

Myanmar to deploy electronic voting machines for error-free elections



State Administration Council Chairman Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Tatmadaw members and families from Kengtung Station yesterday.

Post-election, the swift convening of Hluttaws at regional, state, and Union levels will be essential to ensure a smooth democratic transition.

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing stressed that Tatmadaw must be hardcore to develop the nation, successfully hold the election and ensure peace and stability in the State. Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of

Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met Tatmadaw members and families from Kengtung Station at the hall of the Triangle Region Command Headquarters yesterday afternoon.

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Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the meeting with Tatmadaw members and families in Kengtung

1. Tatmadaw must be hardcore to develop the nation, successfully hold the election and ensure peace and stability in the State.
2. All have to elect representatives who can serve the interests of the regions and the State.
3. It is necessary to strive for unity within military units as well as among different units regarding unity within the military.
4. Organizational tasks should be carried out outside the military systematically to serve the interests of the region and its people.

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Schools ramp up crime & traffic safety programmes

NATIONAL

Initiate democratic culture through peaceful means, avoiding conflicts and violence

DEMOCRATIC culture means addressing the needs and desires of individuals or groups through peaceful means, avoiding conflict and violence. It is important to always keep this principle in mind and put it into practice.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony to mark the 9th Anniversary of signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) on 16 October 2024)

Myanmar Gazette

Duty Assignment of Permanent Secretary/Director-General of Service Organization

THE State Administration Council has concurrently assigned U Aung Htay Win, Director-General of the Union Minister's Office of the Ministry of Labour, to the duties of Permanent Secretary and Director-General of the same organization.

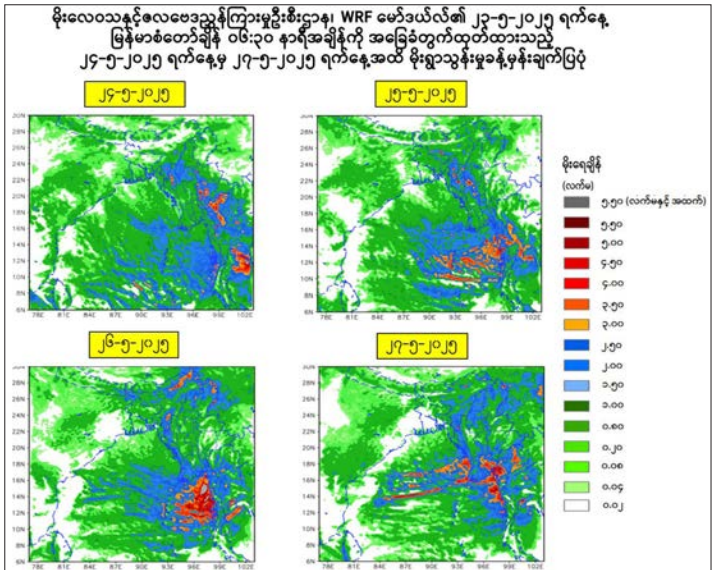
Special Weather News

Issued at 7 pm MST on 23 May 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5 pm MST today, due to the unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, monsoon will be strong and development of the convective clouds, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered to fairly widespread in Kachin and northern Shan States and widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls during 24 May to 31 May 2025.

Advisory

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



The ninth Graduation Ceremony of the NMA College in progress yesterday in Yangon. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

NMA College holds 9th graduation ceremony

THE ninth graduation ceremony of NMA College was held at the Novotel Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

During the event, Senior Lecturer U Min Htaw Mon of NMA College made an opening speech, and ABE Myanmar Country Director Mr Suren remarked.

The professors and teachers of NMA College conferred certificates on 541 students, including 109 outstanding graduates.

The NMA Professional Diploma offers degrees for the Professional Diploma in International Business Management (DIBM), Professional

Diploma in Human Resource Management (DHRM), Professional Diploma in Sale & Marketing Management (DSMM), Professional Diploma in Financial Accounting (DFA) and Professional Diploma in Logistics & Supply Chain Management (DLSM), and ABE Endorsed (UK) Diploma courses offered 11 degrees for 11 subjects.

Those who graduated from NMA College grab opportunities in local and foreign countries, and the entrepreneurs appreciate and welcome qualified students. The ability of qualified students plays a key role in the development of

a nation, and the government also promotes the education level of students.

Achieving a diploma from NMA College, which supports livelihoods in this way, reflects the development of soft skills such as subject-matter expertise, critical thinking, and international communication. These improvements open up greater employment opportunities in any professional field, which is why many young people choose to study there. To date, NMA College has awarded diplomas to 1,673 students, and the 10th graduation ceremony will be held in October. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

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

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)

Myanmar to deploy electronic voting ...

FROM PAGE 1

At the meeting, the Senior General underscored that as the government has taken responsibility for the State under the Constitution, it is essential to hold a multiparty democratic general election with the use of the electric voting machine to minimize electoral errors, adding hence, the population census was enumerated as part of preparing to hold the election.

He stressed the need to complete convening the Hlut-taw at the regional and state levels and the Union level after the election. All have to elect representatives who can serve the interests of the regions and the State. Tatmadaw must be hardcore to develop the nation, successfully hold the election

and ensure peace and stability of the State, he added.

In addition to fulfilling national defence responsibilities, the Senior General noted that Tatmadaw must also contribute to the country's economic development.

He said that Tatmadaw has been consistently supporting to improvement of the educational qualifications of the children of Tatmadaw families. Therefore, parents are also urged to place importance on their children's education and strive to enhance it.

The Senior General unveiled that the government is currently implementing efforts nationwide to improve educational standards and is providing various forms of support and assistance related to ed-



The Senior General offers support to patients at the Tatmadaw Hospital 3 (300-bed) in Kengtung.



Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Senior General, encourages patients at the Tatmadaw Hospital 3 (300-bed).

ucation. Regarding unity within the military, he pointed out that it is necessary to strive for unity within military units as well as among different units. Likewise, they must work together with residents. Moreover, organizational tasks should be carried out outside the military systematically to serve the interests of the region and its people.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla presented foodstuffs and cash awards for Tatmadaw members and the station Maternal and Child Welfare Association from Kengtung Station to the commander and his wife, respectively.

After the meeting, the Senior General and his wife cordially conversed with Tatmadaw members and families. Also, present at the meeting were Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Kyaw Swa Lin and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung and his wife, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, the commander of Triangle Region Command, Tatmadaw members and families of Kengtung Station. The Senior General, his wife and party comforted Tatmadaw members, families and residents receiving medical treatments at the local Tatmadaw hospital in Kengtung and gave foodstuffs. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla pay homage to long-life Kengyin Sayadaw in Kengtung, offer donations

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, together with the Shan State chief minister, the commander of Triangle Region Command and officials, paid homage to Presiding Patron of Kengyin Monastery of Kengtung in Shan State (East) long-life Sayadaw Aggama-ha Saddhammajotikadhaja Bhaddanta Khemacara yesterday afternoon.

The Senior General and his wife supplicated religious measures and health conditions of the Sayadaw and donated cash for nine prerequisites and offerings to the Sayadaw who returned Dhamma gifts to mark his 100th birthday.

The Senior General inspected the conservation of the Nawngton Lake in Kengtung and viewed round activities of residents taking sports exercises along the bund by car.

— MNA/TTA



SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla present cash donations and offerings to the century-old Sayadaw.

Myanmar's trade facilitation body meets to tackle supply chains



SAC Member Deputy PM MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo chairs the second meeting of the Central Committee on Ensuring the Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods yesterday.

IN his capacity as Chairman of the Central Committee on Ensuring the Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, State Administration Council Member Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Transport and Communications General Mya Tun Oo attended the second meeting of the central committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, the Union minister said the committee coordinated with the relevant departments not to cause delays in trade and goods flow after the Mandalay earthquake. It also supervised facilitating the import and export sectors to meet the trade estimates, and the Border Trade Method was adopted for Yangon-Kawthoung-Ranong and Ranong-Kawthoung-Yangon starting from June 2024. According to the trade digits, it found that the trade surplus was US\$2.3 billion in the 2024-2025 financial year, and efforts should be made to promote the export volume in the 2025-2026 financial year.

Meeting attendees coordinated the discussion, and the Union minister concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

SAC Vice-Chair DPM Vice-Senior General Soe Win comforts injured Tatmadaw members at Tatmadaw hospitals

VICE-CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win comforted Tatmadaw members and families receiving medical treatments at Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital (500-bed) and the special care centre units of Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) in Mingaladon Township, Yangon Region, yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General visited Tatmadaw members and their families at hospitals and asked about the suffering from diseases, medical treatment and progress of their health conditions before presenting foodstuffs and cash awards.

He also offered cash prizes to health staff serving at these hospitals through officials, viewed round these hospitals and provided necessary instructions to officials. — MNA/TTA



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief Vice-Senior General Soe Win shares warm words of solace with Tatmadaw members during hospital visit.

AGTI Diploma Course 21 concludes at NYRDDC (Yangon)

THE graduation of the AGTI Diploma Course 21 and job appointment letter handover ceremony of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon) in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Yangon Region, took place yesterday at the convocation hall of the Degree College.

Speaking at the event, State Administration Council Member Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon and Sagaing) were established for the youths from border areas to participate in promoting border areas and

socioeconomic status as reliable government employees. To date, the degree college in Yangon has produced a total of 3,166 degree holders: 685 arts degrees, 1,467 science degrees, and 1,014 AGTI diplomas. Moreover, there are also 71 MA, 146 MSc, 55 MRes, 15 PhD, 301 BE, 15 ME and 452 BTech.

He then urged graduates to cooperate in building a Union based on democracy and a federal system as per the Keep Moving Forward To Achieve Our Goal and presented an award to an outstanding student.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein presented cash prizes for dinner to the



SAC Member MoBA Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae addresses the graduation ceremony of the AGTI Diploma Course 21 yesterday.

principal, and the representatives of six ministries presented job appointment letters to 106 students.

The Union minister and regional chief minister attended the dinner in the evening, watched entertainment pro-

grammes of students and presented cash prizes and the flower basket to the students. — MAN/KTZH

NATIONAL

SAC Member opens pre-monsoon MSME product exhibition

STATE Administration Council Member Daw Dwe Bu attended the opening ceremony of the three-day pre-monsoon MSME product exhibition, competition, and market fair, held under the supervision of the Kachin State government at the Sitapu Manaw Ground at 9 am yesterday.

Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan, his wife, the chief justice of the State High Court, state cabinet ministers and their wives, and the state advocate-general were also present at the ceremony.

In his opening speech, State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan emphasized that the event aims to encourage and promote MSME businesses in the State, foster the production of innovative products, increase the use of import substitutes, strengthen domestic market connectivity, and expand access



SAC Member Daw Dwe Bu, Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan, and officials look into exhibits at the opening of the pre-monsoon MSME product expo in Myitkyina yesterday.

to foreign markets. Additionally, an MSME product competition is being held to provide partic-

ipants with experience for Union-level MSME exhibitions and competitions.

Following the speech, SAC Member Daw Dwe Bu, the Kachin State chief minister, the

State government's minister for Security and Border Affairs, and the economic minister cut the ribbon to inaugurate the market. They also posed for a group photo with attendees.

Afterwards, the SAC member and the state chief minister, accompanied by officials, toured exhibits showcasing State-produced agricultural and livestock products, local food products, cooperative and consumer affairs galleries, MSME products, and performances by the Kachin State government's Malikha Band. They also visited consumer goods and local food stalls.

This is the fifth time the Kachin State government has organized the market fair to promote local MSME production and market access. A product competition is also being held, with 11 local MSME entrepreneurs participating. — IPRD/MKKS

ASEAN transport chiefs meet in extended talks



The commemorative group photo session in progress at the fourth ASEAN-US Senior Transport Officials Meeting & the 59th ASEAN Senior Transport Official Meeting in Yangon.

THE 59th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting and the 4th ASEAN-United States Senior Transport Officials Meeting, hosted by Myanmar and led by the Ministry of Transport and Communications, were held consecutively from 21 to 23 May at the Wyndham Grand Yangon Hotel.

At the opening ceremony of the meeting on the morn-

ing of 21 May, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Aung Kyaw Tun discussed ASEAN's ongoing efforts to promote regional transport cooperation, integration, sustainable development, and resilience, Myanmar's active participation aligned with ASEAN's vision and agenda under the ASEAN Charter, and the country's initiatives

to develop comprehensive transport infrastructure under the National Transport Master Plan.

The 59th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting was held on 21 and 22 May, followed by the 4th ASEAN-United States Senior Transport Officials Meeting on 23 May as per the approved agenda.

During the meeting, mem-

ber countries discussed and approved the finalization of the ASEAN-New Zealand Air Transport Agreement, the roadmap for implementing electric vehicles in the ASEAN region, the Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Ship Waste in the ASEAN region, and the ASEAN Transport Cooperation Agenda for 2026-2030.

The meetings, chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, were attended by subject matter experts from the Ministries of Transport and Communications, Foreign Affairs, and Construction, along with representatives from ASEAN member countries and dialogue partners.

As the rotating chairman of ASEAN Transport Cooperation in 2025, Myanmar will reportedly lead transport-related meetings and discussions. — MNA/MKKS

Global aid pours into Myanmar as quake toll hits 3,732

AS of 23 May, a total of 3,732 people died, 5,104 were injured, and 75 remain missing across six regions and states in Myanmar severely affected by the powerful earthquake on 28 March.

Search and rescue teams from the Myanmar Fire Brigade, alongside local and international rescue organizations, have been conducting emergency operations without delay. To date, 653 individuals have been rescued from collapsed buildings, and the bodies of 809 deceased persons have been recovered.

Local donors and philanthropic individuals have been providing financial aid and relief supplies, while foreign governments, international organizations, and charitable donors have also extended monetary and material assistance.

These relief items are being swiftly distributed to affected communities to ensure timely support. — MNA/MKKS

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NATIONAL

Union Info Minister discusses screening processes

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn presided over a coordination meeting on film screening measures in Yangon yesterday.

The Union minister said the ministry made efforts together with the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization to restore the film industry to normal condition, as it was suspended during the COVID-19 period, and the government helped to hold the film Academy award ceremony in the post-COVID-19 period and presented lifetime achievement awards in film.

It can be seen that the special emphasis of the Head of State that he places on the film and artistic industries. Some artistes participated in party politics instead of their career, and some cases occurred in the country.

He highlighted the need to



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn chairs the coordination meeting on film screening regulations.

share the factors and information that the government wants to inform the public at the cinemas as they are recreational places, lead the public to the right pathway while offering pleasures, and discussed other matters related to the screening of foreign movies with Myanmar subtitles, censorship measures, quality, marketable and artistic films and win-win- situation be-

tween the owners of cinemas and producers.

At noon, the Union minister visited MRTV and observed the practice section of faculty members and students from GTI (Insein).

The Union minister watched the recording and music video-making processes of TTC students at Studio 1 and presented cash prizes to them.

At Studio D, he enjoyed the song recording processes of artistes who will perform at the forum on the post-earthquake Myanmar Economic recovery and rehabilitation to be held at Mingalar Thiri Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 30 May. He awarded the artistes.

At Studio E, he watched the practice session of the MRTV orchestra and the State Orchestra at Studio B. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar, Russia hold bilateral talks on biosecurity cooperation in Moscow

AT the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Aung Zeya who is also Chair of Myanmar's Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) National Authority attended the Russia-Myanmar Coordination Meeting on Biosecurity Cooperation held on 22 May in Moscow.

During the morning session, Dr Aung Zeya and officials from relevant Russian biosecurity agencies discussed global and Asia-Pacific regional efforts to mitigate biological threats and infectious diseases that may arise from humans, animals, plants, genetically modified crops and biological products. The dialogue aimed to deepen strategic cooperation between Russia and Myanmar, highlighting mutual interest in fostering long-term friendship and biosecurity for the benefit of both countries' populations.

Following the session, the Russian delegation hosted a lunch in honour of the



Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya presents the souvenir.

Myanmar delegation. In the afternoon session, both sides continued discussions on long-term strategic cooperation in biosecurity and joint mechanisms for the prevention and control of biological hazards and infectious outbreaks.

Myanmar became the 171st member of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) on 1 December 2014 and has been committed to upholding the provisions and obligations of the Convention. Referring to Article X of the BWC, which promotes international cooperation in science and technology. Myanmar seeks to strengthen national biosecurity in collaboration with Russia, a country renowned for its advanced expertise and peaceful application of scientific and technological knowledge. This partnership is expected to support Myanmar's national goals and intensify international cooperation in the biosecurity sector. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar detains two illegal entrants

THE government strictly takes action against those who enter the country via the border routes and commit online gambling, online scams and other criminal activities, and also transfers offender to their respective countries as per the law and procedures.

The authorities detained two Koreans who illegally entered the country and conducted online gambling and online scams in Myawady-KK Park yesterday. The officials conducted activities to ensure the rapid transfer of these offenders.

Between 30 January and 23 May 2025, a total of 9,101 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 8,620 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 481 individuals. These individuals are currently under detention while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries, and systematically transferring the foreigners involved in these illegal operations. — MNA/KTZH



Immigration officials processing deportation of undocumented foreign entrants.

Expedite efforts to improve the health sector

REGARDING the healthcare sector, Myanmar still faces several weaknesses. It is evident in daily social activities that there is a lack of a healthy lifestyle. Public awareness of health issues remains low, and in some areas, ongoing terror acts and conflicts have further contributed to weaknesses in the healthcare system.

Due to existing weaknesses in the healthcare sector, not only healthcare workers but also organizations and individuals involved in the health sector, as well as the general public, must work together in a collaborative effort. The Head of State has adopted policies such as:

“Only with good health can one work,” “Only with good health can one study,” and “Nothing is more valuable than human life,” along with “Every hospital must have doctors.” In accordance with these policy guidelines, the Ministry of Health is actively supporting and enhancing the healthcare system by filling necessary healthcare workforce gaps and providing essential medical supplies and equipment.

Currently, a new variant of the COVID-19 virus is spreading in neighbouring Thailand. To prevent the spread of this virus into Myanmar and to ensure early prevention, treatment, and control in the event of any infections, the Ministry of Health and relevant organizations are continuously monitoring and taking preventive measures. The public is also urged to maintain constant health awareness and vigilance and to prioritize personal health at all times.

At present, although efforts are being made from all sides to provide healthcare services to the public, there are still unmet needs. To construct hospitals in various regions, the government is striving to provide land, buildings, and medical equipment. The government has decided to fulfil all necessary requirements, especially in the areas of education and healthcare.

Currently, it is both the school reopening season and the beginning of the rainy season. Therefore, in order to promote healthy and proper habits in the daily lives of the public, it is necessary for the health sector and relevant organizations to collaborate in their efforts. To prevent the spread of infectious diseases that commonly occur during the rainy season, support must be provided to ensure access to clean water and safe food.

Currently, a new variant of the COVID-19 virus is spreading in neighbouring Thailand. To prevent the spread of this virus into Myanmar and to ensure early prevention, treatment, and control in the event of any infections, the Ministry of Health and relevant organizations are continuously monitoring and taking preventive measures. The public is also urged to maintain constant health awareness and vigilance and to prioritize personal health at all times.

CONNECTING ON THE UNIVERSAL DANCE OF WORDS

By AUGUSTIN

နိုင်ပါသည်။ အကြောင်းမှာ အလွယ်တကူ ရရှိလာသော အရာတစ်ခုအပေါ်တွင် လူအများစုသည် အလေးအနက် မထားဘဲ ပေါ့ပေါ့တန်တန် သဘောထားတတ်သောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။ ဂါထာမန္တန်၏ နက်နဲသော အဓိပ္ပာယ်ကို နားမလည်ဘဲ၊ ၎င်း၏ တန်ခိုးအာနိသင်ကို မယုံကြည်ဘဲ လျှောက်ရွတ်ဆိုခြင်းသည် ဂါထာမန္တန်ကို တေးသွားတစ်ခုကဲ့သို့ အဓိပ္ပာယ်မဲ့သော အရာတစ်ခုအဖြစ်သို့ ရောက်ရှိသွားစေနိုင်ပါသည်။

ထို့အတူပင်၊ လူ့လောက၌လည်း တန်ဖိုးကြီးမားသော အရာဝတ္ထု သို့မဟုတ် အခွင့်အရေးတစ်ရပ်ကို မည်သူ့ကိုမဆို အလွယ်တကူ ပေးအပ်လိုက်မည်ဆိုပါက၊ ထိုအရာ၏ တန်ဖိုးသည် လူအများအကြား၌ လျော့ပါးသွားတတ်သည်။ အကြောင်းမှာ အခက်အခဲမရှိဘဲ ရရှိလာသော အရာတစ်ခုအပေါ်တွင် လူတို့သည် တန်ဖိုးထားမြတ်နိုးရန် ခဲယဉ်းသောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။

Imagine something special, like a magic spell or a cool chant that people think is important. This saying is about what happens when you give that special thing to just anyone super easily. When everyone can get it without trying hard, they don't think it's a big deal anymore. They might just say it or use it like it's a regular song, not something special. In essence, the idiom highlights the principle that the ease of acquisition often diminishes the perceived value of something, no matter how precious it might inherently be.

USAGES:
Easy come, easy go idiom. Something acquired without much effort is often lost or spent quickly and carelessly. It emphasizes that things obtained easily are not valued as much as those earned through hard work.
Definition: Something acquired without much effort is often lost or spent quickly and carelessly. It emphasizes that things obtained easily are not valued as much as those earned through hard work.
Example: He won a lot of money in the lottery, but it was easy come, easy go; he spent it all within a year. Familiarity breeds contempt proverb. Close or frequent association with someone or something can lead to a loss of respect or appreciation for them.
Definition: Close or frequent association with someone or something can lead to a loss of respect or appreciation for them.
Example: At first, everyone loved the new coffee machine, but familiarity breeds contempt, and now people complain about it constantly.

ကတွတ်ပေါက် ဖျိုင်းစောင့်
An egret watching a fish hole in a paddy dyke.

• ဖျိုင်းသည် ကတွတ်ပေါက်မှ ထွက်လာမည့် ငါးကို ဖမ်းရန် စောင့်မျှော်နေသကဲ့သို့ အခွင့်အလမ်းတစ်စုံတစ်ရာကို မျှော်လင့်ခြင်းကြီးစွာဖြင့် စောင့်ကြည့်နေသည်။
• တစ်ဦးတစ်ယောက်သည် အခြားပုဂ္ဂိုလ် တစ်ဦးတစ်ယောက်အား တွေ့ဆုံလိုသဖြင့်... ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်လူသော လမ်းမှ အချိန်ကြာမြင့်စွာ စောင့်ဆိုင်းနေရလျှင် ကတွတ်ပေါက် ဖျိုင်းစောင့် နေရသည်ဟု ဆိုစမှတ်ပြုကြလေသည်။

The new king made a big pond for his son and daughter. When they filled the pond with water, a little turtle came with the water.

The prince and princess saw the turtle, and they were scared! They told their father, the king.

The king said they could punish the turtle they found in their pond. Some helpers said to put the turtle in a big bowl and hit it. Some said to cook it and eat it. Some said to burn it on hot rocks. Some said to burn it with fire.

But one helper was scared of the water. He said to throw the turtle in the big river.

The little turtle didn't want to go in the water. So, it pretended to cry and beg them not to throw it in. The people thought the turtle was really scared of the water. So, they threw it in the river.

Right away, the little turtle went under the water and didn't come back.

(This story is from a book called Khuddaka Nikaya.)

USAGES:
Blessing in disguise n. An initially negative event with positive results.
Definition: Something that seems bad at first but later turns out to be good.
Example: Losing her old job was a blessing in disguise; her new one is much better.
Fall on your feet idiom. Landing in a good situation after a tough time, often due to luck.
Definition: To be lucky and successful despite problems.
Example: Despite the company's failure, he fell on his feet with a lucrative new offer.
Turn the tables (on someone) idiom. Reversing a situation to become stronger than someone who was previously stronger.
Definition: To suddenly gain an advantage over someone who had one over you.
Example: The underdog team turned the tables in the final minutes of the game.

ဂါထာပေး တေးဖြစ်
The ease of acquisition often diminishes the perceived value of something.

• ဂါထာမန္တန်ကို တွေ့ရာလူအား ပေးမိရာ ရသ့များက အလွယ်တကူရသောကြောင့် ပေါ့ပေါ့တန်တန်ရွတ်ဆိုသဖြင့် တေးအဖြစ် ရောက်ရသကဲ့သို့ တန်ဖိုးရှိသောအရာကို တွေ့ရာလူအား ပေးမိရာ အလွယ်တကူ ရခြင်းကြောင့် တန်ဖိုးမရှိဖြစ်သွားသည်ဟု ဤစကားပုံကဆိုသည်။
(ဂါထာ သုတကာပေး တေးဖြစ် - ဟူ၍လည်း အသုံးရှိသည်။)
ရှေးယခင်က ဂါထာမန္တန်များသည် လွယ်လွယ်ကူကူ ရရှိနိုင်သော အရာမျိုးမဟုတ်ခဲ့ပါ။ ယုံကြည်မှုရှိသော ဆရာသမားများထံမှ လေးလေးစားစား သင်ယူရခြင်း၊ စိတ်ရှည်သည်းခံစွာ လေ့ကျင့်ရခြင်းနှင့် အချိန်ကာလတစ်ခုအထိ တန်ဖိုးထား ထိန်းသိမ်းရခြင်းတို့ ပြုလုပ်မှသာ တန်ခိုးအာနိသင် ထက်မြက်သော ဂါထာမန္တန်တစ်ခုကို ပိုင်ဆိုင်နိုင်ခဲ့ကြသည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် ဂါထာမန္တန်တစ်ခုသည် ရရှိရန် ခက်ခဲလေလေ၊ ပိုင်ဆိုင်သူအတွက် တန်ဖိုးကြီးမားလေလေ ဖြစ်ခဲ့သည်။
သို့သော် အကယ်၍ တန်ဖိုးကြီးမားသော ဂါထာမန္တန်တစ်ခုကို မည်သူ့ကိုမဆို လွယ်လွယ်ကူကူ ပေးအပ်လိုက်မည်ဆိုပါက၊ ထိုဂါထာမန္တန်၏ တန်ဖိုးသည် လျင်မြန်စွာ လျော့ပါးသွား

IDIOMS, sayings, proverbs, and idiomatic expressions enrich daily conversations, adding colour, conciseness, and cultural understanding to our interactions.

စူဠလိပ် ရေထဲလွှတ်
The little turtle goes into the water.

There was a little turtle. Some people wanted to hurt the turtle. So, they threw it in the water. But the turtle didn't die! It was happy in the water.

It's like when you want to make someone sad, but they don't get sad. Sometimes, they even like it!

Someone said, "If you call him, he will go away easy, like the turtle in the water."

• စူဠလိပ်အား သေစေလိုသော စေတနာဖြင့် ရေထဲသို့ ပစ်ချလိုက်သော်လည်း မသေသည့်အပြင် အလွန်ပင် နှစ်သက်သွားသကဲ့သို့ ဖြစ်လေသည်။ ထို့အတူ သူတစ်ပါးအား ဒုက္ခရောက်စေလိုသော ရည်ရွယ်ချက်ဖြင့် ပြုမူလိုက်သည့်အခါ၌လည်း ဒုက္ခမရောက်သည့်အပြင် သူ၏ အလိုဆန္ဒနှင့်ပင် တိုက်ဆိုင်သွားလေသည်။

စူဠလိပ်ကို ရေထဲသို့ လွှတ်လိုက်သည့်အခါ ပြန်လည်၍ မပေါ်လာတော့သကဲ့သို့ အမှက်စွ တစ်စုံတစ်ခုဖြင့် စေလွှတ်လိုက်သည့်အခါ၌လည်း ပြန်လည်၍ ပေါ်ပေါက်မလာတော့ချေ။

စာပေ အကိုးအကား

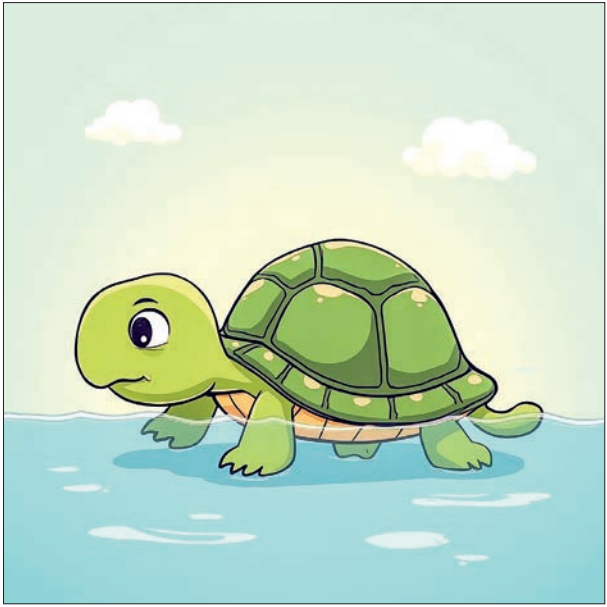
ဗာရာဏသီပြည်၌ ဗြဟ္မဒတ်မင်း၏ သားတော် အိမ်ရှေ့မင်း သားသည် မြို့တော်မှ ထွက်ခွာ၍ ယခုနံနာမြစ်အနီးရှိ တောင်ကြားတစ်ခုတွင် ရေသုအဖြစ် ရဟန်းပြုကာ နေထိုင်လေသည်။ ထိုသို့ နေထိုင်စဉ် နဂါးမတစ်ဦးနှင့် ဆက်ဆံမိ၍ သားတော်တစ်ပါးနှင့် သမီးတော်တစ်ပါးကို ဖွားမြင်လေသည်။ မမည်းတော် ဗြဟ္မဒတ်မင်း နတ်ရွာစံတော်မူသောအခါ ဗာရာဏသီပြည်သို့ ပြန်လည်၍ မင်းပြုလေသည်။ သားတော်နှင့် သမီးတော်တို့အတွက် ပေါက္ခရဏီကန်ကြီးကို တူးဖော်စေ၍ ရေသွင်းစေရာ လိပ်ငယ်တစ်ကောင်သည် ရေစီးနှင့်အတူ ပါလာလေသည်။ သားတော်နှင့် သမီးတော်တို့သည် ထိုလိပ်ငယ်ကို မြင်သောအခါ ကြောက်လန့်တကြား ဖြစ်သဖြင့် မမည်းတော်အား ထိုအကြောင်းကို လျှောက်ထားကြလေသည်။

မမည်းတော်မင်းကြီးသည် သားတော် သမီးတော်တို့အား ရေကစားရာ၌ တွေ့ရှိသော လိပ်ငယ်အား ဒဏ်ပေးစေရာ အမတ်အချို့က ဆိုထံသို့ ထည့်၍ ကျည်ဖျေဖြင့် ထောင်းရန် အကြံပြုကြ၏။ အချို့က အသားကို ချက်ပြုတ်စားသောက်ရန် အကြံပေးကြ၏။ အချို့က ရှားမီးခဲတွင် ကင်ရန် အကြံပြုကြ၏။ အချို့က မီးပြင်းတိုက်၍ ရှို့ပစ်ရန် အကြံပေးကြ၏။ ရေကို ကြောက်ရွံ့သော အမတ်တစ်ဦးကမူ ယခုနံနာမြစ်ထဲသို့ ပစ်ချရန် အကြံပြုလေသည်။

ထိုအခါ လိပ်ငယ်သည် မိမိအား ရေထဲသို့ ပစ်ချရန် ဟန်ဆောင်၍ ငိုယိုတောင်းပန်သည်ကို အမှန်ပင် ဖြစ်သည်ဟု ထင်မှတ်ကြသဖြင့် ယခုနံနာမြစ်ထဲသို့ ပစ်ချလိုက်ကြလေသည်။ လိပ်ငယ်သည်လည်း မဆိုင်းမတွပ်ဘဲ ရေထဲသို့ ငုပ်လျှိုးကွယ်ပျောက်သွားတော့သည်။

ခုဒ္ဒကနိကာယ်၊ ၅၄၄-ဘုရားဒတ္တဇာတိ။

A long time ago, in a city called Varanasi, the king's son went to live in the mountains by a river. He became like a wise man. While he was there, he met a dragon lady. They had a son and a daughter. Then, the king died. So, the king's son went back to Varanasi to be the new king.



စူဠလိပ် ရေထဲလွှတ်



ဂါထာပေး တေးဖြစ်



ကတွတ်ပေါက် ဖျိုင်းစောင့်



NATIONAL

Schools ramp up crime & traffic safety programmes

MYANMAR Police Force will conduct crime prevention and traffic safety awareness activities during the upcoming school season in Yangon, the country’s commercial capital, according to Hmawby District Police Force.

As part of a public benefit initiative, police officers are working with local authorities to raise awareness among workers from the Myaungtaga Industrial Zone and school students about crime reduction and traffic accident prevention. The outreach activities will continue in the field during the start of the school year, the commander of the Hmawby District Police Force said.

“These are mostly labourers from Myaungtaga Industrial Zone. Since they commute frequently, we are working to educate them in collaboration with administrative departments to



Myanmar Police Force launches safety campaign to combat crime and reduce traffic accidents in Hmawby District, Yangon Region.

prevent them from falling victim to theft, robbery or traffic accidents. We use video clips of real incidents to make the message clearer and easier to the people to understand. Parents also need to

be aware of crime prevention and road discipline. With schools reopening soon, we will show these video clips in schools located along the busy Hmawbi roads to help reduce human and resource

loss,” said Police Lt-Col Ngwe Tin of Hmawby District.

Hmawby District, a predominantly rural area with active cargo transport and frequent travel, sees efforts of the district

police to reduce crimes such as robbery, theft and traffic-related injuries caused by vehicles and motorcycles.

The Myaungtaga Industrial Zone, located in Hmawby Township, is busy daily with commuting factory workers. Likewise, the Yangon-Pyay Road that runs through the area sees heavy traffic. After the school enrolment period, the start of the school year in early April typically brings increased school-related travel.

In preparation, the Hmawby District Police Force will continue its annual awareness campaigns in industrial zones, schools and both urban and rural areas. During April, the police will distribute pamphlets and screen video clips in the Myaungtaga Industrial Zone and basic education schools to help prevent crime and traffic accidents. — Aung Than Oo/KZL

MCFA, MCEF sign strategic partnership agreement



Officials from the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) (MCFA) and the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) ink the memorandum of understanding for friendly cooperation.

THE Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) (MCFA) and the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation (MCEF) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on friendly partnership and collaborative efforts on 22 May at the federation’s meeting hall in Yangon on 22 May.

Present at the signing ceremony were Chairman U Tin Oo, vice-chairpersons and secretaries from the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central), President U Shein Win, and responsible officials from the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation. Both sides signed the MoU and exchanged commemorative gifts.

Similarly, the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) and the Golden Education Sharing Centre (GESC) Chinese language school also signed a memorandum of understanding at the association’s meeting hall on 19 May to enhance cooperation. — ASH/KZL

Thai Embassy brings back T-pop challenge to Myanmar



This photo showcases some of the announcements for the Thai singing competition T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 2.

Myanma Insurance disburses K4.68B for disaster claims

MYANMA Insurance (MI) under the Ministry of Planning and Finance paid out K4.68 billion for fire and earthquake insurance claims following the Mandalay Earthquake.

Myanma Insurance pays out coverage to those insured who purchased a fire and earthquake disaster insurance policy for the losses caused by the earthquake starting from 29 March. “We have disbursed K4.68 billion in fire and earthquake damages. Over 50 claims from Yangon, Mandalay, Meiktila, Kyaukse, Nay Pyi Taw and Sagaing have been processed. Over 500 policyholders have asked for compensation so far,” said an official of the MI.

Insurance Companies affiliated with Myanmar Insurance Associations are endeavouring to expedite assess-



Buildings and houses are seen destroyed by the Mandalay earthquake.

ments for policyholders with earthquake and fire damage protection in line with the insurance policy. Myanmar Insurance reported that 466 policies were affected with K286 billion in coverage, following the Mandalay earthquake. The estimated payouts total K1.87 trillion. — ASH/KK

THE Thai Embassy to Myanmar will host the T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 2 singing competition at the Novotel Yangon Max Hotel’s ballroom in Sangyoung Township, Yangon Region, on 21 and 22 June.

“Special guests Aou and Boom, stars of popular Thai series such as Vice Versa, We Are, and Perfect 10 Liners, will participate in the singing competition. The eight finalists will perform live in the T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 2. The winner will receive a cash prize of US\$3,200. This singing competition is also part of the ‘Thai Festival 2025’,” said an organizer of the T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 2.

The competition will also showcase stalls offering Thai food and drinks, beauty products, fashion items, travel and communication services, health packages, and traditional Thai art products. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

Jayatu Bharatam Lecture Series launches with inaugural address

THE Embassy of India, in collaboration with the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Yangon, and the Myanmar Tagore Association, held the Inaugural Lecture of the Jayatu Bharatam Lecture Series at the India Centre at 654-666, corner of Merchant and Shwebonetha streets on 23 May.

It was attended by Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur, Mr TK Paul, Mrs Aalo Dass and members from Tagore Society Myanmar, and Mr Marimuthu, chairman of the All Myanmar Hindu Central Council.

“I am delighted to be here and address the inaugural session of our Jayatu Bharatam Lecture Series to mark Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti or the 164th birth anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, which was celebrated earlier this month. More than a remembrance, today is an opportunity to connect on a deeper level and delve into the vast ocean of thoughts that



The launch event of the Inaugural Lecture of the Jayatu Bharatam Lecture Series.

Gurudev gifted to the world through his poetry, music and philosophy,” said Ambassador Abhay Thakur, speaking about Tagore on the occasion.

Being much more than a poet, Rabindranath Tagore is a visionary who believes in the power of culture to unite people, and he became Asia’s first Nobel laureate. Moreover, Gurudev visited Yangon three times - in 1916, 1924 and 1927 - and his unplanned visits were attempts to promote bilateral deeper cultural and spiritual dialogues.

His influence goes beyond literature, as many of his essays

were translated into Myanmar, making his ideas resonate with Myanmar intellectuals. His Nobel Prize-winning poem, ‘Gitanjali,’ became the voice of the Indian spirit, echoes of which are still heard in Yangon today. Tagore’s philosophy of nature, compassion, peace, and harmony is very similar to Myanmar’s cultural observances.

The Jayatu Bharatam lecture series follows the successful Ramayan Vyakhyanmala held last year, in which five lectures were given twice in Yangon, and once each in Mandalay, Zeyawady and Kyauktaga. — MT/ZN

Italian Embassy in Yangon opens scholarship applications

MYANMAR students can apply for a scholarship jointly awarded by Awba Group and the Embassy of Italy in Yangon.

The embassy said it has built a partnership with Myanmar Awba Group in supporting Myanmar students who wish to study in Italy, and the Awba Group will sponsor four new scholarship grants for Bachelor’s or Master’s degree studies in agriculture, environment, sustainability or food security and food-related sciences at a university in Italy during the academic year of 2025-2026.

In addition, last year’s Awba Group scholarship winners will also be awarded a renewal depending on their academic results.

The application can be submitted to the embassy by email



Call for scholarship applications awarded by the Italian Embassy in partnership with Awba Group.

to yangon.culturale@esteri.it no later than 8 June 2025. All details and requirements can be found in the call for applications at https://ambyangon.esteri.it/en/news/dall_ambasciata/2025/05/scholarships-for-myanmar-students-awarded-by-the-embassy-of-italy-in-yangon-in-partnership-with-awba-group-call-for-applications-for-the-academic-year-2025-26. — MT/ZS

June acting class applications open 26 May



An opening ceremony of the acting class 1/2019 by the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization.

FOR the acting class, which is planned to open in early June, application forms will be sold starting 26 May, according to Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization.

MMPO said the acting class 1/2025 will be conducted this year, according to the wishes of producers and acting enthusiasts. Four experts who have more than ten years of experience in teaching acting have been chosen as the main lecturers who will lead the class under four main themes.

MMPO’s executive members have helped organize the

class and Academy winners: actors, directors, and technical and art experts will provide the class with their experiences and advice.

Application forms are available at MMPO located at Wingaba Street in Bahan Township, during office hours from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, from 26 May to 6 June, and contact numbers 09 880942790 and 09 880942791 are provided for more information.

Occasionally, MMPO provides training courses on acting, directing, scriptwriting, editing and technical know-how. — MT/ZS

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Friday 23 May 2025)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea, South Bay, Eastcentral Bay and Northeast Bay of Bengal. Weather is cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 24 MAY 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing Regions and northern Shan State, fairly widespread in Bago, Magway and Upper Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Chin and (southern and eastern)Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Yangon, Mandalay and Upper Sagaing Regions and Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of advancement of southwest monsoon into the Northern Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 MAY 2025: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 MAY 2025: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 MAY 2025: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Regions. — DMH



An invite poster for the Industry Expo 2025 in Sri Lanka.

Industry Expo 2025 welcomes Myanmar businesspeople

MYANMAR business people are invited to participate in the Industry Expo 2025 that will be held at BMICH in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 19-22 June 2025, organized by the Industrial Development Board (IDB) and the Ministry of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development of Sri Lanka, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

The expo will provide a

platform to build networks with regional and international industrial leaders, showcase industrial products and investment potential, and explore partnerships in manufacturing and industry. Over 400 exhibitors are expected to participate in this.

Individuals can enquire about details through the contact number at 067 408623 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

Domestic palm oil tied to global prices

LOWER global palm oil prices weighed on domestic palm oil prices, which continue declining, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce.

The wholesale reference price declined to K6,525 per viss on 19-25 May from K7,280 recorded on 1 January, showing a significant decrease of K755 per viss.

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. The committee issues reference price

es weekly every Monday through the website www.doca.gov.mm of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Facebook pages of the department and the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association. Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline.

The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices. The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Ser-

vices Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

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

The domestic consumption of palm oil 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

CBM sells THB5.7M on 22 May

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over 5.7 million baht on 22 May and US\$120,000 and two million baht on 21 May.

CBM also sold \$568,000 and some 1.9 million baht on 20 May, again, after the sale of \$3 million on 19 May and \$300,000 and 1.6 million baht on 16 May.

CBM pumped \$138,500 and three million baht on 15 May and over 4.3 million baht on 14 May into the financial market.

CBM announced on 13 May that it would sell \$23.67 million to fuel oil traders and 50 million baht to importers.

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

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

CBM announced on 6 May that it would sell \$33 million and 200 million baht to those engaged in the fuel oil industry. CBM sold 397,843 yuan on that day.

CBM injected over \$42 million, over 20 million baht and 500,000 yuan in April, over \$126 million, 320 million baht and 3.6 million yuan in March, over \$88 million, 7.5 million yuan and 161 million baht in February and over \$124 million, over 13.8

million baht and over 4.8 million yuan in January.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



The facade view of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) head office in Nay Pyi Taw.

Myanmar's Central Bank terminates single-function cards

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) revoked the licences of single-purpose card providers upon non-compliance with rules, regulations, orders and directives, according to its notification dated 22 May.

Four single-purpose payment card providers: Kispá Nadi Express Ltd (iPay card), San Yaung Ni Road Transport Co Ltd (K card), Active Business Consolidation Co Ltd (ABC gift card) and Integrated Smart Solution Co Ltd (AnyPay prepaid card) were cancelled effective 1 April 2025 as they fail to adhere to CBM's Electronic Payment Directive 2/2012. — NN/KK

Saudi Arabia’s launches ‘TOURISE’ a global platform to redefine tourism

SAUDI Arabia launched ‘TOURISE’ on Friday a global platform designed to shape a new horizon and plot a shared roadmap for the next 50 years of tourism.

TOURISE is defined as the first global platform to unite public and private sector leaders across tourism, technology, investment and sustainability ecosystems. It aims to unlock the deal flows and high-value investment opportunities to reset the industry.

“Anchored by a high-level advisory board of global industry leaders, TOURISE aims to unlock unprecedented deal flow and high-value investment opportunities that will reset the industry,” says a release of the ministry of Tourism of Saudi Arabia.

TOURISE is structured for year-round impact in the Industry at a larger scale through digital collaboration, thematic working groups, and cross-sector partnerships focused on long-term sector transformation.

This includes a series of white papers and global indices focused on tourism, sustainability and global economy, co-developed with leading international organizations, setting new benchmarks for the tourism sector. — ANI

EV imports surge in Nepal

THE import of electric vehicles (EVs) into Nepal has been growing rapidly lately as the government is working on its new fiscal year budget.

By mid-May, the country had imported 9,850 electric four-wheelers and 7,344 of them came from China, the Department of Customs said on Wednesday.

In the past month, many more Chinese EVs had been shipped into the Rasuwagadhi-Kerung border point, with many of them being parked at the Rasuwa Customs Office



An electric car is seen at a cleaning center in Kathmandu, Nepal, 7 June 2022. PHOTO: SULAV SHRESTHA/XINHUA

and beyond for clearance, said Rabindra Prasad Pyakurel from the office.

“EV imports have been surging since mid-

He noted that since 15 May, over 100 EVs had arrived at the border point each day for five days and “the number has doubled since then”.

At the Tatopani-Zhangmu border point, the flow of EVs started to surge as well in mid-April.

“As a result, there are now around 700 electric four-wheelers parked inside the customs yard, while the number was below 200 in the past,” said Surya Prasad Kafle, information officer at the Tatopani Customs. — Xinhua

Indonesia’s leading pharmaceutical company targets 8-10% growth in 2025

INDONESIA’S largest pharmaceutical company, PT Kalbe Farma, has set a target of 8 to 10 per cent annual growth in net sales and net profit for 2025.

“With strong fundamentals and by leveraging opportunities from healthcare sector reforms through various business initiatives, we remain optimistic about

continuing our growth amid a still challenging market environment,” said Bernadette Ruth Irawati Setiady, president director of Kalbe Farma, on Thursday.

To support this target, Kalbe Farma has allocated a maximum capital expenditure of 1 trillion rupiah (US\$61.2 million) for the year. — Xinhua

260 miners stuck underground after ‘incident’ at S African shaft



This aerial view shows the Sibanye Stillwater platinum mine in Marikana, near Rustenburg, South Africa, on 15 May 2020. PHOTO: AFP

DAMAGE to a mine shaft kept 260 miners stuck in a gold mine outside Johannesburg overnight, the mine manager and union said Friday.

Mining employs hundreds of thousands of people in South Africa — the biggest exporter of platinum and a major exporter of gold, diamonds, coal and other raw materials — and accidents are common.

“All 260 employees have been accounted for, are safe and have been provided with food,” Sibanye-Stillwater said in a statement. — AFP

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Thep Watana Co., Ltd** have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name “**Sa Sa International Co., Ltd**”, to new distributor name “**Taw Win Dar Co., Ltd**”. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. **Taw Win Dar Co., Ltd**. Ph-09401573814

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 20 VOY.NO. (02)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 20 VOY. NO. (02)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **26-5-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** 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.

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GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS: FEATURED REPORTS FOR THIS WEEK



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gives a press conference in Jerusalem on 21 May 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Netanyahu appoints new Shin Bet chief, defying legal warning over conflict of interest

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday named a senior army officer as the next head of the Shin Bet domestic intelligence agency, drawing immediate criticism from the attorney general, who warned the appointment was tainted by a conflict of interest.

The Prime Minister's Office said Major General David Zini would succeed Ronen Bar as Shin Bet director. Zini has held a series of senior operational posts in the Israeli military, including with the elite Sayeret Matkal special forces and as head of the Commando Brigade.

Within minutes of the announce-

Attorney-General Gali Baharav-Miara criticized the appointment, stating it was tainted by a conflict of interest and that Netanyahu disregarded legal advice.

ment, Attorney-General Gali Baharav-Miara issued a public rebuke, saying Netanyahu had disregarded legal advice and may have made the decision

while in a state of conflict of interest.

"The Prime Minister acted in violation of legal guidance, raising serious concerns that he did so while in a state of conflict of interest, rendering the appointment process fundamentally flawed," she said in a statement.

The warning follows a Supreme Court ruling on Wednesday that found Netanyahu's dismissal of outgoing Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar was unlawful. The court said Netanyahu's conflict of interest influenced the move due to ongoing investigations involving his associates in the so-called "Qatar-Gate" affair. — Xinhua

Denmark raises retirement age to 70 by 2040

DENMARK'S parliament adopted a law on Thursday raising the retirement age to 70 by 2040 from the current age of 67.

A total of 81 lawmakers voted in favour and 21 were opposed, the Folketing said on its website.

Since 2006, Denmark has indexed the official retirement age to life expectancy and has revised it every five years.

In 2030 the retirement age will increase to 68 and in 2035 it will go up to 69.

The new law sets the retirement age at 70 for all people born after 31 December 1970.

Social Democratic Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen, 47, said last year she was ready to review the system once the retirement age was set at 70.

"We no longer believe that the retirement age should be increased automatically," she told daily Berlingske in August. — AFP



Denmark's Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen addresses a press conference. **PHOTO: ADNAN BECI / AFP**

Iran, US to hold new round of nuclear talks in Rome

IRANIAN and US negotiators meet in Rome on Friday for a fifth round of nuclear talks, after a public disagreement over Tehran's uranium enrichment.

The talks, which began in April, are the highest-level contact between the foes since the United States quit a landmark 2015 nuclear accord during President Donald Trump's

first term.

Since returning to office, Trump has revived his "maximum pressure" campaign on Iran, backing talks but warning of military action if diplomacy fails.

Iran wants a new deal that would ease sanctions which have battered its economy.

The last round of talks,

in the Omani capital Muscat, ended with a public spat over enrichment.

US envoy Steve Witkoff said Washington "could not authorise even one per cent" enrichment — a position Tehran called a red line, citing its rights under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. — AFP



A public disagreement over whether Iran should be able to continue uranium enrichment has clouded the latest round of nuclear talks with the United States. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

SPORTS

Eh Mwi crushed by Wuttikrai in ONE co-main event TKO

THAI fighter Wuttikrai delivered an impressive performance to stop Myanmar's Eh Mwi via technical knockout (TKO) in the first round of the Flyweight Muay Thai co-main event at ONE Friday Fights 109, held on the night of 23 May in Bangkok, Thailand.

The bout ended just two minutes and 37 seconds into the opening round. Wuttikrai showcased superior Muay Thai technique, mixing high kicks and knees to dismantle Eh Mwi's striking-based approach.

Eh Mwi started strong with sharp Lethwei (Myanmar's traditional boxing) skills and aggressive pressure in the opening

minute. However, as the fight progressed, Wuttikrai's more versatile arsenal and superior conditioning began to turn the tide. A series of precise knees and a high kick visibly shook the Myanmar fighter, whose defence faltered under the Thai's relentless assault.

With Eh Mwi unable to recover and collapsing under pressure, the referee stepped in to stop the bout at 2:37 during Round 1, declaring Wuttikrai the winner by TKO. The win further cements Wuttikrai's rising status in the division, while Eh Mwi will need to reassess after suffering this early stoppage loss on a major stage. — KZL

Tuchel won't let England stars leave early for Club World Cup

THOMAS Tuchel said Friday he will not release England players early for the Club World Cup because he wants to build a close bond with his squad.

England play a World Cup qualifier against Andorra on 7 June before a friendly against Senegal in Nottingham three days later.

The expanded Club World Cup, involving 32 teams, starts in the United States on 14 June.

Tuchel had considered leaving out players involved in the month-long tournament, but opted to name eight in his squad on Friday and has no intention of allowing them to leave early.

"We will start the camp with 26 and finish the camp with the same 26. That's the decision in

the end," Tuchel said.

"I was an advocate and could see the reasons for the players who go to the Club World Cup to maybe leave a bit earlier, to maybe change the squad.

"We even had discussions if we nominate the squad without Club World Cup players, so the discussion was very open in all directions. But very quickly we understood that it is also important for us."

Real Madrid's Jude Bellingham, who is reportedly set for surgery on a shoulder issue after the tournament, Bayern Munich's Harry Kane and Atletico Madrid's Conor Gallagher are among the Club World Cup participants named in the England squad. Tuchel also called up the Chelsea quintet Cole Palmer, Noni Madueke, Trevoh Chalobah, Levi Colwill and Reece James. — AFP



England boss Thomas Tuchel. PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar Kabaddi Federation jets to Thailand for SEA Games



MKF delegates are seen before departing for Thailand.

THE Myanmar Kabaddi Federation departed from Yangon yesterday morning for Thailand to coordinate participation in the Kabaddi event at the upcoming XXXIII Southeast Asian (SEA) Games.

The delegation included Myanmar Kabaddi Federation President U Kyaw Naing, Patron U Htun Lin Thaung, Vice-Presidents U Thant Ko Win, U Kyaw Zin Oo, U Kyaw Zeya, U Tin Htun Win, and International Relations Officer U Nyo Naing Win, totalling seven. Executive

members of the federation were at the airport to see them off.

Kabaddi will be featured for the first time in the XXXIII SEA Games, with Thailand, a host nation, Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Timor-Leste set to compete.

The Myanmar Kabaddi Federation was restructured in May 2025 with a total of 20 members, including three Patrons, one President, four vice-presidents, a secretary and a joint secretary. — Arkar Linn/KZL

HOME / KABADDI

Pro Kabaddi League players grapple with sand, hope for selection in PKL 2025 auction

With the PKL Season 12 auction approaching on May 31 and June 1, Jai Bhagwan, Baldev and Mohu are hopeful of making a return to the mat after Khelo India Beach Games 2025.

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RAJDEEP SAHA



Baldev Singh (r) from Himachal Pradesh's Beach Kabaddi team during the Khelo India Beach Games 2025 at Ghoghla Beach. | Photo Credit: Shashi Shekhar Kashyap/ The Hindu

Kabaddi player Baldev Singh spent his birthday on Thursday grappling raiders on an 11x7 metre sand arena, far from the comfort of home and family. Competing at the Khelo

Sabalenka feeling 'stronger than ever' on clay before French Open

WORLD number one Aryna Sabalenka warned Friday she was feeling "stronger than ever" as she targets a fourth Grand Slam title and first on clay at the French Open.

The top seed from Belarus arrives in Paris after winning a third title on clay in Madrid and reaching the quarterfinals at the Italian Open in Rome.

"Throughout the years I've improved a lot (on clay) and today I feel physically, mentally... my game is pretty much ready to play on clay. Yeah, I definitely feel stronger than ever," Sabalenka told journalists.

Last year, an out-of-sorts Sabalenka was shocked by Russian teenager Mirra Andreeva in the quarterfinals in Paris.

And she is taking no chances as she opens on Sunday against 75th-ranked Russian Kamilla Rakhimova.

"I'm definitely not going to go for the same meal as before that quarter-final match, the lesson is learned," she smiled.

"I'm super motivated because I feel like last year I was really ready to be in the last stages of the tournament but my body didn't really feel the same.

"This year I'm motivated more than I was last year." Sabalenka's reign as two-time defend-



Belarus' Aryna Sabalenka warmed up for the French Open with a third Madrid title on clay. PHOTO: AFP

ing Australian Open champion ended in a defeat in the final in Melbourne to American Madison Keys in January. — AFP



ACCOUNTABILITY
FOR CORRUPTION

Thai court orders
former PM
Yingluck to pay
fine over rice-
pledging scheme

THAILAND'S Supreme Administrative Court on Thursday ordered former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to pay 10.03 billion baht (\$306 million) in damages over the rice-pledging scheme that occurred under her administration over a decade ago.

The ruling upheld the Ministry of Finance's appeal against a lower-court decision but reduced the compensation from the originally sought 35.7 billion baht (about \$1.08 billion), according to local media reports.

The court held Yingluck liable for financial losses related to her role as prime minister and chair of the National Rice Policy Committee, citing her negligence in failing to prevent corruption within the rice program.

The court found that the scheme, intended to support farmers by purchasing rice at above-market prices, led to significant market distortions and financial damage. — Xinhua



Russian forces are working on establishing a security buffer zone along the country's border with Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin said Thursday. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

Russian Army is solving task
of creating buffer zone: Putin

During a government meeting on 23 May 2025, President Vladimir Putin announced the creation of a "security buffer zone" along the Russia-Ukraine border.

THE Russian President said that his army is now solving the task of creating a buffer zone.

"I have already said that a decision has been made to create a necessary security buffer zone along the border. Our armed forces are now solving this task," Putin said during a meeting with

members of the government.

Highlights of Putin's speech:

- Putin calls methods used by Ukrainian Armed Forces and foreign mercenaries terrorist
- Enemy chooses targets not connected to the military

- Russian military actively suppresses enemy fire points, work underway
- Ukrainian forces hunt for civilian vehicles, including ambulances, during drone raids and sabotage groups actions

SPUTNIK

Cambodia sets 9 Sept for official operation of Techo International Airport: statement



Aerial drone photo, taken on 6 March 2025, shows the Techo International Airport in Kandal province, Cambodia. PHOTO: VAN POV/XINHUA

CAMBODIA has set 9 September 2025 for the official operation of the Techo International Airport, said a statement on Friday.

Mao Havannall, minister in charge of the State Secretariat of Civil Aviation, said in the statement that although the official operation is determined for 9 September, the official inauguration ceremony will be held on 20 October, which will be presided by Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet.

Invested by Cambodia Airport Investment Co Ltd, the US\$1.5-billion airport is being constructed on an area of 2,600 hectares in southern Kandal and Takeo provinces, about 20 kilometres from the capital, Phnom Penh.

Work on the airport project began in 2020. It is classified as a 4F-level airport, the highest level in the world.

It will be capable of handling approximately 13 million passengers a year in the first phase.

Thourn Sinan, chairman of the Pacific Asia Travel Association Cambodia chapter, said the new airport will enhance Cambodia's image as a modern and accessible destination.

"Improved connectivity will attract more international airlines and travelers, showcasing Cambodia as a key player in the region," he told Xinhua. — Xinhua