

The **Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR**



This photo showcases visitors exploring the Taungthaman Bridge and Taungthaman Lake on the full moon day of Taboung.

Record tourist turnout at Taungthaman Bridge and Lake during Taboung season

International tourists predominantly hail from Thailand, Vietnam, and South Korea.

OVER 10,000 domestic and international tourists visited Taungthaman Bridge and Taungthaman Lake in Mandalay Region during the public holiday period. According to U Soe Win, secretary of the Taungthaman Bridge Maintenance Committee, the highest number of visitors was recorded on the full moon day of Taboung.

Taungthaman Bridge and Taungtha-

man Lake are among the most popular tourist destinations in Mandalay Region, attracting both local and foreign visitors. “The number of visitors on the full moon day of Taboung was significantly higher than usual. People from various parts of upper and lower Myanmar came to visit. Normally, around 400 to 500 visitors come per day, but during this public holiday period, the number increased

to over 2,000 per day. The number of foreign tourists remained stable,” U Soe Win said. Recently, the majority of domestic tourists visiting Taungthaman Bridge and Taungthaman Lake have come from cities such as Mandalay, PyinOoLwin, Taunggyi, and Yangon. Most of the international visitors are from Thailand, Vietnam, and South Korea. — ASH/MKKS

OPINION

Try to cease all armed conflicts to save lives

PAGE 8

NATIONAL PAGE 3



Union Info Minister honours MRTV freshers at training welcome ceremony

NATIONAL PAGE 4

People’s Military Service Training 11 begins across various commands

NATIONAL PAGE 10



Myanmar extradites 414 foreigners, detains 266 undocumented entrants

Yangon Region hosts matriculation exams for 37,000+ students

A TOTAL of 37,468 students sat for the 2025 matriculation examination at different exam centres in Yangon Region yesterday, the first day of the exam for the 2024-2025 academic year. There are 91 exam centres for the 2025 matriculation

exam in Yangon, and 39,263 students registered for the matriculation exam, and a total of 37,468 students – 16,776 male students and 20,692 female students — sat for the Myanmar subject yesterday. “Relevant departmental officials and organizations

under the supervision of the regional chief minister took necessary measures to ensure that students in the region could take the exam with peace of mind. We also arranged the exams at the hospitals’ exam centres.

SEE PAGE 2



The matric exam kicks off nationwide. PHOTO: KA NU

NATIONAL

Promoting Forest Establishment: A Collaborative Effort to Reduce Disaster Risk and Combat Deforestation

- Establishing forests can help reduce disaster risk; therefore, forest plantations should be developed in relevant village-tracts. Officials must collaborate with the community to successfully establish forests nationwide.
- A united effort is needed to prevent deforestation and to promote stewardship with a national spirit.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the Union government meeting 4/2024 on 22 April 2024)

Objectives of 80th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day 2025

- (a) To actively participate in serving three main functions of Tatmadaw national defence duty, training duty and public benefit duty upholding Our Three Main National Causes;
- (b) To steadfastly carry out measures for State development and genuine, eternal peace by ending the armed conflicts under the Constitution (2008) and NCA;
- (c) To protect the State and its citizens from dangers and provide sector-wise assistance for the safety and socioeconomic development of the people;
- (d) To provide necessary assistance to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election by Tatmadaw for the emergence of a Union based on democratic and federal systems after carrying out measures per the stipulations of the State of Emergency.

Yangon Region hosts matriculation exams for 37,000+ students

FROM PAGE 1

The number of students who sit for the exam this year has doubled compared to the number of students last year. We thanked those involved in our efforts to

make everything go well,” said the regional education officer.

The 2025 matriculation exam started with Myanmar subject on 17 March, while English subject will be on 18 March, Mathemat-

ics on 19 March, Chemistry and Geography on 20 March, Physics and History on 21 March and Biology and Economics on 22 March. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

COVID-19 report, 17 March 2025

NEW TESTS

4,550

NEW CASE

NIL

CASUALTIES

NIL

Myanmar National Centre for Diseases Control
Department of Public Health

Ancient Inwa bustles with tourists this holiday season

LOCALS express that ancient Inwa, which is home to many historical pagodas and ancient buildings, is crowded with domestic and foreign tourists during this long holiday.

Besides locals from nearby areas, domestic travellers from Yangon and Mandalay as well as foreign tourists flock to the famous spots in Inwa.

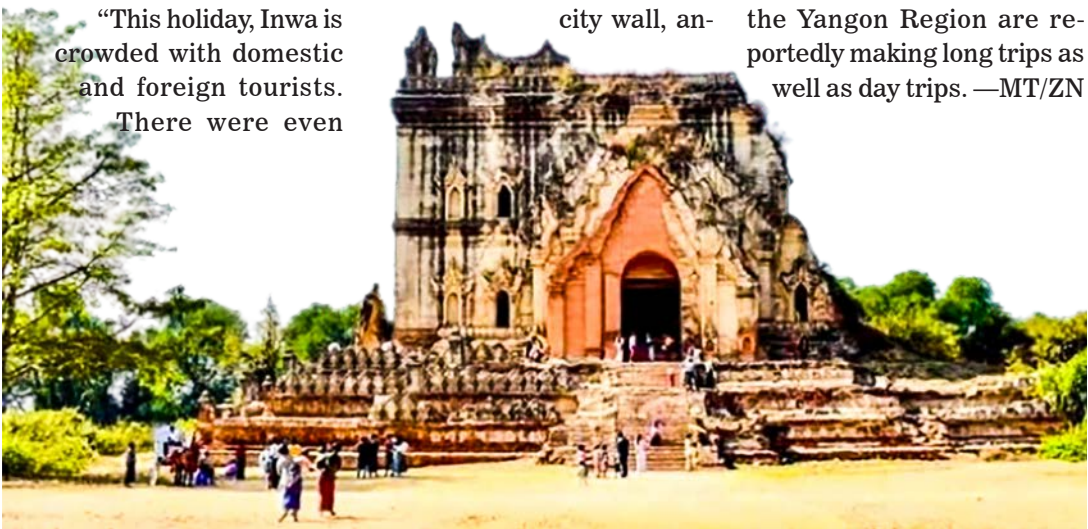
“This holiday, Inwa is crowded with domestic and foreign tourists. There were even

more tourists on the full moon day of Tabaung. It is because of religious days and long holidays. With more travellers, local pony-cart drivers are now back in their busy business. Visitors spend the whole day going around,” said Inwa local researcher, and writer Bo Shake (Yadanapura).

Having historical buildings such as the moat and the city wall, an-

cient Inwa, has attracted tourist attention and it can become a famous destination if restored. Many people usually visit Inwa by motorbike and car during the long holidays, and it is expected to be the same for the coming New Year Thingyan festival, he said.

During this long summer holiday, many families from the Yangon Region are reportedly making long trips as well as day trips. —MT/ZN



This photo captures travellers to ancient Inwa.

Postal service unveils ‘Red Lacewing’ butterfly stamp on 19 Mar

THE Myanma Post under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will issue a new K200 worth of postal stamp featuring the “Red Lacewing” butterfly, a species recorded by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation as found in Myanmar. This stamp will be officially released on 19 March 2025 (6th waning of Taboung 1386 ME), starting at 9:30 am (Wednesday). The stamp will be available for sale simultaneously at the Central Post Office in Nay Pyi Taw, the Yangon General Post Office, the Mandalay General Post Office, and various other regional and state post offices.

As a special programme, the Central Post Office in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon General Post Office, and Mandalay General Post Office will stamp the purchase date on all stamps bought on 19 March 2025 (Wednesday). — MNA/MKKS



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)

Union Info Minister honours MRTV freshers at training welcome ceremony

IN the media era of today, the media sector is of great importance. Being the state-owned media, it should contribute to the nation’s development and actively participate in nation-building, peace and prosperous processes while providing the public with accurate news, opinions and thoughts, together with happiness and joy, in addition to its three main duties — to inform, to entertain and to educate, said Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn.

He said so yesterday to the fresher staff who attended the capacity-building training and fresher welcome event at the Auditorium of MRTV in Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw.

The Union minister also urged the attendees to manage better media connecting with modern technologies including AI, follow the rules, serve duties as per the motto “Live with discipline, act with loyalty and



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn speaks on the fresher welcome occasion alongside the capacity building training yesterday.

bravery”, think about innovative ideas and try to be loyal servants for the country and the people.

He then urged them to constantly keep themselves sharp like swords, otherwise, they

would dull. He added that MRTV boasts various ethnic people, and all are serving duties for the sake of the country in unity and with the same purpose. The Prime Minister also appreciates such actions, so the MRTV staff

need to work hard with good attitude, right mindset, opinion and goodwill.

The event was also attended by Permanent Secretary U Win Kyaw Aung, departmental officials, officers and staff of

MRTV. A total of 89 staff members joined the capacity-building training.

After the event, U Maung Maung Ohn and officials inspected the installation of the third phase (250 tonnes) out of the fourth phase (1,000 tonne, chiller system) at the main building and two locations for water purifiers that can produce 500 litres per hour for the staff.

Afterwards, they observed the “training on sharing and applying the experiences of international television stations”. Four instructors who served duties at international television stations will deliver lectures and practical sessions for two weeks, and the training was joined by 25 trainees.

The Union minister and party had lunch together with officers and freshers of MRTV at the Office Canteen. — MNA/KTZH

MoFA Deputy Minister receives Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar

DEPUTY Minister for Foreign Affairs U Lwin Oo received Mr Harishchandra Ghimire, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Nepal to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially exchanged views on consular matters, en-

hancing economic cooperation, promoting trade and investment and exploring new opportunities for further collaboration. — MNA

Nepali Ambassador Mr Harishchandra Ghimire calls on MoFA Deputy Minister U Lwin Oo.



NATIONAL

People’s Military Service Training 11 begins across various commands

THE opening ceremonies for the People’s Military Service Training 11 were held at various military commands yesterday. Eligible citizens attended the military training in their respective regions. The commandants of training depots gave opening speeches.

The region and state chief ministers, commanders, and relevant officials attended the events, greeted trainees and presented cash prizes and materials to them.

The People’s Military Service Law was enacted as every citizen is under a duty to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes: Non-disintegration of



the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of sovereignty. The People’s Military Service Law came into effect on 10 February 2024 aiming to conduct military training courses. The first intake commenced on 8 April 2024, and those who have completed the People’s Military Training are currently serving in various military units, fulfilling their responsibilities for national defence and security. — MNA/KTZH

The opening of the People’s Military Service Training 11 in progress yesterday.

MoIP Deputy Minister receives Filipino delegation



Deputy Minister U Htay Hlaing meets the Filipino delegation yesterday.

DEPUTY Minister for Immigration and Population U Htay Hlaing received Undersecretary (Deputy Minister) Mr Eduardo Jose A De Vega of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The two parties exchanged views on investiga-

tion and effective crackdown on online gambling and telecom fraud emerging in Myanmar’s border areas with the collaboration of neighbouring countries and international institutions, recuse operations for foreign nationals who are victims of human trafficking, including the current status

of efforts to rescue Filipinos, deportation processes of rescued foreigners to their respective countries, entry and exit of Filipinos to and from Myanmar with various types of visas and further cooperation in immigration processes between the two countries. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar successfully repatriates citizen from Iraq

THE government takes great care of its citizens who face difficulties abroad. The Myanmar Embassy and the Consulate-General of Myanmar, in coordination with relevant embassies, are arranging for the safe and timely return of citizens to Myanmar.

The Myanmar Embassy in Cairo worked with the Iraqi authorities and International Organization for Migration (IOM), to expedite the return of Ma Myat Wutyi, who was facing difficulties in Iraq.

On 16 March, Ma Myat Wutyi left Iraq for Yangon by Baghdad-Doha-Phnom Penh-Yangon flight and arrived in Yangon at 9:40 pm local time on 17 March.

The Myanmar Embassy and Consulate-General continue to assist citizens encountering difficulties in the Middle East, ensur-

ing their safe return to Myanmar. The government, with the help of the embassy and consulate, is committed to bringing back Myanmar nationals who face problems abroad. The government, embassy and consulate are appreciated for their efforts. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH



Ma Myat Wutyi. PHOTO: KANU

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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.

Over 208,000 students sit Myanmar Language test as 2025 matriculation starts

THE first day of the 2025 matriculation examination took place yesterday morning, both across the country and at overseas examination centres, with 208,889 candidates sitting the exam in the Myanmar language.

This year, 817 examination centres were established, including 13 overseas centres and

804 domestic centres. A total of 220,843 candidates registered for the exam. On the first day, 208,889 candidates participated in the Myanmar language exam, while 11,954 were absent, leading to an attendance rate of 94.59 per cent, according to the Ministry of Education. — MNA/MKKS



Katha.



Minbu(Sagu).



Nay Pyi Taw.



Myeik.



Yenangyoung.



Myitkyina.



Thaboung.



Wuntho.



Lewe.



Kalaw.



Mongshu, Shan State (South).



Pa-O Self-Administered Zone.

NATIONAL

Charity feast for 30,000 to celebrate Rector Sayadaw Dr Nandamālābhivamsa’s 85th birthday

IN celebration of the 85th birthday of Dr Nandamālābhivamsa, the Rector of Sitagu International Buddhist Academies, a charity feast will be offered for 30,000 people, according to the Yathetpan Company’s almsgiving group.

The event, organized by the Yathetpan Company’s almsgiving group, is scheduled for 22 March. It will take place from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the almsgiving pavilion of Sayadaw’s monastery, the Dhamma Thahaya Sasana Centre, located in Aungehanthar Ward, Pyin Oo Lwin Township, Mandalay Region. The meal will include Pawsan rice, chicken curry, mixed vegetable soup, spicy fried dried shrimp, fried vermicelli with chicken gizzard, and tomato curry.

Dr Ashin Nandamālābhi-



Preparations are underway for the charity feast to mark Dr Nandamālābhivamsa’s birthday.

vamsa is the head patron of the Maha Thubodhayon Monasteries, the Rector of the Si-

tagu International Buddhist Academies, and the Chair of the Pannabhumi University.

From 2005 to 2019, he served as Rector of the International Theravada Buddhist Mission-

ary University. Since 2018, he has been the Joint Sangharaja of the Shwegyin Nikaya, Myanmar’s second-largest monastic order, and has been serving as a Maha Nayaka.

Sayadaw has successfully passed the Cetiyaangana Dhammacariya, Cakkasiha Dhammacariya, and Government Dhammacariya examinations, earning the title of Tha-Sa-Ah Dhammacariya. He has also been awarded a Master’s from Sri Lanka and a doctorate from India. Furthermore, he has been conferred several honorary titles by the state, including Abhidhaja Maharaththaguru (2020), Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja (2018), Aggamahapandita (2000), and Aggamahaganthavacakapandita (1996). — ASH/KN

MCEF invites members to work together for construction industry development

THE Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) has invited members to work together to develop the construction industry.

The MCEF has elected a new central executive and central committee members in January 2025. Construction-related associations, importers, construction material stores, wholesalers, manufacturers of bricks, sand and stones, cement and concrete business persons, interior decorators, and transportation companies are invited to join hands with the MCEF to develop the industry, MCEF press release said.



The Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation office.

The MCEF is located at No (3), Corner of Thanthuma Road and Waizayanta Road, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region and its contact

details are 09-266823226, 09- 893217 109 and Email: mcef1996@gmail.com. — MT/ZN

Myanmar thriller ‘168 Hours’ premieres nationwide mid-Mar

THE ‘168 Hours’ movie is set to be released in mid-March in major cinemas across the country, according to actor Khin Hlaing, who stars in the film.

The storyline and script were written by Thet Oo Maung, while Min Ko Soe (Natthankwin) worked on the shooting script. The film was directed by Ei (Aryone Oo) and Ko Zaw (Aryone Oo) under Bo Bo Film.

“This film offers a mix of thriller, romance, adventure, and comedy,” said Khin Hlaing. “In this movie, I play the role of Zin Min Htike, a character who becomes a wandering spirit without realising he has died. The title ‘168 Hours’ may seem unusual, but it reflects a belief of Myanmar people — after a person passes away, they must leave their home after seven days, which equals 168 hours. It is unique, so the audience will surely like it.”

The cast includes Academy Myint Myat and Kaung Myat San, alongside Min Phone Myat, Khin Hlaing, Joker, Academy Melody, Yadana Bo, Wai Lar Ri, Hla Myo Thinzar Nwe, and many more. — ASH/MKKS



This image showcases a poster for the film ‘168 Hours’.

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



Bangladesh Investment Summit 2025 attracts Myanmar business delegates

MANDALAY Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry invited its members to participate in Bangladesh Investment Summit 2025 which will be held on 7-10 April 2025 at the International Hotel, Dhaka City, Bangladesh.

The summit aims to eliminate poverty, reduce unemployment, and create zero carbon emissions. Moreover, it is believed to strengthen trade and investment ties between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

It will showcase a new investment climate in Bangladesh and provide a

platform to engage with global leaders, boost potential sectors, explore economic zones, and include B2B and B2G networking opportunities in the respective sectors.

Additionally, Bangladesh’s macro-economic landscape presents benefits and opportunities to investors, attracting foreign investments. Bangladesh’s new interim government including experts is endeavouring to create better investment climates and deepen economic ties with Myanmar while setting for trans-

formative investments around the globe. Bilateral economic ties will contribute to strengthening ties between the two countries so they want to invite Myanmar business leaders and investors.

Dr Muhammad Yunus, Chief Advisor of Bangladesh, will attend the business summit as a special guest on 9 April 2025. Interested investors from Myanmar can observe details through the website <https://summit.bida.gov.bd/registration> and can register through mrcci.mdy@gmail.com. — NN/KK



YGN palm oil wholesale reference rate indicates slight decline

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market dipped to K6,875 per viss for a week ending 23 March from K6,890 per viss last week (10-16 March), according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

The committee notified that anyone involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is collaborating with the Myanmar Oil Dealers’ Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer consumers imported palm oil at affordable rates.

Complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department or sent to the department’s Facebook page and those of the region and state departments concerned.

Domestic palm oil consumption is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK



A vendor arranges cooking oil for sale.

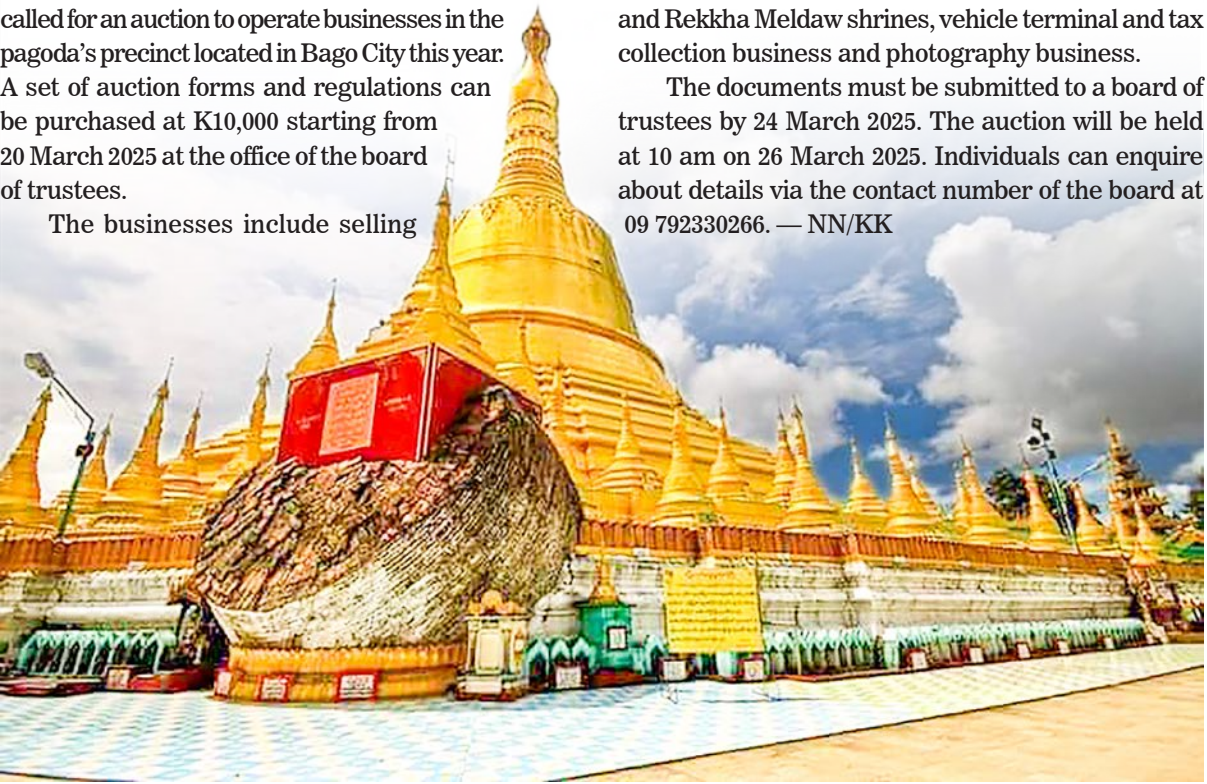
Shwemawdaw Pagoda trustees announce business auction for precinct

SHWEMAWDAW Pagoda Board of Trustees called for an auction to operate businesses in the pagoda’s precinct located in Bago City this year. A set of auction forms and regulations can be purchased at K10,000 starting from 20 March 2025 at the office of the board of trustees.

The businesses include selling

coconuts and bananas for rituals offered to the Bobogyi and Rekkha Meldaw shrines, vehicle terminal and tax collection business and photography business.

The documents must be submitted to a board of trustees by 24 March 2025. The auction will be held at 10 am on 26 March 2025. Individuals can enquire about details via the contact number of the board at 09 792330266. — NN/KK



Farmers boost eel farming to meet growing demand, high prices in hospitality sector

ACCORDING to market sources, the number of eel farmers has increased due to good prices and high consumption in hotels and restaurants.

In the past, there were few eel farmers, but now, their number is proliferating in Yangon, Mandalay and Mawlamyine.

“Eels are very popular and are bred on small scales by individuals. If they are well maintained, they will be successful. They do not have feed like fish, so farmers have to arrange it. If they can feed enough, it can grow. The number of people who breed eels is much higher than before. In the past, there were not many farmers. There are now many in Yangon, Mandalay, and Mawlamyine. The price of eels is the highest. Currently, it is over K20,000 per viss. Hotels

and restaurants mostly use them. Few people eat them at home,” said Ko Moe Gyi, a fish fry wholesaler in Kayan Township.

Eels are marketable in a short time and breeding costs are also low.

“Currently, we sell different sizes of seven, eight, and nine inches. It weighs 1.5 ticals. If they are bred for five months, they will weigh eight and a half to ten ticals, they can be sold in the market. Even eels of four or five ticals reach the market. They should be farmed. One needs only K four or five million. Success depends on the farmer. You should learn how to feed eels. If there is no natural feed, the growth rate is not good. It is profitable in a short time,” he continued. — Thit Taw/ZN

Try to cease all armed conflicts to save lives

ARMED conflicts in various forms result in irreparable losses of both human life and material resources. While offenders may eventually experience remorse, the damage caused can never be undone. Despite discussions on global peace, people worldwide continue to suffer from the devastating impacts of armed and social conflicts, with no means to fully escape these crises.

Currently, armed conflicts are widespread, with countries collectively spending over \$2 trillion annually on arms and ammunition. This massive expenditure fuels violence and destruction rather than benefiting society or saving lives. Although nations often engage in peace talks, many still resort to warfare, undermining diplomatic efforts. Those determined to fight are unlikely to engage sincerely in roundtable discussions for ceasefire resolutions.

A well-known saying states, “A confrontation between two rights brings tragedies to human history.” This serves as a crucial lesson: Conflicts yield no real benefits to any community. Disputes should be resolved through persistent dialogue rather than escalating into violence. As rational beings, humans must work to prevent disputes from escalating into conflicts and actively seek to de-escalate tensions.

This serves as a crucial lesson: Conflicts yield no real benefits to any community. Disputes should be resolved through persistent dialogue rather than escalating into violence. As rational beings, humans must work to prevent disputes from escalating into conflicts and actively seek to de-escalate tensions.

Military analysts identify two primary causes of war: the inherent nature of hostility and the deliberate intent to create conflict. Ongoing wars and armed clashes across the world align with these root causes. Every time a new conflict arises, humanity loses an opportunity to restore peace. Consequently, society will unavoidably face human casualties.

Furthermore, the advancement of weaponry and military technology poses a significant challenge to global security. When leaders choose warfare over diplomacy, both soldiers and civilians bear the consequences. As such, we must reflect on the words of US President Franklin D Roosevelt, who said, “We desire not just to end a war, but to conclude the beginnings of all wars.” As such, everybody needs to review the remarks of US President Roosevelt and seek the best way to overcome armed conflicts. Only by prioritizing peace over conflict can the world move toward a more secure and harmonious future.

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

By THAN HTUN
(GEOSCIENCE MYANMAR)

EPISODE:59

JADEITE FROM BURMA

I previously discussed ‘Jadeite in the Kachin Hills, Upper Burma’ by Bleeck in Episode 25 on 9 December 2023 and Jadeite and other rocks from ‘Tammaw in Upper Burma’ by Bauer Max’s work in 1895 in Episode 31 on 21 March 2024. HL Chhibber provided a comprehensive report on ‘Jadeite from Burma’ in his renowned book Mineral Resources of Burma in 1934. Key details from his report are outlined below.

Regarding the acceptability of Professor Chhibber’s works, he is considered one of the outstanding authorities on Burma’s physical geography, geology, and mineral resources. His classic books, particularly Geology of Burma and Mineral Resources of Burma (1934), are highly rated books on the subject. The publication of these books helped establish his international reputation as the most celebrated scholar of the geology of Burma. In the Mineral Resources of Burma, HL Chhibber has systematically described all the mineral resources of the country, their modes of occurrence, how they are worked, and their uses and trade. It is worth noting that Burma at that time was the most important province of the British Empire in India from the point of view of mineral resources. His description of occurrences and formation of jadeite and amphibolites are most interesting and complete. He considers jade rocks as a unique petrographical type. The jadeite-albite rocks occur as dykes and sills, intrusive into serpentinitized peridotites. Chhibber considers these rocks as products of interaction between a soda-granite-aplite magma and the wall rock under high pressure, so high that the molecules that would normally have crystallized as nepheline were unstable and reacted with albite to form jadeite molecule. The excess of silica combined with the olivine of the peridotites to form amphibolites, which is commonly associated with jadeite. He also gave a detailed historical account of the working of jade mines. It is the most detailed account of the geology of the jadeite deposits

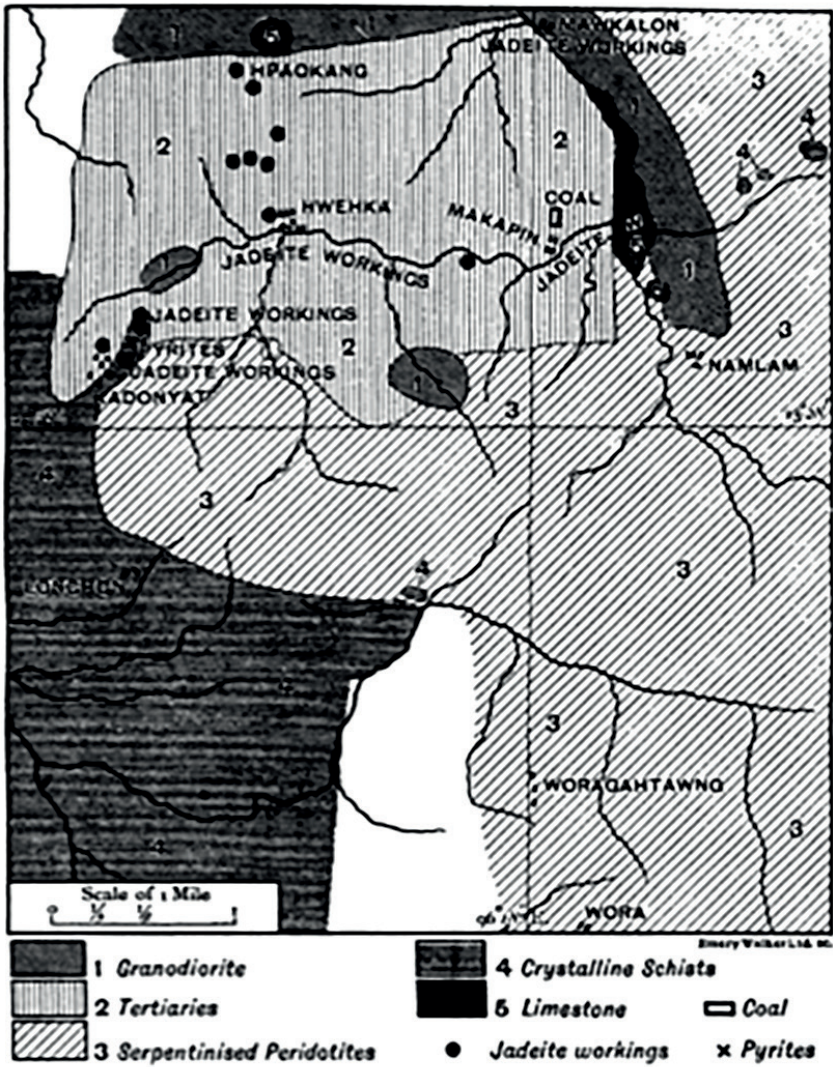
ever produced. Dr Chhibber spent two years (1928-30) doing fieldwork in this area. HL Chhibber’s ‘The Mineral Resources of Burma’ is a classic work on the subject. Chhibber’s study was extensive and remains to this day the most detailed look at the mines in print. (S Alam, 2016)

HL Chhibber pointed out in his ‘The Mineral Resources of Burma’, 1934, that the chapter on jadeite may appear too lengthy, but that is perhaps justifiable. Despite my efforts to reduce the account to a reasonable size, I could not shut out the mental picture of the area I had before me. I spent about two years in the field alone in the Jade Mines area, and the same amount of time has been spent in the laboratory study of the rocks. It may be added that the chapter contains only the gleanings of my observations on the jadeite deposits. Then he mentioned that ‘the chapter on jadeite may appear too lengthy, but this is perhaps justifiable. Despite my efforts to reduce the account to a reasonable size, I could not shut out the mental picture of the area I had before me.

The history of the jadeite trade

The history of the jadeite trade from very early times up to 1893 has been summarized by Mr Marry of the Chinese Consular Service and was reprinted in the Myitkyina District Gazetteer compiled by WA Hertz in 1912.

The first geologist to visit the jadeite mines was F Noetling, whose preliminary report on the economic resources of the Amber and Jade Mines area in Upper Burma was published in 1892. The same author published an article on the occurrences of jadeite in Upper Burma and illustrated the account with a small-scale map. Professor Max Bauer described the rocks and minerals collected by Noetling. But he was at a serious disadvantage because he had not studied the field relationships of these rocks. A W G Bleeck visited the area in 1907, and reference to his work will be made in the sequel. Recently, the Professor commenced the systematic survey of the jadeite-bearing region in 1928, and



Sketch map showing jadeite workings in the neighbourhood of Hwehka

a brief resume of his conclusions has been published in the General Reports of the Geological Survey of India for the years 1928, 1929, and 1931.

Area and Extent.: The area so far known at present in which the mineral jadeite is found in Burma is situated between 25° 28’ and 25° 52’ N. lat. and 96° 7’ and 96° 24’ E. long. The coordinates given above include the main, well-known area which supplies almost the entire output of jadeite obtained in Burma. However, there are other places where jadeite is known to exist: one locality lies about ten miles east of Mohnyin (24° 46’ 50”, 96° 22’ 30”), and another one occurs on the bank of the Chindwin River (might be Hkanti region). Jadeite also exists about 200 miles north of Myitkyina, but the place is inaccessible, and the quality of the jadeite is reported to be poor.

The region is a highly dissected upland, consisting of ranges of hills from the Chindwin-Irrawaddy watershed. It is higher in the north than in the south, and Tawmaw (25° 41’ 13”,

96° 15’ 18”), which is situated on the plateau, is 2,755 feet above the sea. The highest point in the area is Mount Loimye, 5,124 feet above sea level.

The Uru chaung, the area’s main-stream, runs along the foot of the plateau from northeast to southwest. Not infrequently, this river has cut deep gorges, often flanked by cliffs or sheer precipices several hundred feet high. The current is rather strong and during periods of flood, carries away whatever comes in its way, so much so that more than half the important and flourishing village of Hpakan (25° 36’ 38”, 96° 18’ 40”), the centre of the jadeite trade, was washed away in 1927. The Uru is an important degrading stream, and its banks and small feeders are the scene of much mining activity for jadeite.

Tawmaw, where the true outcrop jadeite mines are situated, is about 68 miles by road from Mogaung railway station, which lies on the Sagaing-Myitkyina branch of the Burma Railways. From Mogaung to Nanyaseik (25°

37’ 6”, 96° 35’) there is an unmetalled motor road, but the portion between Kamaing (25° 31’ 38”, 96° 43’ 5”), the headquarters of the jadeite mines region, and Nanyaseik become very difficult after a few showers of rain. The tracks are flat for about another four miles from Nanyaseik, but beyond that, there is only a well-graded, though locally very steep, mule track passing over a range of hills.

Geology of the Area

There are serious difficulties in the way of detailed geological mapping: survey work is impeded by the almost impenetrable jungle, which in places is so thick that it is possible to see only a few feet ahead. Further, it is a particularly unhealthy region and the jungle is infested with insect pests.

Within the area, much of the surface is occupied by Tertiary rocks. To the west lies a great intrusive complex consisting essentially of serpentinitized peridotites, the outcrop being elongated northeast to southwest and roughly oval. This complex is surrounded by crystalline schists, which include types derived from both sedimentary and igneous rocks. The former appears to represent the country rock into which the plutonic complex was injected. The Uru Boulder Conglomerate of Pleistocene to Sub-Recent data occupies a considerable area northeastwards from Nammaw and is important because of its jadeite workings. A brief account of each of the formations occurring in the Jade Mines is mentioned. The succession is summarised in tabular form below:

XIII.	Alluvium	-	-	-
	- Recent.			
XII.	Uru Boulder Conglomerate	-	-	-
	- Pleistocene- Sun-Recent.			
XI.	Volcanic Rocks	-	-	-
	- Late Tertiary- Recent.			
X.	Granodiorite	-	-	-
	- Late Tertiary.			
IX.	Gabbro	-	-	-
	- Late Tertiary.			
VIII.	Namting Series	-	-	-
	- Mio-Pliocene.			
VII.	Hkuma Series	-	-	-
	- Oligo-Miocene.			
VI.	Highly altered picrites and Volcanic Breccias	-	-	-
	- Early Tertiary age.			
V.	Jadeite-albite rocks	-	-	-

	Early Tertiary age.			
IV.	Granites	-	-	-
	- Late Cretaceous-early Eocene.			
III.	Serpentinised peridotites	-	-	-
	- Late Cretaceous -early Eocene.			
II.	Crystalline schists	-	-	-
	- Partly of unknown age and partly of early Tertiary			
I.	Limestone	-	-	-
	- Palaeozoic, possibly Permo-Carboniferous.			

The Plateau Limestone.

Small outcrops of limestone are common, and their characters have been described in the author’s Geology of Burma in 1934. The limestone is generally crystalline, approaching marble, where it has been invaded by igneous intrusions. It is well jointed, and occasionally it is highly brecciated.

The ordinary limestone, under the microscope, consists of calcite, forming irregular mosaics in places, set in a dusky, opaque material, which under high power resolves itself into extremely fine-grained calcareous matter. A network of veins of calcite traverses the rock in all directions. The limestones yielded the remains of Fenestella and foraminifera, including Fusulina elongata, Textularia and various forms of Globigerinidae. Minute circular and rod-like sections of rhabdoliths and Coccoliths respectively are frequently observed under the microscope.

About one-furlong west-southwest of the confluence of the Hwehka and Nammon Chaungs, the limestone near its contact with serpentinitized peridotites has undergone metasomatic replacement.

Crystalline Schists.

The name “Crystalline Schists” included the duel complex of basic igneous rocks, ranging from diorites and gabbros to pyroxenites, peridotites, and true schists. The latter are older than the serpentinitized peridotites and other igneous rocks of the area and form a basement upon which the subsequent formations were deposited. The ortho- and para-schists in places are so intermingled that it is impossible to separate them on the present one-inch maps. The ortho-schists encircle the peridotites and serpentines and are most probably the result of differentiation of the same magma, etc. A rock obtained from the bed

of the Sanhka chaung, about 2 ¾ miles northeast of Tawmaw (25° 41’ 13”, 96° 15’ 28”), contains, in addition to amphiboles and felspar (saussurite), colourless augite, garnet, zircon, and zoisite. The augite is colourless and clear with an extinction angle of 48 degrees and shows simple twinning. The garnet is colourless and occurs either in dodecahedral or circular sections. Some secondary quartz is also present. Irregular aggregates of chromite are scattered all through the rock.

Graphite-schists: Graphite-schists are fairly common in the area. It is not improbable that the epi-diorites described above in places have been altered into these schists. They are greyish-black in colour, sometimes with conspicuous reddish-brown pseudomorphs, which appear like garnets at first sight. With a pocket-lens graphite, quartz, and some ferruginous material can be seen.

Quartz-schist: Macroscopically, the quartz-schists are whitish, finely foliated schists that consist of quartz and felspar with reddish-brown streaks due to iron staining. Under the microscope, a mosaic of the same two minerals is seen with a yellowish or yellowish-brown amorphous mineral, which, in places, assumes a reddish-brown colour on account of iron staining.

Glaucophane-schist: Glaucophane-schists are quite common in the area and are greyish-blue rocks that, under the microscope, are seen to consist of glaucophane with some muscovite set in a granular mosaic of quartz. Given the presence of jadeite-bearing rocks in the neighbourhood, these glaucophane schists are significant, as glaucophane contains the jadeite molecule.

Due to limited space, some notes on kyanite schists, chlorite schists, and vesuvianite schists could not be described.

(To be continued)
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2. Alam, Sarfaraz. 2016: Harbaans Lal Chhibber, Banaras Hindu University.

NATIONAL

Myanmar extradites 414 foreigners, detains 266 undocumented entrants

THE government is strictly cracking down on telecom fraud and criminal activities by cooperating with the foreign countries including neighbouring countries, and systematically transferring the foreigners involved in these illegal operations.

The authorities transported 400 Indonesians and 14 Sri Lankans, totalling 414, via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II on humanitarian grounds and for bilateral relations yesterday. In addition, the authorities detained another 266 foreigners on the same day.

Minister of Security and Border Affairs of Kayin State Government, Colonel Min Thu Kyaw, and officials monitored the processes.



The systematic transfer process is underway for foreign nationals.

The handover ceremony was attended by Kayin State Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Min Thu Kyaw, Sri Lankan Ambassador to Thailand EAS Wijayanthi Edirisinghe, other relevant officials of Thai's Tak Province and the Director of Protection of Indonesian Citizens and Legal Entities of the Foreign

Affairs Minister, M Jutha Nugraha, and officials transferred the documents to the authorities of relevant countries.

Similarly, officials checked the personal information and records of the 266 foreign nationals, who were detained for illegally entering the KK Park area of Myawady via illegal routes, to repatriate to their respective countries.

From 30 January to 17 March, a total of 6,865 foreign nationals who entered Myanmar illegally were identified and detained. Of them, 4,002 were systematically handed over to the relevant countries via Thailand in accordance with legal procedures, and the remaining 2,863 foreign nationals are ready for repatriation and are being well cared for.

The government is also intensifying efforts to crack down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with international countries, including neighbouring countries, especially through the Myanmar-China-Thailand Trilateral Cooperation, and systematically repatriating foreigners involved in these operations. — MNA/KTZH

4-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth over K2,964M

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, continued efforts are made to combat the illicit trade effectively by the law.

On 14 and 15 March, the combined teams impounded 22 vehicles with 18 trailers (worth approximately K1,780 million) carrying industrial materials, consumer goods and foodstuffs (valued at K666.76 million) near Hpa-an Industrial Zone of Hpa-an Township, three trucks (estimated value of K88 million) carrying foodstuffs (valued at K96.15 million) without official documents at the Mingyi Thonpa combined checkpoint in Yaksawk Township, and a Foton mini bus (estimated value of K30 million), carrying 809 kilogrammes of unfinished bracelets supposed to be mad of jade (worth K25.88 million) at the combined checkpoint on

the outskirts of Taunggyi. The action was taken per Customs procedures.

Similarly, the combined on-duty teams seized two vehicles (worth approximately K60 million) and foodstuffs (valued at K7.98 million) without official documents near the Shwethanlwin Tollgate in Phayagyi. The action was carried out in line with Customs procedures.

On 16 and 17 March, the combined teams confiscated foodstuffs (valued at K136.52 million) without official documents from a warehouse in Shwehinta Ward in Kawthoung Township, and 30 barrels of illegal diesel (worth K28.5 million) near the moorings in Kadathauk village, Thanbyuzayat Township and four unregistered vehicles and an unregistered motorbike (valued at K45 million) in Mawlamyine and Thaton districts.

The action was conducted under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law and the Export-Import Law.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 67 arrests on four consecutive days from 14 to 17 March, with confiscated illegal goods worth over K2,964 million. — MNA/MKKS



Photos reveal confiscated illegal items vehicle across regions and states.

Counter-argument to false information

Tatmadaw accused of using poisonous gas bombs in Nawngkhio

MALICIOUS media outlets spread misinformation, claiming that Tatmadaw used poisonous gas bombs during the clashes in Omati village and its vicinity in Nawngkhio Township.

According to a regional security official, terrorists stationed near the village faced massive casualties due to the airstrike and counterattacks of security forces. Therefore, terrorists intentionally circulated such fake information via subversive media outlets when they encountered mass casualties. — MNA/KTZH



This screenshot discloses misinformation.

Chinese animation gains popularity among young audiences

ONCE deemed overshadowed by Japanese anime and US animation, Chinese animation is now experiencing a surge in popularity, especially among younger audiences.

With improved storytelling, advanced visual effects, and a seamless integration of traditional Chinese culture, the industry is rapidly gaining recognition at home and abroad.

A recent survey conducted by China Youth Daily among 7,232 university students revealed that 40.64 per cent actively follow popular domestic animation films and series, while 30.35 per cent check for new releases on a weekly basis.

This growing interest is reflected in the success of major box office hits, including “Ne Zha 2,” which grossed over 15.08 billion yuan (about US\$2.1 bil-

lion) in box office revenue and stormed into the global box office top 5, cementing Chinese animation’s place in the global animation industry.

Most respondents attribute this rise to the ability of Chinese animated works to blend traditional cultural elements with modern cinematic techniques, which 81.1 per cent of surveyed students identified as a key factor in their interest. Nearly 45 per cent believed that the technology used in Chinese animation is on par with international standards.

Recalling the release of “Chang An” and “Deep Sea”, both widely acclaimed Chinese animated films, Huang Ziyi, a student at Wuhan University, felt as if the poems from her textbooks had come to life. “The adaptations based on history

were well-executed and felt authentic, bringing the audience closer to the stories.”

In recent years, driven by both technological advancements and a focus on Chinese cultural storytelling, the quality of Chinese animation has improved significantly. According to the survey, 67.78 per cent of university students shared this view.

“For instance, the movie ‘Chang An’ used AI to recreate the texture of Tang Dynasty architecture, providing a visual representation of poetic imagination. Meanwhile, ‘Ne Zha 2’ reinterpreted a classic myth through the lens of modern family dynamics, proving that technology should ultimately serve cultural expression,” said Chen Yanyu, a Jiangxi University of Technology student.



Cultural creative products of Chinese animated film Ne Zha 2 are pictured in a toy store in Chengdu, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, 4 March 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

“I believe Chinese animation can carve out its own space in the industry,” Huang remarked. She noted that while Japanese anime often focuses

on youthful romance and American animation emphasizes individual heroism, China has a vast pool of untapped storytelling potential. — Xinhua

Climbers of Mt Fuji to face 4,000 yen fees amid overcrowding concern



Photo taken in November 2024 from Fujiyoshida in central Japan’s Yamanashi Prefecture shows Mt Fuji, Japan’s tallest mountain. PHOTO: KYODO

CLIMBERS using the four trails on Mt Fuji will be charged a fee of 4,000 yen (\$27) from this summer after a plan by the Shizuoka prefectural government was approved Monday by the local assembly.

The move by Shizuoka Prefecture comes after neighbouring Yamanashi Prefecture, which manages the most com-

mon trail, said it will double the fee to 4,000 yen for climbers of the 3,776-metre peak from this summer amid concern about overcrowding and its impact on the environment.

The Shizuoka prefectural assembly also approved an ordinance to restrict access of its three trails from 2 pm to 3 am in order to discourage overnight

“bullet climbing”, or trying to reach the summit of Japan’s tallest mountain without resting.

The ordinance is set to take effect on 9 May, before the climbing season starts in July. Shizuoka manages the Fujinomiya, Gotemba and Subashiri trails, while Yamanashi hosts the Yoshida trail. — Kyodo

18th Asian Film Awards ceremony held in Hong Kong

THE 18th Asian Film Awards were announced here in China’s Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on Sunday night.

This year’s Asian Film Awards showcased 30 exceptional films from 25 countries or regions, competing for 16 awards. The nominated works were diverse in genre and the competition was intense.

Chinese actress Tang Wei was honoured with the Excellence in Asian Cinema Award.

Sean Lau, actor from China’s Hong Kong, was awarded Best Actor. Action film “Twilight of the Warriors: Walled In” from China’s Hong Kong won two awards including Best Editing and Best Production Design. Chu Wan Pin, composer from China’s Hong Kong, was awarded the Best Original Music for the film “The Last Dance”.

Japanese actor Koji Yakusho was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award. — Xinhua

“Novocaine” tops N American box office on opening weekend

PARAMOUNT’S action comedy film “Novocaine” took the top spot at the North American box office with an estimated three-day cume of US\$8.7 million on its opening weekend, figures from the measurement firm Comscore showed Sunday.

Directed by Dan Berk and Robert Olsen, the film, starring Jack Quaid, follows an assistant bank manager who turns his inability to feel pain into an unexpected strength in his fight to get the girl of his dreams back after she is kidnapped.

The film has earned an approval rating of 82 per cent based on 130 reviews to date on the review-aggregation website Rotten Tomatoes, and a “B” on an “A+” to “F” scale from audiences polled by the market research firm CinemaScore.

Warner Bros. Pictures’ sci-fi dark comedy film “Mickey 17” moved to second place on its second weekend with \$7.51 million. The film has grossed \$33.3 million in North America for a global cume of \$90.5 million through Sunday. — Xinhua

ECONOMY

WORLD/AD

India’s wholesale inflation rises to 2.38% in Feb

INDIA’S wholesale price index (WPI) rose to 2.38 per cent in February this year, data released by the Federal Ministry of Commerce and Industry Monday said.

“Positive rate of inflation in February 2025 is primarily due to increase in prices of manufacture of food products, food articles, other manufacturing, non-food articles and manufacture of textiles, etc,” reads a statement issued by the ministry.

WPI inflation rate was 2.31 per cent in January and 2.57 per cent (final) in December 2024.

WPI inflation, an indicator of prices in the wholesale market, rises or falls mainly due to steep increases or decreases in commodity prices globally.

WPI food inflation decreased from 7.47 per cent in January to 5.94 per cent in February.

The food index consisting of food articles from the primary articles group and food products from the manufactured products group decreased from 191.4 in January to 189.0 in February 2025.

The index for the primary articles group decreased by 1.74 per cent to 186.6 (provisional) in February from 189.9 (provisional) in January.

The index for fuel and power group increased by 2.12 per cent to 153.8 (provisional) in February from 150.6 (provisional) in January. — Xinhua

China unveils plan on special initiatives to boost consumption



People shop at a supermarket in Zaozhuang City, east China’s Shandong Province, 9 March 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

CHINA has made public a plan on special initiatives to increase consumption, as the world’s second-largest economy moves to make domestic demand the main engine and anchor of economic growth.

The plan, issued on Sunday by the General Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council, aims to vigorously boost consumption, stimulate domestic demand across the board, and increase spending power by raising earnings and reducing financial burdens.

It also aims to generate effective demand through high-quality supply, improve the consumption environment to strengthen consumer willingness to spend, and address prominent constraints on consumption.

The plan, organized into eight major sections, adopts a holistic approach by simultaneously addressing factors such as income growth, service consumption quality enhancement, big-ticket consumption upgrading, and consumption environment improvement.

The plan aims to promote reasonable wage growth by strengthening employment support in response to economic conditions and improving the minimum wage adjustment mechanisms. China will expand property income channels through measures to stabilize the stock market and develop more bond products suitable for individual investors.

The plan calls for exploring ways to unlock the values of houses legally owned by farmers through rental arrangements, equity participation and cooperative models. — Xinhua

Ethiopia-Djibouti railway boosts trade efficiency, strengthens logistics sector

THE Chinese-built Ethiopia-Djibouti railway is streamlining Ethiopia’s logistics sector, serving as a “crucial artery” for the country’s import-export trade, senior Ethiopian officials have said.

The officials made the remarks during a meeting on Saturday with stakeholders engaged in Ethiopia’s transport and import-export logistics sector.

Addressing the meeting, Ethiopian Minister of Transport and Logistics Alemu Sime said the East African country is working hard to modernize its transport and logistics sector as part of a national ambition to transform import-export trade.

The 752-kilometre Ethiopia-Djibouti railway is injecting much-needed momentum into this national ambition, he said, noting the importance of enhancing the efficiency and accessibility of transport and logistics services, with a particular focus on the railway network. — Xinhua

Invitation for Bids

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
Department of Disaster Management

The Department of Disaster Management (DDM), under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders to procure essential equipment for disaster management and rehabilitation activities. The procurement will be conducted in Myanmar Kyats (MMK) under the following terms and conditions:

No	Item	Quantity	Lot No.	Delivery Point
1	Water Purifier (22"x22"x33.5")	15	Lot-1	Central Warehouse (Yangon)
2	Home Used Solar Unit (Modern Tube Light, 11W Solar Panel)	300	Lot-2	
3	Foldable Water Container (10L)	2,510	Lot-3	
4	Foldable Water Container (20L)	1,500	Lot-4	
5	Fiber Boat (14'x3'x16" for 5 persons, without engine)	9	Lot-5	
6	Rubber Boat (10'3"x3'5" for 5 persons, without engine)	10	Lot-6	

Bidding Process

- Bidding Procedure:** The bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedures.
- Bidding Documents:** A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased from the Department of Disaster Management, Building No. 23, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, between **18th March 2025** and **1st April 2025 during office hours**.
- Bid Submission Deadline:** All bids must be submitted to the above address no later than **14:00 hours on 3rd April 2025**. Late submissions will not be considered.
- Bid Opening:** Submitted bids will be publicly opened in the presence of bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at **(10:00) am on 9th April 2025** at the Department of Disaster Management, Building No. 23, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
(Note: If there are any changes to the tender opening date, prior notification will be given)
- Bid Security Deposit:** The bidder must obtain and submit a **Payment Order Cheque** for the bid security deposit issued by a bank recognised by the Central Bank of Myanmar. The cheque must be submitted within the period from **18th March 2025 to 3rd April 2025** during office hours. If a bidder submits proposals for multiple lots, a separate bid security deposit must be provided for each lot.

Contact Information

For further details and inquiries, interested bidders may contact:
Department of Disaster Management
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
Building No. 23, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Phone: 067-3404395, 067-3404076

Global GDP growth projected to slow down to 3.1% in 2025, 3% in 2026

GLOBAL GDP growth is projected to moderate from 3.2 per cent in 2024 to 3.1 per cent in 2025 and 3.0 per cent in 2026, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said on Monday in its latest Economic Outlook.

According to the OECD, the downward adjustment from its previous forecast is due to “higher trade barriers in several G20 economies and increased geopolitical and policy uncertainty weighing on investment and household spending”.

“Higher and broader increases in trade barriers would hit growth around the world and add to inflation,” the OECD warned.

In its previous Economic Outlook published in December 2024, the OECD projected that global GDP growth would be 3.3 per cent in 2025 and 2026. The GDP growth in the United States is projected to slow as tariff rate increases take effect. According to the organization, US GDP growth is projected to slow to 2.2 per cent in 2025 and 1.6 per cent in 2026.

The OECD also warned that the imposition of new bilateral tariff rates and the associated increase in policy and geopolitical uncertainty will act as a drag, particularly on business investment and trade.

“In addition, increased trade costs are expected to feed through gradually to final goods prices, putting additional upward pressure on inflation in many countries,” it stressed. The OECD noted that core inflation in over half of the advanced G20 economies, including the United States, is expected to remain above central bank targets in 2025 and 2026. – Xinhua

Massive cold warehouse built in Japan amid demand for frozen food

ONE of Japan’s largest cold storage warehouses has been built in Kobe, a major international port and key distribution hub in the west, amid growing demand for frozen food, a logistics business operator said Monday.

GLP Japan Inc. unveiled a five-story facility with about 46,000 square metres of floor space, built with a 15 billion yen (\$101 million) investment, as rising construction costs make it increasingly difficult for companies to build their own storage sites.

The warehouse, with temperatures ranging from minus 25 C to 10 C, is already fully occupied by three tenants, including a transport firm, according to GLP Japan.

Yoshiyuki Chosa, president of GLP Japan, said the company plans to invest an additional 200 billion yen over the next three to five years to further develop the facility, as establishing such warehouses near consumers has become increasingly important. — Kyodo



Photo taken on 17 March 2025, shows a large cold storage warehouse built by GLP Japan Inc in Kobe. PHOTO: KYODO

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NEWSEAS AMBER VOY.NO. (105511)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NEWSEAS AMBER VOY.NO. (105511)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-3-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MTT SAPANGER VOY.NO. (508W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MTT SAPANGER VOY.NO. (508W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-3-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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

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Transferred Distributor for Registration Pesticides

Distribution and registration processes of below pesticides manufactured by **Zagro Chemicals Sdn Bhd** will have been transferred from **Zagro Myanmar Limited.** to **Myanma Taiza Agriculture Company Limited.** So, if there is any protest, please protest to this address: Co-Secretary, Pesticides Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Gyogone (West), Insein Township within (14) days starting from this announcement.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Reg Type	Reg; No.
1	Fezmet 40 EC	Dimethoate 40% EC	Full	F2016-1456

Myanma Taiza Agriculture Company Limited. TEL: (95) 9 5108905

Transferred Distributor for Registration Pesticides

Distribution and registration processes of below pesticides manufactured by **Zagro Chemicals Sdn. Bhd.** will have been transferred from **Zagro Myanmar Limited.** to **Zabu Htate Tan (Myanmar) Agro Group Co.,Ltd.** So, if there is any protest, please protest to this address: Co-Secretary, Pesticides Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Gyogone (West),Insein Township within (14) days starting from this announcement.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Reg Type	Reg;No.
1	Hopperkill 50% EC	BPMC 50% EC	Full	F2015-1227
2	Zabamec	Abamectin 1.8% EC	Full	F2016-1453
3	Delcide 2.5 EC	Deltamethrin 2.5% EC	Full	F2018-1853

Zabu Htate Tan (Myanmar) Agro Group Co.,Ltd. TEL: (95) 9 448540964/783065401

Transferred Distributor for Registration Pesticides

Distribution and registration processes of below pesticides manufactured by **Zagro Singapore Pte., Ltd.** will have been transferred from **Zagro Myanmar Limited.** to **Zabu Htate Tan (Myanmar) Agro Group Co.,Ltd.** So, if there is any protest, please protest to this address: Co-Secretary, Pesticides Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Gyogone (West), Insein Township within (14) days starting from this announcement.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Reg Type	Reg;No.
1	Sheriff 20 EC	Carbosulfan 20% EC	Full	F2017-1545
2	Zadifen 325 SC	Azoxystrobin 20%+ Difenoconazole 12.5% w/v SC	Full	F2023-4369
3	Quasar	Bentazone 40%+ MCPA 6% SL	Full	P2023-4975

Zabu Htate Tan (Myanmar) Agro Group Co.,Ltd. TEL: (95) 9 448540964/783065401

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

New Canada PM seeks 'reliable' Europe allies after Trump threats

CANADIAN Prime Minister Mark Carney said Monday that his country was seeking to reinforce ties with "reliable" European allies, as he embarked on a transatlantic trip after his country's economy and even sovereignty came under unprecedented threat from its southern neighbour the United States.

Carney, the former Bank of England governor who succeeded Justin Trudeau last week, conspicuously chose key Europe powers France and the United Kingdom, rather than the United States, for his first foreign visits after President Donald Trump ramped up the rhetoric against Canada.

Describing Canada as the "most European of non-European countries", Carney said his nation needed to boost ties with European allies like France while trying to retain positive relations with the United States.

"It is more important than ever for Canada to reinforce its ties with reliable allies like France," Carney said during a



France's President Emmanuel Macron (R) and Canada's newly appointed Prime Minister Mark Carney (L) attend a joint statement at the Elysee presidential palace as part of Carney's trans-Atlantic trip to strengthen ties with traditional friends France and Britain, in Paris on 17 March 2025. **PHOTO: THOMAS PADILLA / POOL / AFP**

press conference with President Emmanuel Macron at the Elysee Palace on his first trip abroad since becoming prime minister on Friday.

"I want to ensure that France and the whole of Europe works enthusiastically with Canada, the most European of non-European countries, determined like you to maintain the most positive possible relations with the United States," Carney said.

Carney faces threats on three fronts: a trade war with the Washington, Trump's threats to annex his country, and looming domestic elections.

Trump's imposition of an escalating raft of import tariffs on Canadian goods has threatened to trigger a recession, and his scorn for Canadian sovereignty sent jitters through the former ally.

Opinion polls show a large majority of Canadian voters reject Trump's argument that their country would be better off as the "51st state of the United States".

But the trade war is a threat to the economy of the vast country of 41 million people, which has long enjoyed a close US partnership.

— AFP

Pope seen celebrating mass in first photo since hospitalization

THE Vatican released the first photograph of Pope Francis on Sunday since his hospitalization over a month ago, showing the pontiff celebrating mass earlier in the day from the chapel in his hospital suite.

The release of the photo was significant, as the Argentine pope has not been seen in public since being admitted to Rome's Gemelli hospital on 14 February for pneumonia in both lungs, which for weeks doctors considered critical.

The photo shows the 88-year-old pope, bare-headed without his customary white skullcap and wearing a white robe and purple stole. He is seated in a wheelchair in front of a simple altar with a crucifix on the wall.

The Vatican said it had been taken Sunday morning.

Taken from behind Francis' right side, his face is not fully visible but his eyes are open as he looks in a downward direction.

"This morning Pope Francis concelebrated the Holy Mass in the chapel of the apartment on the tenth floor of the Gemelli Polyclinic," the Vatican press office wrote in the photograph's caption.

Concelebration is the joint celebration of mass by senior clerics.

Our bodies are weak

Since his hospitalization, Francis has been unable to preside over mass at St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Nor has he personally delivered the Angelus prayer that follows the mass to the faithful gathered in St Peter's Square.

But earlier Sunday, in an Angelus message published by the Vatican, he thanked well-wishers while acknowledging his fragile health.



Candles and rosaries are laid at the statue of John Paul II outside the Gemelli hospital where Pope Francis is hospitalized with pneumonia, in Rome on 17 March 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

"I am sharing these thoughts with you while I am facing a period of trial, and I join with so many brothers and sisters who are sick: fragile, at this time, like me," wrote Francis.

"Our bodies are weak but, even like this, nothing can prevent us from loving, praying, giving ourselves, being for each other, in faith, shining signs of hope," he added.

The message marked the second Sunday of Lent, a 40-day period of prayer and reflection leading up to Easter.

Francis has improved steadily over the past week, the Vatican saying Saturday his condition continued to be stable, although he still required therapy to be administered from the hospital. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

WHO says 80% of Afghanistan operations risk shutdown by June

THE World Health Organization said Monday 80 per cent of services that it supports in Afghanistan could shut down by June due to a funding shortage.

"Without urgent intervention, over 220 more facilities could close by June 2025, leaving an additional 1.8 million Afghans without access to primary health care," it said in a statement.

The UN health agency said that 167 such operations have already closed due to a lack of financial support.

"The consequences will be measured in lives lost," said WHO's Afghanistan chief Edwin Ceniza Salvador.

"This is not just about funding. It is a humanitarian emergency that threatens to undo years of progress in strengthening Afghanistan's health system," Salvador added.

WHO said the cash shortfall was tied to a shift in "development aid priorities".

It has been sounding the alarm since President Donald Trump signed an executive order withdrawing the United States from the agency.

This pullout and the end of Washington's contributions put at risk the global measles surveillance network, which until now has been entirely funded by Washington. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar Women's League to kick off 1 Apr for 2025-26 season

THE Myanmar Women's League for the 2025-26 season will kick off on 1 April with the participation of nine football clubs including the new club Yangon Royal. This year's league will be held through a two-leg competition.

The first league will take place from 1 April to 12 September and the second leg, from 18 September 2025 to 25 January 2026.

Defending champion ISPE, Yangon United, Ayeyawady United, Myawady, Thitsa Arman, Shan United, YREO, Young Lionesses and Yangon Royal will take part in this year's league at Salin Stadium, Padonma Stadium and YUSC sports complex. ISPE will hold its home matches

at Padetha Stadium.

The first fixture of the league will be held on 1 and 2 April. According to the schedules, the Yangon United versus ISPE match will take place at YUSC Sports Complex, Shan United versus Ayeyawady United at Salin Stadium and Myawady versus YREO at Padonma Stadium on 1 April. The next day, Thitsa Arman will play against Young Lionesses at Padonma Stadium on 2 April.

The forthcoming women's league will be the seventh time of its kind. In the records, Myawady FC and ISPE have secured champions three times each. In the 2024 season, ISPE clinched the title in the league. — Ko Nyi Lay/TTA



ISPE FC celebrates victory in securing a championship in the 2024 Myanmar Women's League. PHOTO: MWL

Newcastle stun Liverpool in League Cup final to end 56-year trophy drought



Newcastle United's players celebrate with the trophy on the pitch after the English League Cup final football match between Liverpool and Newcastle United at Wembley Stadium, north-west London on 16 March 2025. PHOTO: AFP

NEWCASTLE ended their 56-year trophy drought in stunning style as Dan Burn and Alexander Isak sealed a 2-1 win against Liverpool in the League Cup final on Sunday.

Eddie Howe's side made history at Wembley with a superb display that left the runaway Premier League leaders shell-shocked.

Burn put Newcastle ahead late in the first half and Isak's 27th goal in all competitions doubled their lead after the interval.

Federico Chiesa got one back in the closing seconds, but Newcastle held on for their first major silverware since the 1969 Inter-Cities Fairs Cup.

That success in the predecessor to the Europa League is a relic of a bygone era, but this long-awaited triumph will be forever etched in the memories of the Newcastle fans who turned one half of Wembley into a roiling sea of black and white with their ecstatic celebrations.

It was also Newcastle's first major domestic prize dating back 70 years to the 1955 FA Cup.

Since the Magpies lifted the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup, 30 different English teams had won silverware, while Liverpool had clinched 38 major trophies in that time.

But after losing the 2023 League Cup final against Manches-

ter United, Howe's team returned to Wembley and set the record straight at last.

"We were well aware of the history and we wanted to do the club proud. We wanted to score, we wanted to perform and we wanted to win," Howe said.

"We are breaking new ground. I thought we were magnificent today."

Newcastle had endured five relegations to the second tier since their last trophy, with club legends like Alan Shearer, Paul Gascoigne and Malcolm MacDonald failing to win silverware in their time on Tyneside. — AFP

China's Zhan wins heavyweight gold at Women's World Boxing Championships

CHINA'S Zhan Yilian clinched gold in the heavyweight category at the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships on Sunday, while Hu Meiyl secured the light flyweight silver medal.

Zhan, national champion in 2024, defeated Kazakhstan's Yeldana Talipova with a 4-1 decision in the final, while Hu fell to Kazakhstan's Alua Balkibekova in a 5-0 bout.

With one gold, one silver and three bronze medals, China ranked fourth in the overall standings, behind Russia, Kazakhstan and Türkiye.

Three Chinese boxers also earned bronze medals, namely Cai Yan in featherweight, Wang Xiaomeng in light heavyweight, and Wang Lina in middleweight.

A total of 12 Chinese boxers competed in the event held from 8 to 16 March in Nis, Serbia, across 12 weight categories. — Xinhua



Zhan Yilian (R) of China competes against Yeldana Talipova of Kazakhstan during the elite women 81+ kilogrammes heavy category final at the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships in Nis, Serbia on 16 March 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA



WORLD



30 March 2017. Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks during The Arctic: Territory of Dialogue international forum in Arkhangelsk. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

Putin greets 6th 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' forum participants

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has sent a greeting to the participants, organizers and guests of the sixth 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' international forum, which will be held on 26 and 27 March in Russia's Arctic zone.

In his greeting, Vladimir Putin noted that the meeting is being held for the first time in Murmansk — a city that could

rightly be considered Russia's gateway to the Arctic.

The Forum will bring together representatives of government bodies, prominent scientists and experts.

Together they will engage in comprehensive discussions on regional security and cooperation, as well as support for ground-breaking projects in energy, infrastructure and en-

vironmental protection. There will also be the opportunity to share views on the potential to implement crucial research and cultural programmes.

That would be achieved through the creation of modern jobs, economic revival and boosting the social sphere, he explained, adding that the Russian Arctic offers a wealth of opportunities for growth and

progress.

"We are committed to working together with all interested partner nations and intergovernmental organizations in this major endeavour," he assured.

Putin also highlighted the importance of improving the region's transport network, including the port, railway and aviation sectors, and establishing year-round navigation along the Northern Sea Route.

The Forum business programme includes about 20 sessions divided into four thematic tracks: 'The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Competing on the Global Stage', 'The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: A Magnet for Investment', 'The Arctic and the Northern Sea Route: Developing Key Settlements' and 'International Cooperation and the Environment'.

The business programme also includes a joint meeting of the commissions of the State Council of the Russian Federation in the areas of 'Northern Sea Route and the Arctic', 'Efficient Transport System' and 'International Cooperation and Export'. The sixth 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' International Arctic Forum is a key platform for discussing important issues of the socioeconomic development of the Arctic territories and elaboration of multilateral mechanisms for joint disclosure and effective development of the powerful resource potential of the Arctic region. — SPUTNIK

Kremlin confirms preparation for phone talk between Putin, Trump

KREMLIN spokesman Dmitry Peskov announced on Monday that preparations are underway for a telephone conversation between Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump on Tuesday.

"Yes, this is true. A conversation is being prepared for Tuesday," Peskov said. However, he declined to disclose the topics that would be discussed.

Earlier, Russian media reported that Trump plans to speak with Putin, with discussions expected to cover territorial issues and the control over a nuclear power plant. — Xinhua

Oman voices concern over military escalation in Yemen

OMAN'S Foreign Ministry on Sunday expressed deep concern over the recent military escalation in Yemen and its severe humanitarian impact, including civilian casualties.

In an official statement, the ministry voiced regret over the ongoing hostilities, warning that continued military actions would only exacerbate the suffering of the Yemeni people and further destabilize the region.

Reaffirming its firm commitment to peaceful resolution, Oman emphasized the importance of dialogue and negotiation in addressing the crisis. It also cautioned that a military approach would produce serious consequences on regional security and stability. — Xinhua

Trump's "reciprocal tariffs" heighten uncertainty for global trade, experts warn

EXPERTS warned that US President Donald Trump's proposal for "reciprocal tariffs" is adding uncertainty to international trade.

On Wednesday, the Trump administration raised global steel and aluminium tariffs to 25 per cent and set a 2 April deadline for implementing reciprocal tariffs — matching US tariffs on foreign goods to the rates those countries impose on US products.

This policy quickly provoked retaliation from Canada and the

EU, prompting Trump to threaten a 200 per cent "counter-counter tariff" on alcoholic products from the EU on Thursday.

These developments, along with Trump's recent "on-and-off" tariff policies towards Mexico and Canada, are the latest in a series of tariff measures announced by Trump under his so-called "Fair and Reciprocal Plan," a presidential memorandum he signed on 13 February to address "longstanding imbalances" in global trade. — Xinhua



People walk past a sign displaying the dollar exchange rate at a bank branch in Mexico City, Mexico, on 4 March 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA