Embrace the Future: Unfolding a New Chapter with a Fresh Vision

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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## Article

**Rise from darkness into light, and from light into ever-greater brilliance – never turning back to the shadows**

By Moe Myint

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NATIONAL PAGE 11

Meals provided to 1.5M+ quake victims in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sagaing

SUNDAY EDITION

## MCEF to hold one-day post-quake building assessment training in Yangon, Mandalay

MYANMAR Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) will conduct a one-day training for post-earthquake building assessments and repair techniques free of charge on 5 May in Mandalay and on 12 May in Yangon, with registered architects from Engineering Ministries International and professional engineers.

MCEF has been carrying out three agendas: rescue, resettlement and raising awareness efforts.

The course "Post-earthquake building assessments and repair technique" will be offered by trainers; Mrs Sarah Dunn, a Registered Architect holding a Master's degree in International Cooperation in Sustainable Emergency Architecture from University International de Catalunya and a Bachelor of Architecture from Auburn University, Mr Samuel Carrara, a Professional Engineer with Civil Engineering degree from Norwich University and MBA from Queens University, Mr Craig Cole, Structural Engineer with Master's degree in science from the University of California, and Mrs Jaclyn Miller, an Architect.

Those who want to join the training can register through contact numbers 09 5104983 for Mandalay, 09 893217109, 09 660282000, and 09 250609740. — NN/KK




Vehicles queue at the Bago River-Crossing Thanlyin Bridge 3 tollgate in Yangon, as a driver scans a QR code for mobile payment (insect). **PHOTO: KANU**

# Myanmar debuts first QR code toll system at Thanlyin Bridge 3

The Thanlyin Bridge 3 is 8,638 feet long and located about 125 metres (around 410 feet) away from Thanlyin Bridge 1, which was inaugurated in 1993.

Myanmar's first QR code system is adopted at the Bago River-Crossing Thanlyin Bridge 3 for the collection of the road usage fee.

The bridge offers services to the vehicles using the cash collection system at the tollgate and also the QR code system, which is the very first in Myanmar. As this system is being introduced in Myanmar, if it is used successfully, the QR code system based on AI technology could reduce the service fees at tollgates compared to the traditional direct cash payment method.

SEE PAGE 7



# NATIONAL

## Boosting GDP: The Interconnected Growth of Agriculture, Industry, and Services

Agriculture, industry, and service sectors all support the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
The agricultural sector, which includes agriculture, livestock, and forest products, is interrelated with the other industries and must be developed.
Successfully advancing the agriculture and livestock sectors will help develop the industrial and service sectors, thereby increasing the State's GDP.

*(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the Union government meeting 5/2024 on 5 July 2024)*

## China donates 18,000-MT diesel for Mandalay quake relief




CHINA donated 18,000 metric tonnes of diesel to assist in the rehabilitation efforts following the recent major earthquake in Mandalay Region. The diesel handover ceremony took place on the morning of 2 May at the Brighter Energy Port in Kyauktan Township, Thanlyin District.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, along with officials, attended the event. Mr Ouyang Daobing, Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar also participated in the handover, together with members of the Thanlyin District Administration Body, officials from the Kyauktan Township Administration Body and officals.

According to sources, the donated diesel will be transported by the Ministry of Energy for use in the recovery and reconstruction efforts in areas affected by the earthquake. — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KZL

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein accepts the donation from Mr Ouyang Daobing, Commercial Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy during the handover ceremony. **PHOTO: ZWE HTET KO (IPRD)**

## China donates 340 prefab homes for Mandalay quake relief

THE People's Republic of China made its 11th batch of donations – modular (prefabricated) houses – to Myanmar as part of recovery efforts following the recent major earthquake in Mandalay. A total of 340 units, weighing 1,355 tonnes, arrived at the Thilawa (MITT) Port at 4:35 pm on 2 May aboard the vessel MV Dkilios.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein received the donation from Mr Ouyang Daobing, Commercial Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy at Thilawa Port.

The Yangon Region chief minister and his delegation also inspected the unloading process, during which the prefabricated houses were being transferred from the ship to trucks using cranes. They further observed the process of transferring the units from trucks to rail wagons, which will be used to transport them to earthquake-stricken areas via Myanma Railways. Coordination was made on-site to address necessary logistical requirements. — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KZL




China's 11th batch of donations - modular (prefabricated) houses - to Myanmar in progress at Thilawa Port on 2 May. **PHOTO: ZWE HTET KO (IPRD)**

# 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)*

# Homes for flood victims handed over



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Kyaw Soe Win delivers speech at the handover ceremony of housing for flood victims in Nyaungpintha Village, Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw on 3 May.

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Kyaw Soe Win, accompanied by relevant officials, attended the handover ceremony of housing for flood victims in Nyaungpintha village of Magyibin village-tract of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The housing was constructed with the help of hotels and tourism-related organizations under the leadership of the Myanmar Tourism Federation and supervision of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Speaking at the event, the Union minister highlighted the buildings for flood victims in Nyaungpintha village-after the 2024 flood, and the construction that included 22 houses, including a Community Centre. He also talked about the training courses for the villagers to create job opportunities.

Afterwards, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman and relevant officials talked about the education, small-scale manufacturing sectors and rehabilitation processes. — MNA/KTZH

# Rescue and relief efforts ongoing for Myanmar quake survivors

AS of 3 May, six regions and states impacted by the Mandalay earthquake have reported 3,778 deaths, 5,105 injuries, and 93 missing individuals.

Search and rescue teams from the Myanmar Fire Brigade, alongside domestic and international responders, have been conducting rescue missions in the affected areas. These efforts have successfully rescued 653 survivors trapped under collapsed buildings and recovered the bodies of 788 deceased individuals.

Local donors have provided financial support and essential supplies to those affected, while international communities, organizations, and individual contributors have extended additional assistance. Between 5 pm on 2 May and 5 pm on 3 May, baby accessories weighing 0.777 tonne donated by the Danish Red Cross, tents and clothes weighing at 1.349 tonnes donated by the Myanmar-Chinese Taipei Traders Association and kitchen utensils weighing 10.1 tonnes provided by UNHCR arrived at Yangon International Airport.

These relief supplies are being distributed swiftly to earthquake victims to ensure timely support. — MNA/KZL

# ME to Czech Republic seeks donations for quake-hit religious sites

MYANMAR Embassy to the Czech Republic has urged all to contribute to repairing quake-stricken pagodas, temples and other religious buildings in Myanmar.

Mandalay earthquake hit on 28 March and destroyed 5,014 pagodas and temples, 4,187 monasteries, 432 nunneries, 52 churches, 142 mosques, 27 Hindu temples and a Chinese temple in Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, Nay Pyi Taw, Bago Region, Magway Region, southern Shan State and Kayin State, it stated on 2 May.

External donors can send contributions for restoring the religious heritages to their original state, it urged. Donations are welcome through its phone at +420 233331577 or email meprague@email.cz, the embassy in Prague said. — MT/ZS



This image depicts the Myanmar Embassy to the Czech Republic (C).

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Office of the State Administration Council https://sacoffice.gov.mm | | |
| 2. Ministry of Defence https://www.mod.gov.mm | 3. Ministry of Legal Affairs https://www.mlis.gov.mm | |
| 4. Ministry of Information https://www.moi.gov.mm | 5. Myawady Webportal https://myawady.net.mm | |
| 6. Myanmar National Portal https://myanmar.gov.mm | | |

# NATIONAL

## WEEKLY ROUNDUP

**27 April**

### Defence Industries Corps marks 75th Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) ceremony

A ceremony to mark the 75th Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) Defence Industries Corps took place at the local military headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw Command, attended by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

**28 April**

### Judge of Yangon Region High Court appointed

The State Administration Council has appointed U Kyaw Kyaw as Judge of the Yangon Region High Court under Section 419 of the Constitution mentioned in Order 35/2025 on 27 April.

**29 April**

### Donations dedicated to those who lost lives in Mandalay earthquake

The State Administration Council held a ceremony to donate day meals to members of the Sangha as a one-month memorial donation dedicated to monks and people who lost lives in the incident of the Mandalay earthquake, in Nay Pyi Taw, attended by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla.

**1 May**

### International Workers' Day marked

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing sent a message to the ceremony to mark the International Workers' Day, saying that the government is enhancing employment opportunities for the people nationwide and overseas.

### War veterans hold special conference

War veterans must be a bridge between Tatmadaw and the people, said State Administration Council Chairman Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the special conference (2025) of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Executive Committee at its headquarters in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw. — GNLM/TTA

# Tireless efforts underway to rescue and rehabilitate earthquake-affected areas



Union Minister U Tin Oo Lwin and Lt-Gen Myo Thant Naing inspect the condition of Kyaukthitta Pagoda at Shwemuhtaw Pagoda's Dhammayon.

TATMADAW members, Myanmar Police Force members, firefighters, rescue teams from foreign countries, departmental personnel, social organizations and residents are repairing damaged bridges and roads caused by the Mandalay earthquake.

Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Myat Kyaw and Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) inspected the salvage of iron frames from the damaged Inwa Bridge (Sagaing) led by Myanmar Economic Corporation. They also viewed the learning of 1,280 students who will sit the Grade 12 examination under the teaching of professors and associate professors at Sagaing University of Education in Sagaing.

They also inspected collapsed and damaged religious buildings in Sagaing and on Sagaing Hill, where Tatmadaw members, police members, firefighters and residents participated in the removal of debris.

At the No 3 Basic Education High School in Ywahtaung Ward of Sagaing, the Chief Minister of the region and Lt-Gen Thet Pon presented foodstuffs to teachers and then looked into the clearing of debris at collapsed buildings at the District Agriculture Department and residential houses in Sagaing.

Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) inspected the repair of pagodas, the Gandakuti chamber, the lift and the escalator on Mandalay Hill.

He instructed officials to remove debris from the damaged parts of the eastern stairway and swiftly carry out reconstruction tasks. At Sky Villa in Aungmyaythazan Township, Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung overviewed the progress of removing debris at the collapsed building and left necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) looked into the progress of clearing debris at collapsed buildings of Maha Wizayaranthi Stupa in Amarapura Township and Htilin Monastery in Chanayethazan Township and urged officials to rebuild pagodas and stupas in their original states.

In Pyigyidagun Township, he viewed preparations for enabling students to happily learn education in the 2025-26 academic year after inspecting the removal of debris at the damaged parts of BEMS No 20 in the township.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin and Lt-Gen Myo Thant Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) inspected the condition of Kyaukthitta Pagoda at Shwemuhtaw Pagoda's Dhammayon and discussed prioritized tasks to be done in accord with the work procedures sent by the Engineering Council. They also looked into the supply of water along the Minye and Tamok canals from the Minye Dam in Kyaukse, damage to the remaining walls of the dam, and requirements for repairing the retaining walls of the Zawgyi River before the monsoon season.

They inspected the clearing of two dangerous buildings in Zaytan Ward of Kyaukse with the use of heavy machinery and instructed officials to prioritize worksite safety and ease traffic congestion.

The inspection boards have examined 5,607 earthquake-affected buildings under the standard operation procedure in Kyaukse District. They have classified 5,323 buildings to be repaired for public residence. A total of 219 out of 284 dangerous buildings have been cleared, and there remain 65 dangerous buildings.

They inspected the Technical, Vocational Education and Training Teacher Training College (Bilin) in Shankan Village-tract of Singaing Township and urged officials to seek approval from the relevant ministry to repair the damaged buildings as quickly as possible. — MNA/TTA

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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

## K10.8M in raw opium, K86M in drugs seized across Ywangan, Amarapura, Tachilek

THE Myanmar Police Force seized K10.8 million worth of raw opium in Ywangan and Amarapura Townships and K86 million worth of psychotropic drugs in Tachilek Township, according to the Myanmar Police Force.

A combined team, including members of the Anti-Drug Police Force, conducted a search a motorbike driven by Ma Thida Hmwe near Myogyi village in Ywangan Township at 10:30 am on 1 May. The operation resulted in the seizure of 15 kilogrammes of raw opium, valued at K4.5 million.

According to the investigation, police arrested Maung Pu (aka) Maung Nyunt with 21 kilogrammes of raw opium valued at K 6.3 million in Amarapura Township.

Similarly, the Police Force searched a motorbike driven by Lausi Kham (aka) Kyashi Pah in Tachilek Township at 8:30 am on 2 May and seized two kilogrammes of ketamine worth K20 million and 0.6 kilogramme of Happy Water worth K66 million.

Legal action has been taken against the offenders, and an investigation is underway to identify the perpetrators of the crime chain. — MNA/MKKS

## Security forces neutralize terrorist IEDs in Monywa operation

PDF terrorists intentionally exploded townships, villages, wards, roads and bridges, aiming to impose difficulties and fear among the public.

The dutiful people reported to the security force members regarding the homemade mines planted at Monywa (South) Jetty (Monywa-Nyaungbingyi Jetty) in Monywa (South) Ward, Monywa, Sagaing Region. The security forces inspected that place and found five homemade bombs planted by terrorists yesterday. Security forces deactivated and exploded these mines systematically later.

Security forces accelerated security measures in the vicinity of that place. — MNA/KTZH



Photos show the site where terrorists prepared to detonate improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

## Two-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K2.985 bln



Confiscated illegal industrial materials and vehicle carrying those materials in Shan State.

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

On 1 and 2 May, the combined teams impounded 19 vehicles, travelling from Tachilek to Taunggyi, carrying 65 kinds of industrial materials, 26 kinds of consumer goods and a kind of foodstuff without official documents valued at K600.823 million in Hopong Township, a Toyota Noah (estimated value of K35 million), heading to Mandalay from Monywa, carrying a kind of consumer goods valued at K1.56 million without official documents at the Yadanabon bridge (Mandalay) checkpoint, two vehicles (estimated value of K74 million), heading to Mandalay from Taunggyi, carrying 14 kinds of consumer goods worth K23.383 million without official documents and five trucks (approximately K187 million) carrying 41 kinds of industrial materials worth K337.413 million without official documents at the Htonbo (7th-mile) checkpoint. The action was conducted as per Customs procedures.

Similarly, the combined on-duty teams nabbed a kind of industrial materials valued at K13.5 million without official documents from a warehouse by the side of Kawkareik-Myawady Asia Highway, three kinds of industrial materials worth K203.018 million without official documents from six containers at the Myanmar Industrial Port, five kinds of consumer goods worth K2.132 million without official documents from a passenger at the Yangon International Airport and a Yutong bus (approximately K50 million), travelling from Hpa-an to Mandalay, carrying five kinds of foodstuffs worth K5.05 million without official documents at the Nyaungkhashay xray station. The action was taken following Customs procedures.

In additionally, the combined teams seized a kind of foodstuffs worth K9.69 million without official documents from a warehouse in Inlaymyaing Industrial Zone in Myeik Township and five vehicles (approximately K355 million) carrying 16 kinds of industrial materials and four kinds of consumer goods valued at K138.418 million without official documents near the Milepost Zero and 26/4 on the expressway. The action was taken in line with Customs procedures.

The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee reported 74 arrests on 1 and 2 May, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K2.985 billion. — MNA/MKKS

## Prison sentences for trafficking women to China for forced marriages

TWO individuals involved in trafficking women to China for forced marriage have been sentenced to 10 years in prison each.

The Myanmar Police Force reported that Zaw Min San and Ma Thawda Min, from Htantabin Village in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, transported a 42-year-old woman from the same village to China in 2024. The offenders were charged under Section 38(A) of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, and their cases were submitted to the court. On 29 April, the District Court of Lewe sentenced the two arrestees, Zaw Min San and Ma Thawda Min, to 10 years each for their roles in the human trafficking scheme.

It was also reported that the absconding accused, Ma Ohmar Htwe (also known as Ma Htwe or Yoon Nge), was declared an absconder under Sections 87/88 of the Law of Criminal Procedure.

In a separate case, the Myanmar Police Force reported that Aung San Oo, from Swansaw Ward in Mengwong area, Muse Township, had transported a 17-year-old girl from Yeyan Village in Kutkai District, Shan State (North), to China in 2024. The offender was charged under Sections 38(A)/44 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law, and the case was submitted to the court. On 28 April, the District Court of Muse sentenced Aung San Oo to 20 years in prison for his role in the human trafficking scheme.

Additionally, it was reported that the absconding accused, Daw Wint Wah Htun and Daw Nan Aye Say, were declared absconders under Sections 87/88 of the Law of Criminal Procedure. — MNA/MKKS

# ARTICLE

# Rise from darkness into light, and from light into ever-greater brilliance – never turning back to the shadows

By Moe Myint

(CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY)

**Foundations and lobby groups that have betrayed for the sake of money**

However, his thoughts and actions were not in harmony with Myanmar's politics, religion, and culture. Due to the influx of dollar donations favouring the opposition, Myanmar's political situation became even more chaotic, leading to the deterioration of the country. It is evident that the true intention behind the so-called support for democracy was to systematically wedge Myanmar's society, ultimately aiming for the complete destruction and collapse of both the State and the entire society.

Since 1994, most of the scholars produced by the Burma Project have primarily served as resources to oppose the Myanmar government and to destabilize and destroy Myanmar. The headquarters of the Burma Project is OSI (Open Society Institute), and through the Open Society Foundation, established by George Soros, illicit funds flow to NGOs, INGOs, CSOs, and media organizations in Myanmar and other countries.

In Myanmar, it is known as Open Society Myanmar (OSM). There were a total of six interactions, both domestically and internationally, between Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and George Soros senior and junior. Illegal financial activities refer to the depositing and withdrawal of foreign currencies into and from Myanmar banks without reporting to the government, whether through OSM or OSF (Open Society Foundations). The situation worsens if those foreign entities are involved with DCS (Disloyal Civil Servants) movements. In this context, it was found that although the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as Chairperson in 2013, was established as a domestic charitable social organization, it also engaged in political activities. Without being able to properly document banking transactions, it has been observed that all the foundation's funds were transferred by Moe Zaw Oo from the NUG (National Unity Government), showing that the funds were used for subversive activities.

There have been criticisms directed at the foundation regarding the use of domestic and international donations, both in ways unrelated to its original objectives — education, health, and social sectors — as well as regarding the use of State-owned land and property. Looking at the Myanmar Disloyalty Civil Servant (DCS) movement, it is evident that every successful revolutionary movement around the world relies heavily on the financial resources provided by supporting organizations.




This photo shows preparations for advance voting that did not comply with legal procedures.

Because of the lure of money alone, many popular artistes, charity organizations, influencers, and media groups are actively lobbying for a national destruction plan. Famous artistes have been pressured with massive amounts of money — millions of dollars deposited into their bank accounts — and no matter what kind of person are, it's hard to withstand such financial temptation. These huge sums of money could have been enough to provide daily meals for the hundreds of thousands of unemployed citizens in the country. Some government officials, who had become closely connected with the NLD group, also believed that if the NLD formed a government again, they would benefit from the prestige and personal gains that would come with promotions and influential positions. But now, realizing that such prospects are lost forever, they have turned to participating in the nation's destruction efforts without hesitation or shame.




This scene shows advance voting conducted in violation of legal procedures.

**Effects based on causes**

No matter what, everything must have a cause and effect. Why did they act this way? They did so because it served their interests. They would not act without some benefit. If the ultimate goal is said to be the encirclement, blockade, and destruction of China, then destabilizing neighbouring Myanmar — creating unrest and turning it into a battlefield — would be one stage of a broader plan aiming for the total collapse, designed by those who wish to see China's downfall. To bring about the collapse of Myanmar, the first stage would be to incite mass public uprisings, stage protests, and provoke conflicts between the people and Tatmadaw. If necessary, the plan would escalate to arming internal armed groups to fight Tatmadaw. If

# ARTICLE

further escalation were needed, foreign intervention under the pretext of R2P (Responsibility to Protect) could follow.

For such cases, it is necessary to recall and consider how political games were played by Tatmadaw, leading to the accusation of war crimes at the ICJ. To achieve this, electoral frauds were committed. The country's destruction was intentionally carried out according to the desires of the Western bloc and George Soros. It can be said that they violated the Constitution of the nation and betrayed the country.

It caused the loss of billions in foreign currency and corruption; the collapse of national security systems; the decline and deterioration of religious and cultural values; the breakdown of unity among the people; and the deterioration of diplomatic relations with some countries leading to a loss of trust; and even the revocation of previously awarded honors and recognitions, resulting in a significant loss of leadership credibility.

Currently, as you know, people are experiencing the consequences and facing numerous new challenges while striving to maintain stability and rebuild unity. The mistakes made before the election are now turned into errors as consequences and all are bearing these consequences made by CPRH and NUG. The experiences and lessons learned by the people have become the foundation for any change they wish to bring about.



This photo depicts advance vote collection carried out in violation of the law.

The future of Myanmar's political issue is whether it will once again be swept by turbulent waves like in 1988 or the post-2021 period. At this moment, it is time to deeply consider the priorities. People are now fearful that they may once again face bitter consequences, whether the mistakes were committed knowingly or unknowingly, intentionally or unintentionally, and many would prefer to leave behind those who were responsible for past wrongs. From the breakdown of individuals to the collapse of the whole system, if the country is lost, the people and even the religion may disappear along with it. We, the people of Myanmar, must begin to worry and reflect on this reality.



This photo depicts advance vote collection that did not comply with the law.

Looking at the situations in Syria and Ukraine, it is clear that Myanmar should not become a battlefield. All must strive to save the country from becoming a failed state without allowing it to descend into war. Just as the pre-2020 conditions are no longer acceptable, the worsening post-2021 conditions are also something the people no longer wish to endure. Rather than constantly preparing for conflict, it is now crucial to hand over power to those who envision peace and development for the country. The people themselves must no longer be easily swayed or manipulated into rising without clear thought and awareness.

Most of the Myanmar people tend to follow someone simply when they are persuaded by others, without carefully considering whether that person is truly capable, appropriate, or even right. This tendency is likely to swallow a coconut by applying lubricant to it, and such a mindset must now be abandoned. Especially among the youth, whose inexperience and energy make them vulnerable to manipulation, awareness is essential. What is truly important is for institutions that are vital to the nation to rise above ego, pride, and dismissive attitudes toward one another. Instead, it is time to genuinely understand and build respectful, cooperative relationships among them. Only then can the country move toward meaningful progress.

All, especially, should understand the duties of Tatmadaw that defend the Constitution. Whether it is liberal or democratic, one is right or one is wrong, while suspending democratic rights, and narrowing the media freedom, such doings make one a dictator.

When self-interest is prioritized, democracy and human rights are often cast aside — this is a lesson that must be recognized. It leads one to wonder whether a form of nationalist democracy might be more suitable for Myanmar than a loosely liberal, overly permissive version of democracy. Nationalism, being inherently at odds with globalism, is particularly relevant in today's multipolar world, where a shift from globalization to regionalization is taking place. This evolving trend, as pointed out by the State Head, is something we must pay closer attention to.

It is important to note that, starting with "America First", nationalist politics are gradually gaining strength in some parts of the world, with nationalistic leaders, parties, and governments becoming more prominent. Looking at how the American people continue to protect and preserve their national identity; we can see the need for many individuals in our own country who will strive to prevent issues — such as child adoption rights.

It is necessary to prevent the emergence of traitors who would surrender their own sovereignty or pledge allegiance to foreign interests and organizations, potentially turning others into slaves. "Study learned" is more valuable than "lesson learned"; only by opening our eyes and ears to the experiences of others, by learning for ourselves, and by making our own efforts to act accordingly, can we ensure that our nation's future history will be clear and beautiful.

**(Translated)**

# Myanmar debuts first QR code toll system at Thanlyin Bridge 3

FROM PAGE 1

"When we collect fees at Thanlyin Bridge 3, we use the cash collection system and the MyanGo toll app – QR code system. With the QR system, payments can be made by simply scanning with a mobile phone, and there is no need to carry cash. This allows tollgates to have better control over financial transactions. For travellers, using the cash collection system often requires handling and carrying receipts, so moving to a QR-based system encourages cooperation and convenience for both sides," said U Htin Kyaw, director of the Department of Highways.

The QR code system is a technology that allows vehicles entering the tollgate on a bridge to have their licence plate read by an ANPR system. Drivers can use the MyanGo toll application installed on their mobile phones to scan the QR code displayed on the display board at the tollgate. After scanning, they can make a payment using their preferred option among AYA Pay, KBZ Pay, Wave Pay, or uab Pay. Once the payment is completed, the barrier automatically opens, allowing the vehicle to pass through.

Compared to the traditional direct cash payment system used at toll gates, this system is more efficient. With faster internet connectivity and the use of mobile payment methods, it eliminates the need to carry cash, wait for service charges to be processed, or wait for receipts. As a result, it is being adopted internationally.

"We are proud to be the first to implement the QR code system in Myanmar. We are actively working to raise public awareness and understanding of the system. As AI technology continues to advance, we are pleased to see it being practically applied in ways like this," said U Lin Htut Ko Ko, manager of TollTech Company. The Thanlyin Bridge 3 is 8,638 feet long and located about 125 metres (around 410 feet) away from Thanlyin Bridge 1, which was inaugurated in 1993. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

# OPINION

## Emphasize preparations to avoid untimely climatic conditions

THE Department of Meteorology and Hydrology has advised that, during appropriate times and conditions, various types of natural disasters such as thunderstorms, hailstorms, squalls, lightning strikes, heavy rain, strong winds, and tornadoes may occur in some parts of Myanmar. Therefore, the department has recommended that people take precautionary measures in advance.

Due to the strength of the monsoon winds blowing from the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea, and the interaction with the strong wind from the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea, there is likely to be intense weather activity. These conditions may lead to increased rainfall and thunderstorm activity from the evening of 29 April to 4 May in the following regions: Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions, Chin, Kayah, Kayin, Kachin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states. In some areas, depending on local conditions and terrain, heavy rains may occur suddenly at any time.

> They have to assess daily weather reports whenever untimely weather forecasts are released by authorities as well as relevant departments. If so, they can avoid potential dangers such as floods, landslides, or other hazards. Beyond such a period, they need to consider how to respond to further challenges. So, authorities should take proactive measures to safeguard people and ensure proper disaster response procedures are in place to protect lives and property.

Furthermore, in this period when pre-monsoon storms are occurring, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology has issued a special advisory urging people to be especially cautious regarding possible strong winds and thunderstorms that may develop. The department has also advised the public and relevant authorities to stay alert in advance, particularly regarding domestic flights and travel plans that could be affected by weather conditions.

Due to strong winds, infections caused by viruses and bacteria can occur, leading to illnesses such as diarrhoea and vomiting. In addition, diseases like typhoid fever, cholera, dysentery, hepatitis A, influenza, and other similar diseases may also arise among the people. These diseases often occur due to poor personal hygiene practices. If such infections are not treated in time, they can cause a sudden rise in body temperature and weaken the immune system, making it easier for illnesses to enter the body.

However, regarding natural disaster risks and related information, it is important for the public to be aware and stay alert in a timely manner. People need to take care of daily climatic conditions and listen to announcements about changes in the weather forecast. They have to assess daily weather reports whenever untimely weather forecasts are released by authorities as well as relevant departments. If so, they can avoid potential dangers such as floods, landslides, or other hazards. Beyond such a period, they need to consider how to respond to further challenges. So, authorities should take proactive measures to safeguard people and ensure proper disaster response procedures are in place to protect lives and property.

# BOOKRACK

## POEM



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Book Title | - | Timeless Folktales of the World's Tribes |
| Author | - | Than Lwin Myint |
| Publishing House | - | Sar Yeik Myaing |
| Publication Date | - | January 2025 (1st Edition) |
| Price | - | K5,500 |

### Timeless Folktales of the World's Tribes

IN Myanmar literature, children's literature once flourished with great success but seems to have gradually faded. This becomes evident when we look at the book lists published today.

Children's literature refers to written works, including stories, poems, and picture books, specifically created for and intended to be enjoyed by young people. It can be said, "Children's literature starts from ancient stories."

Stories never become outdated for children, as they are filled with memorable and imitable life lessons. Encouraging children to listen to or read legends and traditional folktales not only helps foster a mindset for reading but also nurtures good character and enriches their general knowledge.

Saya Than Lwin Myint writes for children, a children's author. The publishing house also published Peter Pan, Myaing Myaing Saing Saing Sar Yeik Myaing and Adventures of Pinocchio books. This book is Sar Yeik Myaing Children's Literature No 13. Moreover, he also writes stories on his Facebook page, The Avocado - Story Recipe.

"Timeless Folktales of the World's Tribes" features 15 selected stories and tales from ethnic minorities in Myanmar and different peoples across the world. Readers will not only learn about the beliefs, affections, cultural traditions, and values of different communities but also enjoy the enchanting plots and magical elements that these stories offer.

In his preface, the author shared that traditional folktales are a very ancient form of literature. Although they are considered literature, they are refined classical works created by scholars in royal palaces. They are also oral literature that emerged from the lives of farmers, fishermen, and merchants, among others. These stories have been passed down from generation to generation since prehistoric times, and are now reaching us today.

In the folktales, the readers can see a speaking tiger and meet a princess who has been sleeping for thousands of years. They can also know about the life of a person who was born in a fruit, see an arrow shot at the sun, and hear the music in the castle of middle age.

Culture is defined as the way of life of a human society. Among these ways of life are the traditional stories that have been told by different communities since ancient times. Folktales are an integral part of culture. Listening to, reading, and retelling traditional folktales is a way of keeping these stories alive, and preserving the culture they represent. In this book, the author explains that the selected ethnic folktales have been retold based on the stories he heard or read during his childhood.

The author concludes the foreword by explaining that, among the different types of folktales, they have restructured and presented the stories in a way that aims to entertain and engage the reader. Thanks to the elders who passed down the Myanmar and international stories, the people can have chances to know and listen to the stories, and the storytelling culture will continue to flourish.

This book opens with a preface by Saya Than Lwin Myint and features a diverse collection of stories, including A Time When Decisions Shouldn't Be Made, Baba Yaga, The Big Bag Full of Winds, The Legend of Ilya Muromets, Teinlan, The Headless Man and the Poor Old Mother, Legendary Joeson, Golden Mat, Elanda Who Dances in the Sky, The Hat Seller and the Monkeys, Strange Axes, The Promise Made to the Demon Spirit, Tanuki's Gift, The Little Rooster Prince from Bratislava, and Son of the Sun.



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Book Title | - | Collection of Early Childhood Learning Stories |
| Translator | - | Lin Lat Kyel Sin |
| Publishing House | - | Sar Seesein |
| Publication Date | - | September 2024 (1st Edition) |
| Price | - | K7,500 |

### Collection of Early Childhood Learning Stories

THIS week's pick is a collection of early childhood learning stories designated to help grow up with resilience in children. Storytelling helps develop creative thinking skills, enrich ways to engage children with stories, boost brain development, foster cognitive, social and emotional skills and adopt reading habits during the summer break when children spend time indoors.

Translator Lin Let Kyel Sin worked on a Disney book "More Growing Up Stories (Disney's My Very First Winnie the Pooh)" by Kathleen Zoehfeld to share how children can adapt to a holistic environment and develop skills to deal with daily life challenges through inspirational short moral stories. Furthermore, the original English version is also included for those English learners.

The protagonist of the book is Winnie the Pooh and the translator uses easy-to-understand terms in Myanmar to help children understand words, mature emotionally and socially, nurture creative thinking and keep good habits with life lessons. This book features six stories, pointing out different perspectives, and strategies.

The first story from Winne the Pooh and Tigger's Moving Day sheds light on children's worries, anxiety and distress over moving into a new place. Letting another kid help in moving house will develop a sense of responsibility and build confidence. It is a key to improving maturity in children's minds and encouraging empathy and problem-solving skills. This story will guide the children to explore new friends and neighbours to adapt to the new environment. The Pooh's Helping Hands teach children how to approach and overcome challenges by fostering a sense of community, empathy and problem-solving through collaboration.

The story highlights how to engage in society as children, human beings, students and neighbours. It will help children understand emotion and social interactions, introduce the value of assisting others as basic life skills, and build courage and confidence.

Next, the "Be Patient, Pooh" story describes how waiting is hard, no matter how they rush through the day. Yet, they need to be reminded of the good things that will come to those who wait.

For instance, if one waits for his friend, parents should guide them to clean the room to take responsibility with real-life tests before friends visit and encourage patience and preparation while waiting for rewards to play along with games and stuff.

This book gives dual language learning with original English text alongside Myanmar translation, developing emotional intelligence, independence, and problem-solving skills through strategies. Elders need to introduce them to stories and stimulate them to foster reading habits to help them understand their needs, likes and self-thinking.

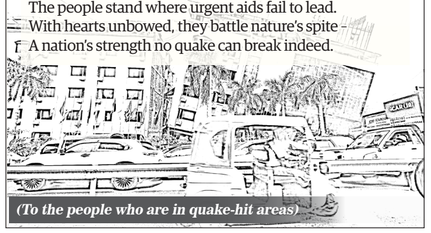
### *Where the Earth Could Not Win*

**By Min Zan**

The earth shook fiercely through Mandalay's domain,
Homes crumbled fast, the cries too deep to bear.
In Inlay's heart, where help seems slow to gain,
The lake now weeps beneath a weight of care.

Yet hands arose from grief to lift the stone,
In Sagaing, youth built hope with bamboo beams.
In temples, stories shared are not alone—
They stitch the cracks with courage, not just dreams.

Though aid may stall and strongholds hoard their might,
The people stand where urgent aids fail to lead.
With hearts unbowed, they battle nature's spite –
A nation's strength no quake can break indeed.



*(To the people who are in quake-hit areas)*

### ကိုယ့်ကိုယ်ကို ကြောက် (အတွေ၀ါဒ ဆိုးမစာ)

### *Fear yourself (a lesson for oneself)*

**By Tin Moe (Translated by Myint Zan)**

ရာထူးမတက်လဲ
ငါစိတ်မပျက်။။
ငှါကို အလုပ်ဖြုတ်ခဲ့လဲ
ငါမတုန်လှုပ်။။
ငှါကိုထောင်ချခဲ့လဲ
ငါစိတ်ဓာတ်မကျ။။
အမှန်တရားကို ချစ်လို့
ငါလူဖြစ်လာခဲ့တယ်။။
ကာယကံ
၀စီကံ
မနောကံ
ပြုသမျှကံ၊ ငါမှန်နေသရွေ့
ကြောက်စရာ ငါမတွေ့။။
ငါမမှန်မှာကိုပဲ
ငါ ကြောက်တယ်။။
အမှန်တရား ကို ကျောက်ကန်
ငါဖောက်ပြန်မှာကိုပဲ ငါကြောက်တယ်။။
ဘယ်သူမှ မကြောက်ခဲ့
ကိုယ့်ကိုယ်ကိုပဲ ကြောက်။။

although I do not get promoted
(at work) I do not despair

even though I was dismissed from
work, I was not shaken

even though I was jailed
I do not feel depressed

I became a human because
I love the truth

by deeds, by words, by thought
all these activities constitute Kamma
as long as I am right
I do not find anything to fear

I only fear that
I will not be right(eous)
denying and resisting
the truth

I only fear that I will betray
myself and becomes a reactionary:
do not fear anyone
fear only oneself



*Composed on early nightfall*
*Tuesday, 2 May 2000*
*Translated on late night, Friday 2 May 2025,*
*twenty-five years to the day after*
*the poet Tin Moe composed the poem.*

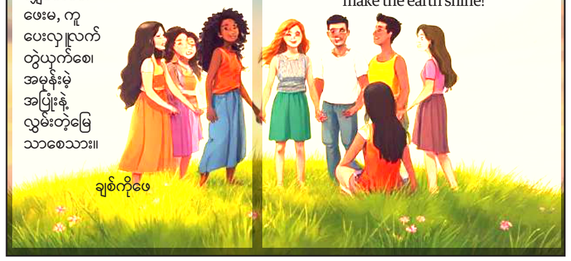
### တို့ လူသား

### *Our Mankind*

**By Chit Ko Pe**

တစ်ဝိုးအောက်
တစ်ထောက်နား
သွေ့များသာ၊
တစ်ခဏ
ဆုံကြတွေ့
ချမ်းမြေ့စေ၊
စေတနာ
မေတ္တာစိတ်
လျှိုဖိတ်စေ၊
ဖေးမ, ကူ
ပေးလှူလက်
တွဲယှက်စေ၊
အမှန်းမဲ့
အပြုံးနဲ့
လွှမ်းတဲ့မြေ
သာစေသား။။

Taking refuge under the sky,
we're the guests at this time.
Let our get-together
share joy and pleasure.
Let our love and kindness
overwhelm and caress.
Let our helping hands
intertwine and expand.
Let our caring smiles
make the earth shine!



# NATIONAL
## Entertainment

## 'Amone Myit' drama series launched in Yangon




THE launching ceremony for the 'Amone Myit' drama series was organized at Zealax Hotel in Yangon on 1 May, according to actress Wint Yamone Naing. Phyo Thinzar Kyaw, Iris, Maung Pyone, Maung Kaung and Nway Nway Maung created the story and script, and director Thein Han (Phoenix) directed it based on a true story.

"I portray the Khat Khat Mar character in this film. Khat Khat Mar has done what she wants since her childhood. When she grows up, she will face conflicts between her mother-in-law and herself. The two sides will face conflicts, and such issues can be found in real life. Therefore, the film comes out. Today is more transparency, and people might not face such a case," said Wint Yamone Naing.

The cast members of 'Amone Myit' that is being broadcast on HEY Play application, HEY Play YouTube channel and MRTV-4 channel are Academy Myat Kaythi Aung, Zin Myo, Charlie, Wint Yamone Naing, Nae Thit Aye Aung, Hsu Htet Hlaing, Paing Oak Soe Aung, Thein Lin Soe, May Thin Ko, Hnin Ei Wint Wah, Tayzar Kyaw, Min Khant Ko, Academy Zaw Oo, and Daung Wai, among others. — ASH/KTZH



### Khin Wint Wah

A family show of the movie 'Byaw Than' took place at Nawaday cinema on 30 April. Actress Khin Wint Wah takes a lead role in this film. She said, "I tried to portray Pan Ou rather than to be more beautiful in this film. I tried hard to fit into the Pan Ou character. Ko Nay Win is very smart. I want my fans to support us instead of hoping for an Academy Award". The 'Byaw Than' film will be screened in the first week of May.

### Maung Sein Win (Padeegon)

PARTICIPATING in one's birthday celebrations becomes a tradition. But now, that tradition has evolved, and others gather around to recognize and honour the person for his or her birthday. In this case, the birthday celebrant is none other than the renowned writer Maung Sein Win (Padeegon). Saya Maung Sein Win (Padeegon) said, "My birthday falls on 10 May. It is the 75th anniversary birthday, the diamond jubilee. All my friends have published a book called "Carved with the Words".






### Aye Aye Myint (Takhine Lone Shwe)

CURRENTLY, traditional Myanmar Anyeint dance has become popular again and it is such a pride for Thabin (theatrical art). All traditional dancers have competitive and creative mindsets, and such cases can cause certain anxiety. Veteran dancer Aye Aye Myint (Takhine Lone Shwe) said, "It is inappropriate to see performances moving their body parts wearing Myanmar female dancer dresses. I want them to dance traditionally".

### May Kha Lar

THE 2nd May is the birthday of singer May Kha Lar and the 270th anniversary of the establishment of Yangon City. She also made a wish saying, "I extend my wishes to all Myanmar people, and I pay homage to my mother. May all my fans live long and the art field exists for thousands of years".





### Aye Wuttyi Thaung

ACTRESS Aye Wuttyi Thaung returns with a new film 'Byaw Than'. The actress said, "I haven't met my fans for six years. I have a new series. It was filmed over five years ago, so releasing it only now makes it feel a bit distant from the audience. Ideally, releasing about one film per year would be better".

### Poe Mamhe Thar

ACTRESS Poe Mamhe Thar also made a post on her Facebook page, marking her birthday. The post reads, "I want to have the next new year with my lovely ones living with gratitude through contentment, learning and maturity and leaving the wrong things and unessential ones."— Htun Htun/KTZH

# CELEBRITY BRIEF

# NATIONAL

## New mandate: All exports require automatic or non-automatic licensing

EXPORT activities must be carried out only after obtaining licences through automatic licensing and non-automatic licensing systems on the Myanmar Tradenet 2.0 platform, according to the Department of Customs' Myanmar Automated Cargo Clearance System's notification 008/2025 dated 2 May.

The Trade Department has already notified that, according to Bulletin 3/2025 of the Trade Department. While filling in declarations through MACCS, additional information on the licence declaration and licence balancing must be carried out according to the previous procedures.

The Trade Department notified on 1 April that export activities were allowed without seeking licences for the whole of April, following a post-earthquake network connecting error in quake-stricken regions. — NN/KK



Trucks are seen transporting export/import cargo containers at Yangon Port.

## Fisheries enforces May-to-July fishing moratorium

THE Department of Fisheries puts a three-month halt to the fishing season in the Myanmar Sea from May to July in the current financial year 2025-2026.

Last year's close season was in April-June. This year, the fishing close season was changed. Offshore fishing trawlers must shut down their operations during the Q2 to protect fish species and marine resources. However, inshore trawlers and boats are allowed to keep running the business.



Fishing trawlers and boats are seen docked at the port.

As the close season has already started, all kinds of offshore fishing trawlers have suspended their operations and returned to the shores.

There are several fishing blocks in Ayeyawady, Taninthayi and Yangon regions and Mon and Rakhine states. About 1,500 large offshore fishing trawlers are put out to sea in Taninthayi Region during the open season. — ASH/KK

## MGMA invites members to join 16th Intex Bangladesh 2025

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) invited member companies and factories on 2 May to participate in the 16th Intex Bangladesh 2025, the largest international sourcing show of South Asia that will be held at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB), Dhaka, on 25-27 June, organized by Worldex India. Intex Bangladesh's Interactive Business Forum (IBF) will bring a top platform for those engaged in the apparel and textile industry to exchange knowledge, empower industry players to explore business opportunities, maintain sustainability in the industry, create innovation, stay up-to-date with the latest developments, support supply chain management and include panel discussions and international textile pavilion to discuss market opportunities for industrial development and future potentials.

It is the annual event, endorsed by Government bodies, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Representatives of those member factories who will join the buyer delegation visit under the arrangement of MGMA and organizers will be provided with a two-night stay at Dhaka, sightseeing programmes, transport from the airport to the hotel and from the hotel to the event, CMP factory visit, and business matchings. However, air tickets and other general costs must be borne by them.

Those interested can contact Ma Khin Thandar Aung, Event and PR officer at 09 758451158 by 14 May, MGMA notified. — NN/KK

## Meals provided to 1.5M+ quake victims in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sagaing

THE Shwe Than Lwin Group donated meals to over 1.5 million earthquake-affected individuals in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, and Sagaing from 31 March to 2 May, according to the organization.

The donation of meals, including rice and dishes for lunch and dinner, was made in collaboration with Sky Net, Shwe Bank, and Mo Money, which are subsidiaries of the Shwe Than Lwin Group.

The donations were distributed to earthquake-affected monasteries, nunneries, ministries, wards, and villages in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, and Sagaing. The contributions were not limited to earthquake victims sheltering in temporary relief camps but also extended to volunteers assisting in search and rescue operations.

In terms of food distribution, 1,079,151 people were served in Nay Pyi Taw from 31 March to 2 May, 350,115 in Mandalay from 4 April to 2 May, and 87,380 in Sagaing from 18 April to 2 May. — ASH/MKKS




This photo captures the Shwe Than Lwin Group donating rice and dishes to earthquake-impacted people.

# NATIONAL

## Kyaikto offers free health checkups for diabetes, hypertension, skin conditions



A mobile X-ray was sent to the villages of Kyaikto Township for treatment at the expense of the state in September 2024.

KYAIKTO Township Health Department in Mon State announced that its medical doctors will be providing free checkups for diabetes, hypertension and skin diseases at the State's expense.

On 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 May, a team of experts and medical professionals from the Mon State Public Health Department will visit Kyaikto to provide treatment. The programme includes chest X-rays, which are essential for respiratory health, as well as diabetes, hypertension and skin diseases, which are common.

Therefore, the townspeople of Kyaikto Township are invited and advised not to miss this occasion for their health checkup at the designated place on time. It has also requested those who know about this programme to relay information to their close friends and relatives. — MT/ZN




A promotional poster for Cherry Thin's One-Lady Show.

## Major solo concert 'Call Me Ma' set for upcoming season

MYANMAR artiste Chery Thin will stage a solo live music performance titled "Call Me Ma" at the Transporter Restaurant in South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region, according to sources close to the artiste.

The One Lady Show by Chery Thin is scheduled to take place at 7 pm on 4 May.

Cherry Thin's vocal performances will be accompanied by the Pintaing San band, while lead artistes and DJs from the Transporter Band will also join in to support the show. — ASH/KZL

## Myanmar marks 32nd World Press Freedom Day

THE Myanmar Press Council organized a ceremony to commemorate World Press Freedom Day, which falls on 3 May, at 10 am yesterday at the Myanmar Press Council office on Merchant Street, Yangon.

Myanmar Press Council Chair Dr Tin Htun Oo read a message from the Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, and delivered an opening speech on World Press Freedom Day.

Next, Myanmar Press Council First Vice-Chair U Khin Maung Zaw and Second Vice-Chair U Khin Maung Kyaw Din discussed issues related to press freedom.

Following this, the participants engaged in a discussion about press freedom, and Joint Secretary 2 U Ye Min Soe spoke words of thanks. The event then came to a close. — Aung Myint (IPRD)/ MKKS



A ceremony to commemorate World Press Freedom Day in progress in Yangon yesterday.

## Post-quake building clearance: 80% done in Mandalay, 50% in Sagaing

THE clearance of buildings damaged by the Mandalay earthquake is approximately 80 per cent complete in Mandalay and about 50 per cent complete in Sagaing, according to the Myanmar Fire Brigade Headquarters.

The main roads of Mandalay, which were damaged by the earthquake, have been cleared of building debris to prevent road blockages and ensure the safety of road users, with the clearance of the Golden City building completed on 1 May. The clearance of damaged buildings along 26th streets from 75th to 82nd streets has been completed for two buildings, bringing the overall clearance of earthquake-damaged buildings in Mandalay to more than 80 per cent.

Similarly, in the ongoing cleanup of buildings damaged by the earthquake in Sagaing, heavy machinery has been reported to have been used to remove the debris of high-rise buildings, such as large Buddhist learning centres and other religious structures on higher ground, resulting in 50 per cent completion. — ASH/ TH



This photo showcases a site where some of the cleared buildings are located.

# Trump's 25% auto part tariff takes effect, in latest blow to Japan

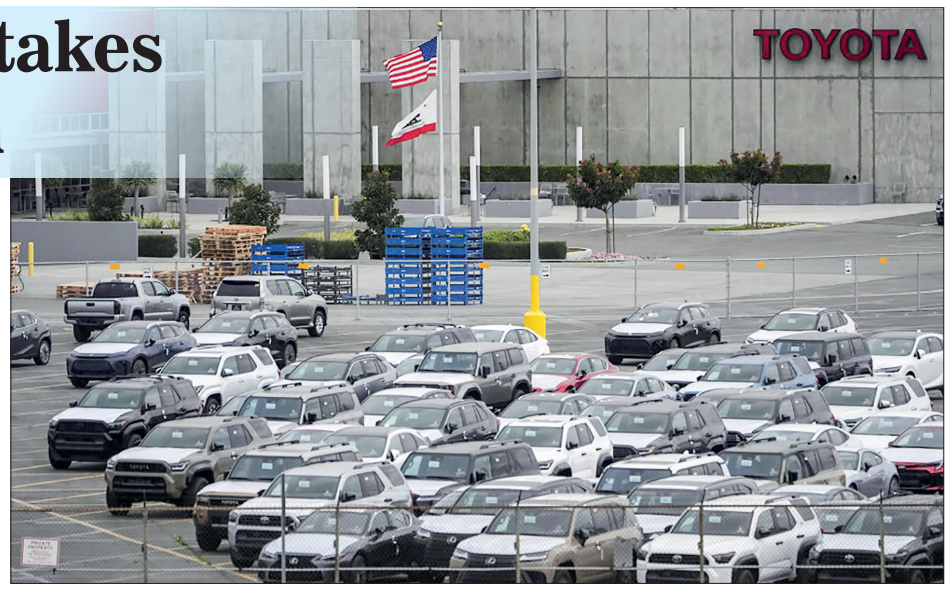
*To mitigate the impact on the auto industry, the administration is assisting manufacturers in relocating supply chains for car parts within the US over the next two years.*

THE US administration of President Donald Trump on Saturday imposed a new 25 per cent tariff on key auto parts such as engines, in another blow to Japan's mainstay car industry already slapped with the same rate of tariff on automobiles.

However, in a bid to ease the impact of the tariffs on the auto industry, the Trump administration has taken steps to help manufacturers relocate supply chains for car parts used in the United States over the next two years.

The new 25 per cent duties on imported passenger vehicles and light trucks took effect on 3 April targeting all countries around the world.

Trump's car tariffs could have a particularly huge impact on Japan, a key US ally, as the auto industry has been a major driver of the broader economy. — Kyodo



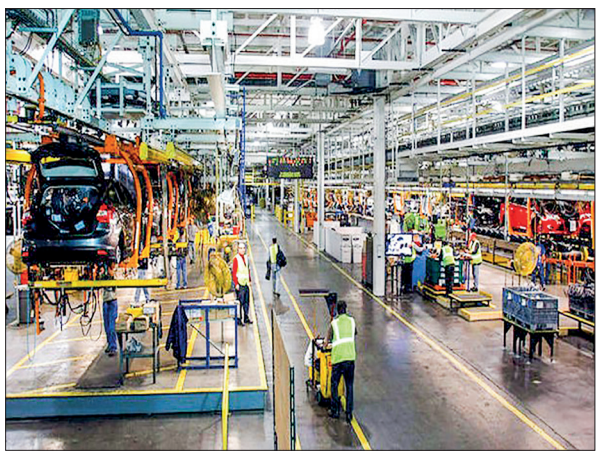
New Toyota vehicles are stored at a facility in Long Beach, California, on 26 March 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

# Indian manufacturing booms in Apr as exports see biggest leap in 14 years

INDIA'S manufacturing sector gained fresh momentum in April, driven by a sharp increase in output and robust international demand, according to the latest HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index.

The seasonally adjusted PMI edged up marginally to 58.2 in April from 58.1 in March, marking the strongest improvement in the sector's health in ten months.

Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, said, "The notable increase in new export orders in April may indicate a potential shift in production to India, as businesses adapt to the evolving trade landscape and US tariff announcements."


India's manufacturing sector gained fresh momentum in April. **PHOTO: ANI**

Bhandari added, "Manufacturing output growth strengthened to a ten-month high on robust orders. Input prices increased slightly faster, but the impact on margins could be more than offset by the much-faster rise in output prices, of which the index jumped to the highest level since October 2013." — ANI

**Myanma Port Authority**
**Open Tender Invitation for Dredging Work in Yangon River for the Purpose of Channel Improvement**

1. The Myanma Port Authority intends to contract with a preferred bidder (local or international company) for Channel Improvement, particularly dredging work in the Yangon River, who has extensive experience and technology in channel dredging (intensive and maintenance) as well as adequate dredging equipment. The tender process will be carried out in accordance with paragraphs 26/27/28/29/30 of Government Procurement Directive No. (1/2017). The Dredging Work is scheduled for **three years, (2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 fiscal year).** The contract between MPA and the awarded company will be signed in annual basic for three years continuously.

2. The companies interested therefore are invited to enter the tender. The tender applications and forms can be purchased and submitted in accordance with the following date, time, and place:
   a) Address (to purchase) : Store Department, Botataung Township
   b) Date & Time (to purchase) : 6-5-2025 to 19-5-2025 (15:00)
   c) Address (to submit) : Myanma Port Authority
   d) Date & Time (to submit) : 20-5-2025 (13:00)
   e) Date & Time (Tender opening) : 20-5-2025 (14:00)

3. For detailed information, please contact the following contact points:
   a) Marine Department - 018246380, 018387117 (ex) 211
   b) Store Department - 018610230

Myanma Port Authority
Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee

# China sees 47.6% rise in NEV charging infrastructure facilities

THE number of charging infrastructure facilities in China increased 47.6 per cent year on year by the end of March 2025, as the country further expanded its charging infrastructure network for new energy vehicles (NEVs), according to the National Energy Administration (NEA).

The cumulative number of charging infrastructure facilities nationwide reached nearly 13.75 million at the end of March, Zhang Xing, an NEA official, said at a recent press conference.

This figure included 3.9 million public charging points for NEVs and 9.85 million private charging installations, he noted. Highways now feature 38,000 charging points across 98 per cent of service areas nationwide, while 13 provincial-level regions in the country have extended coverage to all townships, lifting the township-level penetration rate to 76.91 per cent. – Xinhua

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**
**M.V SOL PRIME VOY.NO. (5506S)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SOL PRIME VOY.NO. (5506S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-5-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department**
**Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**
**M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (258N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (258N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-5-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

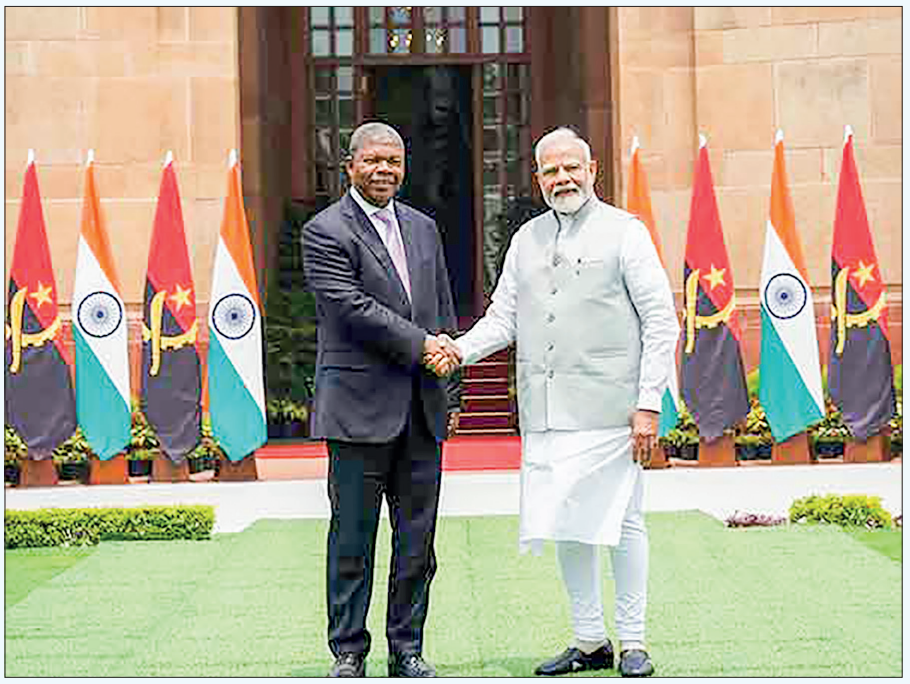
Phone No: **2301185**

**Shipping Agency Department**
**Myanma Port Authority**

Agent For:

**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

# WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Angolan President Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco at Hyderabad House. **PHOTO: ANI**

3 May

## PM Modi holds bilateral meeting with Angolan President Lourenco at Hyderabad House

*The discussions aimed to foster the special relationship between India and Angola.*

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday met President of Angola, Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco, at Hyderabad House.

PM Modi, along with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, also held a bilateral meeting with President Lourenco at Hyderabad House.

Sharing a post on X, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal wrote, "Fostering India-Angola special relationship. PM @narendramodi warmly received President Mr Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco of Angola at Hyderabad House ahead of their bilateral talks."

Earlier, EAM Jaishankar had also met with Angolan President during his State Visit to India. He further said that the meeting between PM Modi and Angolan President is expected to strengthen cooperation not just between India and Angola, but also boost India-Africa relations. — ANI

2 May

## Swiss court bans animal names for plant-based products

**A court** in Switzerland ruled Friday that animal names cannot be used to describe vegan products and that terms such as "plant-based chicken" or "vegan pork" constitute consumer deception.

"The term 'chicken' refers to poultry, that is, an animal," the federal court said in a statement, adding that under Swiss law "all information about food products must be in keeping with reality".

As such, "a plant-based product which refers to the term 'chicken' and does not contain meat is a deception", it added following a public hearing about overturning a lower court ruling.

The ruling comes in a long-running case involving the Swiss company Planted Foods, which manufactures pea-based meat substitute products such as burgers, steaks and sausages. — AFP

1 May

## Masked protesters attack Socialists at France May Day rally

**All-black-clad** protesters harassed marching lawmakers and supporters of France's moderate left Socialist Party (PS) on Thursday, marring Paris's Labour Day procession as hundreds of thousands rallied across the country.

International Workers' Day rallies across France drew more than 300,000 on Thursday, including 100,000 in Paris, the CGT trade union told AFP, while police put the total figure at 157,000.

Police said the Paris procession, where an AFP journalist saw protesters covered up in black clothing roughly jostling PS politicians and activists, drew 32,000.

While the march in the capital largely passed off without incident, Socialist lawmakers complained of being assaulted in with punches and flares, leading to dozens of arrests in the afternoon. — AFP

30 April

## 40% of Japan prefectures offer financial aid over US tariffs

**Nearly** 40 per cent of Japanese prefectural governments are offering or have decided to offer financial assistance to businesses as the economy feels the impact of tariffs imposed by the United States, a Kyodo News survey showed Wednesday.

Currently, 18 out of Japan's 47 prefectures have moved to offer such assistance to small and medium-sized firms as well as agriculture, forestry and fisheries operators, with nine more prefectural governments considering providing aid, according to the survey. Of the 18, 15 are providing financial support, while three said they will start providing support in the near future, as concerns grow over the repercussions of the tariffs by US President Donald Trump's administration on industries such as auto and semiconductor manufacturing, and rice production. — Kyodo

29 April

## Afghan refugees return home from Pakistan, Iran

**A total** of 1,414 Afghan families with 6,619 members returned to their homeland from neighbouring Iran and Pakistan on Sunday and Monday, Afghanistan's High Commission for Addressing Returnees Problems reported on Tuesday.

The refugees have come home via the Torkham border crossing in eastern Nangarhar province, the Spin Boldak border crossing in southern Kandahar province, the Islam Qala border point in western Herat province, and the Abrisham border crossing point in western Nimroz province, it said.

Nearly 120,000 Afghan refugees have returned to their homeland from Pakistan from 1 to 24 April the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported on Thursday.

About 7 million Afghan refugees, most of whom are undocumented migrants, are currently living abroad, with most living in Afghanistan's Pakistan and Iran. — Xinhua

28 April

## China honours model workers, exemplary individuals

**China** on Monday celebrated the 100th anniversary of the founding of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions by honouring national model workers and individuals.

A total of 1,670 people were honoured as national role model workers, while 756 were recognized as exemplary individuals.

Apart from those working in the traditional sectors like agriculture and manufacturing, the honourees also include inheritors of fine traditional Chinese culture and representatives from new professions such as delivery workers and domestic service trainers.

This year's event is the 17th edition of its kind, which showcases the patriotism and creativity of workers in the new era. — Xinhua

27 April

## China unveils draft of its first-ever environmental code

**China** is poised for a significant enhancement in its green efforts as a draft of the country's first-ever environmental code was unveiled on Sunday.

The draft, submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) for a first reading, comprises 1,188 articles in five chapters including the general provisions, pollution prevention and control, ecological protection, green and low-carbon development, legal liability and supplementary provisions.

Once adopted, it will become China's second formal statutory code, after the Civil Code, which was adopted in 2020. The compilation of the environmental code was initiated in 2023. — Xinhua

# SPORTS

## MNL League Cup 2nd round matches set for 4–5 May

THE 2025 Myanmar National League (MNL) League Cup will resume with its second round of group-stage fixtures scheduled for 4 and 5 May, featuring crucial matchups as teams continue their push for knockout-stage qualification.

On 4 May, Shan United will take on the University team at the Yangon United Sports Complex, while Dagon Port face YB United at Padonma Stadium. Ayeyawady United will meet Yangon Royals at the University Stadium, and Yangon United are set to play Kachin United at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre.

The action continues on 5 May with Rakhine United playing Glory Goal at the University Stadium, Myawady taking on Silver Stars at Padonma Stadium, and Hanthawady United facing Chinland at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. Dagon Star United and Yamanya United will round off the day's fixtures at the YUSC Sports Complex.

In the opening round of matches, Shan United (Group A), Mahar United (Group B), Hanthawady United (Group C), and both Dagon Star United and Yadanabon (Group D) secured victories, putting them in early contention for top spots in their respective groups. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

# Shan United signs Spanish fitness coach, Japanese defender



Spanish coach Ferran joins Shan United to boost squad fitness for the new season. **PHOTO: SUFC**

MYANMAR National League champions Shan United have reinforced their squad by signing a foreign fitness coach and a Japanese defender as part of their preparations for both domestic and international competitions in the 2025–2026 season, including the ongoing MNL League Cup.

The club has appointed 25-year-old Spanish fitness coach Ferran Fernandez, who is currently pursuing a postgraduate degree in Sports Science. Prior to this, he served as a fitness coach at a third-tier Spanish club.

Shan United has also added Japanese defender Yuki Izu to its lineup. Izu, who can play both centrally and wide, is the first of three planned foreign player signings for the new season. The club has already recruited three local players and is set to finalize more international additions.

In the 2025–2026 season, Shan United will participate in the MNL League Cup and the MNL Championship as domestic tournaments, while also competing internationally in the ASEAN Club Championship and the AFC Challenge League. Last season, the club won both domestic titles and achieved a historic run in the MNL, including a record sixth championship, five consecutive titles and four unbeaten seasons, with three of them back-to-back.

Club president U Khun Naung Myint Wai stated, "This season, we will be competing in two domestic and two international tournaments. Our ambition is to defend both domestic titles and improve our results in international competitions. The head coach and executive team are actively handling player signings and team preparations. Some key foreign players from last season were released to allow them more playing time elsewhere.

"We've brought in three new local players and three new foreign players, who will arrive during the League Cup period. We believe that with continued commitment from our players, who have always given their best wearing the Shan United badge, we can achieve even greater success and write new chapters in the club's history". — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## Ryu stretches lead at LPGA Black Desert Championship

RYU Hae-ran shook off a slow start with an eagle and four birdies in a five-under par 67 on Friday that gave her a two-stroke lead midway through the LPGA Black Desert Championship in Utah.

Ryu started the day with a one-shot lead after a bogey-free nine-under opening round.

She struggled to get going, dropping a shot before back-to-back birdies at the fifth and sixth and an eagle at the par-five ninth. She added two more birdies coming in for a five-under par 67 and a 14-under total of 130.

"Yesterday was so amazing for me, but today started a little bit tough," she said. "But I just wait for my first birdie and I made a chip-in and it's an amazing birdie.

"Then today is a good day again because I got an eagle and a chip-in birdie — lots of things today that were good for me".

Ryu has wasted no time in contending after a disappointing finish in the first major of the year last week. She shared the 54-hole lead at the Chevron Championship but faded on Sunday and missed out on the five-woman playoff won by Japan's Mao Saigo. Playing a new course for the LPGA, she is focusing on managing the course and the conditions as she chases her third victory after one win each in 2023 and 2024.

"Maybe tomorrow and final round I think will be a little bit windier than the first two rounds. I think here it's a little bit narrow because there are a lot of rocks outside the fairway. I'm just thinking more about keeping (in) the fairway and keeping (on) the green — just waiting for the chance," she said. — AFP



Ryu Hae-ran of South Korea hits a tee shot on the way to the 36-hole lead in the LPGA Black Desert Championship. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Ancelotti says he will reveal future plans at end of season



Real Madrid's coach Carlo Ancelotti will announce at the end of the season his future plans. **PHOTO: AFP**

REAL Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti, who has been heavily linked with the Brazil post, said Saturday he will reveal his future plans on 25 May after their final La Liga game.

The immediate goal for the 65-year-old Italian, who has one year left on his Madrid contract, is with five matches remaining to overhaul bitter rivals Barcelona's four point lead and retain the La Liga title.

Achieving that would make up somewhat for losing to Barcelona in the Copa del Rey final, and the defence of their Champions League crown ended by Arsenal in the quarterfinals.

"I have a lot of affection for my club, my players and our fans, and also a lot of respect," Ancelotti told reporters ahead of Madrid's La Liga clash against Celta Vigo on Sunday.

"So I will speak about my future on the 25th (of May) and not before".

Real Madrid host Real Sociedad on 25 May in their final La Liga match of the season — they then leave for the United States and the Club World Cup which starts on 14 June.

Ancelotti said the day he leaves Madrid will be a "beautiful" one and he has never had a single problem with the club across two spells at the helm.

"It will be a fantastic goodbye, because I have a lot of affection for the club and it does for me too, I will never fight or argue with the club," said the veteran coach. — AFP




*The project will feature immersive theme parks, gaming zones, and areas for global cinema co-production.*

The announcement was made during the WAVES Summit in Mumbai, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. **PHOTO: ANI**

# India's first Transmedia Entertainment City to be set up in Andhra Pradesh

CreativeLand Asia (CLA) and the Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop India's first Transmedia Entertainment City, Creatorland, in Andhra Pradesh. This ambitious project will feature immersive theme parks, gaming zones, and global cinema co-production areas, aiming to drive job creation, skill development, tourism, and digital innovation. The announcement was made during the WAVES Summit in Mumbai, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The partnership involves key figures, including Kandula Durgesh, Minister of Tourism and Entertainment, and global advisory board members from the entertainment industry. CLA is in discussions with over 20 studios worldwide to establish India as a production hub, with expected investments of Rs8,000 to 10,000 crore over the next five-six years.

Creatorland will include a Virtual Studio Complex utilizing AI technologies, an academy for skilling youth in VFX and gaming, and aims to create over 150,000 jobs. This initiative represents a significant step towards enhancing Andhra Pradesh's profile in the global creative landscape and fostering cross-border collaboration in media and entertainment. — ANI

# 'No dumping ground': Tunisia activist wins award over waste scandal

*She discovered hazardous household waste in the containers.*

TUNISIAN environmentalist Semia Labidi Gharbi, recently awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize, has become a prominent voice against waste dumping in developing countries.

She gained recognition for her activism after Italy shipped over 280 containers of waste to Tunisia in 2020, falsely labelled as recyclable plastic. Upon discovering hazardous household waste, Gharbi campaigned vigorously, leading to Italy's agreement to return 6,000 tonnes of illegally exported waste in February 2022.

Her efforts not only resulted in the return of the waste but also prompted significant legal actions, including the sacking and imprisonment of Tunisia's then-environment minister and the prosecution of 26 individuals, including customs officials.

Gharbi emphasizes that developing nations like Tunisia should not be treated as dumping grounds for wealthier countries, which often offload their waste due to limited capacity in poorer regions.

Her activism has spurred reforms within the European Union regarding waste shipment regulations. Gharbi hopes her recognition will elevate the profile of Tunisian civil society and inspire advocacy across Africa, stating, "The prize is theirs too," as it amplifies their collective message for a healthier environment. — AFP



Semia Labidi Gharbi helped spearhead a campaign that challenged waste trafficking. **PHOTO: AFP**

# Caviar trends shift with social media

*The shift is driven by social media influencers and celebrity endorsements, with stars like Rihanna and David Chang showcasing unconventional ways to enjoy the delicacy.*



"As with most new food trends, interest in the exclusive fish eggs is being driven by online influencers and celebrities." **PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK**

WHEN Burger King announced the sale of caviar with chicken nuggets in its French restaurants on 1 April, many initially thought it was an April Fool's joke. However, the unique pairing quickly gained traction on social media, leading to a rush of customers eager to try this extravagant offering for 19 euros ($22), which included seven nuggets, mayonnaise, and a 10-gramme pouch of Chinese caviar.

This marketing strategy not only went viral but also highlighted the evolving perception of caviar as a luxury item.

Influencers and celebrities, such as Rihanna and chef David Chang, have contributed to the trend of pairing caviar with more casual foods, making it more accessible.

While some producers embrace this "demystification" of caviar, others caution against its regularization, emphasizing the high costs associated with its production. The shift in consumption patterns reflects a broader cultural change, with caviar becoming less associated with opulence and more with casual enjoyment. — AFP