

The **Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR**



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hears reports on water supply, agriculture and greening projects in PyinOoLwin District and Township in Mandalay Region.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing gave guidance that PyinOoLwin must be shaped as a green city, a clean city and at smart city.

A coordination meeting on water supply, agriculture and greening projects in PyinOoLwin District and Township in Mandalay Region took place at the meeting hall of National Landmarks Garden in PyinOoLwin yesterday morning, with an address by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Speaking at the meeting, the Senior

Water supply plan to match area demand

Priority must be given to successfully implement projects on the sufficiency of drinking water in PyinOoLwin District and Township through the quick win plan.

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the meeting with departmental personnel in PyinOoLwin Township

- 1. PyinOoLwin must be shaped as a green city, a clean city and a smart city, adding that it is necessary to preserve the fine traditions of PyinOoLwin, dubbed as the city of flowers.
- 2. Efforts must be made to systematically produce Arabica coffee for export purposes as it is marketable across the world.
- 3. There is a need to establish an Elder Body consisting of elderly individuals who were born and have long lived in PyinOoLwin in order to help preserve the traditions and heritage of the region and offer advice on matters essential for the region's development.
- 4. Practices of slash-and-burn farming must be eliminated on a nationwide scale to conserve forests and the natural environment.

General pointed out that priority must be given to successfully implementing sufficiency of drinking water projects in PyinOoLwin District and Township through the quick win plan.

He said that it is necessary to consider the benefited areas, population and future population in planning the construction of dams.

He stressed the need to reclaim agriculture and livestock zones with consideration of water availability, the potential for the construction of production roads and other basic factors.

The Senior General underlined that as the population is growing in PyinOoL-

win Township year after year due to favourable climatic conditions and opportunities to purchase fresh crops at fair prices, authorities need to supply drinking and agricultural water to residents of PyinOoLwin by seeking water sources.

He gave guidance that PyinOoLwin must be shaped as a green city, a clean city and a smart city, adding it is necessary to preserve the fine traditions of PyinOoLwin dubbed as the city of flowers while continuously conserving domestic flower species with more plans to shape the township as a cherry city under systematic cultivation of cherry trees.

SEE PAGE 3

Article

Heading to Lush Bay, a Breathtaking Cave and the Land of Pearl 1

By Aung Sie Hein

PAGE 8-9

BUSINESS

PAGE 7



MoC warns: Price violations face legal action

NATIONAL

PAGE 11



4 new Thukha Dagon Housing buildings set to open soon

NATIONAL

Development of agriculture and livestock industries to increase GDP

- If the agricultural and livestock sectors can be successfully developed, the GDP will increase and the country’s financial revenue will improve.
- If the products can be manufactured to meet quality standards, they can be exported and sold abroad, thereby increasing foreign exports.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the financial commission meeting on 27 November 2024)

Political parties allowed to establish and continue applying for registration

THOSE who want to establish a political party apply to the Union Election Commission by stating the name of the party they wish to establish. To date, 27 groups have applied for the right to establish a party, and among them, the Rakhine Nationalities Party was allowed to establish as they are in line with the Political Parties Registration Law and Rules yesterday.

The Rakhine Nationalities Party will have to apply to the Commission for registration as a political party, as per Rule 7 of the Registration of Political Parties, within 30 days from the date

of approval. To date, 17 political parties have been approved.

Among these 17 political parties, the New Chinland Congress (NCC) led by U Bwar Saing Lo, applied to the Commission for registration as a political party under Rule 7 of the Registration of Political Parties within 30 days from the date of approval.

To date, 14 out of 16 political parties have been approved for registration, and the remaining groups that have applied for registration permits are also under scrutiny. — MNA/KTZH

Off-peak boom: Chinese, Korean, and Indian visitors arrive early



GENERALLY, travelling declines in the pre-monsoon season, but foreign visitors from China, South Korea and India have visited the country, according to the Union of Myanmar Travel Association.

Both local and foreign tourist arrivals have been lower in pre-monsoon compared to the dry season, however, people have gone on trips to some destinations where rainfall is low and beautiful natural landscapes are present.

“Visitor arrival usually decreases from May

to September, even though there are visitors in some destinations. At present, we have seen the arrival of Chinese, Korean and Indian,” said a UMTA official.

The majority of foreign tourists have travelled to Bagan and Inlay as well as Yangon and Mandalay regions. And most of the locals have gone on vacation in India’s Bodh Gaya, Vietnam, Malaysia and Thailand, and marketing for a new overseas destination, Pakistan, has been introduced now. — MT/ZS

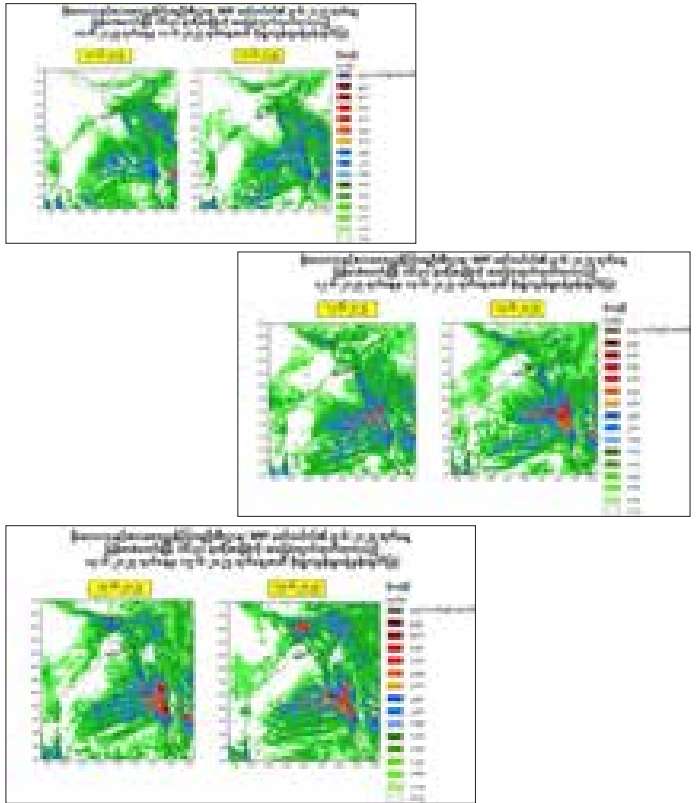
Special Weather News

Issued at 6 pm MST on 9 June 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, monsoon will be strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and due to the easterly waves, rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States with likelihood of regionally and isolated heavy falls during today evening to 15 June 2025. Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

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



Gold Market Rate as of 9 June 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,820,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

COVID-19 report, 8 June 2025

NEW TESTS

2,154

NEW CASES

31

CASUALTIES

NIL

Myanmar National Centre for Diseases Control
Department of Public Health

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)

FROM PAGE 1

He stressed that efforts must be made to systematically produce Arabica coffee for export purposes, as it is marketable across the world.

Regarding the development of the PyinOoLwin region, he noted that it is primarily the responsibility of residents and those currently serving duties in the area to take the lead with the assistance of the government.

Moreover, the Senior General underscored that there is a need to establish an Elder Body consisting of elderly individuals who were born and have long lived in PyinOoLwin in order to help preserve the traditions and heritage of the region and offer advice on matters essential for the region's development.

He urged officials at different levels to systematically manage the efficient utilization of land in various grades in the entire nation.

In order to conserve forests and the

Water supply plan to match area demand

natural environment, he highlighted that practices of slash-and-burn farming must be eliminated on a nationwide scale.

Moreover, the Senior General highlighted that it is necessary to conduct research to identify existing paddy fields that can be transformed into high-yield farmland and reclaimed into highland farmlands.

He guided that since PyinOoLwin is a city that attracts many local and international travellers, those from the tourism sector need to contribute to regional development by providing the best possible services to visitors by offering fresh and clean local produce, food items, and tra-

ditional regional cuisine.

He continued that government ministries and departments must be models for residents in applying the practice of good habits on separating and disposing of waste properly for the cleanliness, pleasantness, and beautification of regions, states, cities, and villages.

At the ceremony, Union ministers and the Mandalay Region chief ministers reported on implementation of the guidance given by the Senior General to ensure sufficiency of drinking water in PyinOoLwin District and Township, findings in research and surveys on more storage of water in dams, upgrading of dams and

water sources, supply of water to PyinOoLwin residents, operating agriculture and livestock zones, forest coverage of the township, year-wise forestation process for greening the city, and improvement of road facilities.

Also, present at the meeting were Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council Member, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Central Command, departmental personnel and officials from PyinOoLwin District and Township. — MNA/TTA

Palm oil reference price set at K6,185 per viss

THE Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution makes efforts to ensure that consumers have access to safe edible oils at reasonable prices and to meet domestic consumption needs.

In meeting domestic demand, pricing is being systematically regulated to ensure that edible oils are sold at fair and appropriate rates locally, based on fluctuations in international market prices from exporting countries.

The current wholesale reference price for palm oil is set at K6,185 per viss, which shows a decrease of over K1,000 per viss compared to the reference price in January of this year.

“Oil is something we use every day. Currently, the price has gone down, and it has become more convenient to buy. It is about K1,000 cheaper compared to the past, so it is more OK for us. Retail prices are reasonable, and it is also quite easy to purchase. It is a big relief as the prices drop,” said Ma Win Win Mar, a local in Tatkon Township. – MNA/KTZH

MoE Union Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

UNION Minister for Energy U Ko Ko Lwin received Ms Ma Jia, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, the two parties cordially discussed ongoing projects, enhancement of bilateral cooperation in the energy sector, investment of Chinese companies in exploration, extracting and production of oil and natural gas in promising offshore blocks in Myanmar, further support for Chinese companies that will cooperate in exploration and drilling processes in offshore blocks, in new oil refinery project with the crude oil from Southeast Asia crude oil pipeline and energy projects which



Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia calls on Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin yesterday.

are parts of China-Myanmar Economic Corridor Strategic project under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Also, present at the meet-

ing were the directors-general, managing directors and other relevant officials from the affiliated department and the Chinese Embassy. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

MoIP Union Minister meets Chinese Ambassador

UNION Minister for Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing received Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, at 2 pm yesterday at the guest hall of the Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and China and the success of building a community based on mutual support and shared prosperity between the peoples of both countries.

They also exchanged views on the need for coordination regarding the movement of citizens through official border checkpoints, the facilitation of visa and stay permit procedures for Chinese nationals investing



Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia calls on Union Minister U Myint Kyaing yesterday.

in Myanmar, and the repatriation of Chinese citizens who have entered the country illegally, in consideration of bilateral friendship.

Discussions also covered the importance of ensuring legal border crossings for both nations' citizens, effective immigration control measures, and continued cooperation between the Ministry of Immigration and Population and China's Ministry of Public Security in matters of immigration.

Also, present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population Dr Myo Thant, Director-General U Ye Htun Oo of the Department of Immigration, and other responsible officials. — MNA/KNN

Winners honoured in 5th National Sports Festival literary & photo contests



Union Minister Jeng Phang Naw Taung and officials view the exhibits at yesterday's event.

THE award ceremony for the short story, article, poetry, and photography competitions marking the fifth National Sports Festival (2024) was held at 10 am yesterday at the Union Hall of the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon), located within Kyauk-

kasan Sports Grounds, Tamway Township, Yangon Region.

Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Jeng Phang Naw Taung, who also chairs the Myanmar Olympic Committee, attended the event together with Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, who serves

as the patron of the Regional Sports and Physical Education Committee. Also in attendance were regional ministers, as well as the president and officials of the Myanmar Sports Media Federation. Prizes were awarded to the winners of the first, second, third, and consolation places.

Following the ceremony, the Union minister, the chief minister, and regional ministers visited an exhibition showcasing the award-winning short stories, articles, poems, and photographs.

In 2024, as part of the Fifth National Sports Festival, competitions were held in four categories — short story, article, poetry, and photography. A total of 37 short stories, 40 articles, 41 poems, and 410 photographs were submitted by participants. — Arkarlin/MKKS

Nepali Ambassador calls on MoFA Deputy Minister

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

The deputy minister expressed his appreciation for the support and assistance rendered by Nepal to the Government of Myanmar's relief efforts in the aftermath of the Mandalay earthquake. They also discussed matters related to strengthening cooperation in areas of mutual interest. — MNA



Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Lwin Oo shakes hands with Nepali Ambassador Mr Harishchandra Ghimire during the latter's call on the former yesterday.

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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

Donations boost Mandalay hospital, lab repairs post-earthquake

A donation ceremony to support the repair of hospital buildings and laboratories damaged by the recent Mandalay earthquake was held yesterday morning at the Ministry of Health in Nay Pyi Taw.

Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win, the deputy minister, directors-general, departmental officials, and representatives from donor organizations were present at the event.

At the ceremony, representatives from the donor organizations explained the purpose of their donations. The Myanmar Chinese Chamber of Commerce donated K1.048 billion to support repairs at Nay Pyi Taw Children's Speciality Hospital and the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Specialist Hospital, both of which were damaged in the



A documentary group photo for the donation event to support hospital and laboratory buildings, attended by Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win.

earthquake. The Myanmar-China Charity Foundation donated K113 million to renovate the maternity ward and operating theatre at the Nay Pyi Taw Ob-

stetrics and Gynaecology Specialist Hospital. The Myanmar Pharmaceutical and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association contributed K78.175

million for the repair of the laboratory of the Food and Drug Administration Department.

Medi-Health Co Ltd and Drug International Ltd donated

K95 million for two modular offices for use by the Department of Public Health. The Myanmar-Chinese Women's Association contributed K15 million.

The Union minister and relevant officials accepted the donations, presented certificates of appreciation to the donors, and expressed their gratitude.

According to the Ministry of Health, the repairs to hospitals, buildings, and laboratories damaged by the earthquake will be carried out as per engineering assessments based on categories and levels of damage as outlined by the Ministry of Construction. Professional engineers will conduct systematic evaluations, and repairs will proceed as quickly as possible under the supervision of the Ministry of Construction. — MNA/MKKS

Tatmadaw and police elevate relief efforts in Mandalay and Sagaing



Photos show Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing (L) and Lt-Gen Thet Pon (R) inspect the removal of debris in Mandalay and the distribution of relief supplies in Sagaing, respectively.

TATMADAW members, Myanmar Police Force personnel, foreign rescue teams, and volunteers are intensifying their coordinated efforts in rescue and rehabilitation operations in areas affected by the Mandalay earthquake.

Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) inspected debris clearance at religious sites in Sagaing, as well as

ongoing maintenance work. He also inspected cleanliness activities at Sitagu Buddha University in Sagaing, and the renovation and reconstruction work of SunU Ponnyashin Pagoda on Sagaing Hill. He observed the use of machinery in damaged areas and the distribution of relief supplies to earthquake victims at the Myoma Gymnasium in Poetan Ward. He also provided energy

drinks to volunteers.

Next, the Ministry of Health inspected cleaning and rebuilding efforts at monasteries and nunneries in Sagaing Township. Lt-Gen Thet Pon then inspected land clearing operations using heavy machinery in a village area, as part of plans to relocate some monasteries and nunneries that were destroyed on Sagaing Hill. He coordinated the necessary arrangements.

Similarly, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), along with other officials, visited Shwekyetyet Pagoda in Amarpura Township, Mandalay, as well as Shwekyetkya Pagoda, NanOo Monastery, and Abya Yama Monastery in Upoketaw Ward, Aungmyaythazan Township. These sites were damaged by the earthquake. He inspected debris clearance work at the

pagodas and other religious buildings and coordinated with relevant officials as needed.

Lt-Gen Myo Thant Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) inspected earthquake-damaged monasteries, including Shwezedi Monastery and YwaU Monastery, as well as the reconstruction of affected buildings in Kyaukse Township. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL



Taninthayi Nature Reserve teems with rare mammals and birds

The Taninthayi Nature Reserve: Home to 67 mammal species and 244 bird species. (Photo above and below).

ACCORDING to the Taninthayi Region Forest Department, a total of 67 species of mammals and 244 species of birds have been found living and thriving in the Taninthayi Nature Reserve, located in Dawei and Yebyu townships in Dawei District, Taninthayi Region.

The regional department makes efforts to install camera traps within the Taninthayi Nature Reserve to monitor and document the presence and behaviour of various wildlife species



PHOTOS : TANINTHAYI NATURE RESERVE

and biodiversity. This effort aims to support long-term conservation and sustainable development of protected natural areas.

The reserve is home to endangered species such as the Asian elephant, dhole (wild dog), and the critically endangered pangolin, as well as other wildlife including the clouded leopard, tapir, black panther, large Indian civet, sun bear and Indochinese tiger.

In addition, the reserve is

habitats of numerous bird species, including three that are classified as endangered and ten that are considered near-threatened.

The Taninthayi Nature Reserve was officially established on 30 March 2005 in line with Notification 18/05 issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. The reserve was designated to protect tropical evergreen forest ecosystems and biodiversity located in the northern and eastern parts of the Taninthayi Region.

The nature reserve has 336,912 acres of the core zone, 79,952 acres of the buffer zone and 3,213 acres of the transport corridor.

The reserve ensures promising natural protected areas for the development of nature-based tourism and region-based tourism industries. Due to the abundance of freshwater resources, the area also supports ecotourism and research efforts. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Sitagu Sakkhu Dana Hospital (Yangon) to offer 13th round of free eye treatment

SITAGU SAKKHU DANA HOSPITAL (YANGON), located in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region, will carry out its 13th round of free eye care for patients. The hospital has announced that individuals who wish to receive eye treatment can register in person or through a representative starting from 7 am on 20 June.

Those who want to register may do so at the library of Sitagu World Buddhist University (Yangon), near the Bailey Bridge in Dagon Myothit (North) Township.

According to the hospital, a total of 14,815 patients have been examined under the guidance of the Sitagu Sayadaw in the previous 12 rounds, with 4,496 patients receiving surgical treatment and 256 patients having un-

dergone laser eye surgery, restoring their vision.

Similarly, Sitagu Sakkhu Dana Hospital (Hsipaw) in the precinct of Mahamuni Pagoda in Hsipaw Township, Shan State, will also begin offering free treatment from 12 June.

The Sakkhu Dana hospitals under the guidance of the Sitagu Sayadaw have been established as Sitagu Myamyitta Sakkhu Dana Hospital (Pantanaw), Sitagu Sakkhu Dana hospitals in Hsipaw, Lahe, Thandwe and Thegon, Sitagu Tetlan Sakkhu Dana Hospital (Mindat), Sitagu Dipinkara Sakkhu Dana Hospital (Natmauk), Sitagu Hla San Yin Sakkhu Dana Hospital (Mawlamyinegyun), and Sitagu Shwepyihein Sakkhu Dana Hospital (Yangon). — ASH/KZL

Drama ‘Hnaung Lu’ to premiere in HD on 15 June

THE drama titled ‘Hnaung Lu’ will premiere in High Definition (HD) quality on 15 June as an original production under the Mahar application, according to lead actor Academy Award winner Aye Chan Maung.

The script was adapted from a story written by author Nya Hmwe Pan, with Nya Hmwe Pan and her team also taking responsibility for the screenplay. Directed by Aung Chan Lu, the one-episode drama will be released as an exclusive Mahar original.

Speaking about his role, Aye Chan Maung said, “When Mahar offered me this role and told me the director would be Ko Aung Chan Lu, I immediately accepted because I liked the story. I play Nayon Moe, a devoted husband who also runs a business. It’s a character I really connected with. This is my second time working with Mahar. Since it’s written by Nya Hmwe Pan, whose work I enjoy, I was happy to be part of it. It’s a mix of drama, family themes, and suspense, and it will keep the audience intrigued. As the story unfolds,



A scene featuring cast members from Hnaung Lu drama.

viewers will find themselves drawn into unexpected twists. I hope audiences will tune in and share their thoughts when it’s released.”

The cast includes Academy Award winners Aye Chan Maung and Khin Moh Moh Aye, along with Than Thar Nyi and Z Gohan. — ASH/KZL

MFSPEA calls for fertilizer imports under competitive Q3 pricing

MFSPEA will organize the importation of urea fertilizer and NPK 15-15-15 compound fertilizer of good quality by practising competitive pricing for the Q3 under the guidance of the Urea Fertilizer Purchasing and Distribution Steering Committee.

Interested companies can contact MFSPEA by 18 June 2025 through the contact number of MFSPEA at 09 988539360 and email info@mfspea.com, vicepresident-1@mfspea.com, vicepresident-2@mfspea.com, generalsecretary@mfspea.com, and ureacommittee@gmail.com to import urea fertilizer and compound fertilizer. MFSPEA has instructed member companies to sell fertilizer



The photo shows a fertilizer shop in Nay Pyi Taw.

as per the set reference prices for March.

The reference prices for June 2025 were set at K95,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Urea fertilizer (large granular), K124,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Rock Phosphate and K135,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Di Ammonium Phosphate.

The prices may vary a bit depending on transportation charges in other regions and states, as the aforementioned prices are set for Yangon Region, MFSPEA stated.

Additionally, reference prices will be further announced as per rules and regulations. For overcharging, consumers can complain to the committee through contact numbers (067 410032, 09 988539360). MFSPEA has already asked the member companies to stick to the reference prices. At present, the Fertilizer Committee holds a quarterly meeting to ensure quality fertilizer for growers without facing shortages. Under the approval of the Fertilizer Technology Group, 12,297 fertilizer registrations have been granted after the 43rd meeting of the Fertilizer Committee. With individuals' consent, 2,088 registrations were voluntarily cancelled. The department revoked 2,867 registrations for expiration of validity, and 7,342 registrations are still under processing. — NN/KK

MoC warns: Price violations face legal action

THE Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce stated that reasonable market prices of rice for June 2025 were issued, and non-compliance with the set prices is subject to legal action.

The Ministry of Commerce issued reasonable prices for all varieties; K60,000-K72,000 per 108-pound bag of non-premium rice varieties (Aemahta, Ngasein, Sinthukha, Ngasein Yakyaw, Kayinma, Yadanatoe, Tunpu, GW-11, 747, Theepu, Shweman, and Hnankauk, among others), K68,000-K78,000 per bag of rice varieties (Zeeya, Ngwetoe, Minaya, Hnankauk, Shweman) that are consumed locally and exported, K75,000 to K99,000 to Shwethwe, Anyatha, Pakan, Hmawby-2,3, 90-day short ma-

tured rice, Manaw Thukha, Sinthuka, Byawtun, Ayeyapadetha, Ayeyamin produced from Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions, K90,000-K155,000 to moderate quality rice including Magyantaw, Ayeyamin and Ayeyapadetha produced from Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw and upper Myanmar regions, and premium Pawsan rice (Ayeyawady Pawsan, Shwebo Pawsan). The retailers are not entitled to make a profit of more than eight per cent of the set reasonable market prices, the ministry announced.

The ministry determined reasonable market prices by considering the following factors: fair profit for the farmers, millers and distributors, reasonable prices for consumers,

last year's market price, global market prices and other commodities prices. There are separate prices for modern trade with consumer packaging at mini-marts and supermarkets.

If individuals have difficulty buying rice, they are urged to contact the Myanmar Rice Federation. The buyers can complain about overpricing to the Consumer Affairs Department and MRF.

MRF warned that overpricing, sales with inaccurate measurement and quality and non-compliance with directives are subject to fines, taxation and prosecution under Section 5 of the Essential Supplies and Services Law. Thus, rice millers, rice shops, traders and merchants are encouraged to follow the rules. — NN/KK



File photo shows that a vendor sells rice to customers at a market in Yangon.

Yangon palm oil rates decline again this week

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market continued declining to K6,185 per viss for the week ending 15 June from K6,390 per viss in the previous week ending 1 June, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

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

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high. To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. 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 Services Law.



A retail shop is seen displaying edible oil and peanut oil.

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

Beware of respiratory tract infections in the monsoon

DURING the rainy season, which creates favourable conditions for the survival and spread of various viruses affecting the respiratory system of humans, there is a higher risk of respiratory infectious diseases. These include seasonal influenza, respiratory tract infections, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone needs to take preventive measures to protect themselves and maintain the health of the respiratory system.

On 4 June, according to the Ministry of Health’s announcement, there is currently no reason for concern regarding the spread, outbreaks, or fatalities related to respiratory diseases in Myanmar. However, in order to prevent the potential spread of such diseases in advance, the public is advised to be cautious, take preventive measures, and remain alert.

In the rainy season, COVID-19 is not officially classified as a global pandemic, but rather identified as a locally common infectious disease that spreads more easily due to seasonal changes. Although COVID-19 is now regarded as a disease that can regularly spread in the community, it still poses a serious risk to certain groups, such as the elderly, people with diabetes, chronic lung diseases, heart conditions, and pregnant women. These individuals have to receive COVID-19 vaccinations.

and soap regularly, and following hygienic practices.

In the rainy season, COVID-19 is not officially classified as a global pandemic, but rather identified as a locally common infectious disease that spreads more easily due to seasonal changes. Although COVID-19 is now regarded as a disease that can regularly spread in the community, it still poses a serious risk to certain groups, such as the elderly, people with diabetes, chronic lung diseases, heart conditions, and pregnant women. These individuals have to receive COVID-19 vaccinations.

COVID-19 vaccines can effectively prevent the spread of the virus, reduce the severity of symptoms, and help prevent death. So, it is advisable for individuals to receive the COVID-19 vaccine along with other recommended vaccinations, without delay. That is why, to achieve physical well-being, mental peace, and harmonious relationships, it is essential to cultivate knowledge and mindfulness about health-related aspects of addiction.

In daily life, to stay healthy and hydrated, it is necessary to drink about two litres of water per day. It is also advisable to drink electrolyte solutions. Eating fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin C and ferrous supplements daily can help maintain good health. In order to prevent respiratory tract infections and strengthen the immune system, especially in old age, one should also consume foods that contain zinc and protein.

Among people infected with respiratory tract infections, symptoms such as fever, nasal congestion, runny nose, coughing, and sore throat may appear. Those who exhibit such symptoms should avoid going to crowded places and wear a mask properly when going out. If not wearing a mask, they should cover their nose and mouth properly with a tissue or cloth when sneezing or coughing to prevent the spread of infection to others. They should take preventive measures such as avoiding contact with infected individuals, using sanitizer

Heading to Lush Bay, a Breathtaking Cave and the Land of Pearl 1

By Aung Sie Hein

Continued from yesterday

Hiking and a manmade beach at Titop Beach

After finishing the Sung Sot cave tour, the Stella Luxury Cruise continues on the second trip to Titop Island. Titop Island is famous for its hiking trail and manmade sandy beach. The path to the top of the mountain is narrow and steep, and it takes about 20 minutes to reach the summit.

From the top of Titop Mountain, you can enjoy wide panoramic views of Ha Long Bay. Therefore, many travellers prioritize the mountain climbing trip. Upon reaching the summit, visitors can see the most beautiful expansive views of Ha Long Bay, along with breathtaking scenes of large limestone rocks emerging from the water’s surface and the surrounding islands. These scenic views make it one of the best places for photography enthusiasts.

At Titop Beach, the sea water is cool and clear with a deep greenish-blue colour, and the soft white sand allows travellers to relax and unwind. Many swimmers and snorkelers can be seen, as well as hikers on the hills nearby. The entire island is bustling with walkers and photographers. Since it is a manmade beach, natural dunes are not present, so the waves and the white foam running over the dunes you might expect at a natural shoreline are absent here.

Although the sea breeze and the green coconut trees, which are the distinctive features of the sandy beach, are not seen together, green coconuts are being sold at a small shop in one place. Since it is a manmade beach, it cannot compete with nature, but it cannot be denied that it is a beautiful island in the sea.

Ha Long Bay, one of the world’s seven most beautiful bays

From Titop Island, the Stella Luxury Cruise is heading back to the shore to go on its third trip to the main destination, Ha Long Bay. When Stella arrives at the shore, passengers must transfer to speedboats to go to Ha Long Bay. As the small speedboat carrying about 15 passengers, including the

guide and the speedboat driver, departs from the shore, it begins to rain again.

It rained off and on all day, so my mood got a little disturbed. For those who prepared sunglasses and big hats to go to the beach, the rain became the villain.

Ha Long Bay is located in Ha Long City, Quang Ninh Province, Vietnam. Recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, Ha Long Bay is famous for its serene and beautiful limestone karst formations. It covers an area of 1,553 square kilometres and is made up of about 2,000 islands and islets, most of which are limestone mountains formed around 500 million years ago.

Ha Long Bay, which attracts over one million international tourists annually, is an important destination in Vietnam’s tourism sector. With nearly 2,000 limestone islands set against a blue sky backdrop, Ha Long Bay, known for its jade-green waters, was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994 and has become one of the most beautiful places in the world.

The speedboat we are on is heading towards the sea channel through the rain and water. Above the sea, where the sky is cloudy with shades of green and blue, there are many limestone mountains and small islands visible, which are a unique attraction of the Ha Long Bay sea channel. Most of the rocky areas are cov-



Out in the water, two people were seen paddling small canoes, swaying gently. Rather than a sea, the place looked more like a large lake surrounded by rocky cliffs.

ered with monsoon forests, making the entire environment lush, green, and truly beautiful.

Inside the sea, large cargo ships anchored near the reefs can be seen alongside fishing boats. The Ha Long Bay, bordered by beautiful limestone mountains, looks like a magnificent and unique painting.... We need to study it in the Vietnam water border trade area. The speedboat carrying foreign tourists, navigating swiftly over the water between the rocks to the Chinese border, shows a little boy who seems somewhat tired.



Sun Sot Cave is located on Bo Hon Island in the middle of Ha Long Bay, about a 50-minute journey from Ha Long Beach. To reach the entrance of the main cave, visitors must climb over 100 steep steps.

Heading to the most beautiful rocky cliffs in Ha Long Bay

After returning from the stormy sea, drenched by rain and wind, we will head to the final destination, the rocky cliffs of the ocean, using canoes and large wooden boats to closely explore the area.

Even in the drizzle, travellers ventured out — some heading towards the open sea on speedboats, others making their way to the massive rock formations in large wooden boats or canoes. The pier along the beach became a lively scene, teeming with people of all kinds and boats of all colours, rem-

iniscent of bees swarming around flowers. The sea, muddy brown, was rough and choppy toward the open ocean, but appeared calm and still like a lake near the rock formations — a stark contrast. As the large boats steered toward the giant rocks, the joy and excitement of the diverse group of travellers became contagious and deeply felt.

A large boat carrying Chinese tourists in matching outfits was seen rowing towards the rocky outcrops, singing songs in unison. At one point, a boat with young Indian children singing songs also appeared. Out in the water, two

people were seen paddling small canoes, swaying gently. Rather than a sea, the place looked more like a large lake surrounded by rocky cliffs.

Not only Chinese and Indians from Asia but also travellers from countries like France and the UK can be seen gathering together on separate boats. When the large boats travelling from the beach to the rocky islets and those returning from the rocks pass close to each other, they greet one another with loud shouts and waves. Witnessing these scenes reminds me of the way water-splashing trucks used to cheer and shout greetings to one another during Thingyan in Yangon. If one is prone to nostalgia, then surely the shadows of the past are full of things to long for.

In one spot beneath the water’s surface, you can see a large, white, jelly-like jellyfish floating close to the boat. Between the rain-soaked cliffs, the sea is calm, with a deep, cool green hue. Among the rocks and stones, lush green trees growing in the crevices catch the eye. Ha Long Bay, one of the most beautiful bays in the world, was included in the New Seven Natural Wonders of the World list in 2012. Ha Long Bay is home to 14 species of flowers and over 60 species of wild birds and animals.

The way back home

When returning from the stone caves, Stella will go out to

host Vietnam’s famous coffee, while enjoying the beauty of the sunset over Halong Bay. However, the rain, which had been falling and stopping since morning, did not allow a view of the beautiful sunset over Ha Long Bay.

We had to settle for watching the rainy evening beauty of Ha Long Bay from Stella, through the gaps between the clouds. Although Stella’s upper deck was designed to offer the best view of the bay at sunset, the rain followed its unrelenting script, and we ended up spending the whole day in the dining hall on the lower deck.

The return journey from the beach was accompanied by rain. By exactly 6 am, the vehicles were ready to depart for Hanoi. On this gloomy day, amid the falling raindrops, the travellers from Ha Long Bay seemed a bit melancholic, as if they missed the sea. As usual, the cars made a short stop at a large shopping centre that was connected to a food court along the road.

Driving along the highway, passing through lush green fields and major expressways, we arrived back in the Old Quarter of Hanoi as dusk fell. From the car, we caught a quick glimpse of the beautiful Hoan Kiem Lake, glowing with multicoloured lights. Around the lake, the area was bustling like a night market. In the middle of the lake sits a small island known as Jade Island, home



to the famous Ngoc Son Temple. A bright red wooden bridge, known as The Huc Bridge, connects the temple to the lakeshore. Both the lake and the temple are among Hanoi’s iconic landmarks. Although Ngoc Son Temple and the vivid red Huc Bridge are not far from the hotel, we didn’t have time to visit them.

Some shops in the area of Chinatown are quite similar to the Chinatown in Yangon, closing around 9 pm, but the small roadside stalls remain open until about 10 pm or 11 pm. After returning from the beach and passing through southern Chinatown, there aren’t as many motorbikes as in the morning, but a few still zip by now and then. With fewer motorbikes, more cars can be seen on the roads. On the streets, international tourists are still walking around here and there.

In the Chinatown area, signs written in English are quite rare. Notably, only large coffee shops, hotels, and travel agencies display signs in English. Along one street, you can find a travel agency office about every block. The number of international tourists coming to Vietnam is also increasing year by year.

Last year, the number of international tourists who visited was 14.8 million, with more than 2 million tourists coming from Europe and America. I believe that a key factor in the success of the tourism industry cannot be achieved without leveraging the high proficiency of Vietnamese youth in the English language.

Translated.

Acknowledgement: To be able to write this piece, I am very grateful to my elder brother Ko Kyaw Kyaw Than and his wife Ma Mee Mee from the UK, who supported and arranged the entire trip from start to finish; also to my elder sister Ma Win Win Than, my younger sister Ma Yi Yi Than, and my wife Ma Nwe Nwe Than, who took care of and assisted throughout the journey; and especially to Ma Mee Mee, who took and supported many documentary photographs, I express my special thanks.

NATIONAL

A total of 19,243 tourists and homegrown visitors flocked to Shwethaungyan Beach in Patheingyi City, Ayeyawady Region, in May 2025, said Daw Cherry Myint, an executive of the Union of Myanmar Travel Association (Shwethaungyan Beach).

The beach hosts visitors throughout the year. There are over 20 hotels and guesthouses to facilitate the accommodation of the visitors.

“Shwethaungyan Beach attracted 19,243 visitors in May 2025. Most of them are day-trip visitors. There is a captivating destination (Kyauk Maungna-ma Elephant Camp) close to the beach,” said Daw Cherry Myint.

Hotels along the beach are providing the following services: beachfront cleaning, landscaping and ground maintenance within

Shwethaungyan Beach draws 19K+ tourists in May 2025



the hotel compound, keeping hotel pathways clean, conducting general beach and public area cleaning and serving guests with local cuisines.

Additional tourist amenities such as safety and relaxation, rental service (bicycle, motorboat, horse riding) and markets for local specialties and souvenirs.

Shwethaungyan Beach is located near Patheingyi Township, Ayeyawady Region, which is eight miles away from Chaungtha Beach. The beach is four miles long, belonging to habitats that support marine life with essential resources and clean water. — ASH/KK

An enchanting view of the Shwethaungyan Beach.

Foundation’s second aid package reaches disabled families in Mandalay Region

ON 8 June, the Shwe Minn Tha Foundation made its second donation to 322 households of persons with disabilities across eight townships in Mandalay Region.

The donations were distributed in the townships of Kyaukse, Thedaw, Wundwin, Meiktila, Thazi, Pyawbwe, Yamethin, and Pyinmana.

Each donation package included rice, cooking oil, salt, onions, garlic, canned fish, eggs, dried noodles, dried cakes, plates, bowls, spoons, basic household medicines, sanitary items, tents, and waterproof canvas sheets.

Between 28 March and 28 May, the foundation had previously supported 1,770 households of persons with disabilities, along with 6,640



This photo reveals the Shwe Minn Tha Foundation donating to households of persons with disabilities in areas affected by the earthquake.

households of other quake-stricken individuals. — ASH/KNN

Miss Supranational Myanmar 2025 to compete in Poland

MISS Cherry Moe, crowned Miss Supranational Myanmar 2025, will represent Myanmar at the Miss Supranational pageant to be held in Poland.

More than 70 countries, including Myanmar, will be sending their representatives to compete in this international beauty competition.

“To achieve a good placement, I’ve spent the past year making improvements and preparing myself. I’m going to do my best. I’m both excited and nervous as I set off for the competition. Even if I don’t place as highly as I hope, I’ve mentally prepared myself to accept the outcome positively. As a national representative, I would also like to ask everyone to support me throughout the competition,” said Miss Cherry Moe.

Miss Cherry Moe departed from Yangon International Airport on the morning of 7 June to attend the Miss Supranational pageant in Poland. — ASH/MKKS



This photo captures Miss Cherry Moe, who will represent Myanmar at the Miss Supranational pageant in Poland.

Drama ‘Mya’ unveiled ahead of 16 June debut

THE launch event for the upcoming television drama “Mya” (Emerald) was held on 7 June at the Novotel Hotel in Kamayut Township, Yangon Region. The series is set to premiere on the subscription-based CANAL+ Zat Lenn channel on 16 June, according to actress Waso Moe Oo, who plays a leading role.

The series is based on a story by Evren, with the screenplay written by Min Mu Paing, Pyae Oo Nwe, and Khine Zon Wint. It is directed by Htut Tint Htun and produced as an original drama for CANAL+ Zat Lenn.

Speaking about her role,



This image showcases the cast members of the television series ‘Mya’.

Waso Moe Oo said, “In this series, I play a character named Sein. Lately, I’ve taken on roles

that are different from what I’ve done before, and this is another exciting challenge. The story surrounding the Mya Mansion is filled with secrets and strange happenings, which I believe will captivate viewers. It’s fair to say the series even has ties to the legend of an emerald necklace.”

The cast also features Nay Htoo Naing, Sitt Min Htet, Hein Thitsa, Academy Zaw Oo, Academy Myat Kaythi Aung, May Pan Chi, and many others.

The series will air on CANAL+ Zat Lenn every Monday to Friday at 7 pm from 16 June. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

4 new Thukha Dagon Housing buildings set to open soon

ROOMS from the further four completed buildings of Thukha Dagon Housing, which is located in Yangon Region's Dagon Myothit (South) Township, will be provided for the public by drawing soon, said the Department of Urban and Housing Development.

Further announcements will be made on 10 June on which townships and which government institutions are included on the eligible list to draw from.

The public is advised not to fall for scams on the housing rent permit. Thukha Dagon is a public rental housing under the management of the DUHD, and except for eligible tenants and



Thukha Dagon public rental housing rooms.



Rooms allocated by drawing lots in November 2024.

permitted residents, no one else is allowed to live and is prohibited from reselling or re-renting rooms to another person by either payment or non-payment and pawn, and only permitted tenants can stay. If a tenant breaks these rules, the room will be taken back and legal action will be taken, said the housing committee. — MT/ZS

Myanmar extradites 43 Ethiopians

MYANMAR deported 43 Ethiopians involved in telecom fraud and criminal activities via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday. Myanmar authorities officially handed the deportees the necessary legal documents to ensure their smooth repatriation. Between 30 January and 9 June 2025, a total of 9,114 illegal immigrants were identified and detained in Myanmar. Of this number, 8,751 individuals have already been deported through Thailand to their respective countries, while arrangements are being made to deport the remaining 363 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. — MNA/KTZH



Immigration process underway for the deportation of foreign entrants.

Health officials downgrade COVID-19 to seasonal flu status

THE Ministry of Health has announced that COVID-19 is no longer classified as a global pandemic, but just as an epidemic like seasonal flu, and there is no current concern about the spread of COVID-19 in Myanmar. The public is urged to be vigilant and follow the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of respiratory diseases such as seasonal flu and COVID-19 during the rainy season. To prevent the spread of infection, those with acute respiratory symptoms such as fever, runny nose, sneezing, coughing and sore throat should (a) avoid going to crowded places and wear a mask properly if inevitable; (b) cover their mouth and nose with a tissue or flexed elbow when sneezing without a mask; (c) seek immediate medical care if symptoms are severe and to take personal precautions including washing hands frequently with soap and water or a hand sanitizer. As COVID-19 vaccines can effectively protect against the new strains, older people and those with diabetes, chronic lung disease, and cancer are at higher risk of severe illness and death if they become infected, and pregnant women are urged to get the COVID-19 booster vaccine. From the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in Myanmar on 23 March 2020 to 11 May 2025, there were 643,242 confirmed cases and 19,494 deaths. Myanmar had a COVID-19 death rate of 381 per million people, making it the eighth highest among 10 ASEAN countries. — Htun Htun/ZN



An image shows eight symptoms of patients with the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

EARTHQUAKE

(Issued at 10 pm MST)



A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.5 Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 11 miles west of Pyay), latitude 18.83 °N, longitude 95.05 °E, depth 77 kilometres, about 90 miles northeast of Gwa seismological observatory was recorded at 09 hours 44 minutes 49 seconds MST on 9 June 2025. — DMH

Cambodia's trade with ASEAN reaches US\$5.9 bln in Jan-Apr, up 4.6%

CAMBODIA'S trade volume with its fellow ASEAN member states hit US\$5.9 billion in the first four months of 2025, up 4.6 per cent from \$5.64 billion over the same period last year, said an official report on Monday.

The kingdom exported products totally worth \$2.35 billion to other ASEAN countries during the January-April period this year, up 7.3 per cent from \$2.19 billion over the same period last year, said the report from the General Department of Customs and Excise.

Meanwhile, the country's total import from its fellow ASEAN countries amounted to \$3.55 billion, up 2.9 per cent from \$3.45 billion, it added.

Cambodia's trade volume with the ASEAN accounted for 29.9 per cent of the country's total trade volume of \$19.7 billion in the first four months of 2025, the



A truck transports a shipping container at Sihanoukville Autonomous Port in Sihanoukville in Cambodia's Preah Sihanouk province on 9 April 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

report said.

Cambodia's top five trading partners in ASEAN were Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Sin-

gapore, and Malaysia, the report added.

Ministry of Commerce's Secretary of State and Spokesperson

Penn Sovicheat said the main products Cambodia exported to ASEAN included garments, shoes, travel goods, solar pan-

els, electronics, spare parts for vehicles and bicycles, and agricultural products such as milled rice and cashew nuts.

ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet said at a recent Cambodia-ASEAN business summit that ASEAN has established itself as a beacon of stability and prosperity, with immense potential highlighted by its status as the world's fifth-largest economy.

He added that the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement has further solidified ASEAN's unwavering commitment to deepening regional integration and fostering mutually beneficial economic and trade ties. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan current account surplus in Apr rises 3.2% to 2.26 tril yen

JAPAN'S current account surplus rose 3.2 per cent from a year earlier to 2.26 trillion yen (\$15.6 billion) in April, remaining in the black for the third consecutive month, lifted by a significant contraction in the trade deficit, the government said Monday.

The surplus, which was the biggest for the reporting month, came as the country's trade deficit shrank 94.8 per cent to 32.8 billion yen, as exports increased 4.0 per cent to 8.77 trillion yen on the back of brisk demand for semiconductors and food items.

Imports decreased 2.9 per cent to 8.80 trillion yen, led by a drop in the value of coal and crude oil purchases, according to the Finance Ministry's preliminary data. — Kyodo

Laos pushes to increase exports, earning US\$977 mln in 5 months of 2025

LAOS earned US\$977 million from agricultural exports in the first five months of 2025, reaching 65 per cent of the Lao National Assembly's annual target of \$1.5 billion.

The Lao government is accelerating efforts to strengthen agricultural exports and enforce stricter oversight of the mining industry in a bid to reduce import dependency, expand trade, and ensure sustainable economic development.

Speaking at the ninth ordinary session of the Lao National Assembly's ninth legislature on Monday, Lao Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone highlighted key achievements in agriculture and mining as part of the country's strategy to reduce import dependency and promote sustainable economic growth. — Xinhua

China's foreign trade up 2.5% in first five months



This aerial drone photo shows a view of the container terminal of Nanjing Port in east China's Jiangsu Province, 16 April 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA'S total goods imports and exports in yuan-denominated terms rose to 17.94 trillion yuan (about US\$2.5 trillion) in the first five months of 2025, up 2.5 per cent year on year, official data showed Monday.

The growth rate marked an increase of 0.1 percentage

points compared to that registered in the first four months of 2025, according to the General Administration of Customs.

During the first five months of 2025, China's exports rose 7.2 per cent year on year to 10.67 trillion yuan while imports fell 3.8 per cent to 7.27 trillion yuan.

In May alone, China's total goods imports and exports in yuan-denominated terms rose 2.7 per cent year on year, the data showed.

Last month, goods exports rose 6.3 per cent year on year, while imports went down 2.1 per cent, according to the data. — Xinhua

Japan’s top negotiator eyes US trip this week for 6th tariff talks

JAPAN’S top tariff negotiator is arranging a visit to the United States later this week for a sixth round of ministerial-level talks aimed at securing concessions over a series of tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump, a government source said Monday.

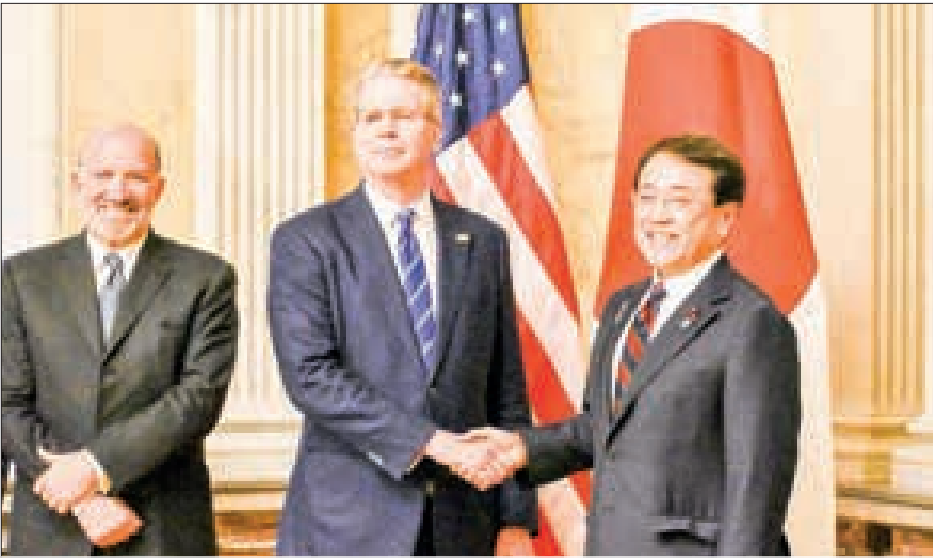
The fourth trip in as many weeks by Ryosei Akazawa, minister in charge of economic and fiscal policy, would come ahead of an envisioned meeting between the leaders of Japan and the United States at the time of the three-day Group of Seven summit in Canada from 15 June.

Akazawa is expected to meet US Treasury

Secretary Scott Bessent and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick again, after holding talks with them last week in Washington, the source said.

Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba’s government is urging the Trump administration to remove the additional tariffs, saying they are having a serious impact on Japan’s export-oriented economy, which has been languishing as an important national election looms this summer.

Following the fifth round of talks with US officials, Akazawa told reporters that discussions on tariff issues between Japan and the United States are



Japan’s Economic Revitalization Minister Ryosei Akazawa (R) poses with US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent (C) and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick (L) in Washington DC on 1 May 2025. PHOTO: AFP

progressing, but the two sides have “yet to find common ground”.

After returning to Tokyo on Sunday, Akazawa pledged to continue “in-

tensive” deliberations on trade expansion, non-tariff barriers and bilateral coop-

eration on economic security, with Trump expected to continue pursuing protectionist policies.

Akazawa, who met with Ishiba on the day of his return to report the outcome of his visit, said the Japanese and US leaders may talk directly once the ministerial-level negotiations reach a point where an agreement is in sight.

Under Trump’s so-called reciprocal tariff regime, announced on 2 April, nearly every nation in the world has been hit with a baseline duty of 10 per cent, with Japan facing an additional country-specific tariff of 14 per cent for a total rate of 24 per cent. — Xinhua

Thailand outlines economic roadmap, highlighting reforms, investment strategy

THAI Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Pichai Chunhavajira outlined an economic policy roadmap on Monday, aiming to rebalance the country’s growth drivers and attract high-quality investments in target industries.

Speaking at the annual ambassadors and consuls-general conference, Pichai identified exports and private consumption as the two main pillars of Thailand’s economy, emphasizing the need to di-

versify and rebalance this structure through targeted reforms and strategic investments.

The government is committed to accelerating infrastructure development across transportation, education, healthcare, and energy sectors while promoting investment in high-potential sectors, particularly electric vehicles, electronics, biotechnology, and data-driven industries, Pichai said.

Thailand is also working on modernizing trade

regulations and streamlining business processes to attract foreign direct investment, ensuring efficient budget allocation to stimulate both public and private sector investments, he said.

The deputy prime minister stressed the importance of inclusive growth, where increased employment opportunities, higher incomes, and domestic consumption are expected to be key drivers of the Thai economy in the long run. — Xinhua

Changing Distributor for Registered Pesticide

Distribution of pesticide registered by **Shandong Weifang Rainbow Chemical Co., Ltd** is changing from **RAINBOW AGROSCIENCES CO., LTD** to **Agroterrum Myanmar Co., Ltd**. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein within 2 weeks.

No.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No
1	Rainmectin 18 EC	Abamectin 18g/l EC	P2023-6232
2	R - phate 75 SP	Acephate 75% SP	P2023-6238
3	Rainmycin 20 SL	Kasugamycin 20g/l SL	P2023-6236
4	Rain Min Thar 72 WP	Mancozeb 64% + Metalaxyl 8% WP	P2023-6237
5	Azostar 250 SC	Azoxystrobin 250g/l SC	P2023-6234
6	Rainkit 50WG	Pymetrozine 50% WG	P2024-6295
7	Pro Cyper 440 EC	Cypermethrin 40g/l + Profenofos 400g/l EC	P2024-6278
8	Rainbow Cartap 50 SP	Cartap Hydrochloride 50% SP	P2024-6382

RAINBOW AGROSCIENCES CO., LTD
09456060160, 09441170170

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MEICO-1 VOY.NO. (018S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MEICO-1 VOY. NO. (018S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY.NO. (899N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BINTAN VOY.NO. (899N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MCL 6 VOY.NO. (04)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 6 VOY. NO. (04)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS CO LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Japan, S Korea leaders agree to build stable ties in 1st phone talks



Combined photo shows Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba (L) and South Korean President Lee Jae Myung. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and new South Korean President Lee Jae Myung agreed Monday to build stable bilateral ties amid a severe strategic environment, with both expressing hope to meet in person at an early date.

In their first telephone conversation since Lee took office last week, Ishiba and the South Korean leader also confirmed the importance of trilateral cooperation with their shared ally, the United States, according to the governments of Japan and South Korea.

Japan and South Korea see each other as partners who can jointly tackle global challenges after having seen a thaw in ties long marred by issues linked to wartime history and territory, the two governments said.

"I said that I'd like to further the relationship between Japan and South Korea based on the foundation that both governments have built," Ishiba told reporters after the roughly 25-minute call.

"To develop bilateral relations in a stable fashion, I hope to communicate

closely on such occasions as a face-to-face meeting with President Lee Jae Myung," he said.

South Korea's presidential office also said that Lee and Ishiba agreed to build a "stronger and more mature Korea-Japan relationship based on mutual respect, trust and a responsible attitude."

The earliest possible opportunity for an in-person summit meeting would come on the fringes of a three-day meeting of the Group of Seven nations to be held in Canada from Sunday.

Asked about the possibility of sitting down with Lee on the margins of the G7, Ishiba told reporters, "It's something that needs coordination by both sides."

Ishiba is expected to attend the summit as head of G7 member Japan, while Lee has accepted an invitation to attend the gathering as a non-member.

Lee, a liberal who has taken a firm stance on the bilateral spat over wartime labour and territory, said last week as president that he places importance on consistency in bilateral relations with Japan.

After taking office following the ouster of his predecessor, Yoon Suk Yeol, over the abrupt imposition of martial law, Lee indicated he would uphold the previous administration's approach to compensating South Korean wartime labourers. — Kyodo

NEWS In BRIEF

4 Japan SDF members hurt in blast near US Kadena Air Base

AN explosion occurred Monday near the US military's Kadena Air Base in the southern Japanese prefecture of Okinawa, slightly injuring four Japan Ground Self-Defence Force members who were working at a depot, local and Defence Ministry officials said.

The ministry officials said there was an unidentified explosion while SDF personnel were preparing for bomb disposal operations, causing those in close proximity to suffer finger lacerations and possible hearing damage. The explosion appears to have occurred at an SDF storage facility for unexploded bombs in the ammunition depot area of the base, a Defence Ministry source said. — Kyodo

Putin-Trump phone talk providing 'major de-escalation opportunity' - RDIF head

THE recent telephone conversation between Russian President Vladimir Putin and US leader Donald Trump has led to a shift in Russian public opinion, which is a "major de-escalation opportunity."

"Putin-Trump dialogue led to historic shift in Russian public opinion. Russians naming the US as 'hostile' dropped from 75 per cent to 40 per cent. Support for normalizing ties with the West jumped from 52 per cent to 80 per cent. Dialogue works. People listen. Major deescalation opportunity," the head of the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) and Russian special presidential envoy for economic cooperation with foreign countries, Kirill Dmitriev, said on Sunday. — SPUTNIK

Russia delivers 1st batch of 1,212 Ukrainian soldiers' bodies to exchange point

RUSSIA has delivered the first batch of 1,212 bodies of Ukrainian soldiers to the border exchange point pursuant to the Istanbul accords, said Lieutenant-General Alexander Zorin on Sunday.

Zorin, also a representative of the Russian negotiating group, said that Ukraine has not made contact, therefore the transfer of the bodies and the exchange of prisoners did not take place yet. Some foreign media representatives waiting at the agreed upon place of exchange have checked some of the refrigerated trucks transporting the bodies.

Zorin said that trains with more bodies of Ukrainian servicemen will start moving towards the border, adding that Russia is awaiting Kyiv's official confirmation for transferring Ukrainian soldiers' bodies next week. — Xinhua

Protesters clash with National Guard troops in Los Angeles

MORE than 1,000 protesters clashed and faced off with National Guard troops in downtown Los Angeles on Sunday during the latest demonstrations against immigration raids that swept across California over the weekend.

Xinhua reporters at the scene observed National Guard soldiers, along with agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security, repeatedly firing tear gas and smoke grenades to disperse the crowd. Some protesters and journalists were hit during the confrontation.

"We want to protest peacefully. However, the Trump administration just sent soldiers to fight against us. Is it necessary?" one protester told Xinhua outside the Metropolitan Detention Centre.

Protesters at the scene also chanted "shame on you" at National Guard soldiers who created a perimeter around



A protester is arrested by Los Angeles Police Department police officers in front of the Los Angeles Federal Detention Centre, in Los Angeles, California, the United States, 8 June 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

the federal building. Meanwhile, many locations have been taken over by more and more demonstrators and a main freeway running through the city has

been blocked.

Shortly after the clash, California Governor Gavin Newsom urged protesters to remain peaceful. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar faces Pakistan in crucial AFC Asian Cup qualifier today

THE second matchday of the 2027 AFC Asian Cup third-round qualifiers will continue today (10 June), with the Myanmar national team set to face Pakistan.

The Myanmar and Pakistani national teams will compete at 5 pm Myanmar Standard Time today at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon. Although the match was initially scheduled to be held in Pakistan, it was relocated due to a request from the Pakistan Football Federation, resulting in Myanmar playing at home. As a result, the Myanmar team will play two consecutive home matches.

On the first matchday of the group stage, held on 25 March, Myanmar defeated Afghanistan 2-1 at home, while Pakistan lost 0-2 away to Syria.

The Myanmar national team began training for the match against Pakistan on 23 May. Although the team did not play any official international friendlies, it played two warm-up matches — one against the Myanmar U22 team and another against an MNL All-Stars team composed of foreign players. — Shine Htet Zaw/TTA



Players of the Myanmar national football team in a training session. PHOTO: MFF

Portugal edges Spain in shootout thriller to clinch second Nations League title



Portugal's forward (7) Cristiano Ronaldo (R) kicks the ball to score the equalizing 2-2 goal during the UEFA Nations League final football match between Portugal and Spain in Munich, southern Germany, on 8 June 2025. PHOTO: AFP

CRISTIANO Ronaldo scored again as Portugal claimed its second UEFA Nations League title, overcoming Spain 5-3 on penalties after a tense 2-2 draw in Munich on Sunday.

Having scored the winner against Germany in the semifinal, Ronaldo equalized in 61 minutes of the final to bring Portugal back into the game for a second time. This extended his record of international goals to 138 in 221 appearances.

Spain, who had stunned France 5-4 in the semifinal, started brightly and were rewarded in 21 minutes when Martin Zubimendi scored from close range following a clever pass from 17-year-old Lamine Yamal. Portugal responded swiftly through Nuno Mendes, whose angled drive beat goalkeeper Unai Simon just five minutes later. Spain regained the lead moments before halftime when Pedri played a defence-splitting pass to Mikel Oyarzabal, who finished confidently to make it 2-1. However, Ronaldo levelled the match with a scrappy but vital finish after Mendes' cross caused chaos in the Spain box.

Despite both sides pressing for a winner, the match was dragged into extra time, where fatigue began to take its toll. Substitute Diogo Jota almost won it for Portugal in the final minute, but his header went just over the bar.

In the penalty shootout, both teams converted their first three attempts. The turning point came when Spain's late substitute Alvaro Morata saw his tame effort saved by goalkeeper Diogo Costa.

Ruben Neves then stepped up and fired home the winning penalty, sparking scenes of jubilation on the Portuguese bench. — Xinhua

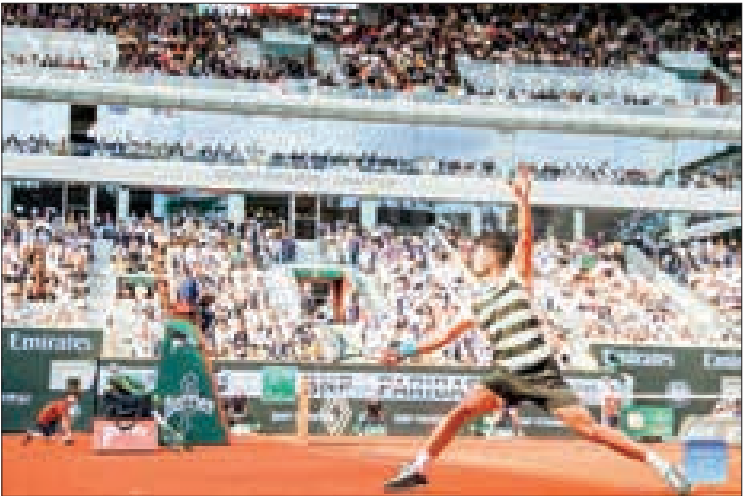
Alcaraz rallies to beat Sinner in five sets to retain French Open title

CARLOS Alcaraz rallied from two sets down and saved three championship points to beat top seed Jannik Sinner 4-6, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (10-2) on Sunday and retain his French Open title.

In the longest-ever French Open final that lasted over five hours, the 22-year-old Spaniard became only the third man since 2000 to win back-to-back men's singles titles at Roland Garros after Rafael Nadal and Gustavo Kuerten.

The match marked the first Grand Slam men's final contested by two players born after 2000. After losing the first two sets, Alcaraz clawed back with a composed third set and then saved three championship points in the fourth - eventually forcing and winning the tiebreak 7-3. Riding the momentum, he broke early in the fifth and sealed the victory in the tiebreak 10-2.

Speaking afterwards, the defending champion told his close rival: "It's amazing the level you have. I'm pretty sure you're going to be champion here many, many times. It's a privilege to share the court with you. I'm just really happy to be able to make history with you in this tournament, in other tournaments." — Xinhua



Carlos Alcaraz returns a shot during the men's singles final match between Jannik Sinner of Italy and Carlos Alcaraz of Spain at the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros, Paris, France, 8 June 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA



Don't let deep sea become 'wild west', Guterres tells world leaders



(From L) UN secretary general Antonio Guterres, Costa Rica president Rodrigo Chaves and France's President Emmanuel Macron attend the opening session of the third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3), which gathers leaders, researchers and activists to discuss how to protect marine life until 13 June at the Centre des Expositions conference centre in the French riviera city of Nice, on 9 June 2025. PHOTO: AFP

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Monday the world could not let the deepest oceans “become the wild west”, at the start in France of a global summit on the seas.

World leaders are attending the UN

Ocean Conference in Nice as nations tussle over contentious rules on mining the seabed for critical minerals and the terms of a global treaty on plastic pollution.

US President Donald Trump has brought urgency to the debate around

deep-sea mining, moving to fast-track US exploration in international waters and sidestepping global efforts to regulate the nascent sector.

The International Seabed Authority, which has jurisdiction over the ocean floor

outside national waters, is meeting in July to discuss a global mining code to regulate mining in the ocean depths.

Guterres said he supported these negotiations and urged caution as countries navigate these “new waters on seabed mining”.

“The deep sea cannot become the wild west,” he said, to applause from the plenary floor.

Many countries oppose seabed mining, and France is hoping more nations in Nice will join a moratorium until more is known about the ecological impacts of the practice.

French President Emmanuel Macron said a moratorium on deep-sea mining was “an international necessity”.

“I think it's madness to launch predatory economic action that will disrupt the deep seabed, disrupt biodiversity, destroy it and release irrecoverable carbon sinks — when we know nothing about it,” the French president said.

The deep sea, Greenland and Antarctica were “not for sale”, he said in follow up remarks to thunderous applause.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva called for “clear action” from the seabed authority to end a “predatory race” among nations seeking critical minerals on the ocean floor.

“We now see the threat of unilateralism looming over the ocean. We cannot allow what happened to international trade to happen to the sea,” he said. — AFP

Vietnam's capital reports 150 new COVID-19 cases in past week

VIETNAMESE capital Hanoi confirmed 150 new COVID-19 cases in the city from 30 May to 6 June, slightly down from the previous week, Vietnam News Agency reported Monday.

Since the beginning of 2025, the capital city has recorded 558 infections, a decrease of 109 cases compared to the same period last year, the report said.

The Hanoi Centre for Disease Control has requested local units to strengthen public communication on COVID-19 and other seasonal diseases. — Xinhua

Iran says to submit own nuclear proposal to US soon

IRAN said on Monday it will soon present a counter-proposal on a nuclear deal with the United States, after it had described Washington's offer as containing “ambiguities”.

Tehran and Washington have held five rounds of talks since April to thrash out a new nuclear accord to replace the deal with major powers that US President Donald Trump abandoned during his first term in 2018.

The longtime foes have been locked in a diplomatic standoff over Iran's uranium enrichment, with Tehran defending it as a “non-negotiable” right and Washington describing it as a “red line”.

On 31 May after the fifth round of talks, Iran said it had received “elements” of a US proposal, with Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi later saying the text contained “ambiguities”.

Foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei criticized the US proposal as “lacking elements” reflective of the previous rounds of negotiations, without providing further details.

“We will soon submit our own proposed plan to the other side through (media-



Iran's ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Reza Najafi reacts upon arrival for the IAEA's Board of Governors meeting at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, Austria, on 9 June 2025. PHOTO: AFP

tor) Oman once it is finalized,” Baqaei told a weekly press briefing. “It is a proposal that is reasonable, logical and balanced, and we strongly recommend that the American side value this opportunity.” — AFP