moi.gov.mm>
4. Myawady Webportal  
<https://myawady.net.mm>
5. Myanmar National Portal  
<https://myanmar.gov.mm>

NATIONAL

Kaunghmulon hosts Buddha Pujaniya festival for six days

THE Buddha Pujaniya festival started at the ancient historic Kaunghmulon Pagoda in Machanbaw township, Kachin state, from 7 to 12 February with a large number of pilgrims, said U Ye Htun, member of Kaunghmulon Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The festival will include the recitation of seven Abhidhamma treatises.

“The opening ceremony of the Buddha Pujaniya festival will commence on 9 February with the rice offering ceremony to 100 monks and 21 nuns,” said U Ye Htun.

The consecration and Robe weaving and offering ceremonies will be hosted at the Kaunghmulon Pagoda at 5 am on 12 February. Additionally, the event



The ancient historic Kaunghmulon Pagoda.

of sacred water pouring into the Malikha river at 8 am and the

successful conclusion of the Buddha Pujaniya festival with sharing

merits will be started at 9:30 am. — ASH/MKKS

Drug trafficking ring nabbed in Mandalay with K7.3B worth of drugs



Offenders seen alongside confiscated drugs and vehicles.

A drug trafficking group was arrested in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay Region, with over K7.3 billion worth of drugs, including 11 kilogrammes of heroin and 4.694 million stimulant tablets. The arrest took place at 5:30 pm on 1 February, when two suspects named Zaw Min Naing and Zin Ko Ko Lwin were arrested in a light truck and a motorcycle along with the drugs. The drugs were found hidden in the vehicles. During the investigation, more suspects were arrested. Among them was Ma Kyawt Kay Khaing (aka) Nang Mwe Lyan, who helped sell the drugs and Aik Sai, who was also involved in the drug trade. They were nabbed with 200,000 stimulant tablets. Khun Myat (aka) Nor Naw and Sai Thein

Myat (aka) Sai Lay, along with the suspects, were arrested while in possession of a PRADO, further connecting them to the illegal drug business. The authorities continued to track down the group and discovered that the drugs were being stored in a warehouse located between 124<sup>th</sup> and 125<sup>th</sup> streets in Pyigyidagun Township and seized a further 4.694 million stimulant tablets. The operation resulted in the seizure of 11 kilogrammes of heroin, 4.694 million stimulant tablets, 25 grammes of opium extract, and three vehicles, including a PRADO and a motorcycle used in the drug trade. According to the investigation, the drugs were stored in a warehouse between 124<sup>th</sup> and 125<sup>th</sup> streets in Pyigyidagun

Township, Mandalay Region, which was rented by a suspect named Aik Bao from Wamhing, Southern Shan State. The warehouse was used to store methamphetamine and other drugs under the management of Ko Aung. The investigation revealed that the group was involved in trafficking the drugs with a 10 per cent commission to brokers. Among the main suspects were Sai Mon (aka) Sai Mon Lou and Sai Aik Yone, who were working with Ko Aung to sell the drugs. The suspects involved have been taken into custody and the authorities are continuing their investigation to uncover more members of the group. The police are working to dismantle the rest of the network responsible for this large-scale drug trade. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar’s traditional dresses in high demand ahead of Thingyan

SALES of traditional Myanmar dresses, including one-sets and ‘Silkware’ (traditional Myanmar weaving wear) designs, are on the rise due to the nearing Thingyan and some festivals, according to some clothing stores. Myanmar parents are planning to ordain their children in the coming summer holidays, so they are buying traditional clothes such as Longis (both for male and female), Pasoes (for male) and others, said a salesgirl from a store in Thakayta Township. “Since Thingyan is near, people are coming to buy clothes including one-sets, graceful ‘Silkware’ and cotton garments

to wear in Thingyan and summer. Some parents are buying traditional wear because they plan to ordain their children during holidays. As this is the festival season, Myanmar clothes sell more,” said a shop owner. There are also orders from small cities to resell for Thingyan. These days, young women tend to wear more traditional clothes with great interest, and some people living abroad are also ordering them to wear. During the festival season, such as Thadingyut, Tazaungdine and Thingyan, Myanmar traditional clothes are sold more, the traders said. — MT/ZN



Traditional Myanmar one-set dresses showcased in the clothing store.

# Welcome efforts of discharging underage soldiers

TATMADAW has been adhering to legal and regulatory guidelines in recruitment to prevent the enlistment of underage individuals, in line with agreements with the Committee for the Prevention of Underage Recruitment and the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR). Public awareness campaigns are also being conducted, in coordination with relevant ministries, to support responsible recruitment efforts.

Regarding the recruitment of children in Tatmadaw, efforts have been made to prevent the enlistment of underage individuals and to reject suspicious cases. Before collaborating with the CTFMR, from 2004 to 2012, Tatmadaw mistakenly recruited 597 underage soldiers but later released them and returned them to their parents or guardians.

Moreover, the Myanmar Government and the CTFMR signed a Plan of Action in 2012 to prevent the recruitment of child soldiers. As part of this collaboration, from 2012 to the present, Tatmadaw has discharged 1,057 underage soldiers who were mistakenly recruited and returned to their families. According to a recent committee meeting which will convene with the CTFMR this month, as Tatmadaw plans to allow the return of underage children, parents and families will support the plan to them.

Regular meetings of the Committee for the Prevention of Underage Recruitment are held to ensure the complete eradication of child soldier usage in Tatmadaw. Updates on the implementation of these resolutions are reported to the CTFMR. Consequently, preventing the recruitment of children as soldiers can ease the concerns of parents and families. Additionally, since underage soldiers lack the full capacity to perform military duties, maintaining an all-adult force enhances teamwork and allows Tatmadaw members to operate at full strength at all times.

The People’s Military Service Law was enacted in 2010 and came into effect on 10 February 2024. Supporting regulations for this law were issued on 23 January 2025. Relevant Committees Summoning People’s Military Servants are systematically supervising the recruitment process to ensure that individuals under the age of 18 are strictly excluded. Recruitment committees are also overseeing compliance. Only eligible individuals will be recruited, after which they must undergo rigorous training and fulfil their duties without exception. The discharge of underage soldiers will benefit young citizens, their families, and the Tatmadaw.

All citizens must discharge their military duties in Tatmadaw under the laws of their respective countries. They are responsible for defending their homeland against both external and internal threats. Hence, the recruitment process must be fair, free from bias and corruption, and strictly follow the prescribed rules, regulations, and laws.

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|                  |   |                                 |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------|
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## Ah-hmat-ta-ya-Phyit Yat, Ah-hmat-ta-ya- Zagar

### Notable Events, Notable Remarks

DURING his lifetime the late Saya Maung Khin Min (Danubyu) (hereafter MKM) published 133 books mainly dealing with Myanmar language, linguistics and literature. A few of them are memoirs and profiles of persons he had met in his life and career. This book about forty of his teachers and senior colleagues is remarkable. Arguably, this book might well be the only book that MKM wrote in the colloquial style စကားပြောစကားပြေ. Colloquially, it can be stated as စကားပြောသလိုပြောခြင်း. One of the early pioneers of the colloquial style of writing who is mentioned by MKM is

Saya U Kyaw Yin who passed away in 1967. At the time of his passing, U Kyaw Yin was the Rector of the Mandalay Arts and Science University. Saya U Kyaw Yin taught MKM in the early 1960s when MKM was taking the Burmese (as it was then officially called) honours class. MKM did mention U Kyaw Yin’s quite famous speech where U Kyaw Yin stated that ‘if elephants took their strides, then a road is made’ (ဆင်သွားရင်လမ်းဖြစ်တယ်). MKM briefly stated that U Kyaw Yin made that comment ‘in support of the literary movement of the Upper Bamar Literary Asso-

ciation’. I might add that, that literary movement proposed the colloquial style of writing (page 32).

A few of the persons in the brief sketches range from MKM’s primary school teachers to those teachers and senior colleagues in his post-graduate studies up till his retirement from full-time teaching. He expressed his gratitude to the late Burmese professor U E Maung (1905-1985) for awarding him the sole Burmese distinction in the whole country in the Matriculation exams of the year 1959. U E Maung’s own teach-

er was Sayagyi U Pe Maung Tin (1888-1973). Saya MKM wrote how U Pe Maung Tin tried to ease his anxiousness during the viva (oral) exams for MKM’s honours degree (pages 70 to 71). A plurality of the personages Saya MKM presents in brief sketches are his teachers and senior colleagues in the Myanmar Department from his student days and up to the days he became a Myanmar Professor and Head of the Department at Yangon University. Hence, most of the forty persons that he ‘sketched’ had passed away. Only a few names of those teachers MKM profiled can be stated here. They include Sayagyi Zawgyi, Minthuwn, U Pho Kyaw Myint, U Maung Maung Gyi, U Myint Kyi and Sayamagyi Daw Than Swe, Daw Si Si Win, Daw Khin Saw, among others. From what I gather, at least two, maybe three or more of the persons MKM profiled are (as of January 2025) still alive.

In terms of gender, there are 29 males and 11 females in MKM’s vignettes. The late Saya Maung Khin Min’s book ‘Notable Events. Notable Remarks’ is in the complimentary sense of the words a light and enjoyable read. (MZ)



|                  |   |                                        |
|------------------|---|----------------------------------------|
| Book title       | - | A Sip of Warmth                        |
| Writer           | - | Nine Nine Sanay                        |
| Publishing House | - | Sar Yeik Myaing                        |
| Publication Date | - | January 2025 (1 <sup>st</sup> Edition) |
| Price            | - | K9,000                                 |

## Asipofwarmth

THE Sar Yeik Myaing Publishing House has released a new book by Sayama Nine Nine Sanay, who is well-known for inspirational books. The book titled ‘A Sip of Warmth’ features 30 inspirational stories.

The book title ‘A Sip of Warmth’ is compared with four Brahmagiharas — Metta (loving-kindness), Karuna (compassion), Mudita (resonant joy) and Upekha (equanimity). Although it is a translated manuscript, it is a well-crafted work that flows naturally into the minds of Myanmar readers, making it feel like an original composition.

The story ‘A Sip of Warmth’ infused with ... “Green Mountain coffee is not as famous as Starbucks. It used to be just a small company. But now, it has

become a successful business because its founder, Robert Still-er, collected the price of every cup of coffee by an extra one dollar.”

And then, ... wondering how this could be, Robert visited the coffee farms in South America. There, he noticed that the workers were struggling, earning less than five dollars a day. When he figured it out, he found that the coffee buyers purchased the coffee at very low prices despite their high demand. Therefore, the coffee farmers got low daily wages as the coffee prices were also low.

Deeply reflecting on this situation, Robert believed that coffee buyers should not exploit workers in this way. Even if others were doing it, he felt

that his company, Green Mountain, should not follow the same practice. So, he made a unique decision he increased the price of every single cup of coffee by one dollar.

In the last paragraph, it stated “Green Mountain coffee is not like other coffee, it contains warmth and compassion, said the buyers. This is how they think: if we don’t buy Green Mountain coffee, the company might shut down soon. And if that happens, coffee farmers will lose their chance to build a better life. We will pay the extra one dollar because we believe we are doing something good.”

Moreover, the readers can read the phrase “Go and buy a cup of Green Mountain coffee, it is doing something good.”

To motivate young readers... the book presents: -

The most valuable possessions in life are the chances that allow young people to experience and appreciate happiness. These possessions provide them with opportunities to explore, engage in their passions, and pursue what they love, enhancing their joy. Success or failure is not the main case, what truly matters is fostering a sense of happiness, self-confidence, courage, and a positive outlook on life.

One must think deeply to achieve great success. Deep thinking brings creativity. Life is not always smooth and perfect. There are moments of sunshine, sometimes there will be storms. Some people kneel before the hardships. For them, hardships become obstacles, and their entire life sink in frustration and complaint.

Some, however, have endured the hardships and struggles with resilience. They have found the true value of life amid difficulties. They have discovered the opportunities. These hardships and obstacles become a drive for them to move forward. Life may give you a weak or incapable hand, but if you have your dream in your heart, you can raise yourself.

## Then and Now

By Chit Ko Pe

Hand in hand with parents to walk aside,  
my childhood then gave me delight.  
The present state makes me frail and old,  
with the aid of a stick to take a stroll.



## ယခင်နှင့် ယခု

အဖေ့လက်ဖျား  
အမေ့လက်ဖျား  
ယုတ်ထားမှီရ  
ဖေးမ ကူထောက်  
လမ်းလျှောက်ဆွင့်လှ ငယ်ဘဝ။  
ရှုပ်ဖြူပျက်ပြား  
တုတ်တိုလက်ကြား  
ယုတ်ထားမှီရ  
ဖေးမ ကူထောက်  
လမ်းလျှောက်နွမ်းလျ အိုဘဝ။

ချစ်စိန်ဇေ



## Living Together

By Mya Thae (Research)

- We all are national brethren.
- Living together and treating heartens.
- We tried to build a modern peaceful, prosperous Union.
- Joining hands and nurturing the citizens.
- The nation lies the strength of the states and region.
- With the spirit of the Union, we must protect our country and nation.
- To build a developed nation, we must strive.
- Thus, our aims will be gained and arrived.

## Queen of the Night

By Maung Swe Ngae

- The twilight is sweet and lovely  
With the mist golden and silvery  
The moon is shining so bright  
On the land and water alike.

- In the bloom are Nya-Hmway flowers\*  
With the fragrance filling the air  
I can hear the rustle of leaves  
Which are swaying in the breeze.

- On the night in bed, I’m lying  
Night birds aren’t singing but crying  
After that night of wind and showers  
What I see are fallen flowers!

**Note:** Nya-Hmway flower, or in Myanmar is metaphorically called ‘Queen of the Night’ in English. Its botanical term is Cestrum nocturnum.



# NATIONAL MYANMAR ACADEMY AWARDS 2024



### Nay Toe

Two movies by actor Nay Toe are on the nomination list for the Academy this year. They are 'Eaint Mat Kayan' and 'Hnaung'. Therefore, three-academy awards winner Nay Toe is also nominated for the academy. "The prediction for Academy award is made mostly for the ones with the highest possibilities. They might achieve the awards as the predictions. Each Academy Award brings courage to us. We feel something unique when we hold the academy statue," said Nay Toe.



### Nay Myo Aung

Actor Nay Myo Aung is eager to attend the Academy Award event this year. The actor starred in the 'Tain Pachi' movie, and his fans predicted he could win the Best Supporting Actor award with this movie. The actor said, "I will attend the Academy Award event this year and support my colleagues. I heard the number of academy awards will be higher this year than the previous years".



### Director Awratha

Director Awratha holds the top spot for the Best Director Academy award this year. He directed "Seik Ka Kyo" and "Hnaung" movies. All predict that two movies can win many Academy Awards. The director said, "I would like to thank my fans as they predict an Academy Award for me. It is sure only when the award is announced on the stage, and I wish for all outstanding artistes to win the academy".



### Hein Wai Yan

The fans of actor Hein Wai Yan want him to win the Academy Award for his outstanding acting skills in the "Than Yaw Zin Tway Tha Kyi Zan Tway Phyt Khae Yin" movie created by director Mee Pwar. Hein Wai Yan said, "I don't expect so high. I tried my best as much as I could. I usually join the Academy Award event as I want to support my colleagues. It is more freedom and enjoyable".



## CELEBRITY BRIEF

### May Mi Ko Ko

The movie of actress May Mi Ko Ko "Thabin Thel Mya Hninzi" is also listed in the Academy nomination, and she is also listed for the best supporting actress award. Regarding the movie, actor Aung Yay Chan said, "The acting skill of May Mi in Thabin Thel Mya Hninzi is very good. I wish she could win an Academy Award. I like her scenes in which she smokes".



### Htet Htet Tun

Four actresses are on the top list for the Best Supporting Actress award for 2024. They are May Pachi (Seik Ka Kyo), Soe Myat Thuzar (Noh Htamin), Chuu Lay (Boh Daw King) and Htet Htet Htun (Ta Khote Ta Ya). Htet Htet Htun said, "The 'Ta Khote Ta Ya' movie is on the nomination list and so I am very excited. My heart beat fast just for the word academy whether we win or not." — Htun Htun/ KTZH



## Novel of Academy Nyein Min to be adapted into series

THE launching ceremony for the 'Chit Yway Chi Thaw Kyo' TV drama series was organized on 6 February in Yangon. The novel by theatre director Academy Nyein Min is created into the movie, and the script is by Khit Shey Nyo. It will be directed by director Nyi Nyi Nyein Min. "I don't have something special to say as it is the plot of Saya Nyein Min. The main thing is the plot. It does not focus on a person, it includes the loving kindness of parent, teacher and pupil. I will take the mother of a daughter character. I agree to star in the movie as the plot is good," said Academy Aye Myat Thu. The cast of the movie includes Nay Myo Aung, Aung Yay Chan, Than Lwin, academy Aye Myat Thu, Phoo Sone, Thoon and other artistes. — ASH/KTZH

NATIONAL

Weekly  
Roundup

**2 February**  
**Deputy Minister appointed**  
The State Administration Council has appointed and assigned U Kyaw Shwe Tun as Deputy Minister for Commerce under Section 419 of the Constitution.

**4 February**  
**Election to form Hluttaw at different levels**  
SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing highlighted that the general election will be held to form the relevant Hluttaws, providing ethnic groups and representatives of various social strata with the opportunity to participate, in the meeting of the Union government at the SAC Chairman Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

**5 February**  
**Senior General Min Aung Hlaing pays homage to Mohasangharajah of Cambodia**  
Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing paid homage to His Holiness Samdech Preah Abhisiri Sugandha Mohasangharajah Dhipadi Dr Bour Kry of Cambodia, staying at KMA Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, remarking that pilgrimage tour of Cambodian Mohasangharajah will further cement Myanmar-Cambodia friendly relations.

**6 February**  
**MSMEs must use solar energy**  
The government is implementing projects to generate more than 1,000 hybrid megawatts from natural gas and solar energy in regions and states, said Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win at the coordination meeting on holding the Union-level MSME exhibitions and competitions.

**8 February**  
**Officials urged to preserve ancient religious buildings**  
Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected the maintenance of the Loka Tharaphu Pagoda and the Maung Oh bridge road in ancient Inwa City in Mandalay Region and left instructions to preserve ancient religious buildings in their original form. — GNLM/TTA

Yangon-Dala river crossing bridge 80% complete



The photo shows the Yangon-Dala Bridge construction site.

THE Myanmar-Korea Friendship Yangon-Dala River crossing Bridge construction project, which began in May 2019 and is being carried out by the Ministry of Construction's Bridges Department to enhance transportation in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, is now nearly 80 per cent complete, according to the project site.

The bridge, being built across the Yangon River, has an estimated total cost of US\$168.173 million, financed by a loan of \$137.833 million from the Republic of Korea's Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) and \$30.341 million from the Myanmar government. The bridge is being constructed by a Project Management Unit (PMU), headed by the Deputy Director-General of the Bridges Department of the Ministry of Construction. Fourteen staff engineers from the department, ten consultants from the Republic of Korea, 80 expatriate engineers, and over 1,000 skilled workers are working around the clock to construct the bridge.

The bridge will become the longest and largest steel cable-stayed facility in the country, with bored piles foundation. The total length of the bridge is 6,128 feet, with the main bridge spanning 2,264 feet. The approach bridge on the Yangon side is 1,891 feet long, with a width of 47 feet (two lanes). The approach bridge on the Dala side is 1,972 feet long, with a width of 87 feet (four lanes). The width of the Yangon side ramp bridge is 23 feet (one lane). The waterway clearance height is 160 feet, with a width of 988 feet. The bridge's maximum loading capacity is 75 tonnes per vehicle. — ASH/TH



Myanmar TV series 'Atta Sue' to premiere on 22 Feb

THE Myanmar television series 'Atta Sue' (The Dark Side of Ego) is set to premiere on 22 February, according to lead actor Chuu Lay.

The drama is based on a novel written by Ella, with the screenplay adapted by Htet Myat Zin Naing and directed by Nay Paing.

Actor Chuu Lay said, "The Atta Sue series is a family drama based on love and emotions. When love turns excessive and ego takes over, vengeance becomes a thorn that cannot be removed. When pride and status reflect as a mirror, pain, hatred and revenge follow. 'Atta Sue' explores these themes, showing how people react and retaliate in such situations."

The cast includes Aung Yay Chan, Nyi Nanda, Chuu Lay, Academy Myat Kaythi Aung, Min Taw Win, Htoo Char, Moe Pwint Phyu, Elizabeth Paing, Shin Thiri Thu and many supporting actors.

'Atta Sue' will air on M Entertainment TV and M Entertainment YouTube Channel at 7 pm every Saturday and Sunday, starting from 22 February. — ASH/KZL

Cast members of the 'Atta Sue' TV series.

# NATIONAL

## BUSINESS

### 29 fuel tankers slated to arrive in Feb

THE Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil stated that 29 fuel tankers are likely to call in this month.

Continuous inflow of fuel tankers helps meet domestic fuel oil consumption and some fuel reserves slash the prices as well. Six fuel tankers have arrived at Thailawa Port for unloading and three tankers are seen at the mouth of Yangon River.

Fuel oil storage can cover one month of oil consumption. Fuel oil is transported to domestic stations with a fuel bowser from Thilawa Port. — ASH/KK



Oil bowsters depart the Thilawa Port.

### MoC invites businesspeople to grow MSME network

THE 78<sup>th</sup> Union-Level Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Expo which will take place near Uppatasanti Pagoda, Nay Pyi Taw from 10 to 14 February 2025 welcomes the participation of entrepreneurs to expand business networks.

The entrepreneurs can contact the respective task forces; domestic market reach task force, foreign market linkage awareness task force, and capital funding task force to join business matchmaking. The agenda of the meetings is declared on the websites of the Ministry of Commerce.

The objectives of this Union-level MSMEs expo are to enhance MSMEs towards sustainable economic growth, promote One Region One Product from each region and state, have self-sufficiency of the marketable goods, boost exports, explore new potential products and markets and expand markets in foreign countries, Union Minister U Tun Ohn said. — NN/KK



Containers are seen at a terminal of the port.

### Tomato prices drop, trade surges

TOMATO price has fallen and its trade has mounted, according to traders.

“It has been about three days that tomato price has declined and the trade has increased after the price dropped. The majority of orders come from Yangon and are followed by Nay Pyi Taw, Toungoo, Kanyutkwin, Pyay and Mawlamyine,” said Ko Than Win Hlaing from Padamya tomato wholesale trading centre in Aungban Township.

Before the price dropped, the trade was slow as a kind of tomato called tomato species of Chinese Taipei was produced. The price is likely to continue falling until the end of February.

“When a tomato variety, we called tomatoe species of Chinese Taipei were produced, the market was slightly slowdown. It seems the price will continue falling until the end of the month,” he said. — Thit Taw/ZS



Tomatoes ready for transport.

### CBM sells US\$23M, CNY600,000 on 7 Feb

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold \$23 million and 600,000 yuan on 7 February and over \$150,000 and 214,000 yuan on 6 February.

CBM announced on 5 February that it would inject \$23 million into the fuel oil sector. CBM sold \$490,000 and 500,000 yuan on 5 February, over 105,900 yuan on 4 February and 500,000 yuan on 3 February. CBM pumped in \$124M, 13.8M baht and 4.8M yuan into financial markets in January 2025.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March, it has been joining hands 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



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw.

Crypto investors brace for bumpy ride under Trump

NICK, a Pennsylvania construction worker, saw his crypto savings plummet after a crash linked to President Trump's policies. Cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, Ether, and meme coins suffered significant losses following Trump's trade tariffs on Canada, China, and Mexico.

Nick lost \$60,000 in hours, but remains hopeful. Experts warn that the volatile market is driven by political endorsements and could be a bubble. — AFP

Vietnam's national index of industrial production declines in January

The processing and manufacturing sector increased by 1.6 per cent year on year.

VIETNAM'S national index of industrial production in the first month of this year declined 9.2 per cent compared to the previous month, local media cited the country's General Statistics Office as saying on Saturday.

Compared to the same period last year, the index expanded by 0.6 per cent.

The processing and

manufacturing sector increased by 1.6 per cent year on year.

Meanwhile, the electricity production and distribution sector grew by 0.4 per cent, and the water supply and waste management sector jumped by 9.2 per cent, said the office.

The mineral exploitation reported a 10.4 per cent year-on-year decline. — Xinhua



File photo shows a Vietnamese exhibitor booth at the international expos of rubber, tires, paper and coatings in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. PHOTO: NGUYEN LE HUYEN/XINHUA

Czechia tourism surpasses pre-pandemic level with 22.8 mln visitors in 2024: statistics

CZECHIA welcomed approximately 22.8 million tourists in 2024, surpassing pre-pandemic levels for the first time, according to a press release issued by the Czech Statistical Office (CSO) on Friday.

The number of tourists staying overnight in the Czech Republic last year increased by 3.8 per cent year-on-year, while overnight stays rose by 2.6 per cent to reach 57.3 million nights.

Germany was the leading source of visitors, with nearly 600,000 German tourists travelling to Czechia last year. For the first time, both the number of accommodated guests and overnight stays exceeded the figures recorded before the COVID-19 outbreak in 2019, the CSO noted. — Xinhua

L'Oreal bullish after net profits rise

FRENCH cosmetics giant L'Oreal said Thursday its profits rose last year despite the declining Chinese market and it made bullish statements about its hopes for 2025. The company posted a net profit of 6.4



The company posted a net profit of 6.4 billion euros (\$6.6 billion) for 2024, up 3.6 per cent from 2023. PHOTO: AFP /FILE

billion euros (\$6.6 billion) for 2024, up 3.6 per cent from 2023. Annual turnover increased 5.6 per cent to total 43.48 billion euros.

Director general Nicolas Hieronimus told AFP the company was

“overall very satisfied” with a record operating margin of 20 per cent given the context of weak Asian demand. Hieronimus said the group was looking to a “phase of conquests” this year as it targeted progress in emerging countries — though “we are also going to invest a lot in the American consumer,” as well as increased market share in products for both men and the over 60s.

Given that Chinese demand had failed to rebound last year as hoped Hieronimus said the group had nonetheless performed well, enjoying good years in Europe and the United States. — AFP

Volvo Cars anticipates bumpy 2025 as demand slows

SWEDEN'S Volvo Cars, owned by China's Geely Group, said Thursday that annual profits rose in 2024 despite a final quarter slowdown but that the outlook for this year is tougher.

The group turned in a 13 per cent rise in net profit to 15.9 billion kronor (\$1.5 billion) last year thanks to sales rising eight percent and cost savings.

After a dynamic first

half of 2024, Volvo Cars said it had experienced a more difficult second half, CEO Jim Rowan revealed in the firm's annual report as slowing demand impacted sales and results. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SOL PIONEER VOY.NO. (062N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SOL PIONEER VOY.NO. (062N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-2-2025** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V DIAMOND STAR VOY.NO. (058)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V DIAMOND STAR VOY.NO. (058)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-2-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIPL** 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: **2301191, 2301178**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S ECL (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD

# WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



President Donald Trump speaks to the press in the Oval Office on 23 January. **PHOTO: ROBERTO SCHMIDT/AFP**

## Trump's war with the US media

8 February

*Trump has long had an antagonistic relationship with mainstream news outlets, often calling them the “enemy of the people”*

**DONALD TRUMP** has escalated his long-standing battle with the US media, using lawsuits and regulatory threats to target news organizations financially. His administration has focused on undermining media outlets, including Politico, by falsely claiming they received billions in government funds through agencies like USAID. The Trump administration also aims to cut federal subscriptions to news outlets, risking millions in lost revenue. In addition, Trump's new Federal Communications Commission head, Brendan Carr, launched investigations into NPR and PBS, raising concerns about federal funding for public broadcasters. Trump has also filed major lawsuits, such as a \$10 billion suit against CBS, and settled cases like one with ABC News. Critics view these actions as an effort to “punish the media”. – AFP

7 February

## China's amphibious aircraft complete first test flights

**THREE** AG600M “Kunlong” large amphibious aircraft, independently developed by the Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), have concluded another round of test flights recently, marking a critical step toward airworthiness certification, AVIC has announced. With the support of some 500 members of the aircraft research team, the mission was carried out on Monday at the AVIC civil aircraft test flight centre in Pucheng, northwest China's Shaanxi Province. Throughout the process, the three aircraft underwent rigorous assessment tests, including flight control failure simulations, ice formation condition tests, and checks following upgrades to its avionics systems. All three planes safely returned to the tarmac after completing the mission, AVIC said on Thursday. – Xinhua

6 February

## Airbus acknowledges slow progress on hydrogen plane

**THE** European aircraft manufacturer had targeted producing a zero-emission plane within a decade to help the commercial aviation sector meet its pledge to becoming carbon neutral by mid-century. Airbus did not set a new target date. But according to the FO trade union, the manufacturer had pushed back by five to ten years the date it by which it would have a hydrogen plane ready, had cut the programme's budget by 25 per cent and had decided to review its approach to decarbonisation. Airbus denied it had made any changes to its decarbonisation approach. “Our ambition and roadmap towards decarbonising the sector remain unchanged,” an Airbus spokesman told AFP, adding that the company would adjust its hydrogen projects “in function with the maturity of the ecosystem and technologies”. – AFP

5 February

## Sri Lanka sets record with highest-ever January tourist arrivals

**THE** highest number of tourists arrivals for the month of January in history was reported in 2025, the latest data by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) shows. The data shows that 252,761 tourists visited the country in January 2025, surpassing previous records. A total of 208,253 tourists arrived in Sri Lanka in January 2024 and the total number of tourist arrivals for last year is 2,053,465. Sri Lanka's tourism sector peaked in 2018 with 2,333,796 tourist arrivals and 238,924 arrived in January in that year. India, Russia, Britain, China and Germany were the top five source markets for January 2025, according to SLTDA figures. Sri Lanka attracts tourists to its diverse attractions, including the UNESCO-listed Sigiriya rock fortress and the Temple of the Tooth in Kandy. – Xinhua

4 February

## Nicaragua quits UN food agency, demands offices shut

**NICARAGUA** announced Tuesday its withdrawal from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and demanded its offices shutter in response to a report showing growing hunger in the Central American nation. President Daniel Ortega's government accused the agency, whose stated mission is to achieve food security and defeat hunger, of having an “unacceptable” and “disrespectful” attitude. “Consequently, we announce Nicaragua's withdrawal from this organization and demand the immediate closure of its representation and offices in Nicaragua,” a statement signed by Foreign Minister Valdrack Jaentschke said. An FAO report released last month said that the prevalence of undernourishment in Nicaragua had risen from 17.8 per cent in the 2018-2020 period to 19.6 per cent in 2021-2023. – AFP

3 February

## Israel to deport freed Palestinian prisoners to Türkiye, Qatar, Malaysia, and Pakistan

**A PALESTINIAN** official announced on Monday that 60 Palestinian prisoners, released by Israel as part of a ceasefire deal and currently in Egypt, will be deported to Türkiye, Qatar, Malaysia, and Pakistan. Abdullah Zaghari, head of the Palestinian Prisoners Club, said each of the four countries would host 15 Palestinian prisoners, adding that there are currently 70 Palestinian prisoners staying in a hotel in the New Administrative Capital of Egypt, pending deportation. – Xinhua

2 February

## Malaysia sets up new agency to strengthen border control

**MALAYSIA** formed a new agency to oversee its border control on Sunday, solidifying the government's commitment to creating a smooth and efficient border control framework. The Malaysia Border Control and Protection Agency will consolidate border control responsibilities at the country's international entry points, which are currently shared by multiple agencies, into a single entity, Home Minister Saifuddin Nasution Ismail told the media following the launch ceremony. – Xinhua

SPORTS

Yangon, Yadanabon draw while  
Ayeyawady extend winning streak

THE Myanmar National League 2024-2025 season continued on 8 February with the second day of the fixture, as Yangon United and Yadanabon were held to a draw, while Ayeyawady United extended their winning streak.

In the match at the Yangon United Sports Complex, both Yangon United and Yadanabon drew 1-1. Yangon United, ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> could not capitalize on Hanthawady's losing streak and had to settle for a draw. This result means the current champions Shan United will have the chance to secure the championship title by only winning their next match on 11 February

against the ISPE FC.

The head-to-head clash between Yangon and Yadanabon was significant, as both teams fielded their key players and fought hard for a good result. The match featured domestic players from both sides. Yangon United took the lead when Nyan Lin Htet scored early in the first half, but Yadanabon responded in 64 minutes with a goal from Arkar, resulting in a 1-1 draw. Yangon's top keeper San Set Naing, was awarded the man of the match.

After this result, Yangon United has earned 42 points from 19 matches, while Yadanabon has 26 points from the same number

of matches.

Meanwhile, Ayeyawady United triumphed over Hanthawady United with a 2-0 victory at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. This result gave Ayeyawady the confidence to break free from relegation danger, having now secured consecutive wins. Hanthawady who had conceded a goal in the first three minutes, played with a man down for most of the match and were unable to recover. The goals for Ayeyawady came from Nyi Nyi Aung in the 10-minute and Yaza Aung in the 51-minute. Yaza Aung was named man of the match for his performance. Ayeyawady United now



Yangon United and Yadanabon players in action. PHOTO: MNL

has 17 points from 19 matches, while Hanthawady United has 40 points.

On 7 February, Myawady defeated Dagon Port 4-1 in the opening fixture of the day.

The third match of the fixture will take place today at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, where Thitsar Arman will face Rakhine United. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



Bayern Munich striker Harry Kane has scored 29 straight penalties for club and country. PHOTO: AFP

Kane's calmness a guiding  
light for Bayern facing  
passionate Celtic

ALIEN or machine? Ahead of decisive weeks for Bayern Munich, classifications for Harry Kane seem to find no limits.

A shy smile went over the 31-year-old Englishmen's face, talking about his latest record-setting achievements following his 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive successful penalty when Bayern crushed Bremen (3-0).

With three trend-setting games ahead for the Bavarians,

including two playoff encounters against Celtic in the UEFA Champions League and the league's top act against Leverkusen in between, the Three Lions captain is providing a ray of hope.

A total of 57 goals in 51 games aside from his seventh 1-0 door-opener this season might tell the story of a man who has turned into a reliable force no matter how tricky the circumstances might be. — Xinhua

Man City women's star Shaw  
misses game due to online abuse

MANCHESTER City women's star striker Khadija Shaw pulled out of her side's League Cup semifinal win over Arsenal after being subjected to racist and misogynistic abuse online.

City reported abuse directed towards Jamaica international Shaw to the police following their Women's Super League (WSL) 4-3 defeat to Arsenal on Sunday.

The sides met again on Thursday, with City this time winning 2-1 to reach the

League Cup final.

However, Shaw, who is the WSL's top goalscorer, was not involved with Sky Sports reporting the 28-year-old sat out the match to protect her mental well-being.

"We left yesterday and weren't able to bring her with us on the journey," said City boss Gareth Taylor after the match.

"It's really difficult for me to analyse. Who knows what goes on in that world? When you're affected by things like that it's really, really difficult.

"I've not had time to have a good conversation with her about it, but she knows and needs to know that the whole club are behind her in this".

City released a statement on Tuesday, condemning the "disgusting treatment" the club's record goalscorer had received.

"Bunny (Shaw) has decided not to share the messages publicly so as not to give the oxygen of publicity to the vile individuals who sent them," said the City statement. — AFP



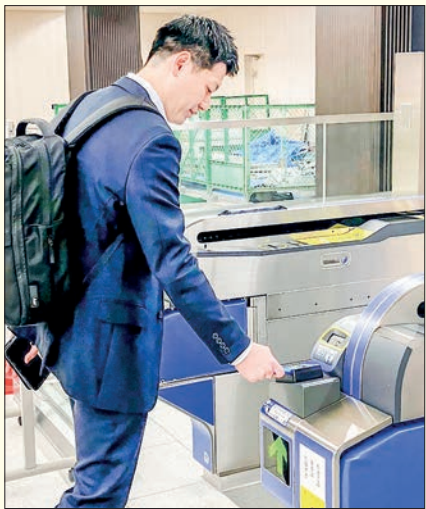
Manchester City striker Khadija Shaw has suffered racist and misogynistic abuse online. PHOTO: AFP

## Credit card ticketing on public transport nationwide eyed in 2026

*The system, already partially implemented, eliminates reliance on cash and transit cards.*

A major Japanese credit card company plans to introduce touch payments for public transport tickets across Japan in 2026 at the earliest, aiming to make travel easier for foreign tourists who often rely on cash or short-term transit cards.

Not only will the change benefit users of credit cards issued by the company, Sumitomo Mitsui Card Co, but holders of other credit cards will also be able to use them in place of dedicated transport cards and tickets on trains and buses, according to a company official.



This photo shows a passenger using a credit card to go through a ticket gate in Fukuoka, southwestern Japan. **PHOTO: SUMITOMO MITSUI CARD CO./KYODO**

Currently, visitors have to use ticket machines or buy physical transit cards with integrated circuit chips, such as Suica or Pasma cards, when riding Japan's public transport.

Sumitomo Mitsui's idea is to allow users to make touch payments through their credit cards, which is already a common practice overseas.

The company, which develops card sensors, is working with public transport operators to install reading devices on ticket gates in train stations and buses, according to the official. — Kyodo



A general view shows the Soviet era skyscraper, the Radisson Royal Hotel Moscow, the Christ the Redeemer, and the Moscow International Business Center, seen in the background, in Moscow, Russia. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

## Russia unveils revolutionary method to collapse-proof buildings

A new method for protecting buildings from progressive collapse, based on a mathematical model, has been developed by scientists at VyatSU. According to the authors, the development is cost-effective and can be used in the reconstruction of industrial and public buildings, as reported by the university's press service to Sputnik.

In recent decades, incidents such as terrorist attacks, industrial explosions, transport collisions, and local subsidence have become more frequent worldwide. These situations impact building structures in ways not accounted for under normal operating conditions, often lead-

*Scientists at VyatSU developed a cost-effective method to prevent progressive building collapses using a mathematical model.*

ing to progressive or avalanche collapses. This occurs when damage to one of a building's load-bearing elements causes most or all of the building to collapse.

Currently, to protect existing industrial facilities from potential progressive collapse, recommendations suggest increasing the cohesion and static indeterminacy of structures. This typically involves reconstructing freely supported girders into rigidly pinned

girders with increased cross-sections and adding additional girders, trusses, and connections.

Scientists from Vyatka State University (VyatSU) have developed a mathematical model for an alternative, simpler, and more affordable method to increase the stability of buildings with steel frames and hinged connections between beams and columns, achieved by modernizing their nodes. — SPUTNIK

## Amsterdam to ban polluting pleasure boats in April

THE authorities in Amsterdam announced Thursday a new ban on polluting pleasure boats on its world famous city centre canals, citing the health effects of bad air quality.

Starting 1 April, only electric, hydrogen or rowing boats will be allowed, a statement read. "The city's polluted air

is bad for the health of Amsterdam residents," it added.

Air pollution, worsened by climate change, increases the risk of suffering

*From April, Amsterdam will allow only electric, hydrogen, or rowing boats on its canals, targeting air quality improvement.*



The ban excludes houseboats and key sailing routes, aiming for silent, pollution-free waterways. **PHOTO: AFP**

from respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and cancer.

"This is why we are working on improving air quality" with free-emission zones, the authorities said. The ban should contribute to lowering carbon dioxide emissions and also noise pollution.

"This means no more diesel fumes on our canals but silent and clean sailing powered by electricity, hydrogen or muscle strength," the statement read, adding that the ban will not apply to houseboats, or on the city's major sailing routes.

Hybrid boats will be allowed, as long as they do not pollute.

New, stricter regulation targeting tourist river boats already came into effect earlier this year, according to Dutch public broadcaster NOS. — AFP