

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

- 1. To steadfastly strive for emergence of political forces and the people’s representatives who can implement a genuine, disciplined multi-party democratic system while constantly emphasizing on the national interests of the State.
- 2. To persistently strive for promoting the socio-economic life of the people through the development of agro-based industries in improving the agricultural sector, the vital foundation of the economic growth of the State.
- 3. To put emphasis on enhancing the national education and health sectors for sustainable development of the State.
- 4. To implement multi-party democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of multi-party democratic general election process and successfully moving towards with the multi-party democratic system aspired by the entire people.

SUNDAY EDITION

OPINION
Emphasize special precautions to prevent Nipah virus infection

PAGE 8

NATIONAL PAGE 11



CBM sells US\$4.77M to edible oil and fuel importers

60 container ships scheduled to call at Yangon Port in Feb



The container ship MV SITC Zhaoming is seen at the Asia World Port Terminal on 22 June 2023.

According to an announcement by the Myanma Port Authority (MPA), 60 container ships are scheduled to arrive at Yangon Port during the month of February.

Scheduled arrivals by Shipping Line are : 11 ships (M/S Cosco Shipping Line), eight ships (M/S SITC Container Line), seven ships (M/S CMA CGM ASIA Line), six ships (M/S ONE Line), five ships each (M/S Ti2 Logistics, Samudera Shipping, and Maersk A/S), four ships (M/S MSC Line), three ships each (M/S Evergreen ASIA and

RCL Lines), two ships (M/S BLPL Shipping Line) and one ship (M/S Land and Sea).

The MPA informed exporters and importers that these schedules have been expanded to boost national export and meet domestic demand for imports, and any further expansions to the schedule will be reported in real-time.

According to a statement issued on 22 June, 2024, the MPA developed the Kings Bank Channel that allows vessels to enter the Yangon inner port day or night while continuous dredging

and maintenance have enabled the port to accommodate larger vessels. On 22 June, the MV SITC Zhaoming operated by Hong Kong-based SITC Shipping Line, with LOA 185.99 metres, beam 35.25 metres, GRT 29,232 tonnes, and a capacity of 2,698 TEUs, docked at the Asia World Port Terminal (AWPT), being recorded as the largest container ship to ever dock at the terminal.

A total of sixty-three container ships called at Yangon Port during January, according to the MPA. — NN/ZN

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STARMART Nay Pyi Taw Yangon- Mandalay Highway Road, Ywar Gauk Ward, Pinyinmanar.Ph- 09 685119077

NATIONAL



National Objectives for 79th Union Day 2026

1. To work together among all ethnic nationals to achieve the country’s prosperity and food security, the national goal of the country.
2. To cooperate hand-in-hand with the government, Tatmadaw and all ethnic nationals in successfully implementing the measures for stability and rule of law.
3. To strive together with ethnic armed groups to establish a lasting peace, while propagating justice, freedom and equality within the country.
4. To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, practising a genuine and disciplined multiparty democratic system through the friendship, trust, unity and collaboration of ethnic people.
5. To cooperate, ensuring the development of education, health and socioeconomic status of ethnic nationals and the emergence of a developing country.

- Let us encourage production for prosperity of the Nation.
- Let us ensure education sector for the development of the Nation.
- Let us protect our environment for the prosperity of the Nation.

Mottos for 79th Union Day 2026

1. Unity is strength, Unity is power,
Peace is beauty.
2. Let’s build lasting peace
for the Union’s development
3. National brethren, let’s unite
and join hands for the Union
4. Unity boosts friendship
Harmony brings peace

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations confirmed and appointed

1. The National Defence and Security Council has confirmed the appointment of U Thet Tun, Managing Director of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy, after the one-year probationary period.
2. The National Defence and Security Council has appointed the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Zaw Zaw Htwe Deputy Director-General Prosecution Department Ministry of Legal Affairs	Director-General Legislative Vetting Department Ministry of Legal Affairs
(b) Daw Tint Tint Han Deputy Permanent Secretary Union Minister’s Office Ministry of Legal Affairs	Director-General Legal Advocacy Department Ministry of Legal Affairs

Employees Absent Without Offence to Be Removed from Blacklist

SINCE February 2021, some civil servants from Union-level organizations and ministries have left their workplaces without permission for various reasons. As a result, their names were placed on the respective departments’ blacklists, causing concern and leading some to remain in hiding in other locations.

Such employees are urged to report and make contact with the offices of their former departments at their current locations, as well as with nearby township, district, regional or state administrative bodies, Myanmar embassies, military attaché offices and consulates-general.

Following verification, employees found not to have committed any offence, as well as those who had committed offences but have already served their sentences and whose names still appear on the blacklists, are being removed from the blacklists.

Information Team
National Defence and Security Council

Condition of La Nina in first 10 days of February 2026

Issued at 31 January 2026

- (a) The Sea Surface Temperature (SST) over the Tropical Pacific Ocean near the Equator and atmospheric phenomena are currently in a weak La Niña condition. According to the International Meteorological Agency, Numerical Weather prediction models are expected to continue a weak La Nina level during the first 10 days of February.
- (b) Although the La Nina conditions occur in the Pacific Ocean, Easterly Waves occur more frequently, more low-pressure areas may form over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, a decrease in night temperatures in some regions and states, and untimely rainfall will occur due to the impact of La Nina.
- (c) The La Nina Condition will be updated in time. — DMH

Gold Market Rate as of 31 January 2026

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K6,900,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

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.

(An 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)

Nay Pyi Taw Council and regions, states to participate in Union-Level MSME Product Fair

FIFTEEN booths representing the Nay Pyi Taw Council and various regions and states will participate in the six-day Union-Level MSME Product Fair (Nay Pyi Taw), held to mark the 79th Union Day.

The Union-Level MSME Product Fair will take place at People’s Square in Nay Pyi Taw from 8 to 13 February.

In addition to these booths, there will be ministry booths, business-matching and technology booths, agricultural equipment and product booths, small industries and manufacturing cooperative booths, association booths, solar farm displays, SKD-preferred EV car, motorcycle, and tricycle booths, and CMP garment exhibitions,

bringing the total number of booths to 124.

Currently, the Central Organizing Committee and 11 working committees are making systematic and timely preparations to ensure the successful staging of the Union-level MSME Product Fair.

As part of the preparations, MSME products, local products, and agricultural and industrial products are being displayed at the booths.

Similarly, the MSME Product Fair will feature micro, small, and medium enterprises, food products, consumer goods, weaving and handicrafts, other small industrial products, production cooperatives, and One Region One Product (OROP)



This photo shows the preparations of the venue for the Union-Level MSME Product Fair to be held on 8-13 February in hailing the 79th Union Day.

items from 15 regions and states.

There are also plans to sell popular ethnic foods from different regions at the MSME Product Fair. — MNA/MKKS

Yangon-Pathein highway upgrading work to be completed by Apr

UPGRADING works on the Yangon-Pathein Highway will be completed by April, at the end of the 2025-26 financial year, according to the Department of Highways (Ayeyawady Region) under the Ministry of Construc-

tion.

The Yangon-Pathein Highway runs for 113 miles and two furlongs. A private company is carrying out concrete paving works under the BOD system along a three-mile section be-

tween the down-ramp of Bo Myat Tun Bridge and Pantanaw. In addition, 30-foot-wide concrete paving is under way along a section of about six miles between Pantanaw and Kyaunggon.

Officials said the project

also includes widening earth embankments, levelling subgrade layers and extending asphalt road shoulders with concrete. At milepost 59, concrete widening of about three furlongs on one side has already been completed,

with further works continuing. Heavy machinery is being intensively deployed along the six-mile section, which authorities aim to complete as a 30-foot-wide concrete road by the end of March.

Similarly, section-by-section works are progressing along the highway, including asphalt overlay works between Kyaunggon and Kankalay, road upgrading and shoulder widening between Kankalay and Dahka, and asphalt overlay and embankment widening between Dahka and Pathein.

Repair, maintenance and expansion works on the Yangon-Pathein Highway are being carried out using Union budget, with relevant departments accelerating progress to ensure smoother travel before April. — ASH/KZL



Concrete widening work along the asphalt shoulder at Milepost 59 on the Yangon-Pathein Highway.



Road upgrading work underway on the Yangon-Pathein Highway between Kankalay and Dahka.

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Announcement 27/2026

14th Waxing of Tabodwe, 1387 ME
31 January 2026

Announcement of Elected Representatives of Region or State Hluttaw

According to the announcements issued by the respective Region and State Subcommissions under Section 49 (b) of the Region or State Hluttaw Election Law, the following persons have been duly elected as Region or State Hluttaw representatives in the multiparty democratic general election conducted in phases starting from 28 December 2025.

Bago Region (FPTP)

No	Name	CSC	Constituency	Representing Party/Independent
1.	U Win Naing	7/KaKaNa (C) 026714	Kyaukgyi Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
2.	U Phone Myint Oo	7/KaTaKha (C) 001148	Kyaukdaga Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
3.	U Kyaw Min Naing	7/PhaMaNa (C) 096092	Pyu Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
4.	Daw Khin Khin Win	7/PaKhaNa (C) 144703	Ottwin Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
5.	U Ohn Thwin	7/ThaKaNa (C) 028501	Thegon Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
6.	U Thet Toe Win	7/WaMaNa (C) 002366	Waw Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
7.	U Aung Soe Htet	7/KaPaKa (C) 064016	Gyobingauk Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
8.	U Aung Ko	7/PaTaTa (C) 105682	Okpo Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party

Bago Region (PR system) Constituency 1

9.	U Kyaw Htay	7/PhaMaNa (C) 029924	Pyu Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
10.	U Thant Zaw Min	7/TaNgana (C) 130621	Taungoo Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
11.	U Thaung Win	7/TaNgana (C) 078653	Yedashe Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
12.	U Zaw Min Thet	7/AhTaNa (C) 140622	Ottwin Township (Rep 2)	People’s Party
13.	U Myo Myo Thein	7/RaTaRa (C) 010538	Htantabin Township (Rep 2)	Myanmar Farmers’ Development Party

Bago Region (PR system) Constituency 2

14.	U Kyaw Soe	7/ThaWaTa (C) 065238	Letpadan Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
15.	U Thet Paing Htwe	7/MaNyaNa (C) 106671	Thayawady Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
16.	U Aung Zeya	7/LaPaTa (C) 007825	Moenyo Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
17.	U Yan Naing Win	12/MaGaDa (C) 004692	Minhla Township (Rep 2)	Federal Democratic Party
18.	Daw Lwel Lwel Win	7/ThaWaTa (C) 001350	Gyobingauk Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party
19.	U Myo Win Than	7/ThaWaTa (C) 071608	Okpo Township (Rep 2)	Shan and Nationalities Democratic Party (White Tiger Party)

Bago Region (PR system) Constituency 3

20.	U Min Aung	7/DaUNa (C) 007356	Kyaukdaga Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
21.	U Myint Soe	7/NyaLaPa (C) 078696	Nyaunglebin Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
22.	U Khine Moe	7/RaKaNa (C) 002496	DaikU Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
23.	U Hla Moe Aung	12/AhSaNa (C) 011396	Shwegyin Township (Rep 2)	Federal Democratic Party
24.	U Kyaw Lin Khant	7/DaU Na (C) 106978	Kyaukkyi Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party

Bago Region (PR System) Constituency 4

25.	Dr Htoo Chyar Aung	7/PaMaNa (C) 128901	Bago Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
26.	U Aung Nyi Nyi Soe	7/PaKhaNa (C) 266631	Kawa Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
27.	U Nay Win	7/ThaNaPa (C) 007391	Waw Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
28.	U Myo Thein Oo	7/PaKhaNa (C) 004062	Thanatpin Township (Rep 2)	People’s Party

Bago Region (PR System) Constituency 5

29.	U Kyaw Kyaw Lin	7/HtaTaPa (C) 000132	Pyay Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
30.	U Myo Min Zaw	7/PaTaTa (C) 169478	Nattalin Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
31.	U Khin Aung Win	7/RaTaNa (C) 007869	Padaung Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
32.	U Tun Min Zaw	7/ThaKaNa (C) 090416	Paungde Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
33.	U Ye Win	7/PaMaNa (C) 143373	Thegon Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party

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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

FROM PAGE 4

No	Name	CSC	Constituency	Representing Party/Independent
34.	U Myo Khine	7/RaTaNa (C) 078886	Shwedaung Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party
35.	U Kyaw Swa Lin	7/PaMaNa (C) 118361	Paukkhaung Township (Rep 2)	Federal Democratic Party
36.	Daw Ni Ni Cho	7/KaPaKa (C) 064227	Zigon Township (Rep 2)	Shan and Nationalities Democratic Party (White Tiger Party)
Mandalay Region (FPTP)				
37.	U Than Oo	5/TaHsaNa (C) 000338	Myittha Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
38.	U Myat Thu	5/NgaZaNa (C) 001282	Ngazun Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
39.	U Hla Kywe	9/MaThaNa (C) 008641	Chanmyathazi Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
40.	Daw Win Win Latt	9/AhMaZa (C) 056479	Mahlaing Township (Rep 1)	National Unity Party
41.	U Ngwe Soe Hlaing	9/TaThaNa (C) 138314	Taungtha Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
42.	U Mahn Myint	9/MaKhaNa (C) 107746	Myingyan Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
43.	U Tun Tint	9/ThaPaKa (C) 015945	Thabeikkyin Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
44.	U Swe Than	9/PaThaKa (C) 004408	Patheingyi Township (Rep 1)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Mandalay Region (PR) Constituency 1				
45.	U Nay Lin	9/KaPaTa(C)139286	Kyaukpadaung Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
46.	Daw Mya Thanda Oo	9/NyaUNa(C)001224	Taungtha Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
47.	U Pyae Phyو Kyaw	9/AhMaZa (C) 040710	Myingyan Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
48.	U Hla Kyi	9/KaPaTa (C) 081254	Natogyi Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
49.	U Phone Myint	6/MaAhRa (C) 004962	NyaungU Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party (PPP)
Mandalay Region (PR) Constituency 2				
50.	Daw Than Than Aye	9/PaBaNa(C)009219	Meiktila Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
51.	U Zaw Win	9/RaMaTha(C)031236	Pyawbwe Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
52.	U Mya Thwin (aka) U Myint San	9/MaHtaLa (C)175518	Yamethin Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
53.	U Han Maung	9/RaMaTha (C) 006292	Wundwin Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
54.	U Kyaw Min Tun	10/KaHtaNa (C)119923	Thazi Township (Rep 2)	People’s Party (PP)
55.	U Min Naing	9/WaTaNa (C)007101	Mahlaing Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party (PPP)
Mandalay Region (PR) Constituency 3				
56.	Daw Thi Thi Kyaw	9/MaThaNa (C)101836	Kyaukse Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
57.	U Taik Kyi	9/SaKaTa(C) 077114	TadaU Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
58.	Daw Lei Lei Win	9/TaTaU (C)001308	Myittha Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
59.	U Soe Myat Aung	9/AhMaRa(C)088792	Ngazun Township (Rep 2)	People’s Party (PP)
60.	U Zaw Min Oo	9/KaHsaNa (C)000168	Singaing Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party (PPP)
Mandalay Region (PR) Constituency 4				
61.	U Myo Myint	9/MaNaMa (C)033523	PyinOoLwin Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
62.	U Po Aye	9/MaMaNa (C)035182	Patheingyi Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
63.	U Nyi Nyi (aka) U Kyaw San	9/MaNaMa (C) 053830	Ayungmyaythazan Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
64.	U Saung Tin	9/MaTaRa(C) 092373	Singu Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
65.	U Par Par Lwin	9/PaThaKa (C) 007407	Mogok Township (Rep 2)	People’s Party (PP)
66.	Daw Aye Aye Thant	9/MaNaMa(C)113236	Madaya Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party (PPP)
67.	U Aung Zaw Zaw Myo	9/PaThaKa (C)076698	Thabeikkyin Township (Rep 2)	Shan and Nationalities Democratic Party (White Tiger Party)
Mandalay Region (PR) Constituency 5				
68.	U Tin Tun	9/MaRaTa (C) 103692	Pyigyidagun Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
69.	Daw Saw Myaing	9/AhMaRa(C)071374	Amarapura Township (Rep 2)	Union Solidarity and Development Party
70.	U Myo Kyaw	9/SaKaNa(C)053617	Chanmyathazi Township (Rep 2)	National Unity Party
71.	Daw Phyو Thanda	5/SaKaNa(C)273729	Mahaaungmyay Township (Rep 2)	People’s Party (PP)
72.	U Zaw Win Thant (aka) U Htet Aung Lin	9/MaKhaNa(C)196070	Chanayethazan Township (Rep 2)	People’s Pioneer Party (PPP)

Sd/Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

NATIONAL

Individuals engaged in telecom fraud and online gambling detained along with related materials in Kunhing Township

THE Government of Myanmar prioritizes combating telecom fraud and online gambling activities that pose risks to the international community and the world at large, treating these efforts as a national duty. To ensure that such activities gain no foothold within the country, the government is actively conducting suppression operations in coordination not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries.

According to the information given by responsible citizens, the online fraud and gambling were based near Wamnammin Village of Kenglung Village-tract in Kali of Kunhing Township in Shan State (South), combined teams comprising security forces combatting telecom fraud and online gambling

activities in regions and states served their duties of aviation reconnaissance, ground investigation and combing the areas. At 5.30 pm on 29 January, they found suspected buildings of telecom fraud and online gambling activities in the area 500 metres south of Wamnammin Village and searched there. No one

was found for these activities but the security forces seized three workplaces with 100 feet in length and 30 feet in width, nine 15 feet by 15 feet residential buildings, one 40 feet long and 20 feet wide dining hall, one 80 feet by 20 feet food warehouse, 14 15 feet by 15 feet residential buildings, one 20 feet by 10 feet gen-

erator shed, three guard posts, two 60 feet by 20 feet residential two-storey buildings, three 12 feet by 10 feet tents and two generators.

At 11:30 am on 30 January, the security forces detained 221 Chinese nationals who worked for telecom fraud and online gambling along with 15 all-in-one computers, six laptops and two Starlink devices, some 3,000 metres east of Wamnammin Village. At about 1 pm, they also arrested seven Chinese nationals who participated in telecom fraud and online gambling activities, 5,000 metres southeast of Wamnammin Village in addition to seizures of one 30 feet by 20 feet tent, one 60 feet by 20 feet tent, one 120 feet by 30 feet workplace, one 80 feet by 30 feet workplace, one 50 feet by 50 feet kitchen, one 40 feet by 20 feet dining hall,

three 60 feet by 30 feet residential buildings, one 30 feet by 20 feet residential hall, one 20 feet by 20 feet generator shed, 80 all-in-one computers, 11 Starlink trays and two geneators.

Moreover, the security forces nabbed five more Chinese nationals who worked for online fraud and gambling, 1,000 metres east of Wamnammin Village at 1.30 pm on 31 January.

The seized equipment related to telecom fraud and online gambling activities will be handled in accordance with established procedures, and the arrestees will be taken to effective legal action in line with the law. In addition, efforts will continue to investigate and expose individuals involved behind the scenes and to take action against them in accordance with the law. — MNA/TTA



The location map shows the areas where arrested and seized illegal online scammers and buildings and related materials used in illegal gambling in Kali of Kunhing Township in Shan State (South).



Chinese nationals arrested for online gambling scams and fraud in Wamnammin Village, Kali.



This image shows confiscated computers, Starlink devices and scam-related materials in Wamnammin Village, Kali of Kunhing Township in Shan State (South).

EU-Myanmar: Voices of Connection art competition to be held

AN art competition titled “EU-Myanmar: Voices of Connection” will be held to celebrate the relationship between the European Union and Myanmar, according to EU-Myanmar.

The competition aims to use art to express shared values, cultural exchanges, and the connections that bring the societies of the EU and Myanmar closer together.

It is open to all artists based in Myanmar. Key details include: open to Myanmar residents and visual artists of all experience levels, 15 years or older (those under 18 require consent from a parent or guardian), and only one entry per artist.

Artists may create works using painting, illustrations with watercolour, oil, etc,

sketches or drawings, digital art, mixed media, collage, and printed art. Entries must be submitted no later than 1 March 2026.

Prizes include K1,500,000 for first prize, K1,000,000 for second prize, K500,000 for third prize. Additionally, 20 shortlisted artists will receive an official certificate of honour from the EU. Their artwork will be featured on the EU’s social media platforms and showcased in a public exhibition. — MT/ZN

A QR code to scan for submitting artwork for the “EU-Myanmar: Voices of Connection” art competition.



European Union
မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် (EU)



မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအခြေစိုက် အနုပညာရှင်များကို မိတ်ဆက်ခြင်း

EU-Myanmar: Voices of Connection

အနုပညာပြိုင်ပွဲ

ဆောင်ရွက်ရမည့်နေ့ရက်
၂၀၂၆ ခုနှစ်၊ မတ်လ ၁ ရက်

အမျိုးအနွယ်
• ၁၅ သိန်းကျပ်အထိ တန်ဖိုးရှိ ရွေးချယ်ခွင့်များ
• တရားဝင်ကုန်သွယ်မှုတစ်ခုလုံး
• ပြိုင်ပွဲနှင့် ဆိုင်ရာပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တွင် ဖော်ပြပေးခြင်း
• အမှတ်တရပစ္စည်းများတွင် ထည့်သွင်းပေးခြင်း

ဥပဒေအရရှိသည့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံကြားမှ
ဆက်ဆံရေးကို ပေါ်လွင်စေသည့် ရိုက်ကူးမှုများကို
အထူးကောင်းကောင်းဖြင့် ဖော်ပြထားသော
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NATIONAL

Nation must step up production of import-substitute products

- ❖ “If production can be increased with a larger volume of products for export purposes, the country will earn more foreign income, and the socio-economic conditions of the people will improve significantly”.
- ❖ “Production of goods must be raised as import-substitute products adequately at home”.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the coordination meeting between the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Union government on 12 September 2025)

Weekly Roundup

25 January

NDSC amends Constitutional Tribunal Law

The National Defence and Security Council enacted the Third Amendment to the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union Law as the NDSC Law 1/2026.

Press Conference highlights largest seizures of drugs

A press conference conducted by the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on the largest seizure of heroin, methamphetamine, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the places where narcotic drugs were refined, and the materials used in drug production took place at the Anisakhan Air Field in PyinOoLwin of Mandalay Region.

26 January

Head of State visits polling stations in Mandalay

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visited polling stations in Mandalay Region.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Tatmadaw families

Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met Tatmadaw members and families of Mandalay Station at Yan Aung Myin Hall of the Central Command Headquarters.

Head of State discusses with departmental officials

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met Mandalay Region ministers and officials from Mandalay City Development Committee and gave guidance on the development of Mandalay in accordance with the city’s characteristics, with beautification.

27 January

Head of State receives Thai Ambassador

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Mongkol Visiststump, who had completed his tour of duty, at the National Defence and Security Council office in Nay Pyi Taw.

Head of State sends video message to Health Research Congress

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sent a video message to the opening ceremony of the 54th Myanmar Health Research Congress.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win receives Thai Ambassador

Vice-Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Senior General Soe Win received Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Mongkol Visiststump, who had completed his tour of duty, at the Credentials Hall of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council.

28 January

Union Government holds 1/2026 meeting

Prime Minister U Nyo Saw delivered a speech at the meeting 1/2026 of the Union government at its office in Nay Pyi Taw.

NDSC issues Order 3/2026 and Order 4/2026

The National Defence and Security Council has reassigned Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Union Minister for Home Affairs, to original military duties and appointed Lt-Gen Phone Myat as Union Minister for Home Affairs under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

29 January

NDSC enacts Law 2/206

The National Defence and Security Council

enacted the Second Amendment to the Law Relating to Emoluments and Allowances of Representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw and Members of the Leading Body of the Self-Administered Division or Self-Administered Zone as the NDSC Law 2/2026.

30 January

Hluttaw Session Convening Central Committee meets

Prime Minister U Nyo Saw delivered a speech at the first coordination meeting of the Hluttaw Session Convening Central Committee at the Union government Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

NDSC issues Ordinances

The National Defence and Security Council released Ordinance 1/2026 to declare a state of emergency and Ordinance 2/2026 to continue the term of martial law.

C-in-C office issues martial law order 1/2026

The Martial Law Orders 1/2025 and 2/2025, which were released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services on the 7th Waxing of Wagaung, 1387 ME (31 July 2025), shall remain in effect.

31 January

Myanmar counsels submit final orgument arguments at ICJ

Oral hearings in the case between The Gambia and Myanmar were held at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Netherlands, from 12 to 29 January. Myanmar counsels submitted their second round of submissions on the final day from 10 am to 1 pm and from 3 pm to 4.30 pm local time on 29 January.

Myanmar Agent delivers closing statement

Agent of Myanmar Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing made a speech and submitted an application requesting the court to dismiss all of Gambia’s appeals at the International Court of Justice. — GNLM/TTA

Electrical Power & Green Energy Expo 2026 planned in Mar

MYANMAR Electrical Power and Green Energy Expo 2026 has been planned to hold in March for three days at Yangon Convention Centre in Yangon.

The expo will take place for the fourth time in Yangon from 9 am to 5 pm from 6 to 8 March at YCC in Inya Lake Hotel campus. At the event, power

sources such as generator, solar, transformer and other electrical devices will be exhibited.

Further, EV cars, e-bikes and others can be bought at spe-

cial discounts, and visitors can attend education talks on solar energy and EV by experts with free admission.

Interested companies can

book booths and more details can be requested to the phone numbers: 09 409400055, 09 409400066, 09 409400077 and 09 43125185. — NN/ZS

Emphasize special precautions to prevent Nipah virus infection

THE Nipah virus is a highly dangerous animal-to-human transmissible virus. Due to its very high fatality rate, special caution and preventive measures are required. The Nipah virus (NiV) can be transmitted through animals such as bats, pigs, dogs, and goats. Early symptoms are similar to those of influenza, but the illness can worsen and progress to severe neurological symptoms, including encephalitis.

At present, India’s Kerala State has recorded the highest number of Nipah virus infections, including fatalities, and health authorities are keeping the situation under close surveillance. Similarly, the Department of Disease Control and the Ministry of Public Health in Thailand are closely monitoring the situation to prevent the spread of the Nipah virus.

The Nipah virus is a zoonotic disease that spreads from animals to humans, primarily through close contact. Therefore, it is important to avoid direct contact with bats, flying foxes, and pigs that may be infected. One should also avoid visiting places where bats roost or where bat droppings are present, and refrain from consuming fruits that have been bitten or contaminated by animals. Unnecessary travel to areas where outbreaks have occurred, as well as visiting hospitals or places where infected patients are treated, should be avoided. Close contact with suspected patients should also be avoided. To date, there is no specific vaccine or treatment for the Nipah virus. Only supportive care can help alleviate symptoms.

Therefore, it is important to avoid direct contact with bats, flying foxes, and pigs that may be infected. One should also avoid visiting places where bats roost or where bat droppings are present, and refrain from consuming fruits that have been bitten or contaminated by animals. Unnecessary travel to areas where outbreaks have occurred, as well as visiting hospitals or places where infected patients are treated, should be avoided. Close contact with suspected patients should also be avoided. To date, there is no specific vaccine or treatment for the Nipah virus. Only supportive care can help alleviate symptoms.

Therefore, the public should not believe rumours or false information about the Nipah virus, especially since there have been no previous outbreaks in Myanmar and no cases have been reported to date. People should follow only the official guidance and timely updates from the Ministry of Health, and apply proper health knowledge and precautions to protect themselves effectively.



Book Title	-	AI, Power and Future of Human
Translator	-	Lamin Thaung Htun
Publishing House	-	Sar See Sein
Publication Date	-	August 2025 (1 st Edition)
Price	-	K15,000

AI, Power and Future of Human
The Coming Wave by Mustafa Suleyman
with Michael Bhaskar

AT a time when AI technology is being widely used across the international community, Myanmar, a country still in the early stages of development, has only just begun introducing AI. Similarly, in the world of books, publications related to AI have started to appear. Most of these books focus mainly on how to use AI or on ways to make money by using AI technology. Among the recently published AI-related books, this week I would like to recommend those that explain what AI is, its pros and cons, and how to use it effectively.

The first book is “AI, Power and Future of Human,” translated into Myanmar by Lamin Thaung Htun. Although Myanmar lags in technological development, the influence of AI has no borders. Therefore, this book serves as an excellent guide for understanding in advance both the dangers and the opportunities of technology. It is especially aimed at those who wish to use technology effectively in the fields of education, healthcare, and business.

The original author, Mustafa Suleyman, is neither a supporter nor an opponent of

technology. But, he views it as a “powerful but dangerous tool.” His main objective is to warn that AI and biotechnology must be regulated and guided in ways that benefit all of humanity. This book explores in depth both the positive and negative consequences due to the inevitable advancement of AI and biotechnology on the global economy, society, and politics.

He says... “With AI, we could unlock the secrets of the universe, cure diseases that have long eluded us, and create new forms of art and culture that stretch the bounds of imagination. With biotechnology, we could engineer life to tackle diseases and transform agriculture, creating a world that is healthier and more sustainable. But on the other hand, the potential dangers of these technologies are equally vast and profound. With biotechnology, we could manipulate the very building blocks of life, potentially creating unintended consequences for both individuals and entire ecosystems.”

In Chapter 1 – “Contentment is not pos-

sible”, it reads ...almost every culture has a flood myth. In ancient Hindu texts, the first man in our universe, Manu, is warned of an impending deluge and becomes its sole survivor. The Epic of Gilgamesh records the god Enlil as destroying the world in a giant flood, a story that will resonate with anyone familiar with the Old Testament story of Noah’s ark. Plato talked of the lost city of Atlantis, washed away in an immense torrent. Permeating humanity’s oral traditions and ancient writings is the idea of a giant wave sweeping everything in its path, leaving the world remade and reborn.

This book is not meant to frighten those who worry about the future, but rather to serve as a warning and a roadmap for necessary preparation. Due to a clear and accessible writing style, even readers without technical knowledge can understand, and it enables readers to grasp the history of AI from beginning to end. It also offers practical recommendations for preparing for the future. For these reasons, anyone who wants to reflect on how humanity should face rapid technological advancement and anyone interested in technology and social issues should read this book without hesitation.



Book Title	-	Admitting Digital Evidence in Criminal Court (Rapid Evolution of Artificial Intelligence and Existing Laws in Myanmar)
Author	-	U Maung Maung Nyunt
Publishing House	-	Wisdom House
Publication Date	-	October 2025 (1 st Edition)
Price	-	K10,000

Admitting digital evidence in the Criminal Court
(Rapid Evolution of Artificial Intelligence and Existing Laws in Myanmar)

THIS book evaluates the decision to admit or reject electronic evidence in contemporary judicial proceedings, analyzes the study of court judgements and legal precedents and comparative studies of Myanmar’s existing laws with legislative provisions from India and Singapore.

This book also serves as a follow-up volume to the previous issue titled “Cyber Crime and Presentation of Electronic Evidence”, addressing remaining technical and legal aspects that were not covered in the earlier work.

In the introduction, the author pointed out some flaws in the provisions of Myanmar’s existing Evidence Act that do not adequately connect with technical evidence, particularly in a condition where electronic records are presented as evidence in court, and are subject to varying interpretations. Furthermore, the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) is deemed to be challenging the Myanmar Evidence Act.

In the book’s preface, a friend sighed, with the rise of AI, will the authenticity of Digital Evidence be presumed? I respond that it is a benchmark for technological progress and legislative wisdom. The Evidence Act is the key when opposing parties face off and admit the evidence in court, as amendments of this Act are designed to modernize legal frameworks by incorporating advancing technologies, entailing the inclusion of electronic records, admissibility of the digital records and signatures.

The Evidence Act, which originated in India, came into force in Myanmar, and its continued application is found.

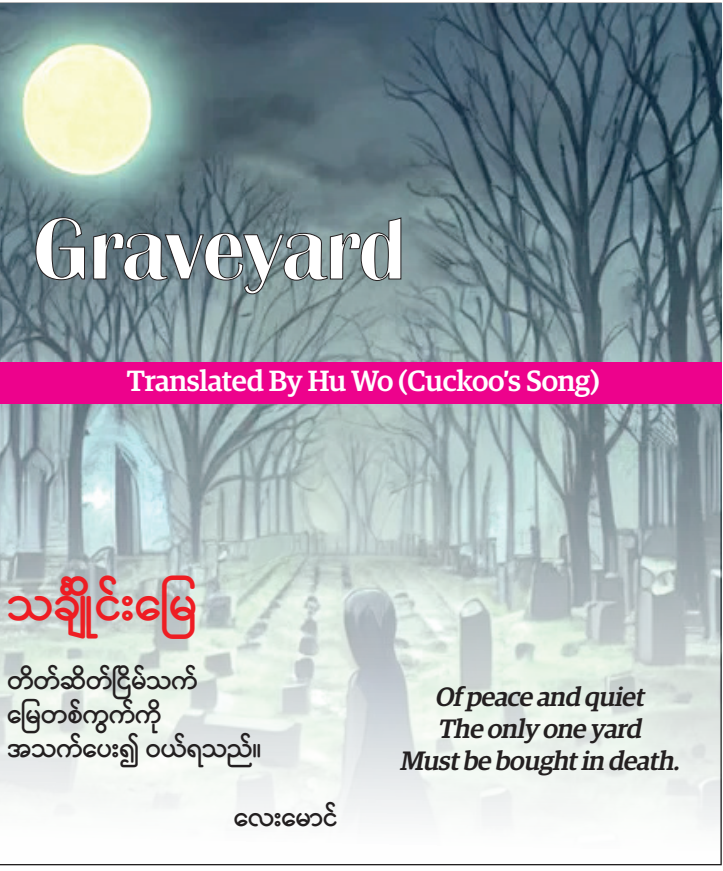
The book encouraged wonder and analysis by comparing how this Act is amended in Myanmar and how it is amended in India. How provisions are made for technology in Myanmar, and how they are made in India.

Excerpting from this book, some pre-views of the book stated that electronic records containing information processed

through technology are submitted as evidence in India’s courts, the courts will presume the authenticity of documents and whether they are crafted by AI, based on the review and recommendation of the examiner of electronic evidence from the forensic lab.

In some developing countries, such as Myanmar, that have been recently exposed to new technologies, digital forensics is required to validate findings and context. Even before the digital evidence emerged, there were disputes arising from paper-based document evidence, and court rulings had to be applied to a specific case. (From Presentation to the Court)

To ensure the authenticity of information contained in electronic records submitted as evidence, whether they are created with AI technology, it will be necessary to further supplement Section 114A of the Myanmar Evidence Act to seek expert opinion in judicial decisions. (From AI and Myanmar)



Graveyard

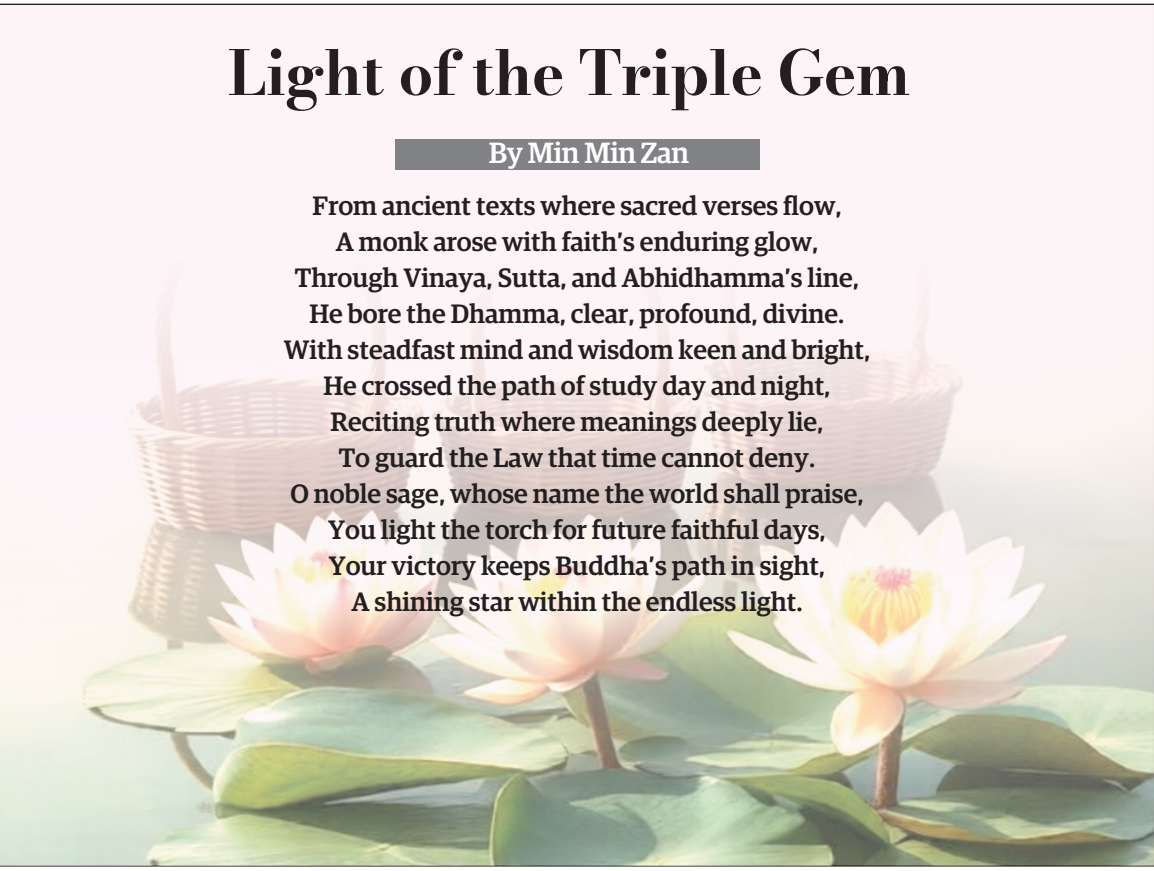
Translated By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

သချိုင်းမြေ

တိတ်ဆိတ်ငြိမ်သက်
မြေတစ်ကွက်ကို
အသက်ပေး၍ ဝယ်ရသည်။

လေးမောင်

*Of peace and quiet
The only one yard
Must be bought in death.*



Light of the Triple Gem

By Min Min Zan

From ancient texts where sacred verses flow,
A monk arose with faith's enduring glow,
Through Vinaya, Sutta, and Abhidhamma's line,
He bore the Dhamma, clear, profound, divine.
With steadfast mind and wisdom keen and bright,
He crossed the path of study day and night,
Reciting truth where meanings deeply lie,
To guard the Law that time cannot deny.
O noble sage, whose name the world shall praise,
You light the torch for future faithful days,
Your victory keeps Buddha's path in sight,
A shining star within the endless light.



From small water drops..

By Maung Khin Min (Danubyu) , Translated by Myint Zan

from small water drops
which easily dry up, evaporate
The wide sea emerges

Translated on 28 January 2026.

ရေပေါက်ငယ်

ခန်းလွယ် ခြောက်လွယ်
ရေပေါက်ငယ်မှ
ပင်လယ်ပြင် ကို မွေးဖွားသည်။

မောင်ခင်မင် (နေဖြူ)

Translator's note: This short stanza appears on the back cover of the distributed booklet (in translation) “Nostalgic poems for Maung Khin Min”, a collection of ten poems by ten poets. It was distributed to guests attending the memorial ceremony on the first anniversary of the passing of Saya Maung Khin Min (Danubyu) (24 January 1940-28 January 2025).

NATIONAL

Entertainment



8 killed, 14 injured in Zawlaynaing Thabin Troupe Crash; Ayeyawady Foundation donates K30M

A vehicle carrying members of the Zaw Lay Naing Thabin Troupe overturned on the Pyinmana-Taungnyo road, resulting in the deaths of eight artistes and technicians and injuries to 14 others, according to a statement released by the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central). The accident occurred on the evening of 28 January. The Magway Region's Taungdwingyi-based "Zaw Lay Naing Thabin Troupe" faced such an incident while travelling from Taungdwingyi to Tatkon for a performance.

Among the deceased was 76-year-old traditional orchestra musician U Mya Win, the oldest victim. The eight people who lost their lives included the troupe's manager, a lead actress, an oboe musician, a percussionist, a keyboard player, a lighting technician, and a vendor, according to initial reports.

The injured are currently receiving medical treatment at the Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1,000-bed). On 30 January, U Phoe Chit, Chairman of the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central), personally visited the injured troupe members to offer encouragement and condolences. During the visit, he presented a donation of K10 million contributed by the "Myo Shwe Mann Thar Phoe Chit" Thabin Troupe and its supporters. Moreover, the Ayeyarwady Foundation donated K30 million to support the Zaw Lay Naing Thabin Troupe following the accident, according to the association. — Htun Htun/KTZH

Aung Zabu
REGARDING the recent incident that caused public controversy, a comedian from the Aung Zabu dance troupe carried a young child from the audience onto the stage and made jokes. Concerning this matter, dancer Aung Zabu apologized to the child's family, and the family accepted the apology. He expressed regret that a careless mistake had caused public discomfort. Aung Zabu's debut film titled "Ahnyo Ahtay" has completed filming. The movie was directed by Ko Zaw (Ar Yone Oo), and the cast includes May Myint Mo, Myat Thu Thu, Myo Thandar Tun, Soe Moe Kyi, and Ashley Babae.



Chit Swan Thar
THE "Chit Swan Thar Shwe Lab Ngwe Lab Thabin" troupe called on its members to arrive at the Mandalay theatre compound by 6 am on 30 January to prepare for performances at the Myat Nyi Naung Pagoda Festival in Wundwin. At 7 am, they departed ceremoniously with two large trucks and an express bus. Last week, the troupe, including Chit Swan Thar and Swan Nyi Nyi, travelled to Kanchanaburi, Thailand, to perform, where actor Swan also supported the show by singing songs.

Thura Win Htut
THURA WIN HTUT, a graduate from the National University of Arts and Culture, who recently established his own troupe called "Thura Win Htut Thabin Troupe", will perform at the grand Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Okkalapa Pagoda in South Okkalapa Township on 5, 6 and 7 February. He said, "When I saw Aung Zabu and San Yay Moe gaining recognition in the thabin world, I began thinking about what I wanted to do. As a cultural university graduate, I still have artistic expressions I want to present, and that desire brought me back."



San Min Aung
SAN MIN AUNG, a former actor of Shwe Mann Thabin, has founded a new troupe called "Mann Alinka San". From the night of 28 to 30 January, they performed at the Botataung Pagoda Festival. Veteran Shwe Mann actor Tin Maung San Min Win and his son Lin Shwe Yaung Tin participated in the performances. Regarding the current state of thabin, San Min Aung said, "If people say it is experiencing a revival era, I can accept that. But thabin is not simply being revived. What is important is that the tradition continues without interruption. New generations must keep emerging one after another."

Phoe Chit
MYO Shwe Mann Thar Phoe Chit's theatrical troupe has been actively performing at various events recently. From the night of 24 to 26 January, they performed for three nights at the Kyaik Wine Pagoda festival. Then, on 27, 28 and 29 January, they travelled to Wundwin and performed there. On 30 and 31 January and 1 February, they are scheduled to perform at the Kyaikkasan Pagoda Festival in Yangon. As a special performance, Phoe Chit informed audiences that well-known plays by Saya Maung Yin Aung, such as "Moe Lar Tain Lar Mya Lar," "Kauk Pin Tayay Noe," and "Yoe Pyat Taw Hma Tauk Khauk Than" will soon be staged at the National Theatre (Yangon).



CELEBRITY



San Yay Moe
THE troupe of young leading actor San Yay Moe, currently performing under the title "Preserve What Should Be Preserved, Innovate What Should Be Innovated," has sold out tickets for their Mandalay Maha Muni Buddha Image Festival performances on 7, 8 and 9 February. Therefore, founder U Aung Kyaw Tun announced that an additional show will be held on 6 February. Moreover, advance ticket sales for 12, 13, and 14 February performances at the Shwepyitha Quarry stadium began on 29 January 2026, at exactly 10 am. Ticket prices are K70,000 for A class, K50,000 for B class, K40,000 for C class, and K30,000 for D class. — Htun Htun/KTZH

NATIONAL

IN Phonkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary, located in PutaO, Machanbaw, and Nagmon townships of PutaO District, Kachin State, and covering 1,044 square miles (668,160 acres), Takin and blue sheep, the primary prey of the snow leopard, are found, according to the sanctuary’s administration office.

The Khakaborazi National Park and the US Panthera jointly conducted research on snow leopards in the mountain ranges of Khakaborazi, at an altitude of 10,000-16,000 feet in the northernmost part of Myanmar in 2018 by installing the cameras. Although no images of snow leopards were captured, prey species such as blue sheep, takin, and red foxes were recorded and are still thriving today.

“ There are nine staff in Phonkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary, stationed at four outposts, carrying out conservation activities. The sanctuary is not only a source of national pride but also an important watershed area and a habitat for rare species. As the snow leopard is endangered, research using camera traps recorded its prey species, such as takin, blue

Takin, blue sheep living well in
Phonkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary

sheep, and red foxes. Loving wildlife and the sanctuary is not enough. We also need to attend training programmes to learn how to conserve and protect them effectively and to share knowledge about certain conservation methods. Especially, Phonkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary is an important watershed area for the country,” said Daw Nilar Pwint, the sanctuary’s warden.

The sanctuary is home to 36 species of mammals, 370 bird species, 360 insect species, 42 coldwater fish species, 53 tree species, 13 bamboo species, 220 orchid species, six species of

rhododendron, and 33 medicinal plant species. Although access is difficult due to the high mountain ranges and snow coverage, conservation efforts are carried out through four main guard posts. However, since funding from the RNH fund ended, patrol-based educational activities and bird surveys have been suspended.

Hponkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary remains beautiful throughout the year with its montane moist forests, evergreen forests, pine forests, rhododendron forests, and grasslands. It is being protected with the objectives of conserving biodiversity and eco-

systems in Myanmar’s eastern Himalayan snow-covered region, safeguarding the watershed area of the Ayeyarwady River and ensuring long-term environmental sustainability, and promoting nature-based tourism to improve the livelihoods of local communities. The sanctuary also plays a key role in supporting the watershed of the Malikha River.

On the steep mountain slopes of Phonkanrazi Sanctuary, fragrant davana flowers grow abundantly and are

favoured by blue sheep and takin. Various endangered wildlife species, plant species, and fish species continue to survive and thrive within the sanctuary. —

Thitsa/KTZH



This photo, including insets, shows ice-capped mountains of Phonkanrazi Wildlife Sanctuary – habitat for takin and blue sheep. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**



CBM sells US\$4.77M to edible oil and fuel importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has sold US\$4.771 million to companies importing edible oil and fuel, according to a CBM statement.

The CBM is selling Thai baht and US dollars to curb the rise in foreign exchange prices and sold \$4.771 million on 30 January.

On 30 January, 1,276,315.20 Thai baht was sold. In addition, of the foreign currency purchased from CMP companies, \$1,178,500 was sold to companies importing edible oil, and \$3,593,045.82 to companies importing fuel oil.

The CBM announced that, starting 5 December 2023, foreign exchange rates would no longer be set and would be allowed to operate freely at market rates. The statement said that exchange rates for banks licensed to trade foreign exchange in the online foreign exchange market will no longer be set by the Central Bank of Myanmar, but will instead be determined independently at market rates based on the rates submitted by buyers and sellers in the market.

Foreign exchange was re-

ceived from edible oil eight per cent), fuel oil (46 per cent), pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical raw materials (3 per cent), industrial raw materials (two per cent), fertilizer (two per cent), consumer goods (one per cent), car and motorcycle spare parts (10 per cent), and other goods and non-trade transactions (11 per cent).

The Central Bank also reported that on 30 January, the US dollar exchange rate was set at K3,654 on the foreign exchange trading platform. — NN/TH



This photo features US dollars.

ECONOMY
WORLD



PM Narendra Modi meets US President Donald Trump at White House in Washington, DC, on 13 February 2025. **PHOTO: PMO INDIA/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/FILE**

India-US trade deal
could be finalized any day,
say sources

Sources indicate that talks are in the final stages, with the deal potentially finalized “any day now” to boost bilateral trade and address tariffs.

A day after India concluded its negotiations with the European Union on a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which has been dubbed the ‘mother of all deals’, India is now looking towards a closure on the FTA with the United States.

Sources in the Ministry of External Affairs said that even as the India-EU FTA was being negotiated, negotiations on the India-US deal had made significant progress.

They said that the deal could be “finalized any day now”. What remains for the two sides is being described as “just the dotting of the Is and the crossing of the Ts”.

Sources said there has been a robustness in the recent round of negotiations and talks on the deal.

In Davos on 21 January, US President Donald Trump had expressed confidence over the India-US Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA), noting that the two countries are “going to have a good deal”, while praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a close friend and respected leader.

Trump made this comment following his address at the 56th Annual Summit of the World Economic Forum.

— ANI

German economy picks up pace, but
unemployment jumps

THE German economy grew faster than expected at the end of 2025, official data showed Friday, suggesting that a recovery is gathering pace in Europe’s struggling industrial powerhouse.

But the number of people unemployed jumped above three million in January for the first time in months, the labour agency said, underscoring the continued challenges.

Economic output expanded 0.3 per cent in the final quarter of last year, according to the statistics agency Destatis. A first estimate from the agency in mid-January had put the growth figure at 0.2 per cent.

“The German economy ended 2025 in positive territory after a turbulent year, particularly for foreign trade,” said the agency, noting that higher government and consumer spending had boosted growth.

Earlier this month it had estimated GDP expansion for 2025 as a whole at 0.2 per cent, marking a return to growth after two years of recession.

— AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Balkan truckers end EU border blockade

FREIGHT border crossings between Balkan countries and the European Union reopened on Friday, with truck drivers ending a five-day blockade after the EU proposed new entry rules.

Dozens of freight checkpoints in Serbia, Bosnia, Montenegro and North Macedonia were targeted by trucking unions protesting at EU rules limiting the time non-EU drivers could spend in the bloc. On Thursday, Brussels announced a proposal to extend the number of days drivers may stay in the Schengen area, prompting Macedonian and Montenegrin drivers to call off their protest. — AFP

Italy posts 0.7% growth in 2025

ITALY’S economy grew by 0.7 per cent in 2025, the Istat national statistics agency said on Friday, slightly higher than the forecasts.

The fourth quarter of 2025 was more dynamic than expected, with 0.3 per cent growth compared to the previous quarter and 0.8 per cent compared to the same quarter in 2024.

The result was still lower than GDP growth in the eurozone as a whole which reached 1.5 per cent last year.

Growth in Italy was buoyed up by the farming and fishing sectors and industry, Istat said in a statement.

The economy almost contracted in the third quarter because of a dip in exports and a contraction of industrial activity.

Istat forecasts growth of 0.8 per cent in 2026. — AFP

Japan party leaders clash on economy in 1st weekend of election campaign

JAPAN’S ruling and opposition party leaders offered competing plans for the economy on Saturday, the first weekend after official campaigning began for the 8 February House of Representatives election earlier this week.

Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi, head of the Liberal Democratic Party, pitched her “responsible yet aggressive” fiscal measures in Shizuoka Prefecture in central Japan, while Yoshihiko Noda, co-leader of the new main opposition Centrist Reform Alliance, speaking in Saitama Prefecture near Tokyo, criticized her for prioritizing a snap election over passing the budget.

Takaichi said an initial budget draft for the next financial year, crafted by her government, includes measures to pursue crisis management and growth investment, adding such a “major policy shift” requires “seeking a mandate”. — Kyodo



Volkswagen has been among German companies that have announced job cuts in recent times. **PHOTO: AFP**

Narita airport allows foreign cargo vehicle drivers without Japan licences

A programme allowing foreign workers without Japanese driver's licences to operate freight transport vehicles on aircraft parking aprons has begun at Narita airport near Tokyo in an effort to address a severe labor shortage.

The first such program in Japan shortens the time required for workers to begin operating cargo vehicles by eliminating the need to convert a foreign licence to a Japanese one, a process that usually takes

around six months.

Two employees from JAL Ground Service Co, a Japan Airlines Group company responsible for handling airport ground operations, received permission to drive in mid-January following the programme's commencement in the previous month.

Workers must receive training in airport ground handling operations, undergo an evaluation at a driving school and pass an exam before being permitted to drive



The image displays an airport tug, also known as a baggage tractor, operated by JAL Royal Catering. PHOTO: KYODO

in limited areas. They are also required to take an annual driver aptitude test. — Kyodo

Mombasa port records 10.9% rise in cargo volumes in 2025

KENYA'S Port of Mombasa said it handled 45.45 million metric tonnes of cargo volumes in 2025, up 10.9 per cent from 2024.

"This marks a significant growth in regional trade which calls for capacity expansion to the trade demands," Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) Managing Director William Ruto said in a statement issued on Thursday.

Ruto said that total container traffic rose by 5.5 per cent to 2.11 million twenty-foot equiv-

alent units (TEUs) in 2025, up from two million TEUs in 2024.

According to the KPA, transit cargo recorded 15.88 million metric tonnes from 13.29 million metric tonnes in 2024, translating to 19.5 per cent increase.

All major transit markets recorded growth, with Uganda posting a 25.2 per cent increase, the Democratic Republic of the Congo 16.5 per cent, Rwanda 22.8 per cent, and Tanzania 11 per cent. — Xinhua



The Port of Mombasa is the largest and busiest seaport in East Africa, serving as a critical gateway for Kenya and landlocked neighbors including Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. PHOTO: KENYAN PORT/X

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY.NO. (222N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY.NO. (222N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-2-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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 CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (0UVHKS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (0UVHKS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-2-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V TRADER VOY.NO. (SB604A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TRADER VOY.NO. (SB604A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-2-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0038N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0038N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-2-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC GUANGDONG VOY.NO. (2602S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC GUANGDONG VOY.NO. (2602S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-2-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



The main topic of the talks was expanding bilateral relations, particularly economic ties between the two countries. A petrochemical complex in Asaluyeh, Iran. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

Putin receives Iranian Supreme National Security Council Secretary: Kremlin

JANUARY 31

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin received Iranian Supreme National Security Council Secretary Ali Larijani, who is visiting Russia, in the Kremlin on Friday, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said. Larijani's visit to Moscow had not previously been announced.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Iranian Supreme National Security Council Secretary Ali Larijani discussed the expansion of bilateral relations and

issues in the Middle East, Iranian Ambassador to Russia Kazem Jalali said on Friday. "The main topic of the talks was expanding bilateral relations, particularly economic ties between the two countries. At the same time, the two sides held consultations on important regional and international issues," the ambassador was quoted as saying by Iranian state broadcaster IRIB. — SPUTNIK

JANUARY 30

Spanish PM rebukes Musk: migrants first

SPAIN'S prime minister has defended his government's plan to grant legal status to undocumented residents in an exchange with Elon Musk on X, telling the billionaire "Mars can wait". The plan approved Tuesday by Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez's leftist government could regularise around 500,000 undocumented workers, in a break with harsher policies seen elsewhere in Europe.

Musk posted a link on X — which he owns — to a post by a man named Ian Miles Cheong who called the plan "electoral engineering" along with the comment "Wow". Fast-tracking 500,000 individuals to citizenship creates a loyal, indebted voting bloc for left-leaning parties. It suggests this, in part, is a strategic move to import a loyal voting constituency, Cheong said. — AFP

January 29

White foam emerges from manhole in Okinawa

WHITE foam was found emerging from a manhole in a residential area in Okinawa Prefecture on Thursday, with local authorities saying that a sewer running beneath the manhole is connected to the nearby US Futenma air base. A police officer on patrol noticed the foam at around 11:45 am in Ginowan. In 2020, extinguishant containing potentially harmful PFAS chemicals leaked from

the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station in the city, causing white foam to spread through surrounding residential areas. The local government will look into the cause of the latest incident and has asked a private institution to analyze a sample of the foam. US military personnel also visited the site for investigation. Local government probes foam incident, private analysis. — Kyodo

JANUARY 28

Japan box office hits record 274 bln yen

TOTAL box office revenues in Japan reached a record high of 274.45 billion yen (\$1.8 billion) in 2025, rising 32.6 per cent from the previous year on the back of domestic blockbusters, an industry association said Wednesday. Boosted by titles such as "Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba — Infinity Castle Part 1: Akaza Returns" and "Kokuho", revenue for Japanese films increased 33.2 per cent to 207.57 billion yen, accounting for 75.6 per cent of total box office earnings, according

to the Motion Picture Producers Association of Japan. Meanwhile, foreign films climbed 30.7 per cent to 66.88 billion yen, with "Mission: Impossible — The Final Reckoning" and "Moana 2" each grossing more than five billion yen. Speaking at a press conference in Tokyo, the association president, Yoshishige Shimatani, described 2025 as "a bumper year", eclipsing the previous annual box office revenue record of 261.1 billion yen in 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic. — Kyodo

JANUARY 27

Strengthening multilateralism with UN at its core is key

INDIA and the European Union reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthening multilateralism during the India-EU Summit, held alongside the State Visit of the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission to India. In a joint statement, the leaders stated, "The leaders emphasised the importance of an effective multilateral system, with the United Nations at its core. They underlined the necessity of comprehensive reform of

the UN Security Council, to make it more representative, inclusive, transparent, efficient, effective, democratic, accountable and reflective of contemporary geopolitical realities. They emphasised the World Trade Organization's central role in the multilateral trading system and global trade governance and underlined that meaningful, necessary and comprehensive reform of the WTO is essential to improve its functions so that it is better suited to advance all Members' objectives." — ANI

JANUARY 26

Lightning strike injures 89 at rally

LIGHTNING struck near a rally of supporters of Brazil's former far-right president Jair Bolsonaro in Brasilia on Sunday, injuring 89 people, according to the fire department. Thousands gathered in the rain in the Brazilian capital to support Bolsonaro, who was sentenced to 27 years in prison last year for leading a failed coup d'etat

following his narrow re-election loss. Footage shared online shows crowds with colourful umbrellas and plastic ponchos stunned by a sudden flash of light and rumbling sound. The fire department told AFP they treated 89 people at the scene, including 47 who were taken to hospital. — AFP

JANUARY 25

Hollywood stars slam ICE after fatal shooting

HOLLYWOOD stars used red carpet appearances at the Sundance Film Festival to denounce the killing of an American protester who was shot dead on the streets of Minneapolis by federal immigration agents. Actress Olivia Wilde, who was in Park City, Utah, for the premiere of "The In-vite", said the death of a second protester

in just three weeks at the hands of federal agents was "unfathomable". "I can't believe that we're watching people get murdered in the street," she told AFP. "These brave Americans who have stepped out to protest the injustice of these ICE quote/unquote 'officers,' and watching them be murdered — it's unfathomable. We cannot normalize it." — AFP

SPORTS

U17 men's and women's teams honoured for AFC U17 qualifying success

A ceremony to honour the Myanmar men's and women's national Under-17 football teams for their success in the 2025 AFC U17 qualifiers, which Myanmar hosted, was held yesterday afternoon at Pathein Hall on the ground floor of Novotel Hotel Max on Pyay Road in Yangon.

Those attending the ceremony included Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs and for Hotels and Tourism Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers, departmental officials, the Chairman of the FIFA Social Responsibility Committee, the President of the Myanmar Football Federation, club owners, donors, specially invitees, and members of the successful U17 men's and women's national teams.

At the ceremony, a video presentation highlighting Myanmar's participation in the 2025 AFC U17 qualifiers was screened. In his congratulatory speech, the Union Minister said that the teams had enhanced



Union Minister Jeng Phang Naw Taung and officials present cash award to U17 women's national team.

national pride by competing with unwavering determination, diligence and perseverance. He noted that Myanmar had last qualified for the tournament in 2006 and had qualified again in 2025, after a 20-year gap. He urged the teams to continue striving for success in the upcoming AFC U17 finals and to secure qualification for the FIFA U17 World Cup, thereby further enhancing

national prestige.

The Union Minister then presented a cash award of K100 million, conferred by the Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, to the Myanmar U17 men's and women's national football teams.

Subsequently, the Yangon Region chief minister and do-

nors presented additional honorary cash awards to the successful Myanmar U17 men's and women's national teams. These were received by the Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee, who is also a Union Minister, together with the Yangon Region chief minister.

Donors later awarded a total of K350 million in honorary cash prizes to the Myanmar

U17 women's national team and K550 million to the Myanmar U17 men's national team. The awards were presented by the Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee and Union Minister, the Yangon Region chief minister, the Chairman of the FIFA Social Responsibility Committee, the President of the Myanmar Football Federation, and the Chairman of the Myanmar Football Federation Women's Football Committee. Players from the successful Myanmar U17 men's and women's national teams received the awards.

Afterwards, LL Seng Thwe Nang, representing the Myanmar U17 women's national team, and Aung Thiha, captain of the Myanmar U17 men's national team, delivered words of thanks. The Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee and Union Minister, together with the Yangon Region chief minister, warmly greeted and encouraged the athletes. — MNA/KZL

Ayeyawady clinch maiden Myanmar Women's League title

AYEYAWADY secured their first-ever Myanmar Women's League title after playing out a goalless draw against ISPE FC in the final match of the 2025-26 season on 31 January.

In the decisive fixture at Thuwunna Stadium, Ayeyawady and ISPE FC were held to a 0-0 draw, while another goalless match was recorded between Thitsa Arman and Shan United at Thuwunna Training Ground 1. The single point was sufficient for Ayeyawady to clinch the championship, making them the latest title winners in the league after Myawady and ISPE FC.

ISPE FC, who needed a victory to retain the title, pressed aggressively from the outset but were unable to find a breakthrough, allowing Ayeyawady to secure the draw



Union Minister Jeng Phang Naw Taung presents the championship trophy to the winning Ayeyawady team of Myanmar Women League 2025-2026. PHOTO: SOE NYUNT THAW

they required. Ayeyawady, meanwhile, focused on defensive solidity and avoided costly mistakes to achieve the historic result.

Following the matches, an awards ceremony was held. Yangon United forward Zin Moe Pyae received the top scorer award, along with a medal

and a cash prize of K3 million. Third-placed Thitsa Arman were awarded individual medals and K20 million, runners-up ISPE FC received individual medals and K30 million, while champions Ayeyawady were presented with individual medals, a cash reward of K50 million and the championship trophy.

The awards were presented by Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs and for Hotels and Tourism Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, senior officials, Asian Football Confederation Senior Vice-President and Myanmar Football Federation President U Zaw Zaw, and other responsible officials.

At the end of the season, Ayeyawady finished top with 40 points from 16 matches, recording 12 wins and four draws to remain unbeaten. ISPE FC placed second with 37 points, Thitsa Arman third with 34 points, followed by Yangon United with 33 points, Shan United with 25 points, YREO with 12 points, Young Lionesses with 11 points, Myawady with nine points and Yangon City with one point. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Over 1,500 athletes race in intl ironman triathlon in Israel's Red Sea city of Eilat

MORE than 1,500 athletes from 16 countries and regions took part on Friday in the annual Israman triathlon, featuring iron and half-iron distance races in and around the Red Sea in Israel's southern resort city of Eilat. The full iron-distance race comprised a 3.8-kilometre swim, a 180-km bike leg, and a 42.2-km marathon run. Israel's Almog Elazzary claimed the men's title in eight hours, 47 minutes and 57 seconds, while compatriot Antonina Reznikov won the women's race in 11:57:04. Both champions earned 5,000 euros in prize money.

In the half-iron event, Germany's Marcel Bolbat took the men's title in 4:13:36, and Israel's Hadas Mazar won the women's race in 5:33:25. — Xinhua

'I am a knight': Paris' last newspaper hawker gets top French award

Ali Akbar Akbar's journey from poverty in Pakistan to becoming a beloved Parisian newspaper hawker embodies resilience, integration, and cultural contribution.

Ali Akbar Akbar, a Pakistan-born newspaper hawker in Paris, has been honoured with France's national order of merit by President Emmanuel Macron.

Once homeless and attacked, Akbar has spent five decades selling newspapers across the city, becoming a beloved figure in the Saint-Germain-des-Prés neighbourhood.

Macron praised his "incred-

ible destiny," thanking him for bringing political news to Parisian cafés and calling him "the voice of the French press".

Known for inventing sensational headlines, Akbar has become a local legend, embodying integration and resilience. Arriving in France to escape poverty, he first worked as a sailor and dishwasher before meeting humourist Georges Bernier, who gave him the chance to sell sa-



Pakistan-born 73-year-old newspaper hawker Ali Akbar sells copies in the street of the Latin Quarter on 16 September 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

tirical papers like Hara-Kiri and Charlie Hebdo. Despite receiving a modest pension, Akbar continues to sell around 30 newspapers daily, compared to hundreds in

earlier years.

Deeply moved by the honour, he declared, "That's it, I'm a knight!" Macron hailed him as proof that stories of immigrants

choosing freedom strengthen France. Akbar insists he will keep entertaining Parisians with his jokes and newspapers. — AFP

Japan startup expands "granny business" to put elderly women to work

A Japanese startup empowers elderly women by transforming lifelong skills into paid work, reducing isolation and revitalizing local economies.

A Japanese startup, Ukiha no Takara Co, is reshaping local economies by turning seniors' lifetime skills into paid work. Founded in 2019 in Fukuoka Prefecture, the company runs cafes, food stalls, and festivals where elderly women — including those with dementia — cook, serve, and showcase talents. At "Grandma's Tearoom", women in their 80s and 90s prepare dishes like pork cutlets and cabbage, drawing on

decades of culinary experience. For participants such as 85-year-old Masako Taniguchi, customer praise provides joy and purpose.

CEO Mitsuru Okuma says the initiative reduces isolation while keeping money circulating locally: seniors earn wages, spend them nearby, and strengthen community bonds.

About 50 seniors currently work as contractors, focusing on food service and clothing.

The company also sells traditional monpe pants and dried sweet potatoes, generating annual sales of over 20 million yen. Festivals attract hundreds of attendees, with seniors performing music and fashion shows.

The concept is spreading beyond Fukuoka, inspiring similar ventures in Wakayama and Kumamoto. Okuma hopes to expand further, creating spaces where seniors "can shine". — Kyodo



Female employees chop cabbage at "Grandma's Tearoom" in Fukuoka on 13 November 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**



Kanyon, who had his basket stolen, rests among the many gifts given to him by admirers. **PHOTO: AFP**

Living like sultans: Istanbul's pampered street cats

Istanbul's pampered street cats embody centuries of cultural reverence.

KANYON, a white cat with grey markings living at an Istanbul shopping centre, has become a local celebrity after his basket was stolen. Showered with food, toys, and affection, he now enjoys a cat house and even an Instagram page run by fans.

His story reflects Istanbul's deep-rooted devotion to its street cats, with City Hall estimating more than 160,000 felines cared for by the city's 16 million residents. Cats roam freely across Istanbul, from ferries to shop windows, often treated as neighbourhood mascots.

Iconic figures like Tombili, immortalized in bronze, and Gli of Hagia Sofia highlight this cultural bond.

The tradition dates back to pre-Ottoman times, reinforced by religious reverence and Ottoman practices of feeding cats as offerings. Today, authorities sterilize tens of thousands annually to manage populations, though concerns remain about overfeeding and rodents. Still, residents insist cats are integral to the city's identity. As one student put it, "Here people and cats live side by side, as equals". — AFP